

PERMANENT COMMISSION OF THE FIDE FOR CHESS COMPOSITIONS (PCCC)

XL. Meeting in Pula, Croatia 6. - 13.9.1997

MINUTES

Official Participants

Bedrich FORMÁNEK	Slovakia	President
Hannu HARKOLA	Finland	1st Vice-President
Kjell WIDLERT	Sweden	2nd Vice-President
Bernd ELLINGHOVEN	Germany	3rd Vice-President
Günter BÜSING	Germany	Secretary
Helmut ZAJIC	Austria	Delegate
Agchin MASIMOV	Azerbaijan (new member)	Delegate
Edward STOFFELEN	Belgium	Deputy for Ignaas Vandemeulebroucke
Fadil ABDURAHMANOVIC	Bosnia-Hercegovina	Delegate
Josip VARGA	Croatia	Delegate
Jiri JELINEK	Czechia	Delegate
Jan MORTENSEN	Denmark	Delegate
Michel CAILLAUD	France	Deputy for Jacques Rotenberg
David GURGENIDZE	Georgia	Delegate
John RICE	Great Britain	Delegate
Harry FOUGIAXIS	Greece	Deputy for Byron Zappas
Gabor CSEH	Hungary	Deputy for Tibor Szabó
Uri AVNER	Israel	Delegate
Francesco SIMONI	Italy	Delegate
Tadashi WAKASHIMA	Japan	Delegate
Zivko JANEVSKI	Macedonia	Delegate
Henk le GRAND	The Netherlands	Delegate
Wladislaw ROSOLAK	Poland	Deputy for Jan Rusinek
Mircea MANOLESCU	Romania	Deputy for Virgil Nestorescu
Jakov VLADIMIROV	Russia	Delegate
Marko KLASINC	Slovenia	Delegate
Thomas MAEDER	Switzerland	Delegate
Jewgeni REITZEN	Ukraine	Delegate
Milan VELIMIROVIC	Yugoslavia	Delegate
Klaus WENDA	Austria	Honorary President
Attila BENEDEK	Hungary	Honorary Member
Victor CHEPIZHNY	Russia	Honorary member
Giorgio MIRRI	Italia	Honorary Member

Initially 24 of the 34 member countries were represented. After the late arrival of some delegates and acceptance of the new membership application by Azerbaijan (see § 3) 28 of the 35 member countries were represented.

The following persons were excused:

Manuel MUNOZ	Spain	Delegate
Sonomun CHIMEDTZEREN	Mongolia	Delegate
Newman GUTTMAN	USA	Delegate

No delegates were nominated by Brazil, Bulgaria, Estonia and Latvia.

Active visitors fulfilling tasks as members of subcommittees, tourney directors, assistant directors, etc., were: Kenneth SOLJA (Finland), Denis BLONDEL (France), Hemmo AXT, Hans GRUBER (both Germany), Brian STEPHENSON, Colin SYDENHAM (both Great Britain), Yochanan AFEK, Noam ELKIES (both Israel), Marco BONAVOGLIA (Italy), Igor VERESHCHAGIN, Andrei SELIVANOV, Anatoli SLESARENKO (all Russia). Also several Croatian assistants worked very effectively in the background.

§1 Opening address, remembrance for deceased problemists

After words of welcome President Bedrich Formánek noted that this is the second time that the Commission meets in Pula, and he reminded the Commission that Nenad Petrovic was one of the very active Croatian representants of that time and one of the founders of the PCCC. He expressed his thanks for the organization of the meeting to Josip Varga and to the Croatian Chess Federation, and then declared the meeting open.

Thereafter the President regretted the death of several prominent problemists. A minute of mourning and remembrance was held for:

Frank Visbeen (2.3.37-12.8.96), Wladimir Suchodolski (18.11.08-15.08.96), Mario Camorani (15.08.12-08.07.96), Karlheinz Ahlheim (13.06.33-15.10.96), Robert McWilliam (12.07.19-12.02.97), Nikos Siotis (25.09.29-? 01.97), Pascal di Scala (31.03.07-29.11.96), Visvaldis Vederis (24.01.21-11.05.97), Imants Draiska (09.09.26-01.10.96), Lev M. Tamkov (02.08.37-31.03.97), Walter Korn (22.05.08-10.07.97), Jüri Randviir (28.05.27-08.08.96), Dmitri Banny (18.10.32-10.08.97) and Revaz Tavariani.

