

THE PUZZLING SIDE OF CHESS

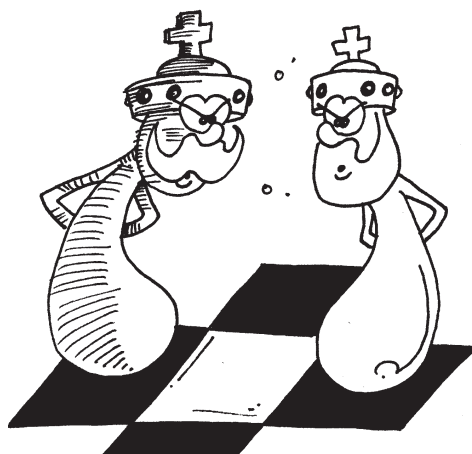
Jeff Coakley

DOUBLE ROYAL Drop the Kings

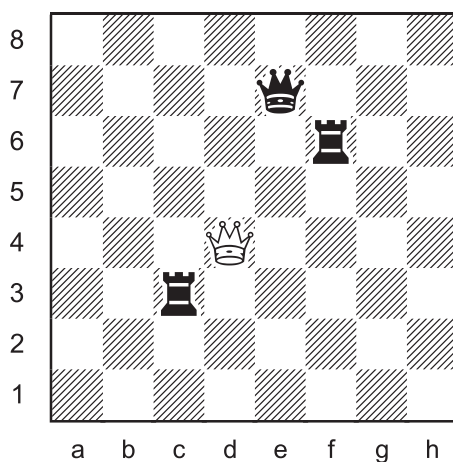
number 251

September 26, 2025

This column is the second in a series on *double royal loyds*. In these puzzles, both kings are added to the given position so that White has a mate in 1. We start with a basic example, then proceed with nine approximate twins using the same zero position as in column 247.



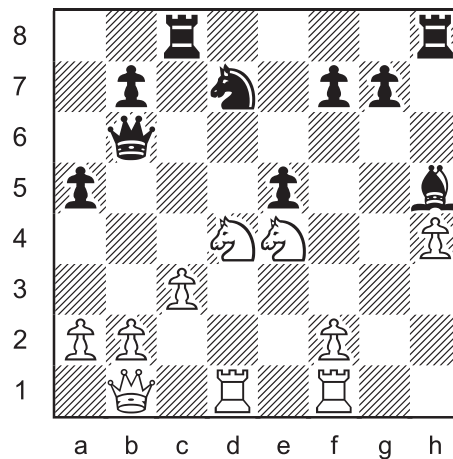
Double Royal Loyd 23



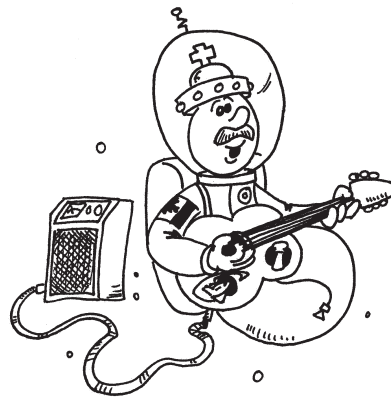
Add both kings so that White has mate in 1.

In the remaining problems, the white pawns and knights stay where they are while the white queen and rooks move around.

Double Royal Loyd 24

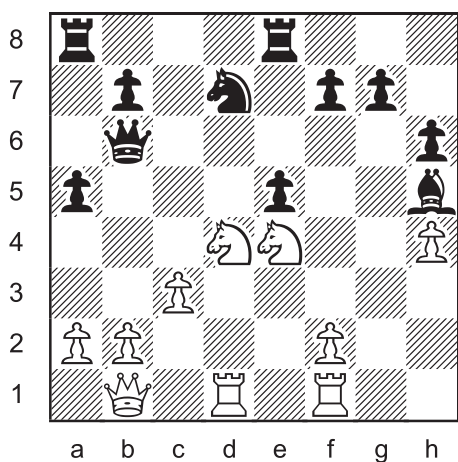


Add both kings so that White has mate in 1.

