Murfatlar 2018 Award

 Theme: Proof games with Berolina Pawns and, eventually, with another fairy condition (without fairy units).
22 PGs was received and two were demolished. Special thanks must go to Nicolas Dupont, who sent me no less than 7 works of high quality.

About the condition Berolina, let speak Dirk Borst about: *It was my first attempt at Berolina Pawns and I must say I like them very much! They have a lot of interesting potential I think.*
The level of the tournament was very high, in my opinion. This tournament gave me a lot of pleasure and I congratulate all the participants for their contribution. Berolina Pawns was also the condition of RIFACE 2018 meeting in France, but here we had the possibility to combine this genre with another fairy condition. Two problems had exceeded expectations and so, two Super Prizes were awarded.
Our ranking is presented from Commendations to Super Prizes.

 Commendation – M. Parinello & M. Bonavoglia: The Italians used Andernach to produce a smart trick: invisible captures. This condition was also used at Champagne TT, Belgrad 2016 (see A).
I searched for a third impostor, but Jacobi gave me cooks.

1.d2-b4 g7-f6 2.Bh6 hxh6=w 3.h6-g7 Rh3 4.gxg8=S=b Bh6 5.Qc1 Bxc1=w.

 Commendation – N. Dupont: Nicolas found this sympa trick for Q Schnoebelen, grace to Black Minimummer rules. Completely checked by Jacobi.
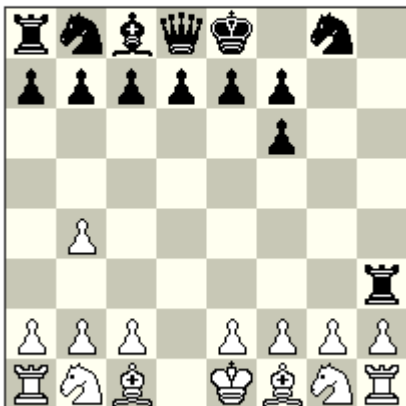
1.BPac4 BPfg6 (1. ...BPd5? 2.BPd5 BPxd5!) 2.BPd5 BPed6 3.BPe6 BPc5 4.BPbd4 BPb4 5.Bb2 BPa3 6.Bc3 BPb2 7.Sa3 BPc1=B 8.BPe5 Bb2 9.Bd4 Bc3 10.BPf7 Ke7 **11.BPxf8=Q+!** (11.BPxf8=R? Qe8!) 11.Kxf8 12.Sb1 Ke8 (Jacobi+)

 Commendation – M. Parinello: All black units at home is always nice. Here, Circe condition facilitates this task.

1.BPac4 BPac5 2.Ra6 BPa5 3.BPa4 BPxa4 [+wBPa2] 4.Qxa4 [+bBPa7] BPxc4 [+wBPc2] 5.Qxc4 [+bBPc7] (Jacobi+)

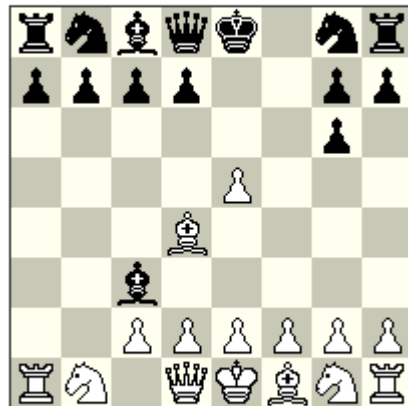
Marco Bonavoglia, Mario Parrinello

Comm

PG 5 Berolina   15+14
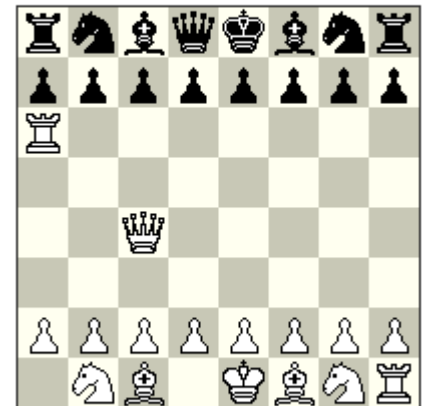Andernach

Nicolas Dupont

Comm

PG 12 Berolina   15+15
BlackMinimummer

Mario Parrinello

Comm

PG 4.5 Berolina   16+16
Circe

3rd HM – F. Labelle: A catch-eyes work by the author of estimated program Jacobi. Good use of Black Maximummer rule.