§2 Verification of Attendance and Voting Rights

Initially, 24 member countries out of 34 were represented. The meeting was declared legal.

§3 Application of new Members

Azerbaijan applied for new membership and had nominated as its delegate Agchin Masimov who is the vice-president of the Azerbaijan chess composition federation. A problem arose

because the written application for membership from the Azerbaijan chess federation was not available. Agchin Masimov explained that such a letter had been sent several years ago to Klaus Wenda. David Gurgenedze confirmed that chess composition is well developed in Azerbaijan and that the chess organisation is active. Andrei Selivanov, Vice President of FIDE, informed the Commission that he had personally spoken with the President of the chess federation of Azerbaijan and he could confirm that Agchin Masimov should represent Azerbaijan. Klaus Wenda explained that the only missing feature was the official paper from the chess federation but he remarked that trusting what David Gurgenedze and Andrei Selivanov said, then the application can be accepted.

In a vote, the 25 delegates present unanimously accepted the application by Azerbaijan for membership in the Commission.

§4 Approval of the Tel Aviv minutes 1996

The minutes of the XXXIXth Meeting in Tel Aviv (1996) were approved with the following corrections:

§5.5: Last name should read "Wenda" instead of "Garai".

§9.I.d: Nationality of Jean Morice is France.

§5 Checking of the Standing Subcommittees

- | | | |
|------------------|--|-----------|
| 1. Codex: | G. BÜSING
H. AXT
B. FORMÁNEK
C. SYDENHAM
I. VERESHCHAGIN
K. WIDLERT | Spokesman |
| 2. WCSC: | H. AXT
U. AVNER
M. KLASINC
J. VLADIMIROV
Last year's member J. Rotenberg was not present. | Spokesman |
| 3. WCCT: | U. AVNER
M. VELIMIROVIC
J. VLADIMIROV
J. JELINEK
H. GRUBER
H. FOUGIAXIS
Z. JANEVSKI
E. REITSEN
J. RICE
H. AXT (Director 6th WCCT, observer)
Last year's member B. Zappas was not present. The deputy was H. Fougiaxis. | Spokesman |

- 4. FIDE-album:** K. WIDLERT Spokesman
 U. AVNER
 B. ELLINGHOVEN
 J. RICE
 A. SELIVANOV
 D. BLONDEL
- 5. Qualifications:** I. VANDEMEULEBROUCKE Spokesman
 H. HARKOLA
 J. JELINEK
 V. NESTORESCU
 K. WENDA
 The regular spokesman I. Vandemeulebroucke was not present.
 He was replaced as spokesman for this year by H. Harkola. V.
 Nestorescu was also not present and was replaced by M.
 Manolescu. L. Jelinek joined the subcommittee as a new
 member.
- 6. Computer Matters:** H. le GRAND Spokesman
 T. MAEDER
 B. STEPHENSON
 M. VELIMIROVIC
 R. STAUDTE
 K. SOLJA
 Last year's member J. Rotenberg was not present.
- 7. Studies:** J. ROYCROFT Spokesman
 D. GURGENIDZE
 V. NESTORESCU
 O. PERVAKOV
 Y. AFEK
 N. ELKIES
 Last year's members V. Gorbunov and V. Nestorescu were not
 present. Noam Elkies joined the subcommittee as a new member.
- 8. Terminology:** J. RICE Spokesman
 M. BONA VOGLIA
 B. FORMÁNEK
 A. SLESARENKO
 K. SOLJA
 Z. JANEVSKI
 M. DRAGOUN
 Last year's member J. Rotenberg was not present. M. Dragoun
 joined the subcommittee as a new member.