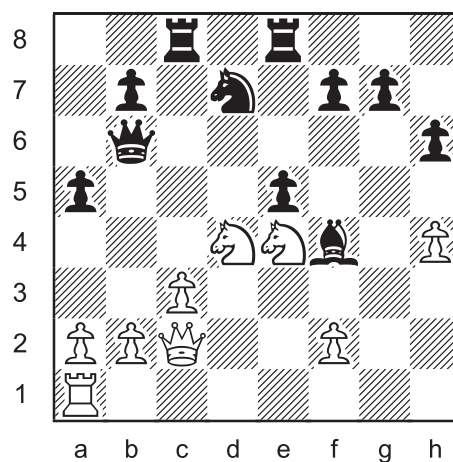


As we go forward, the black pieces do more shuffling than the white. Only the black queen and four pawns remain in the same spot.

Double Royal Loyd 25

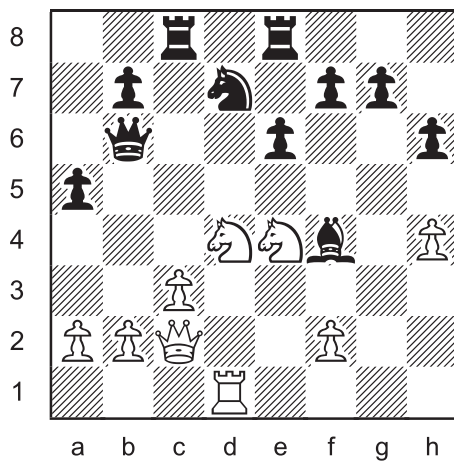


Double Royal Loyd 26

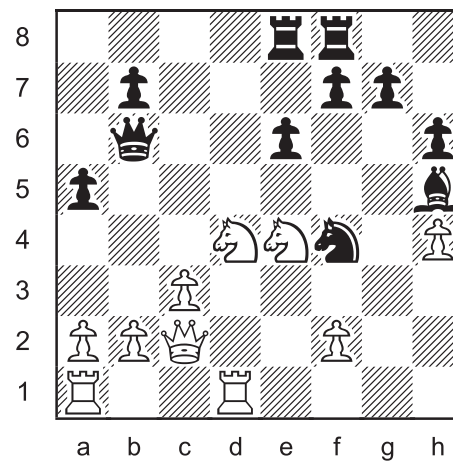


Add both kings so that White has mate in 1.