1.Sc3 BPa5 2.Sd5 BPb5 3.Sc7+ Kd7 4.Sf3 BPg5 5.Rg1 Ba3 6.Se5+ Kd6 7.Se8+ Kc5 8.Sd6 Bh3 9.Sg4 BPbd5 10.Se4+ Kb4 11.Sc3 BPh5 12.Sb1 BPf5 13.Se5 BPc5 14.Sd3+ Kc4 15.Se5+ Kd4 16.Sf3+ Ke4 17.Rh1 BPe5 18.Sg1.
- *Capture-free.*
- *Two white knights and one white rook participate in the solution. Round Trip (SS). Switchback (R).*
- *Strange bK path, going through b4 [author]*

2nd HM – N. Dupont: Surprisingly short and elegant PG which shows double R Pronkin. The Glasgow Chess rules in PGs was lounched by Quartz at 11TT, in 2017.

1.BPab3 Sf6 puis 2.Ra6 BPxa6 3.BPge4 BPab5 4.BPf5 Ra4 5.BPg6 Rg4 6.BPhf4 Sd5 7.Rh6 BPxh6 8.BPh7=R BPhg5 9.Rh1 **Rhh4** 10.BPbd4 BPh5 11.BPc5 Kf7 12.BPb6 Kg8 13.BPa7=R Sb6 14.Ra1
Comments: Economic RR-Pronkin (only 2 thematic captures). Moreover, the length 13.5 seems to be the best possible lower bound. I tried to get the maximum of at-home pieces (21), but maybe it is possible to improve it. The problem is C+ Jacobi. [author]

1ˢᵗ HM ex-aequo – A. Frolkin & I. Vereshchagin / Dirk Borst: It is surprising to see that these works could participate also at Champagne 2018. I liked a lot that the authors surpassed the difficulties caused by the special Pawns and that they realized the task without another added genre.

These problems are, in my opinion, superior to the 2ⁿᵈ Prize, RIFACE 2018. (see B) However, during the Congress, I realized the task with one more castling and one more promotion and is for this reason that these problems got only a Honorable Mention.

Solutions:
(Frolkin & Vereshchagin) 1.BPa4 BPg5 2.BPb5 Bb4 3.Qa4 Bxd2+ 4.Sxd2 BPdf5 5.Sb3 Be6 6.Bf4 Kd7 7.O-O-O+ Kc6 8.Rd7 Bd5 9.Bd6 BPf4 10.Sa1 BPe3 11.BPf4 BPd2 12.Rh3 BPe1=B 13.Rc3+ BPc5 14.BPxb6 e.p.++ (Jacobi+)
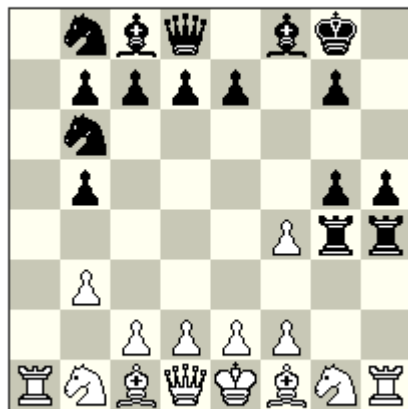Valladao task.

Francois Labelle	Nicolas Dupont	Andrej Frolkin, Igor Vereshchagin
3rd HM	2nd HM	1st HM ex-aequo
PG 17.5 Berolina 16+16	PG 13.5 Berolina 14+16	PG 13.5 Berolina 15+14
BlackMaximummer	GlasgowChess	

Dirk Borst

1st HM ex-aequo

PG 12 Berolina   14+14
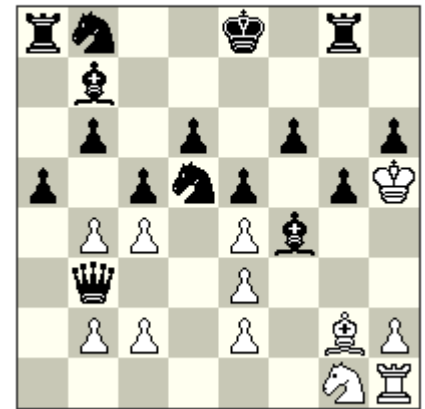
Thierry le Gleuher