§6 Proposals by Members

6.1 Proposal by Russia and Georgia

The proposal for establishing the title of World Champion for Composers that had already been discussed and rejected in Tel Aviv was renewed during the meeting and discussed again during the last session of the Commission. The President provided an introduction to the matter and said that after discussion with several experts he was of the opinion that, contrary to last year's decision, the title might indeed be needed. He suggested starting the discussion with the general question of whether the title should be introduced. The method of determining the titles should only be discussed after a decision on this question of principle. The proposal by Russia and Georgia reads as follows (wording by John Beasley):

- "1. The PCCC should organize a world championship for problem and study composition based on the FIDE-albums.*
- 2. World champions should be determined in accordance with album points. If a problem has two or more authors, the points should be divided.*
- 3. The Qualifications subcommittee should announce the first ten composers according to the 1986-88 and 1989-91 albums.*
- 4. The winner of each album section should be declared the World Champions, and should be awarded a gold medal. The second should be awarded a silver medal, the third a bronze."*

In a modification, Bernd Ellinghoven and John Rice proposed to modify the first sentence of point 2 by

- "2. World champions should be determined according to album points as awarded by the judges (8-12)."*

They further proposed for consideration of the WCCT subcommittee in 1998

- "to discontinue the WCCT after the 6th and to replace it by a tourney for individual composers in which the result, taken in conjunction with points gained in the album, would lead to the award of the title of World Champion Composer."*

Bo Lindgren started the discussion by saying that to look for a champion is to look for the best. He then made a comparison to athletics and observed that an athlete with a lot of very good results, but not the best ones, would never get a title of world champion because this is reserved for the best performance in a contest. Regarding the FIDE album, he said that an ambitious composer may get many problems into the album but may possibly not be a real artist. Other composers may achieve real masterworks but get fewer problems into the album. According to the proposal, they would not have a chance to obtain the title. He said that he is strictly against the introduction of the title of world champion (as he was against the introduction of the other composing titles).

Jakov Vladimirov reminded the Commission that the PCCC is a permanent commission of FIDE and observed that the question of whether the champion should really be the best is not even clear in FIDE (the situation Karpov/Kasparov: one is the champion, the other is possibly the better player). Andrei Selivanov made a comparison with a chess tournament and said that the winner may perhaps not have played the best games, it is the overall result that counts. Similarly, no point scores in the album should be counted but only the number of selected problems.

Uri Avner said that he has supported for a long time the opinion expressed by Bo Lindgren. The album was originally not meant as a tournament, and the idea of awarding a title in accordance with quantity instead of quality is not convincing to him, nor is the statement that we "need" the title. He further asked why it is considered to be so urgent to introduce the title now and suggested to discuss the matter in a subcommittee. Both Uri Avner and Thomas Maeder suggested that the Commission should, in the first part of the discussion, disregard the words "based on the FIDE-albums" so as to discuss whether the title is needed before discussing how it is to be given.

Mircea Manolescu agreed that the title should be given to the best composer (from a quality viewpoint). He proposed an alternative for point 2: from each composer a maximum number of problems in the album, e.g. 5, should be considered and the total of points awarded by the judges for these compositions should decide. Andrei Selivanov did not agree and did not want to mix points of the proposal.

Milan Velimirovic stressed that the album is not a tournament and therefore not suitable as a basis for the title. He mainly agreed with Bo Lindgren. Although he did not agree with the introduction of the title, he conceded that its introduction might be useful for the PCCC. Yochanan Afek also appreciated Bo Lindgren's point of view but observed a great and increasing need for the competitive aspects of chess. With regard to the game, he remarked that the number of games published in, e.g., the Chess Informant, could never be the basis for giving a title; this must always be a tournament.

Helmut Zajic suggested the deletion of the FIDE-Album basis from point 1 of the proposal and to vote on the introduction of the title separately. Uri Avner disagreed because he did not want to vote on a title without at the same time knowing how to grant it. He added that the album is not suitable as a championship tournament.

Klaus Wenda saw no need in principle for the title, but in case that the majority feels that advantages connected thereto are more important than the disadvantages, then a special tournament should be organised. David Gurgenidze disagreed because he fears that a separate tournament might be won by chance. He deems the results of the album as more reliable and mentioned that only the best composers deserve the title. Henk le Grand asked whether there is a danger that a composer who has a brilliant idea only once may get the title. He suggested that album points might be used as a kind of qualification for a title tournament.

Yochanan Afek observed that the title is apparently vital for some people. He said that the acceptance of the proposal would result in the situation that somebody becomes world champion in a tournament that has already been finished before its announcement. David Gurgenidze agrees that this is not good in principle but saw a special situation here. Jakov Vladimirov added that the titles of grandmaster and international master were also retroactive.

Uri Avner proposed again to give the matter to a subcommittee for further discussion and not to decide under such time pressure.

Mircea Manolescu agreed with Avner and Afek and had a further idea: each country could select its best problems for taking part in a world championship, perhaps instead of the WCCT.