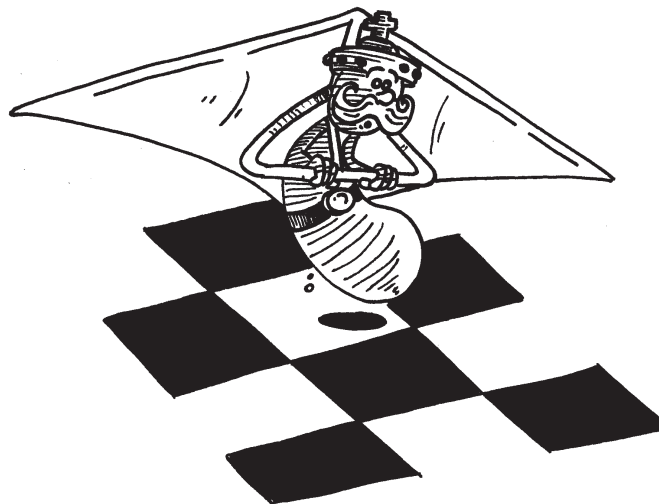
Double Royal Loyd 27



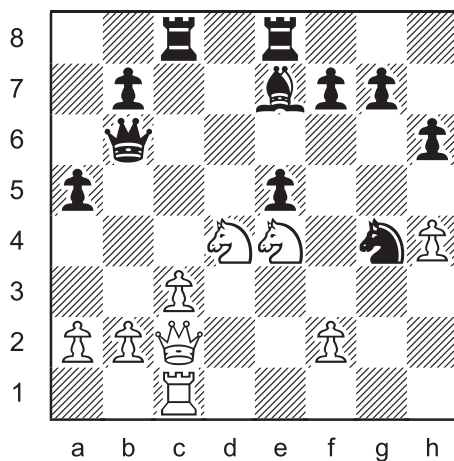
Double Royal Loyd 28



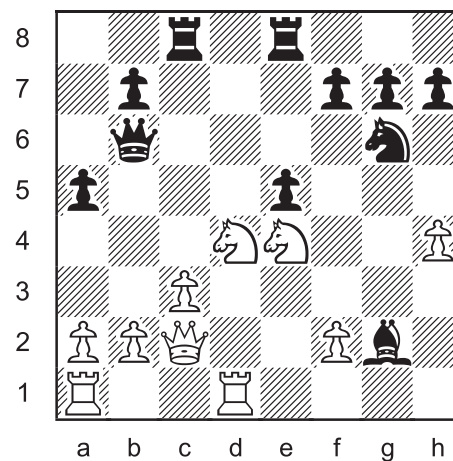
Add both kings so that White has mate in 1.



Double Royal Loyd 29



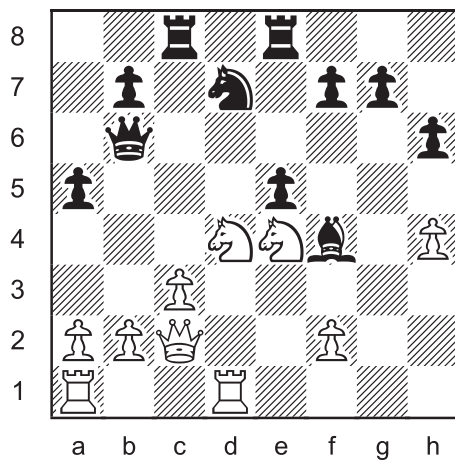
Double Royal Loyd 30



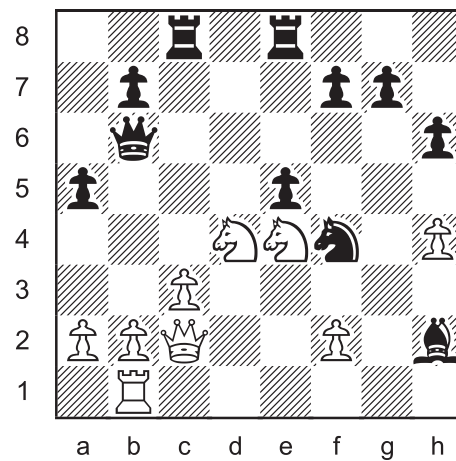
Add both kings so that White has mate in 1.

Based on centuries of practical play, the relative value of chess pieces is determined to be queen 9, rook 5, bishop 3, knight 3, and pawn 1. Because of its overriding importance to the game, the king is normally not given a numerical value. But if we compare his power of mobility to the other pieces, ignoring threats of check or mate, the king would be assigned a value of 4, greater than a minor piece but less than a rook. This strength is often demonstrated clearly in endings without queens or rooks. And sometimes in double royal loyds!

Double Royal Loyd 31



Double Royal Loyd 32



Add both kings so that White has mate in 1.



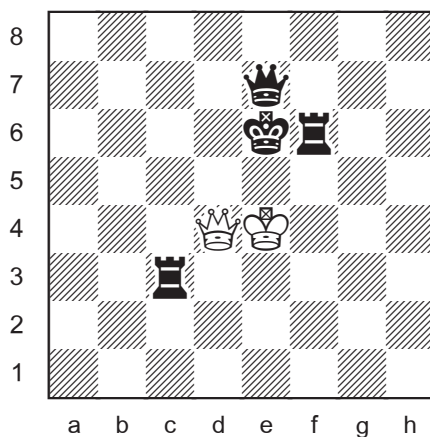
SOLUTIONS

All problems by J. Coakley, *Puzzling Side of Chess* (2025).

PDF hyperlinks. You can advance to the solution of any puzzle by clicking on the underlined title above the diagram. To return to the puzzle, click on the title above the solution diagram.

Archives. Past columns and a detailed index of problem-types and composers are available in the *Puzzling Side of Chess* archives.