Special HM, dedicated to Al. Leroux

PG 18.5 Berolina   16+16

Peter Van den Heuvel

5th Prize

PG 16 Berolina   12+16

(Borst) 1.BPh4 BPg5 2.Kf2 BPf4 3.BPg5 Bd6 4.BPh6 BPxh6 5.Kg3 Qg5+ 6.BPg4 BPxf3 e.p.++ 7.Kh3 Bg3 8.BPf4 Sf6 9.Be3 O-O 10.Qxd7 Re8 11.Bd3 BPe2 12.Qxc8 BPf1=B.
Black makes all the Valladao moves. Jacobi+ (author)

Special HM − Th. Le Gleuher: It is interesting that Thierry had the same idea with Alexandre Leroux (see C). But here we have all 32 units on the board. The existence of a predecessor brouth to this cute work only a Special Honorable Mention.

1.ac4 ac5 2.Ra7 bd5 3.Rb7 Ra3 4.b4 a5 5.Bf4 Qb6 6.Bc7 e5 7.Sc3 Bh6 8.Qa1 Bc1 9.f4 b5 10.Rh6 Bf5 11.Rd6 Bd3 12.e4 g5 13.Bh3 Se7 14.Be6 f5 15.g4 Rh2 16.h4 Rd2 17.Sce2 h5 18.d4 Rc3 19.a4.

5th Prize – Peter van den Heuvel: I was not only impressed by the Pawns embroidery, but the author managed to show an unexpected capture of different four officers on the thematic squares.
I hope that Peter, a very imaginative composer, was awakened from hibernation by this tournament.

1.BPac4 BPac5 2.Ra6 BPa5 3.Sc3 Qb6 4.Se4 Qb3 5.Rb6 BPxb6 6.BPb4 Bb7 7.Bh6 BPg5 8.BPe3 Sf6 9.Kf2 Rg8 10.Kg3 Bd6+ 11.Kh4 Bf4 12.Qd6 Sd5 13.Kh5 BPe5 14.Sf6+ BPxf6 15.BPge4 BPxd6 16.Bg2 BPxh6+
All black Berolina Pawns are on squares of the same colour. Capture of white pieces QRBS. [author]
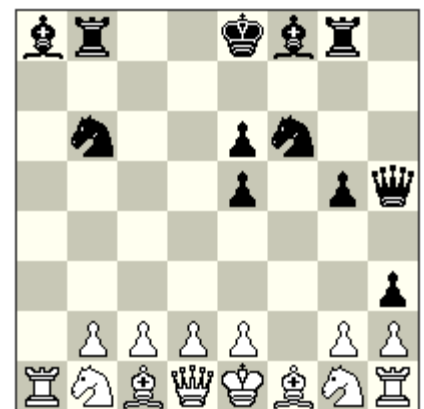
Nicolas Dupont

4th Prize

4ᵗʰ Prize – N. Dupont: The released Rook a1 captures the Pawns a7, b7 then g7, h7 because they are double attacked. Very convinced double Q-Schnoebelen, in Dupont style.

1.BPac4 BPh5 2.BPd5 BPg4 3.BPe6 BPh3 4.BPf7 BPe6 5.BPfd4 Qd5 6.BPc5 Qh5 7.BPb6 BPce5 8.BPc7 Sd7 9.BPb8=Q BPg5 10.Rxa7 Sf6 11.Rxb7 Rxb8 12.BPg8=Q Sb6 13.Rxg7 Bb7 14.Rxh7 Ba8 15.Ra7 Rxg8 16.Ra1
Comments: Double Q-Schnoebelen. The problem is C+ Jacobi from the beginning to position 11.5, and from position 4.0 to the end. (author)

