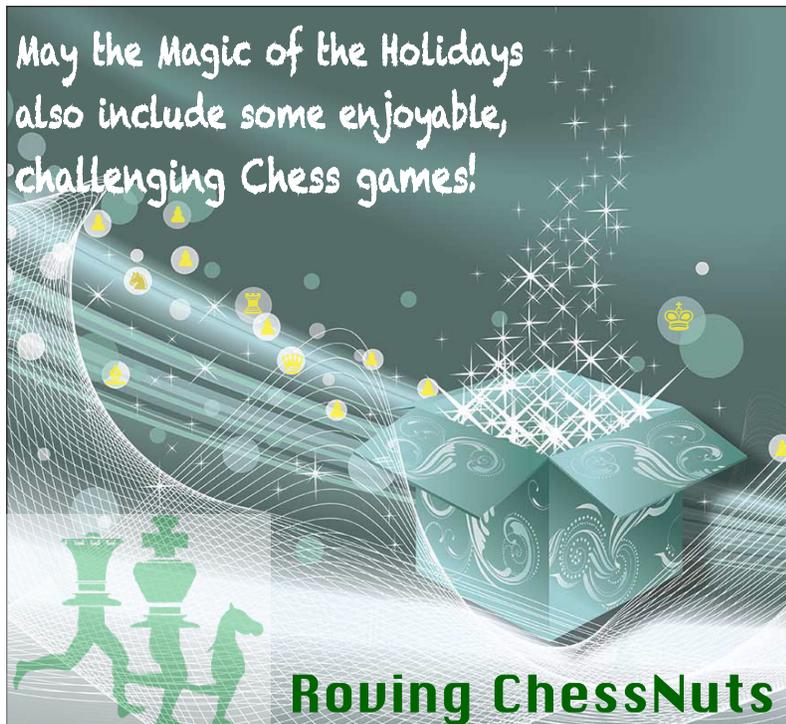


Don't worry, Santa will get this chess game done in time to make Christmas deliveries ... we hope!



# Roving ChessNuts CHESS Teasers

NEWS, RESULTS, UPCOMING EVENTS, PHOTOS AND INTERESTING STUFF  
 MAINLY ABOUT SCHOLASTIC CHESS IN EDMONTON & CHESSNUTS ACTIVITIES

Volume 11, Issue 6 • December 21, 2018

*Looking forward to a new calendar year of Learning & Playing Chess!*



## Last open scholastic tournament of 2018 attracts over 40 players and all got treats and more than half got draw prizes and rating points

While there was not a Christmas tree in Greenfield Hall, there was excitement about candy, draw prizes and chess at the Pre-Holiday Treats Tournament held December 9.

Battling over the board were 36 players in six round-robin sections and eight beginning players, many in their first tournament, in a swiss format competition.

After the awards, 13 players went home with trophies while 31 were presented with chess medals. Besides the awards, 25 players were presented draw prizes ranging from chess books and a chess-t-shirt to big chocolate Santas on a stick as well as big boxes of chocolates and cookies.

In regards to the chess played, 21 of the entrants gained rating points, nine players received their first Chess'n Math national rating and only 14 players lost rating points.

Anu Purevjams will be receiving a Rising Star Rating Recognition Trophy at the January Open Tournament because on December 9 she increased her rating by 152 points by getting a perfect score in the top section of the competition. She is now rated over 1100.

Other players getting perfect scores in their sections were Glenn Bi (Section D), Jesse Bredin of Beaumont (Section E) and Joshua Johnson (Section F).

The event was organized by the Roving ChessNuts and officiated by Derek Thomas, Prayus Shrestha and Bruce Thomas.

**Pre-Holiday results with scores and more photos inside this issue!**



**Pre-Holiday Treats Scholastic Tournament**





**Pre-Holiday Treats Scholastic Tournament**



## Pre-Holiday Treats Tournament

### Results and Scores

**Section A:** 1. Anu Purevjamts, 5.0; 2. Eric Jin, 4.0; 3. Trustan Vander-Leeuw, 3.0; 4. Alex Aksenov, 1.5; 5. Jerry Qui, 1.0; 6. Max Pankewitz, 0.5.

**Section B:** 1. Terry Li, 4.0; 2. Artie Murallidaran, 3.0; 3-4 tied Kai Riley and Andrew Wang, 2.5 each; 5. Jothymius Kung, 2.0; 6. Dana Lee, 1.0.