Kjell Widlert summarised some arguments: against the introduction of the title is that chess composition deals with a kind of art and that several (western) composers will presumably not take part in further albums if the title is connected thereto; an argument in favour of the title would be the increased prestige for some countries. As he considered this a rather unclear argument, he wanted to get more information thereon.

Marko Klasinc thought that the title should be introduced and he asked for a decision during this meeting. The titles for 1989-91 could be given next year based on the album, perhaps other methods of determining the world champion could be found in future. Jiri Jelinek added that the Commission should support the problemists in the former soviet republics by accepting the proposal now.

Harry Fougiaxis asked whether the certificates that have been prepared for the most successful composers according to last year's decision in Tel Aviv are sufficient. Bedrich Formánek answered that for some composers the title is more important than certificates. Andrei Selivanov added that the title is necessary for all composers in the world. He asked for an immediate decision and cannot see the pressure that Uri Avner talked about. Bedrich Formánek referred to the importance of good connections to FIDE, and that the PCCC should follow the general line of FIDE. As chess may soon become olympic, much propaganda would be possible for compositional chess through the national chess federations if the PCCC could refer to titles. Milan Velimirovic disagreed and could not see a connection between the olympic movement and the title under discussion.

In a personal declaration, Fadil Abdurahmanovic expressed his thanks for the help that he got from problemists during the war in Bosnia. In analogy thereto, he asked why the PCCC cannot help other composers who need help by awarding a title of world champion. He added that it seems to be difficult to find a better system than one based on the FIDE album.

In the following **vote**, a majority of 16 was in favour of the creation of the title of individual world champion, with 6 against and 4 abstentions.

K. Wenda observed that this was not a two-thirds majority and asked whether this result is now the acceptance or refusal of a new title. Bedrich Formánek said that a two-thirds majority was not necessary because the title of world champion is only a temporary title, different from other titles for composition like grandmaster which are granted for lifetime.

In a subsequent **vote** on the proposal: "The only basis for determining the winner of the World Championship of FIDE-PCCC is the FIDE-Album", a majority of 15 was in favour, with 7 against and 4 abstentions.

In the following deliberations on point 2 of the proposal, it was discussed whether

- a) normal album points,
 - b) the points awarded by the judges, or
 - c) only a specific maximum number of compositions
- should be taken into account for the determination of the world champion.

David Gurgenzidze said that it would be very strange to evaluate the title differently from the determination of grandmasters, international masters and FIDE masters. He proposed to start

with method a) and, if future experience should show that corrections are necessary, this could be done after some years.

Milan Velimirovic protested against the manner in which a decision was sought without proper preparation. He declared that from now on he would vote against each proposal and left the session.

Helmut Zajic expressed his sympathy with method c) although he was not sure whether the result thereof would be different from method a). Kjell Widlert pointed out that methods b) and c) both have the advantage that high quality problems have more weight than in a).

Hans Gruber remarked that he was very confused that a judge (as he was himself) should now be used as a tool for determining the world champion. He considered this an abuse of the judges because they could not have known that when they made their judgement.

Bedrich Formánek argued that the simplest system appears to be the best for the time being. He said that for practical reasons the simplest system, i.e. method a), should be adopted for the Album 1989-91.

In the **vote** on the question whether the "normal album points should be taken for the album 1989-91", 16 were in favour, with 3 against and 5 abstentions (without counting the absent Milan Velimirovic).

With regard to point 4 of the proposal, the question was discussed for which period the title of world champion should be given. Reference to the album period seemed strange because that was too long ago. John Roycroft suggested simply to count the world champions, now starting with the first one. Jakov Vladimirov proposed the use of the year of publication of the album.

Andrei Selivanov promised that Russia will offer the medals and present them during the meeting in St. Petersburg.

Michel Caillaud said that composers should be allowed to refuse the title.

In a **vote**, 17 were in favour of point 4 of the proposal, with no-one against and 8 abstentions.

It is observed that no discussion and no vote took place on point 3 of the proposal.

After the decision, a subcommittee, consisting of Kjell Widlert, Francesco Simoni and David Gurgenidze, was formed for counting the album points in order to announce the first world champions during the final banquet.

6.II Further proposals

Further proposals were discussed in various subcommittees and are referred to under other paragraphs of these minutes (§8 FIDE Album, §9 Qualifications, §10 Codex).

