

Hobart International Junior Chess Club



NEWSLETTER

Issue 6

26th April 2010

Hi everyone.

Last week we looked at the Lucena position. And here is an example from an actual game played in 1993 between Gata Kamsky (2655) and Artur Yusupov (2645) in 1993 at Linares. The game was a monster, lasting 84 moves however we will pick it up at move 40 at the beginning of the endgame. The entire game can be found at

<http://www.chessgames.com/perl/chessgame?gid=1066707>



Kamsky and Yusupov have just played their 40th move and already Kamsky is aiming for the Lucena position

To achieve his aim he plans to:

- Capture the pawn on g5;
- Exchange his Rook and Knight for the Bishop and Knight;
- Advance his King to g6;
- Exchange pawns; and
- Capture the pawn on g7



How should He proceed?

He starts by moving his King closer to his pawn on g4 and capturing Yusupov's pawn on g5.

41. Rf1 Rb7
42. Kf2 Rb6
43. Kg3 Ra6
44. Rxg5 (Diagram)

Why did Kamsky capture the pawn with his Rook rather than his Knight? He's going to lose his Rook for a Knight!

The reason is that if he took with his Knight and then his Rook, his Rook would have been stuck on g5.



Think about moves for Kamsky's plan.
Kamsky intends to move his King in front of his pawn on g4. He also means to exchange his Knight for Yusupov's Bishop and double the black pawns on the e file.

44. ... Nxc5
45. Nxc5



45. ... Bg6
46. Rf2 Rb6
47. Kh4 Ra6
48. Nh3 Be4
49. Kh5 Ra7
50. Ng5 Re7
51. Nxe4 dxe4
52. Kg6 (Diagram)

Has Kamsky progressed towards the Lucena Position?

Yes. He's exchanged all the unwanted pieces. He's also captured Yusupov's pawn on g5 file and moved his King in front of his own pawn on g4.



The next step of Kamsky's plan is to exchange three pawns. Watch for the Rook and King checkmate threat.

52. ... e3
53. Re2 Rf7
54. Rxe3 Rf2
55. Re1 Rxc2
56. Rb1 Rxc3
57. Rxb5 Kf8
58. Rb4 Rxa3
59. Rxc4 Ra1 (Diagram)

Has Kamsky progressed towards the Lucena Position? Yes he has!



Kamsky now plans to force the King away from the pawn on g7 and capture it.

60. g5 a3
 61. Ra4 a2
 62. Ra7 Ke8
 63. Kxg7 (Diagram)

Has Kamsky progressed towards the Lucena Position?

Yes. He has an extra pawn. When he captures the pawn on a2 it will be easy to reach the Lucena position.



Kamsky intends to advance his King to g8 and his pawn to g7. This will force Yusupov to move his Rook to h1 to prevent the pawn from promoting to a Queen. Then Kamsky can capture the pawn on a2.

63. ... Kd8
 64. g6 Ke8
 65. Ra6 Ke7
 66. Ra8 Kd7
 67. Kg8 Ke7
 68. Ra7+ Ke8
 69. g7 Rh1
 70. Rxa2 Ke7

Note now Kamsky used his g-pawn as cover from checks from the Black Rook.



Has Kamsky progressed towards the Lucena Position?

Yes. The white King, white pawn and black Rook are in the Lucena Position. Kamsky now aims to exchange pawns on d5 and advance his e pawn.

71. Ra7+ Ke8
 72. Ra5 Ke7
 73. d5 exd5
 74. Rxd5 Rh2
 75. Ra5 Rh1
 76. Ra7+ Ke8
 77. e6 Rh2
 78. Rf7 Rh1
 79. e7 Rh2



Kamsky has two pawns but his King is trapped in front of one. So he intends to sacrifice the pawn on f7 to reach the Lucena Position.

- | | |
|-------------------|------|
| 80. Rf8 | Kxe7 |
| 81. Rf3 | Ke8 |
| 82. Re3+ | Kd7 |
| 83. Re4 (Diagram) | 1-0 |

Yusupov resigned when he saw the bridge being built.

Mate Problems



White to Move: Mate in Two

1. _____
2. _____



Black to Move: Mate in Two

1. _____
2. _____



Black to Move: Mate in Two

1. _____
2. _____



White to Move: Mate in Two

1. _____

2. _____



White to Move: Mate in Two

1. _____

2. _____



Black to Move: Mate in Two

1.

2. _____