**Section C:** 1. Daniel Strungaru, 3.0 + tiebreak; 2. Ben Zhu, 3.0; 3-4 tied Linus Jin and Jie Xu, 2.5 each; tied 5-6 Eric Zheng and Jotis Kung, 2.0 each.

**Section D:** 1. Glenn Bi, 5.0; 2. Manny Perla, 4.0; 3. Brayden Roberts-Kowalchuk, 3.0 4. Rajvansh Khanna, 2.0; 5. Frank Xia, 1.0; 6. Kieran Smith.

**Section E:** 1. Jesse Bredin, 5.0; 2. Matthew Wang, 3.0+tiebreak; 3. Owen Pankewitz, 3.0; 4-5 tied Aiden Lee and Logan Hussey, 1.5 each; 6. Ty Pollock, 1.0.

**Section F:** 1. Joshua Johnson, 5.0; 2-3-4 tied Aidan Kallis, Alex O'Keefe and Patrick Walker, 3.0 each; 5-6 tied Liam Chalifoux and Jayden McDermott, 0.5 each.

**Section G:** 1. Kipp Kallis, 3.5; 2. Ryan Dompe, 2.5 + tiebreak; 3. Peyton Cooke, 2.5; 4. Dan Xu, 2.0; 5-6-7 tied Daniel Walker Joshua Kung and Benjamin Wai, 1.5 each; 8. Lucas O'Keefe, 1.0.

## Busy Fall season as over 200 players get first chess ratings

During the holiday break, the Roving ChessNuts will be catching up on the paperwork for one of its busiest-ever Fall seasons.

About 40 events and tournaments, rated by the national Chess'n Math Association, have been held in schools and community halls since September 1. Open scholastic tournaments have numbered five and attracted between 26 to 52 entrants, with an average of 37.

By the time the final few fall season class events finish in the first week of 2019, over 200 new students, kindergarten through grade 10, will have established their first national chess rating. The number of participants in Roving ChessNuts' rated events and programs will surpass 800 with an estimated 500-plus being one-time participants.

The 2018/19 scholastic chess season appears on track to have the highest number of junior high students involved in organized chess since the Roving ChessNuts began in 2001 and perhaps in the history of Edmonton and area. The same may come true for kindergarten and younger children.

Winter programming, classes and tournaments are

expected to be even busier than the fall and one of the major events will be the individual and school team championships to be held March 10 at Rogers Place. The first chess tournament held by The Roving ChessNuts in Rogers Place last March attracted over 100 players and the 2019 version should see even more.

## More Photos from Go for 2 Tournament on November 25 at Greenfield Hall

Results and some photos were in the December 9 issue of Chess Teasers



### Attention Parents: We need your cooperation!

By Bruce Thomas, Founder of Roving ChessNuts

As noted in a Page 2 article, Roving ChessNuts are experiencing record numbers of students this chess season. Besides our school programs in Edmonton, St. Albert and Sherwood Park, we offered in the Fall four weekday evening classes at Greenfield Hall, a Saturday morning class at Callingwood Rec Centre and a Saturday morning class at Beaumont Library.

The classes outside of schools are meant for the really keen players who often want and need higher-levels of instruction and for students who do not have access to school programs.

Because so many of the classes are attracting too many students of various ages and skill levels, we are concerned about quality and will be taking steps to offer classes in 2019 that are designed to put students in the right class based on several factors. We know that the steps being taken will mean that we may not be able to accept all students into a class just because it is a class that is convenient to their schedule of other activities or because a sibling, regardless of age or skill level can attend at the same time, or that it is located in a convenient place to attend.

Our goal is to provide the opportunity for as many children as possible to learn chess for its educational benefits regardless of whether they want to play it recreationally or competitively. And we know how much chess can help children focus and become more mature and skillful in their reasoning and planning, as well as becoming good sports and citizens. But in class situations, children who need extra help and have problems with attention and maturity can distract the instructor and interfere with the learning processes of other students.