PG 15.5 Berolina   14+12
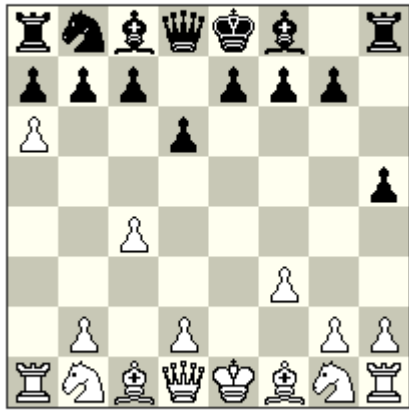Multicaptures

Michel Caillaud

3rd Prize

PG 15.5 Berolina   16+16
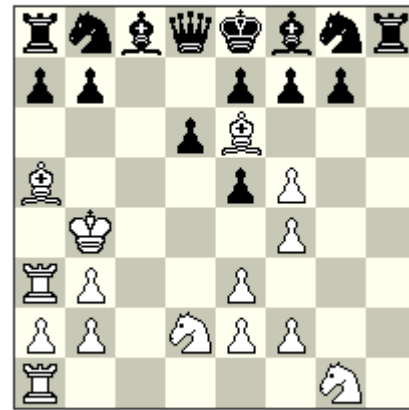
CirceCouscous

Nicolas Dupont

2nd Prize

PG 15.5 Berolina   15+15

Backhome

Nicolas Dupont

1st Prize

PG 19 Berolina   15+15

Lortap

3th Prize - M. Caillaud: It is quickly inferred that the black Pawns embroidery have been made with the help of a white Knight. But this Knight must first be brought to g8 by a black Knight. It is to be admired how the author succeeded in obtaining a unique sequence of moves and, moreover, bringing both Knights back to the formation.

1.fd4 Sf6 2.e3 Sd5 3.d×d5(Sd2)! S×b1(Sg8) 4.Sh6 Sc3 5.Kd2 (c×c3(Sc2)? self-check) h×h6(Sh7) (avoiding intervertion of this move with the black Knight moves was the main technical issue; now black Knight has to reintegrate g8 before main manoeuver) 6.c×c3(Sc2) Sb4 7.e6 Sd5 8.Kd3 Sf6 9.Qd2 Sg8 10.Sf6+ f×f6(Sf7) 11.Sd6+ d×d6(Sd7) 12.Sb6 b×b6(Sb7) 13.Sa5 Ba6+! (tempo) 14.Sc4 Bb7 15.Sa3 Bc8 16.Sb1.
Main puzzle is to explain capture on b6, d6, f6 , h6 by bPBs. Doing it with a white Knight is the shortest way in Circe Couscous. But as already 8 other white moves are apparent, the white Knight manoeuver has to be accelerated by Circe Couscous (capture by a black Knight to bring white Knight near black Pawns) (author)

2nd Prize – N. Dupont: This amazing PG has a very quiet final image, which say almost nothing about the all story. But the capture dxd6 (and eventually fxf3) must be justified. So, at a time, Rh8, Qd1, Sg8 become the characters of a scene, which contains a game difficult to predict. We found here also a S Ceriani-Frolkin. The Back home rules are dominating here relative to the Berolina rules, but this negative aspect did not diminish the merits of the problem.

1.BPce4 BPhg6 2.BPf5 BPh5 3.BPg6 Rh6 4.BPh7 Rc6 5.Qa4 Rc2 6.BPb3 Rc6 7.BPec4 Rh6 8.BPb5 Sf6 9.BPg8=S Rh8 10.Sh6 Sg8 11.Sf5 Sf6 12.Sd6+ BPxd6 13.BPa6+ Sfd7 14.BPc4 Se5 15.Qd1 Sf3+ 16.BPxf3
Comments: Intriguing capture of the two missing units. If BPf2 is captured on square d6, then BPe2->f3 and there is no way to capture the Sg8, as the white side can't develop due to back-home necessity. If a white squared BP is captured on square d6, it must have captured the Sg8 too, hence this Knight must stand far away from its original square g8, which is also impossible due to back-home necessity. The only remaining possibility is therefore to promote on square g8 (via h7, allowing black, and then white, to develop), this promotion being captured on square d6, which in turn allows Sg8 to develop (and thereafter to be captured) via the covering of a checking move. (author)
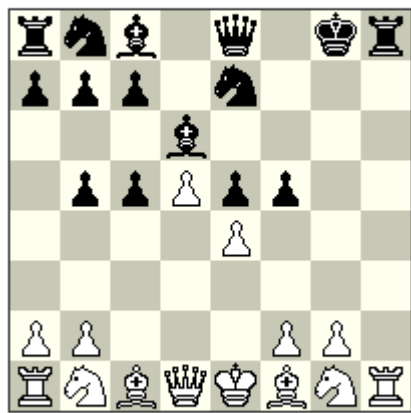
1st Prize – N. Dupont: A memorable problem. The genre Lortap was first lounched in *Tournoi de Noel* 2008 and there, Nicolas Dupont and Michel Caillaud won with a similar idea (see D). But let the author speak:

The capture e6xe5 is impossible as square e6 is observed by the immovable Pf7. Hence the capture d7xd6 is mandatory, which implies that Sb8 Qd8 and Ke8 must have left their observation of square d7 (and then gone back home), and that Bc8 must have been home-captured by Qd1 (and then replaced by a Pronkin promotion), which in turn is captured on square d6. This content is near from the first Prize "Tournoi de Noël de France Echecs 2008", but with less number of captures and moves. The problem is C+ with the new Jacobi release, allowing the above described constraints : Sb8(2) Qd8(2) Ke8(6) BPd7xd6 BPh7-c8=B Qd1xc8-d6.

