

PERMANENT COMMISSION OF THE FIDE FOR CHESS COMPOSITIONS (PCCC)

42nd Meeting in Netanya, Israel 23.10. - 30.10.1999

MINUTES

Official Participants

| | | |
|-------------------------|--------------------|---------------------------|
| Bedrich FORMÁNEK | Slovakia | President |
| Jakov VLADIMIROV | Russia | 1st Vice-President |
| Kjell WIDLERT | Sweden | 2nd Vice-President |
| Milan VELIMIROVIC | Yugoslavia | 3rd Vice-President |
| Günter BÜSING | Germany | Secretary |
| Klaus WENDA | Austria | Delegate & Hon. Pres. |
| Agshin MASIMOV | Azerbaijan | Delegate |
| Ignas VANDEMEULEBROUCKE | Belgium | Delegate |
| Fadil ABDURAHMANOVIC | Bosnia-Herzegovina | Delegate |
| Josip VARGA | Croatia | Delegate |
| Jaroslav BRADA | Czechia | Delegate |
| Hannu HARKOLA | Finland | Delegate |
| Michel CAILLAUD | France | Delegate |
| David GURGENIDZE | Georgia | Delegate |
| Bernd ELLINGHOVEN | Germany | Delegate |
| John RICE | Great Britain | Delegate |
| Laszlo LINDNER | Hungary | Delegate & Hon. Member |
| Uri AVNER | Israel | Delegate |
| Francesco SIMONI | Italy | Delegate |
| Tadashi WAKASHIMA | Japan | Delegate |
| Zoran GAVRILOWSKI | Macedonia | Deputy for Zivko Janevski |
| Henk le GRAND | The Netherlands | Delegate |
| Wladislaw ROSOLAK | Poland | Delegate |
| Virgil NESTORESCU | Romania | Delegate |
| Marko KLASINC | Slovenia | Delegate |
| Thomas MAEDER | Switzerland | Delegate |
| Jewgeni REITZEN | Ukraine | Delegate |
| Mike PRCIC | USA | Deputy for Newman Guttman |

Initially 24 of the 38 member countries were represented. After the late arrival of some delegates 27 of the 38 member countries were represented.

The following delegates were not present:

| | |
|----------------------|------------|
| Petrovich SITCHOV | Belarus |
| Jan MORTENSEN | Denmark |
| Toivo LUKATS | Estonia |
| Byron ZAPPAS | Greece |
| Kir SIVERTSEV | Kazakhstan |
| Albert IVANOV | Moldova |
| Sonomun CHIMEDTZEREN | Mongolia |
| Manuel MUNOZ | Spain |

No delegates were nominated by Brazil, Bulgaria and Latvia.

Active visitors fulfilling tasks as members of subcommittees, tourney directors, assistant directors, etc., were: Ofer COMAY (Israel), Colin SYDENHAM (Great Britain), Igor VERESHCHAGIN, Anatoli SLESARENKO, Nikolai KRALIN (all Russia), Victor MELNICHENKO (Ukraine), Hans GRUBER (Germany), Bo LINDGREN (Sweden), Dirk BORST, Peter BAKKE (both The Netherlands) and Edward STOFFELEN (Belgium). Also several Israeli assistants worked very effectively in the background.

§1 Opening address, remembrance for deceased problemists

After words of welcome President Bedrich Formánek expressed his thanks to Uri Avner and his helpers from the Israel Chess Composition Society for the invitation to the meeting, 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: Leonid Zagoruiko, Herman Menkis, Louis C. Schade van Westrum, Jan Schogt, Theodorus C. L. Kok, Joseph Theodor Breuer, Hans Hofmann, Janos Kiss, Valeri Karpov, Anatoli Zinchuk, Yair Kost, Hilding Fröberg and Piotr Golovkov.

§2 Verification of Attendance and Voting Rights

Initially, 24 member countries out of 38 were represented. The meeting was declared legal.