§7 Competitions

7.1 21st World Chess Solving Championship

Brian Stephenson selected the problems for the 21th WCSC. He and Kenneth Solja, assisted by Marco Bonavoglia, directed the WCSC.

The final results of the 21th WCSC were as follows:

a) Teams:

1.	Israel	163.25 points	617 min.
2.	Germany	158.00	670
3.	Great Britain	158.00	686
4.	Yugoslavia	152.25	580
5.	Russia	148.00	612
6.	Finland	135.00	693
7.	Switzerland	131.75	640
8.	Netherlands	122.00	690
9.	Ukraine	120.50	719
10.	Czech Republic	113.00	690
11.	Slovenia	112.00	675
12.	Poland	111.00	635
13.	Slovakia	106.75	652
14.	Belgium	102.00	634
15.	France	99.00	689
16.	Austria	96.00	681
17.	Croatia	67.50	645
18.	Hungary	63.50	662
19.	Bosnia-Hercegovina	63.50	684

b) Individuals:

1.	Jonathan Mestel (Great Britain) (World Champion)	80.00 points	336 min.
2.	Michael Pfannkuche (Germany)	79.00	354
3.	Noam Elkies (Israel)	78.25	309
4.	Graham Lee (Great Britain)	76.25	351
5.	Sergej Rummyantsev (Russia)	76.00	282
6.	Roland Baier (Switzerland))	75.25	292
7.	Ram Soffer (Israel)	75.00	309
8.	Michel Caillaud (France)	75.00	354
9.	Boris Gusev (Russia)	73.25	287
10.	Mark Erenburg (Israel)	72.75	358
11.	Arno Zude (Germany)	70.00	314
12.	Tadashi Wakashima (Japan)	70.00	350

and 58 further participants.

Hemmo Axt, as spokesman of the WCSC subcommittee, informed the Commission that some changes are necessary in the wording of the WCSC rules. In particular, a reference to the

nationality of the solvers should be incorporated into Rule 5 which refers to the names of the participating solvers. A modified Rule 5, subdivided into sections 5.1 to 5.4, was presented and discussed. It includes rules for the eligibility of solvers. With regard to the nomination of the participating solvers, John Rice proposed to add the following sentence to section 5.3: " Other teams and/or solvers may be admitted at a later time at the discretion of the Presidium of the PCCC."

In a **vote**, the amendments including the above sentence were **accepted** (26 in favour, 1 abstention).

7.II 5th WCCT

The booklet with the final results of the 5th WCCT was available from the tournament director Jiri Jelinek.

7.III 6th WCCT

The tournament director Hemmo Axt reported that 35 countries are taking part in the competition (preliminary number). A first circular letter has been sent to the team captains, and a second one is under preparation.

Uri Avner, as spokesman of the WCCT subcommittee, regretted that some judges of the WCCT had not replied to participant's questions. Therefore, the WCCT-subcommittee had to answer those by itself. The tournament director was invited to contact the subcommittee in future if replies are not supplied in due time.

7.IV Future WCCTs

Uri Avner mentioned a proposal by Victor Sysonenko that was received during the meeting and referred to the enlargement of the scope of the WCCT and to make it open for individuals. Uri Avner indicated that this proposal will be discussed next year.

Some ideas concerning the judging in future WCCTs were discussed in the subcommittee. These included:

- a) preservation of the current system, with the attempt to improve it. This implies basically the problem of finding the most competent judges;
- b) to give all participating countries the possibility to have influence on the judging; e.g. by ranking the top 20 or so problems. This would be the most democratic approach but also has some drawbacks;
- c) to increase the number of judges, e.g. to three.

No recommendation has so far been made by the subcommittee. As the discussion will go on, Uri Avner invites anyone to submit further proposals to him.

§8 FIDE-Album, Report by the Subcommittee

8.I FIDE Album 1989-91

The spokesman Kjell Widlert thanked all the (about 40) persons involved in the production of the just-published Album 1989-91, which he considered a wonderful book. He specially mentioned Wieland Bruch who did an excellent job as substitute judge in the twomover-section in almost no time at all.

Kjell Widlert observed that one problem is missing in the album, viz the 1st place in the 4th WCCT by Ludovit Lacny. This problem, which automatically qualified for the album, will be included into the next album.