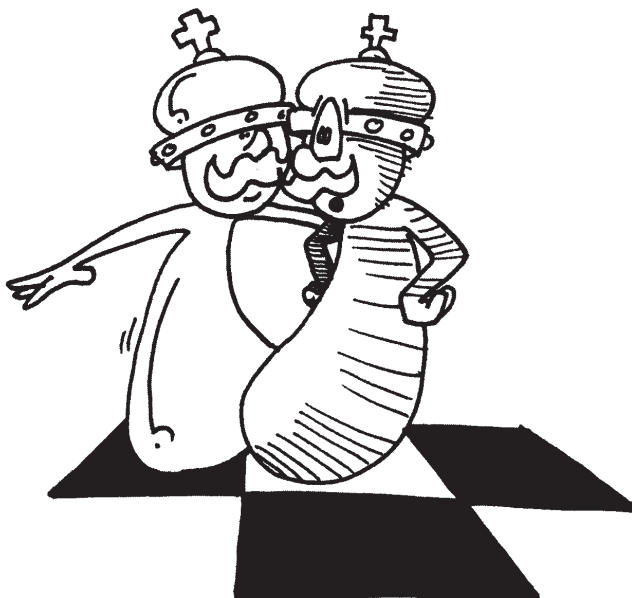
Double Royal Loyd 23



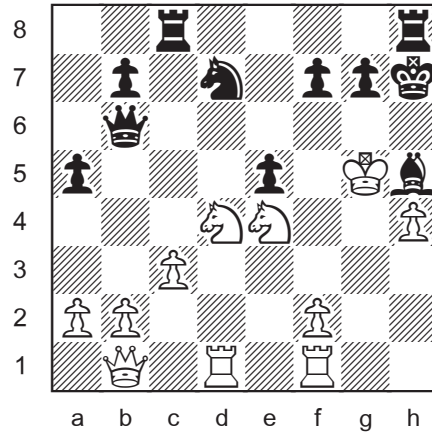
Add wKe4 bKe6.

1.Qd5#

A basic example of the fun to follow.



