

Harold van der Heijden (Netherlands) & Guy Haworth (United Kingdom)



Win

**1.dxc7** (1.d7? Rf2+ 2.Ka3 axb4+ (h1Q) 3.Rxb4 h1Q and no S-promotion with check; 1.Bd5? cxd6 2.bxa5 h1Q 3.Bxh1 Rxh1= 7EGTB) **1...Rf2+** (1...Kb7 2.Rc4 Kc8 3.Rc2 Rb1+ 4.Bxb1! (4.Kxb1? h1Q+ 5.Kb2 Qe4(1) draws) 4...h1Q 5.Rc5! Qg2+ 6.Kb3 a4+ 7.Kxa4 Qa8+ 8.Kb5 Qb7+ 9.Kc4 wins, e.g. 9...Qa6+ 10.Kd5 (10.Kb3 also wins) 10...Qa8+ 11.Kd6 Qe4 12.Bc2! (12.Bxe4 stalemate) 12...Qd4+ 13.Kc6 Qe4+ 14.Kb5 Qb7+ 15.Kc4 Qa6+ 16.Kd5 Qf6 17.h5 Qf7+ 18.Ke4 Qe6+ 19.Kf4 Qh6+ 20.Kf3 Qf6+ 21.Bf5+ wins) **2.Ka3** (2.Kb3? h1Q 3.c8Q Qf3+ 4.Ka4 Rxa2+ 5.Kb5 Qe2+ 6.Rc4 axb4=) **2...axb4+ 3.Rxb4**, and:

- **3...h1Q 4.c8S+! Ka8 5.Bd5+! Qxd5 6.Sb6+ Ka7 7.Sxd5** wins, or:

- **3...Rxa2+ 4.Kxa2 h1Q** This is a Distance to Mate (DTM) record position featuring an underpromotion move. White needs no less than 431 half moves (plies) to mate! **5.c8R!** (5.c8Q? Qb(a)1+ 6.Ka3 Qa2+ 7.Kxa2 stalemate). This is a won position. As said, many moves are needed for a win. Until move 18, White has a unique winning line (except for some time wasting duals), which does have some study-like play: **5...Qd5+ 6.Kb1 Qe5 7.Ra4+ Kb6 8.Rc2 Kb5 9.Rac4 Qg7 10.Rc5+ Kb4 11.R2c4+ Kb3 12.Rc3+ Kb4 13.R5c4+ Kb5 14.Rc7 Qg1+ 15.Ka2 Qg2+ 16.Ka3 Qa8+ 17.Kb2 Qg2+ 18.Rc2**, e.g. 18...Qe4 19.R7c5+ Kb6 20.h5 Qb4+ 21.Ka2 Qa4+ 22.Kb1 Qe4 23.R5c3 Ka5 24.Rc4 Qe1+ 25.Kb2 Qe5+ 26.R2c3 Qe2+ 27.Ka3 *et cetera*.

The DTM underpromotion record was discovered by Guy Haworth. Harold van der Heijden added a second main line featuring another underpromotion.