1.BPhf4 BPce5 2.Rh3 Qa5 3.Ra3 Kd8 4.BPcb3 Kc7 5.Qc2+ Kb6 6.Qxc8 Sa6 7.Qb8 BPhf5 8.Qd6+ BPxd6 9.BPde3 Kc6+ 10.Bd2 Qd8 11.Ba5 BPe4 12.Kd2 BPd3+ 13.Kc3 BPc2 14.Sd2 BPb1=B 15.Kb4 Bf5 16.BPe4 Bc8 17.Bh3 Kd7 18.Be6+ Ke8 19.BPf5 Sb8.

Nicolas Dupont

Super Prize ex-aequo

PG 13.5 Berolina   14+15

BlackMaximummer

Kostas Prentos

Super Prize ex-aequo

PG 15.5 Berolina   14+14

Madrasi

SuperPrize ex-aequo – N. Dupont: A novelty in my opinion (and in author's opinion): Valladao task, where the promotion is a Q-Schnoebelen. It is amazing that the author managed the added condition, so that two circuits of Rooks have been introduced. I can't make a difference of level between this problem and Prentos problem, so I decided to give a second SuperPrize.

1.BPhf4 BPge5 2.Rh6 BPec5 3.Rf6 Bd6 4.Re6+ Se7 5.BPg5 **O-O** 6.BPf4 BPh5 **7.BPxg6 e.p.** Rxf4 8.BPf7 Ra4 9.BPec4 BPf5 10.BPd5 Rh4 11.BPce4 Rh8 12.Rh6 BPb5 **13.e8=Q** Qxe8 14.Rh1.
 Comments: To my best knowledge, a Q-Schnoebelen is completed for the first time to a Valladao. Circuits from Rh1 and Rh8 are added in order to reach an elegant diagram position. The problem is Jacobi C+ until position 12.0 and from position 4.0 to the end. The following simplified version is fully checked: 1.BPhf4 BPge5 2.Rh6 BPec5 3.Rf6 Bd6 4.Re6+ Se7 5.BPg5 O-O 6.BPf4 BPh5 7.BPxg6 e.p. Rxf4 8.BPf7 Ra4 9.BPec4 BPf5 10.Rh6 BPb5 11.BPe8=Q+ Qxe8 12.Rh1.[author]
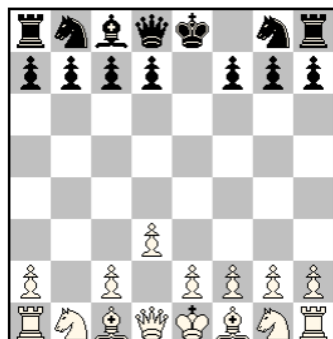
SuperPrize ex-aequo – K. Prentos: An outstanding work. The author managed both genres intensively and reached a hard task: double Valladao. I appreciated that both promoted Knights disappeared and that only 4 Pawns was captured during the game. A final touch: using Madrasi rules, Kostas achieved a unique sequence of moves, the promotion on g1 must only come after Se2-c1.

1.BPec4 BPbd5 2.BPb5 BPa5 **3.BPxb6 e.p.** Bb7 4.BPc7 Qc8 **5.BPd8=S** BPe4 6.Se6 BPxe6 7.Bb5 Bb4 8.Se2 Se7 **9.0-0 0-0** 10.BPdf4 **BPxe3 e.p.** 11.BPh4 BPf2 12.Be3 Bf3 13.Sc1 Be2 14.Kh1 **BPg1=S** 15.Rf2 Sh3 16.BPxh3.
 Tested with Jacobi v0.5.1 (999 Mb, 11816 sec)   Double Valladão, with Ceriani/Frolkin Knights. [author]