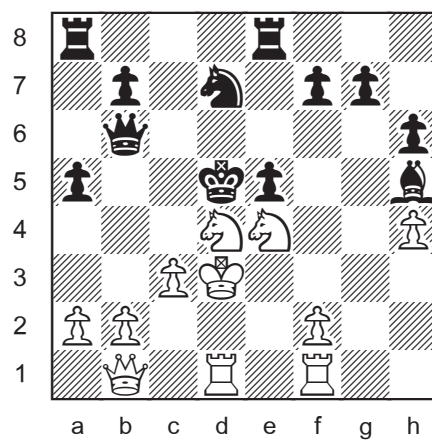
Double Royal Loyd 24



wKg5 bKh7
1.Nf6#

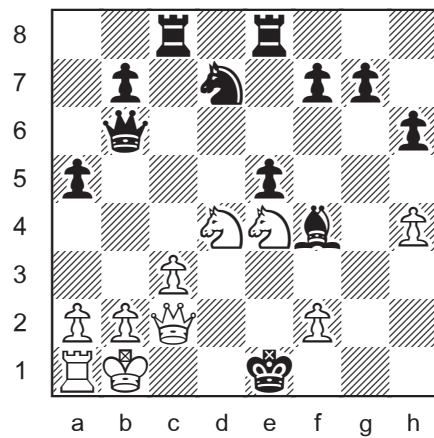


Double Royal Loyd 25



wKd3 bKd5
1.c4#

Double Royal Loyd 26

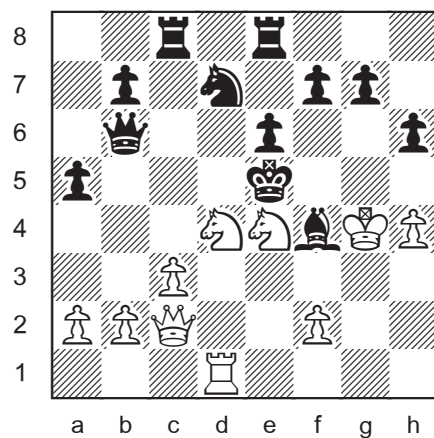


wKb1 bKe1

1.Qe2#



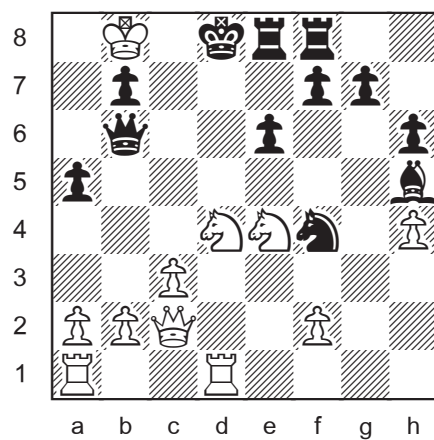
Double Royal Loyd 27



wKg4 bKe5

1.Nf3#

Double Royal Loyd 28



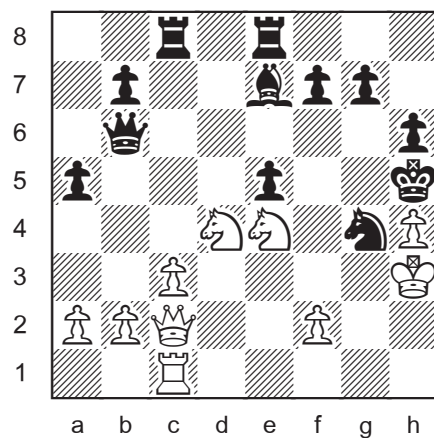
wKb8 bKd8

1.Nc6#



"The King" lives.

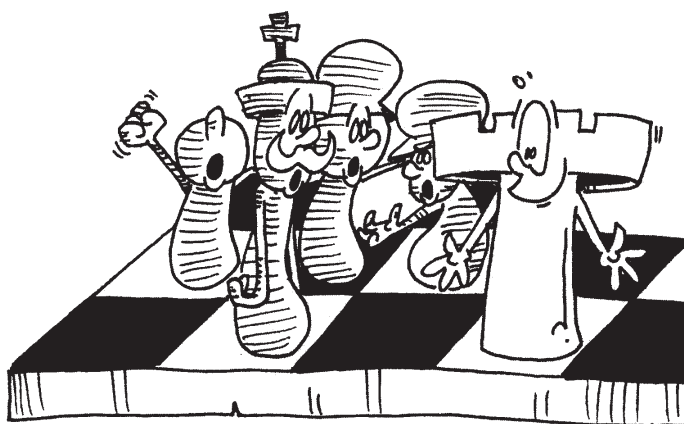
Double Royal Loyd 29



wKh3 bKh5

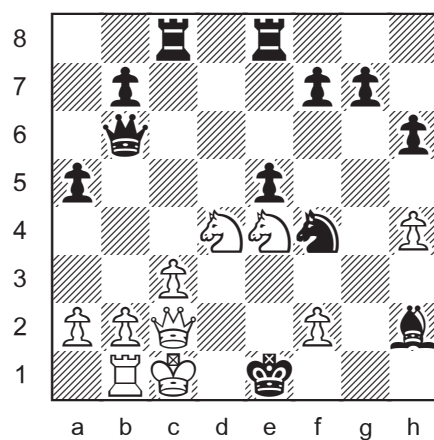
1.Ng3#

1.Nf5#



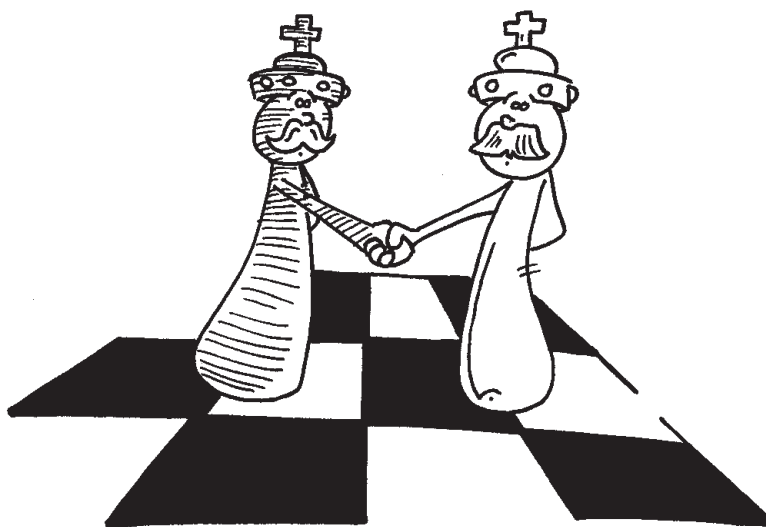
1.Rh1#

Double Royal Loyd 32



wKc1 bKe1

1.Qd1#



Until next time!

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