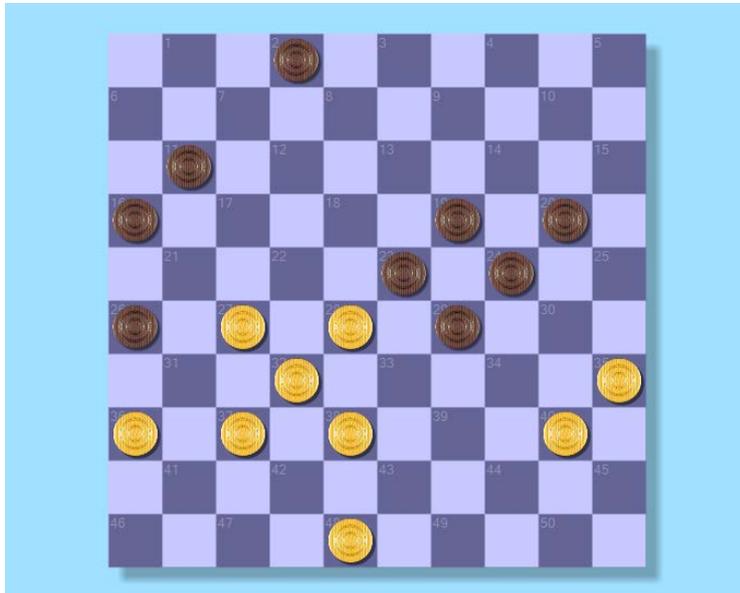


PF14 Match Analysis

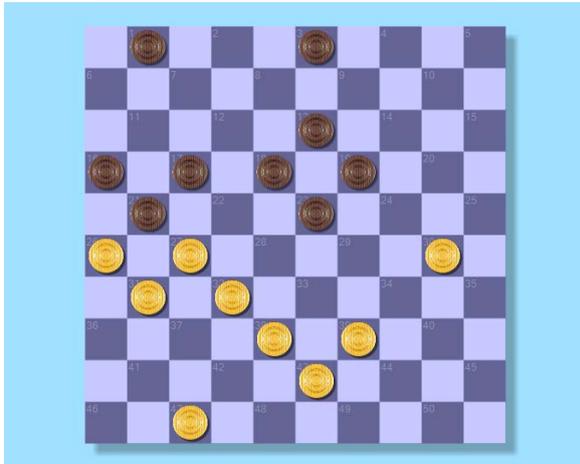
Game 18: Damage - Kingsrow 0-2



Damage has several problems in this position. Both wings are under black control and the man on 36 does not help either. The best defence for white would be to play 28-22, which opens up the option to create much needed breathing room at some point with the exchange 38-33 29x38 32-43. Instead Damage continued with 36-31? and after 11-17 27-22 17-21 31-27 his men have no further to go. 20-25 48-43 25-30 43-39 and now Kingsrow shows the advantage of the freedom his man on 2 still has, after 2-7 Damage opts to sacrifice a piece with 27-22 but it cannot save him anymore.

The sacrifice is only 11 ply away from the diagram. So why the 14 ply search selects 36-31 over 28-22 I do not understand. The evaluation should probably value wing control in classic positions higher to avoid ending up in the diagram position in the first place.

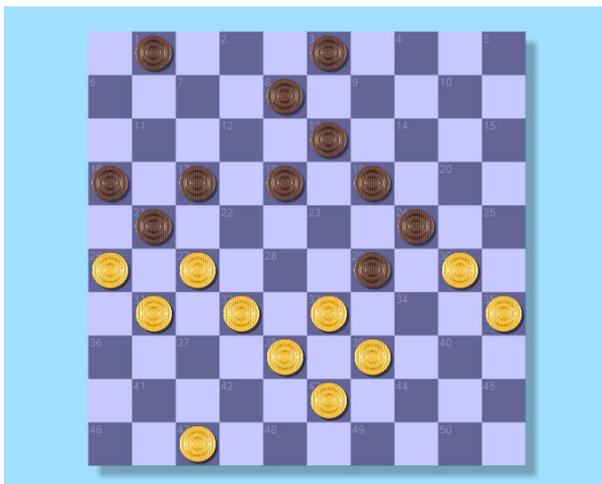
Game 21: Kingsrow – Damage 2-0



In this position Damage has very little freedom to move. The men on 16 17 21 are locked, the four men in the center 13 18 19 23 are also denied any freedom to move and the man on 1 is not going very far either. Only the man on 3 has some freedom to move. But that is not enough compare to the five men of Kingsrow 30 38 39 43 47 that can still move.

Kingsrow finishes the game in style. 39-34 3-9 38-33 9-14 47-41 14-20 33-29 and after 20-25 the only remaining free man that was at 3 has run out of freedom. After 41-36 Damage sacrifices two pieces and loses.

The bad position of the first diagram is the result of the bad decision made 5 moves ago. The moves 23-29 42-38 that have just been played are OK, but now Damage plays 29-34 which more or less forces the moves 30-25 24-30 35x24 19x30 33-29 34x23 25x34 that result in Kingsrow obtaining firm control over the wing and the freedom to move that was shown to be decisive in the first diagram.



Much better was 18-23 instead of 29-34. After 18-23 white also remains limited in his freedom to move. For instance after 30-25 3-9 white needs to exchange back with 39-34 29x40 35x44 to obtain some freedom. After this exchange the black's position would be a lot better than the one in diagram 1.

Selecting 29-34 over 18-23 is probably an evaluation problem as all the lines of play in this analysis should be within reach of the 14 ply search.