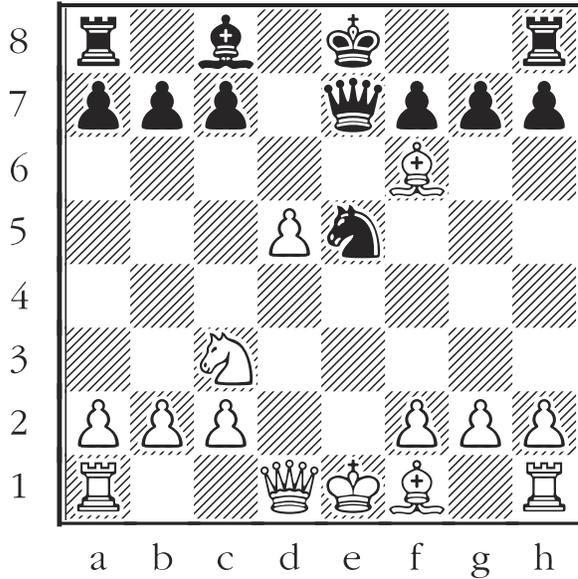
Starting as early as possible in 2019, we will be limiting student numbers in classes, making sure students are compatible for the classes offered, making curriculum changes, and hopefully increasing the number of classes and adding venues in various parts of Edmonton and outlying communities.

Of course we want to accommodate as many students and parents as possible, but we also have to have parents' understanding and cooperation in making sure their children are enrolled in a quality class suitable to their needs and the needs of others in the same class.

A New Year's issue next week and rovingchessnuts.com will be carrying more details about classes.

**Watch for details next week on our website and next issue on:  
Richard Roberts Memorial Chess Tournament on January 20  
School Team & Individual Tournament, March 10, Rogers Place**

# Checkmating Tactics

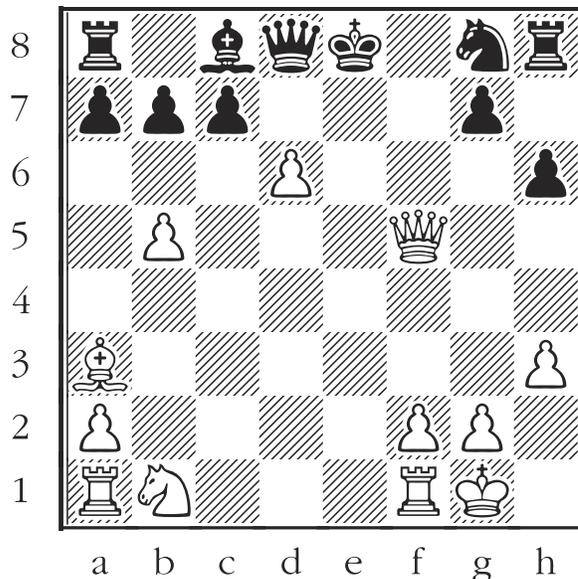


Always be on the lookout for springing the simple checkmates such as undefended back rows, discovered checks, double checks, and suffocating the trapped king with a knight.

While experienced players will see these tactics, just the threat of them could keep the opponent on the defensive and keep enemy pieces from being active.

**In problem above, it is black to move and win!**

**What is that move?** \_\_\_\_\_



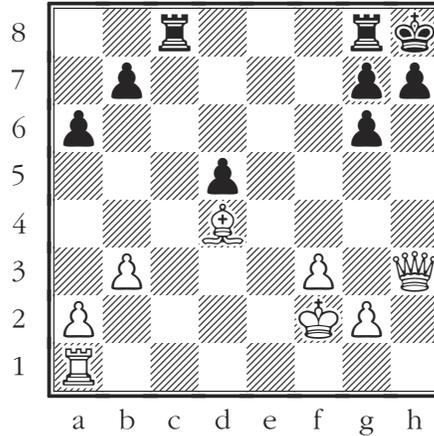
In above problem it is white to move and there are several ways for white to produce a check. But the object in your end game should be to finish off the enemy in the fewest moves. Figure out the combination (of moves) for the fastest checkmate. Do not take the risk of making a weak check that might lose you a piece, or spring forth an enemy piece, or drive the enemy king to a safer square. **White to move and win in two.**

**What is white's winning move?** \_\_\_\_\_

**This move will trap the king and allow white's second move to be:** \_\_\_\_\_ **which is checkmate!**

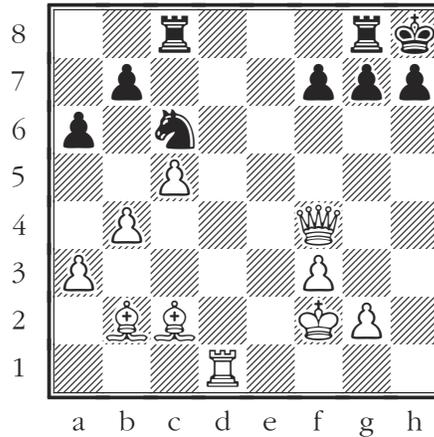
# Solve these puzzles over the Holidays!