8.II FIDE Album 1992-94

The spokesman mentioned that his - very optimistic - time table ends with publication of the album in 1999 but he admits that this may not be realistic and that publication in 2000 is more likely. He informed the Commission that one section is completed (three-movers) and that the judges are working in the other sections.

A change in the administrative organization was noted: all entries for the album competition will be entered into a database and be tested by computer, as far as possible. After completion of the judgements, the album can then be produced faster than before.

8.III FIDE Album 1995-97

The announcement for the next album for the period 1995-97 will be made next year. All delegates are invited to make proposals for judges and send them to Kjell Widlert, or to make such proposals at latest in St. Petersburg.

Kjell Widlert indicated that there is a need for more judges in order to avoid using the same names too frequently. The subcommittee therefore proposed to change the rule that all 3 judges must hold the title of an international judge and would like to be entitled to appoint one non-title-holder (in addition to two international judges) per section. This would in particular allow the appointment of known experts who have not applied for the title. After a short discussion, a **vote** on the proposal resulted in its **acceptance** (23 in favour, 3 against and 3 abstentions).

8.IV Entering Compositions to the Album

A question of general interest is whether someone may enter compositions by other composers for the album. This has occasionally been done in the past and the subcommittee recommended that this should also be possible in future.

However, the situation arose that a composer did not want his composition to appear in the album, and the subcommittee felt that this should be respected in future.

In this respect, the Commission took note of Christopher J. Feather's declaration who wished it to be known to the Commission that he did not enter problems to the Album 1989-91 and he did not wish to have them in the album.

The President regretted that Mr. Feather does not want to have his problems in the album because something is really missing therein without them. Nevertheless, the Commission respects his wish and recognises the author's right to determine whether his compositions are published in the album.

In order to avoid similar situations in future, the subcommittee recommended that the **announcement of albums** should from now on include a passage asking those who enter compositions of others to contact the composers, if at all possible. Kjell Widlert, on behalf of the subcommittee, proposed also the following procedure: Every composer who wishes not to

be represented in the albums, except possibly with joint compositions, can announce this to the speaker of the Album subcommittee. He will then inform the directors of this fact.

Denis Blondel announced that for organisational reasons a deadline of 31.12.1998 is set for objections by composers against publication of their compositions in the running Album 1992-94.

8.V Procedure of granting titles for composition

The proposal submitted by Bernd Ellinghoven and Denis Blondel to award album points for titles only after publication of the respective album was discussed. Denis Blondel pointed out that the proposal returns to the situation before 1989. The reason for the proposal is that the "final selection" of the section directors on which the present procedure is based is not really a final selection. Cooks or anticipations that are found afterwards during the preparation of the album result in exclusion of these problems from the album, after contact with the director concerned. Denis Blondel indicated that about 40 points were affected by such late findings in the recent album.

Hannu Harkola corrected the submissions as far as they concerned the award of album points. He explained that presently the composers do not really get the album points (which are counted after publication) but just the titles.

In the ensuing discussion, different opinions were expressed. Kjell Widlert said that the proposal is supported by the album subcommittee although a short delay of about one year in granting of titles may be the consequence - which is better than giving a title to a composer who finally may not reach the necessary album points. Klaus Wenda remarked that the reason for the change in 1989 was, at that time, the long delay in the publication of the album, which is presently not the case. Hannu Harkola, as spokesman of the qualification subcommittee, informed the Commission that there has been some trouble with the present system because he had not received the necessary data from all directors in time. He would therefore prefer to use the album as a basis for granting titles. The President observed that the two subcommittees involved were in favour of the proposal and deemed this a strong argument for accepting it.

In the following **vote**, the proposal was **accepted** (14 in favour, 8 against and 5 abstentions).

§9 Qualifications

Granting of titles, proposals and report by the Qualification Subcommittee:

Hannu Harkola gave a report on the work of the subcommittee.

9.I International Judges

There were six applications for the title and one for extension of the title. Three applications were rejected because of insufficient qualifications. The subcommittee recommended to award the title of international judge to:

Vladislav Bunka, Czech Republic, for selfmates, helpmates and studies;

Vladimir Kozhakin, Russia, for threemovers;

Mikhail Marandyuk, Ukraine, for three- and moremovers.

The subcommittee further recommended to extend the title of

Hartmut Laue, Germany, to three- and moremovers.

