

Interesting Endgames

The 4 online endgame classes are part of one package. Sign up for only \$75 for 8 hours of chess training! Below is a detailed description of the 4 classes.

Format: In all endgame classes, there will be 1 hour of presentation (with questions), then ½ hour with puzzles, followed by the last ½ hour with feedback on the puzzles.

The puzzles for this class, plus the *Zoom Meeting* link, will be emailed out to the participants shortly before the class.

Thursday, April 9 at 7-9pm (ET).

Class 1: Rook Endgames - why they are so difficult.

Why are rook endgames so difficult? There are a couple of reasons for that, but the main one is the intermediate move with rooks that are so easy to miss – over the board and in the calculations. My own guideline is to never read a book on rook endgames without the help of a chess engine. At least not an older one, written before the 1990s. Not out of disrespect for old masters, but simply because the positions are so rich: it is easy to miss small tricks. In the class, I will show numerous examples of typical mistakes not picked up in books and try to explain why rook endgames are so difficult based on that.

Thursday, April 16 at 7-9pm (ET).

Class 2: Rook vs. Bishop - the sharpest endgame?

Once a pawn race gets going, both rooks and bishops can easily show their long-range abilities by supporting the own pawn while stopping the opponent's. The rook is of course the stronger piece of the two, but the battle of configurations K + R + pawn vs. K + B + pawn can get close and make this endgame the sharpest of all. Paradoxically, the endgame can also be very dull, especially in positions where the bishop side is hopelessly weak on the opposite color of the bishop and has to confine in defense only. In that case, it's a question of fortress or not. I will show examples of both and present the term *Fortress-Like Position* that I used in *The Secret Life of Bad Bishops* (Quality Chess, 2014). Often there is a fine line between the two scenarios.

Thursday, April 23 at 7-9pm (ET).

Class 3: Knight vs. pawns – how the knight loses a tempo.

The knight cannot make a waiting move the same way a bishop can – move and cover the same squares. The knight changes color with every move it makes. However, in open positions the trickery of the knight often allows it to find a solution to that challenge – one way or the other. Somehow, the knight finds a way around a mutual zugzwang in critical positions. In this endgame class, we shall look at examples where this happens and try to get to a better understanding of the knight based on that. The examples will cover typical themes from endgame theory.

Thursday, April 30 at 7-9pm (ET).

Class 4: 2 knights vs. pawn – understanding the most complex ending.

What does the Troitzky Line tell us – and why does it look like it does? In this endgame class, we will take a look at the basics of this endgame where the black king is already trapped, or almost trapped, in the corner, allowing white for a timely release of the reserve knight to start the mating attack. We shall also learn how to change front and look at ways to lose a tempo – and important theme also touched upon in endgame class 3.

General Information:

Dates: Thursdays on April 9-16-23-30, 2020.

Time: Evenings at 7-9pm (Eastern Time).

Rating level: Approximately 1600-2200. Ambitious players or players on their way up might want to join.

Price: \$75. Pay via PayPal or Venmo using the email: mulu0328@gmail.com

The presentation tool *Zoom* is used for all online classes.

Signup & questions: send an email to silas.lund@gmail.com

About me

An International Master and 7-time chess author, I settled in New York in 2017 and currently work full time with chess as a trainer, writer and blogger on silasesbenlund.com. My 4 books for Quality Chess include *Opening Simulator: King's Indian Defence* (2019, co-written with IM Andreas Hagen), *Sharp Endgames* (2017), *The Secret Life of Bad Bishops* (2014) and *Rook versus Two Minor Pieces* (2005). I use ideas from my books in the online classes, but always with new material. It is my trademark style to always have handouts for the students during class. In 2018, my wife Lu and I launched SILU Game Products LLC with a variety of products, most notably our math game *Equation Gamble* and the *2020 Chess Calendar*. Our products can be found on our Amazon Store. The chess calendar has 366 positions, one for each day of the year, with solutions the next day. We plan a Chess Calendars for 2021 too.