

International Youth Chess Solving Challenge

(Unofficial Event – No Rating Impact | 90 Minutes | 1 Problem per Category)

To: Players of the European Youth Rapid and Blitz Chess Championship 2025

Subject: Test Your Analytical Brilliance in Chess Problem Solving



Invitation

We're excited to invite you to our **Chess Solving Challenge**—a unique event that takes chess beyond competitive play! Instead of facing opponents, you'll test your wits against intricate chess puzzles: the same kind of compositions featured in official World Chess Solving Championships since 1977. Ready to flex your mental muscles? Join us and dive into the fascinating world of chess problems!

About Chess Solving

A prestigious global discipline with yearly events:

- **World Chess Solving Championship** (since 1977)
- **European Chess Solving Championship** (since 2005)
- **International Solving Contest (ISC)** (in January, since 2005)
- **National Events Calendar:** <https://solving.wfcc.ch>

Challenge Format (One problem per category • 90 minutes total)

Category	Objective	Clarifications
Mate in 2	White mates in 2 moves	On the solution's sheet only the key is written (White's 1st move), nothing more is required!
Mate in 3	White mates in 3 moves	We write the key and the threat it creates (White's 2 nd move). Then we list Black's defenses (Black's first moves) against this specific threat and how White mates in each of these cases
Mate in 4+	White mates in 4+ moves	We write the key and the threat it creates until move n-1 (e.g. in 4-movers we write until White's 3 rd move included). We then list Black's defenses and how White mates in each of these cases
Endgame Study	Win/draw from inferior positions	One-line sequence of 6-10 moves

Category	Objective	Clarifications
Helpmate	Cooperate to checkmate Black	<u>Black moves first</u> . Both players cooperate to achieve checkmate against Black by White's last move. All moves need to be written. A helpmate can have multiple different solutions
Selfmate	Force opponent to checkmate you	White moves first and forces Black to deliver checkmate by Black's last move. We write until White's last move; Black's last move is forced so it can be omitted

Why Participate?

- **Skill Development:** Enhance calculation and pattern recognition
- **Competition Insight:** Experience International Tournaments' format
- **No Rating Impact:** Un official event
- **Prizes:** Awards for top performers

Event Details

Aspect	Specification
Age Groups levels	A Level U08 & U10 (not included helpmate and selfmate) B Level U12 & U14 C Level U16 & U18
Date	Wednesday, August 6
Time	10:00–12:00 (90 minutes net time + explanations/discussion before and after the event)
Materials	Pen and chessboard (optional)

Awards

The first 3 in each age category (8,10,12,14,16) are awarded by medals.

The categories are open for all boys and girls.

Preparation Resources

Access practice problems, as well as the solutions and the standings of solvers:

<https://solving.wfcc.ch>