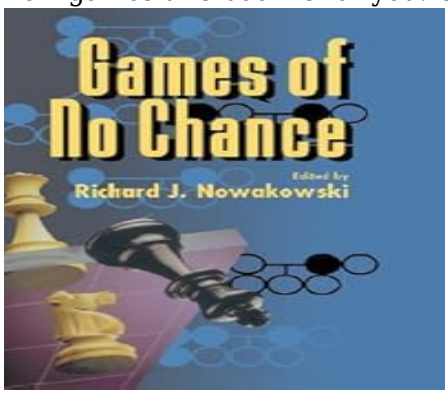
Games of No Chance By Richard J. Nowakowski

Is Nine-Men's Morris in the hands of perfect players a win for white or for black--or a draw? Can king rook and knight always defeat king and two knights in chess? What can Go players learn from economists? What are nimbers tinies switches minies? This book deals with combinatorial games that is games not involving chance or hidden information. Their study is at once old and young: though some games such as chess have been analyzed for centuries the first full analysis of a nontrivial combinatorial game (Nim) only appeared in 1902. Their study is at once old and young: though some games such as chess have been analyzed for centuries the first full anlaysis of a nontrivial combinatorial game (Nim) only appeared in 1902. For those who want to delve more deeply the book also contains combinatorial studies of chess and Go; reports on computer advances such as the solution of Nine-Men's Morris and Pentominoes; and new theoretical approaches to such problems as games with many players. This book deals with combinatorial games that is games not involving chance or hidden information: The first part of this book will be accessible to anyone regardless of background: it contains introductory expositions reports of unusual contest between an angel and a devil. If you have read and enjoyed Martin Gardner or if you like to learn and analyze new games this book is for you. Games of No Chance



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