9.II Titles for solvers

Based on the results of the open solving tourneys and WCSCs in Tel Aviv and in Pula, the award of the following titles was recommended:

FIDE Master in solving for

Aleksandr Feoktistov, Russia
Boris Gusev, Russia
Piotr Murdzia, Poland
Vladimir Pogorelov, Ukraine (1996)
Boris Tummes, Germany
Mitja Ukmar, Slovenia
Tadashi Wakashima, Japan (1996).

International Master in solving for

Tadashi Wakashima, Japan

Grandmaster for Solving for

Jonathan Mestel, Great Britain
Sergei Rumyantsev, Russia

The following solvers fulfilled one norm for the title of FIDE Master in solving:

Eddy van Beers (Belgium), Michal Dragoun (Czechia), Borislav Gadjanski (Yugoslavia), Hannu Harkola (Finland), Emil Klemancic (Slovakia), Marek Kolcak (Slovakia), Valeri Kopyl (Ukraine), Thomas Maeder (Switzerland), Ayshin Masimov (Azerbaijan), Oleg Pervakov (Russia), Ronald Schäfer (Germany), Valeri Semenenko (Ukraine), Lubomir Siran (Slovakia), Axel Steinbrink (Germany), and Hans Uitenbroek (Netherlands).

One norm for the title of International Master in solving was fulfilled by Boris Gusev (Russia) and Piotr Murdzia (Poland).

The norm for Grandmaster in solving was reached by:

Michel Caillaud, France (second norm), Noam Elkies, Israel (2nd), Mark Erenburg, Israel (2nd), Boris Gusev, Russia (1st), Graham Lee, Great Britain (1st), Ram Soffer, Israel (2nd).

9.III Titles for composers

Based on the results of the FIDE album 1998-91 which has just been published (but not yet considered completely), award of the following titles is recommended by the subcommittee:

FIDE Master

Peter Gvozdjak, Slovakia (14,4 points)
Jacob Mintz, Israel (16,5)
Aleksandr Mochalkin, deceased (12,83)

International Master

Marjan Kovacevic, Yugoslavia (35,33)
Henk Prins, Netherlands (26,66)
Anatoli Slesarenko, Russia (26,66)

Subject to confirmation by FIDE, all the proposed titles were granted by the unanimous decision of the 27 delegates who were present during the **vote**.

In addition to the the qualifications listed above, the qualification subcommittee confirmed during the final session that Valeri Shanshin (34.33 album points) has also fulfilled the norm for the title of international master for composition. It was accepted by unanimous decision (25 in favour) to grant the title also to Mr. Shanshin.

§10 Codex, Report by the Subcommittee

Spokesman Günter Büsing reported during the second session of the Commission that after work over the year, which included several working sessions during the Andernach meeting in May 1997, the subcommittee had now agreed on a new Codex and proposed its acceptance by the Commission. The text thereof has now been distributed to the delegates for voting. Günter Büsing explained the nature of some amendments that have been proposed in Part One as compared to the version which was already accepted in Rotterdam 1991, and gave a short summary on the contents of Part Two and the Annexes. A **vote** took place on the new Codex during the final session and resulted in its **unanimous acceptance** (23 delegates present).

After the decision, Günter Büsing remarked that the decision on the new Codex was made at a place very close to Piran where the previous Codex had its origin in 1958. (It is interesting to add that the work on new Codex started just in Pula 25 years ago! B.F.) He asked all delegates to make the new Codex known as much as possible within their countries. Publication of the official (English) text will presumably be possible in *The Problemist*, it is intended to publish German, French and Russian translations in *Die Schwalbe*, *Phénix* and *Shakhmatnaya kompositsia*.

§11 Computer Matters, Report by the Subcommittee

Henk le Grand reported on the activities of the subcommittee for computer matters. The subcommittee proposed that information about the activities of the Commission should be available on-line, and an Internet-homepage was considered as appropriate therefore. Henk le Grand said that Kenneth Solja had offered to use his personal homepage for that purpose (E-mail address: kenneth.solja@pp.kolumbus.fi or: <http://koti.kolumbus.fi/~ksolja>). What kind of information could be presented on a homepage was discussed. Suggestions included the Statutes, announcements and minutes of meetings, results of WCCTs and of the WCSCs, the codex and other information of general interest.