White moves, checkmates in two



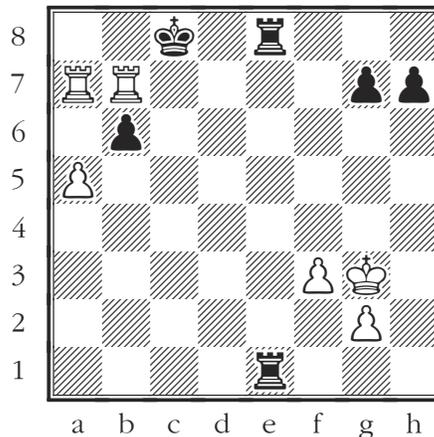
**White** 1. \_\_\_\_\_  
**Black** 1. \_\_\_\_\_  
 2. \_\_\_\_\_

White moves, checkmates in two



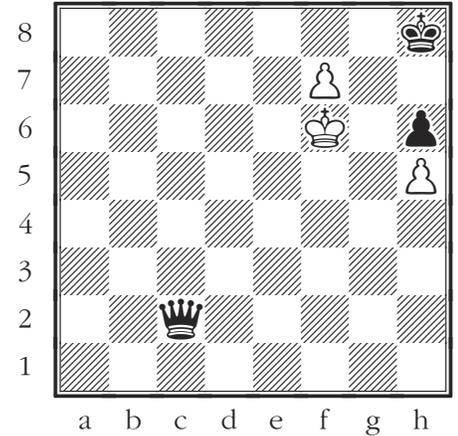
**White** 1. \_\_\_\_\_  
**Black** 1. \_\_\_\_\_  
 2. \_\_\_\_\_

White moves, checkmates in two



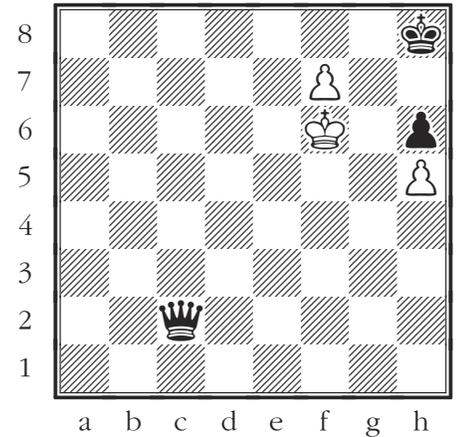
**White** 1. \_\_\_\_\_  
**Black** 1. \_\_\_\_\_  
 2. \_\_\_\_\_

White moves, checkmates in two



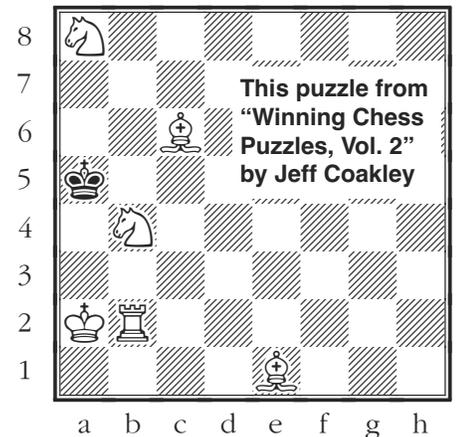
**White** 1. \_\_\_\_\_  
**Black** 1. \_\_\_\_\_  
 2. \_\_\_\_\_

White moves, checkmates in two



**White** 1. \_\_\_\_\_  
**Black** 1. \_\_\_\_\_  
 2. \_\_\_\_\_

White moves, checkmates in two



**White** 1. \_\_\_\_\_  
**Black** 1. \_\_\_\_\_  
 2. \_\_\_\_\_

This puzzle from "Winning Chess Puzzles, Vol. 2" by Jeff Coakley