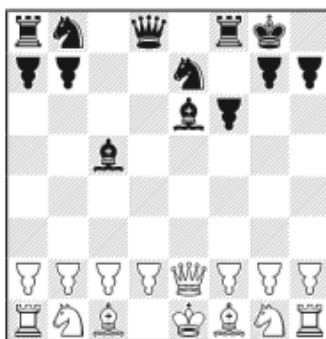# Appendix

A)

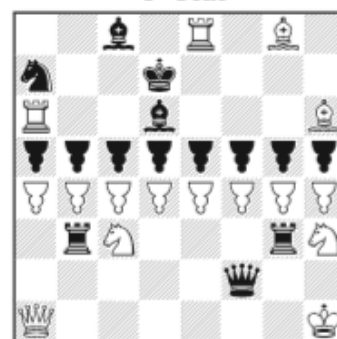1st Honourable Mention
Marco Bonavoglia (Italy)

SPG 4.0 Andernach (15+14) C+
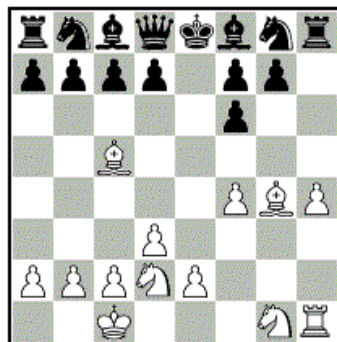
B)

J. Auclair & A. Gilbert
Ecully 2018
2° Prix

Partie   (15+13) C+j
Justificative en 7,0 coups
☖ ♟=Pion Berolina

C)

A. Leroux
Ecully 2018
3° Prix

Partie   (16+15) C+j
Justificative en 18,5 coups
☖ ♟=Pion Berolina

D)

58 - P1240558
Michel Caillaud
Nicolas Dupont
France-Echecs 01/2008
1. Preis
Tournoi de Noel 2008

(13+15)
BP in 20,0
Elliuortap

Solutions:

A) 1.d3 e5 2.Bf4 Ba3 3.B×e5(b) Be×b2(w) 4.Bc1 B×c1(w).

B) 1.BPe2-c4 BBe7-f6 2.d5 Bc5 3.Qe2+ BPce5 4.d×d6 e.p.+ Se7 5.d×d7 0-0 6.e8=S Be6 7.S×f6+ f×f6.

C) 1.g4 BPhf5 2.Bc4Rh3 3.h4 h5 4.B×g8 d5 5.c4 Sc6 6.Ra6 Rb8 7.a4 Rbb3 8.b4 a5 9.Bh6 g5 10.f4 Rhg3 11.Sh3 Bd6 12.0-0 Qb6+ 13.Kh1 Qf2 14.d4 c5 15.Sc3 Sa7 16.Qa1 b5 17.Re1+ Kd7 18.Re8 e5 19.e4.

D) 1. d3 h5 2. Qd2 h4 3. Qh6 h3 4. Qh7 Sh6 5. Qg8 hxg2 6. Qxf8+ Rxf8 7. h4 Rh8 8. Rh3 Kf8 9. Rf3 Kg8 10. Rf6 Kh7 11. f4 Qg8 12. Sf3 g1=B 13. Bh3 exf6 14. Bg4 Bc5 15. Be3 Qd8 16. Sbd2 Kg8 17. 0-0-0! Kf8 18. Rh1 Ke8 19.Sg1 Bf8 20. Bc5 Sg8.

Definitions

Andernach: A capturing piece (excluding King) changes color. After capturing a Rook on a1, h1, a8 and h8, it is possible to castle with the new Rook, provided that all the other rules for castling are satisfied.

Back-home: If a side can move a piece (King included) to the square it occupied in the initial position, it must do it, unless a self-check.

Circe Couscous: When a capture is made, the captured unit (except a King) is replaced on the capturing unit's rebirth square, if it is empty. If not, the captured unit is annihilated.

Duellist Chess: If a side begins play with piece X, this side must play only with X until is impossible to make legal moves with X.

Glasgow chess: Pawns are promotes on their seventh (white) or second (black) rank instead of the eight or first.

Lortap: A piece can capture only if it is not controlled by a unit of its side.

Madrasi: Opposing like units other than Kings are paralyzed, when they attack each other. Paralyzed units cannot move, capture or give check (but it retains the function of paralysing). En passant captures may be made in Madrasi and that is the only way in which one Pawn may capture another.

Multicaptures: One piece (King included) can only be captured, if it is attacked at least twice.