Bedrich Formánek thanked Kenneth Solja for his offer. He noted that FIDE has a web-site which may also be used by the PCCC. Although that web-site is mainly for players, it might be used to some extent to popularise chess composition.

§12 Studies subcommittee

John Roycroft reported that the studies subcommittee had selected the "study of the year" for the years 1989 to 1991. These are the studies D76, D67 and D86, respectively, from the recent FIDE Album 1989-91 (see *Annex*). John Roycroft emphasized that the purpose of the proclamation of the study of the year is to publicise studies, not to select the really best study of a year. He therefore asked the delegates to maximise publicity of the studies of the year.

The subcommittee discussed the question whether a study which could also qualify as a moremover should be sent to the first or latter section of the album. It was suggested to enter it as a moremover rather than as a study.

With regard to the Kasparjan memorial tournament organised in the Netherlands and connected to the term "World Championship", John Roycroft reported that the subcommittee felt that it would be best simply to do nothing because any action by the Commission might be counterproductive. He said that the organisers of that tournament know that the PCCC considers the use of the term "World Championship" as inappropriate.

§13 Terminology Subcommittee

The spokesman John Rice reported to the Commission that the terminology subcommittee held one meeting during the week. There was an interesting and lengthy discussion and work made good progress. However, as it will continue for several further years and is at a stage where it is difficult to report on specific features, a detailed report was deferred to a later time when such a report is appropriate.

A discussion ensued on the question whether the work could be accelerated, for example by looking for people willing to cooperate and work on some specific topics. John Rice said that helpers are welcome but that it might not be wise to increase the number of the subcommittee members.

§14 Future Meetings and future WCSC

Invitation 1998: The invitation by the Russian Federation to have the meeting in St. Petersburg, which had been accepted during the previous meeting, was confirmed and a date (July 25th to August 1st 1998) and location for the event was presented by Jakov Vladimirov.

Further Invitations: An invitation for the 1999 meeting was presented by the British delegate. After discussion with prospective participants, this invitation was withdrawn because it appeared that due to relatively high costs too few problemists, in particular from eastern countries, would be able to attend that meeting.

For the time being, there is no further invitation for 1999.

§15 Any other Business

15.I The President informed that he took part in the Odessa festival of chess composition which is the second biggest event worldwide on compositional chess. Many lectures and composition tournaments were organised during the 7-day-meeting which was attended by problemists from 6 countries.

15.II He also informed that he wrote a letter to the Armenian chess federation concerning the death of Mr. Kasparjan (see Minutes of Tel Aviv). In a later talk with the vice president of the Armenian chess federation he was told that Kasparjan was mentioned during the congress at Yerevan in 1996.

15.III During the FIDE congress in Moldavia in September 1997, the President had a meeting with FIDE-President Iljumzhinov. During the meeting, which took about 40 minutes in a very kind atmosphere, the FIDE-President expressed his interest in chess composition and he indicated that FIDE might in future again give some financial support to the PCCC. Mr. Iljumzhinov will presumably be present during next year's meeting of the PCCC in St. Petersburg.

15.IV The President reported that he has written an article on chess composition (2 pages DIN A4) for FIDE-FORUM (official FIDE magazine), which was published in No 4/1997.

15.V The article published by Hans Gruber in Feenschach about the work on the Commission was discussed within the presidium. Kjell Widlert reported on the subject and said that some non-binding recommendations could be given for the organisers of future meetings.

In particular, the work within the Commission, and also in some subcommittees, could be more effective if interpreters were present (especially for Russian-English). Better understanding would also be possible if more than one microphone was present. For better preparation of the discussions, proposals should be presented at least 10 weeks in advance. A computer and printer as well as a photocopying machine should be available for the preparation and copying of proposals or other material needed for the Commission's work. Finally, a list of documents that are necessary for attending the sessions will be prepared and distributed to all delegates.

As there was no further other business, the President finally expressed his thanks for the good work of the delegates, the Secretary, the subcommittees and the organizers of this meeting, and then declared the meeting closed.

Bratislava, January 1998

München, January 1998

(signature)
Dr. B. Formánek
President

(signature)
G. Büsing
Secretary

Annexes: - Codex
- Studies of the Year 1989, 1990, 1991
- List of addresses

To all Members of the Commission, Kenneth Solja, Denis Blondel, John Roycroft, Hemmo
Axt, Hans Gruber, Paul Valois and Geurt Gijzen