§3 Approval of the St. Petersburg minutes 1998

The minutes of the 41st Meeting in St. Petersburg (1998) were approved with the following correction in § 5.3: Milan Velimirovic did not resign from the WCCT subcommittee but was a member thereof. In addition, the WCSC subcommittee observed that Mr. Paavilainen's score in the WCSC was 0.5 points higher than indicated in the minutes.

§4 Checking of the Standing Subcommittees

- 1. WCCT:** U. AVNER Spokesman
J. VLADIMIROV
E. REITSEN
J. RICE
M. VELIMIROVIC
Regular members J. Jelinek, B. Zappas and Z. Janevski were not present.
Previous member H. Gruber resigned from this subcommittee.
- 2. World Championship for Composing (WCCI):**
M. KLASINC Spokesman
A. SELIVANOV
D. GURGENIDZE
K. WIDLERT
V. MELNICHENKO
Z. HERNITZ (new member)
Last year's member P. A. Petkov was not present.
- 3. WCSC:** (H. AXT) Spokesman
U. AVNER
M. KLASINC
J. VLADIMIROV
V. MELNICHENKO
The regular spokesman H. Axt was not present and was replaced this year by M. Klasinc.
- 4. FIDE-album:** K. WIDLERT Spokesman
U. AVNER
B. ELLINGHOVEN
J. RICE
A. SELIVANOV
H. GRUBER (new member)
Regular member D. Blondel was not present.
- 5. Qualifications:** I. VANDEMEULEBROUCKE Spokesman
H. HARKOLA
V. NESTORESCU
K. WENDA
Regular member J. Jelinek was not present.
- 6. Computer Matters:** T. MAEDER Spokesman
H. le GRAND
M. VELIMIROVIC
L. LINDNER
O. COMAY (new member)

7. Studies: J. ROYCROFT Spokesman
D. GURGENIDZE
O. COMAY
N. KRALIN
Last year's members O. Pervakov and V. Vlasenko were not present.

8. Terminology: J. RICE Spokesman
B. FORMÁNEK
A. SLESARENKO
Z. JANEVSKI
M. DRAGOUN
Last year's member Z. Janevski was not present.

9. Codex: G. BÜSING Spokesman
B. FORMÁNEK
C. SYDENHAM
I. VERESHCHAGIN
K. WIDLERT
Regular member H. Axt was not present.

10. Presidium Election Procedure (new)
K. WENDA Spokesman
J. RICE
T. MAEDER

11. Judging (new) J. RICE Spokesman
U. AVNER
J. ROYCROFT
A. SLESARENKO
M. VELIMIROVIC

§5 Proposals by Members

5.I A proposal by The Netherlands to create the possibility of withdrawing the title of International Judge was discussed in the qualification subcommittee. It was considered that the proposal was not in line with the statutes according to which the title is given for lifetime.

5.II The proposal to establish a subcommittee for judging (see §4.11 above) was discussed. The President asked whether this subcommittee was actually needed. John Rice was of the opinion that the subcommittee could not make real proposals but it might be possible to make recommendations for judges (rather than for the commission). Uri Avner said that a provisional subcommittee should discuss internally what kind of work can be done and a framework for the activities should be developed. Ignaas Vandemeulebroucke pointed to some relations to the qualification subcommittee. It was then decided to establish the subcommittee.

Later, John Rice reported to the Commission that the subcommittee had agreed on the following primary objectives:

1. to consider the different kinds of judging that have to be undertaken;
2. to assemble material from books and magazines relating to the evaluation of chess problems and studies;
3. to invite prominent personalities in the world of problems and studies to contribute their views on this subject.

The spokesman said that the subcommittee would like to emphasize, right at the outset, that it has no intention of actively criticising judges or their awards, and does not wish to be seen as some kind of watchdog. But the very fact that this subcommittee has been proposed and established shows that there are concerns among problemists about standards of judging. Perhaps at some time in the future the subcommittee might be in a position to offer examples of good practice to any existing or prospective judges who might wish to seek guidance.

5.III Klaus Wenda, the spokesman of the subcommittee for the presidium election procedure, informed the Commission that the subcommittee has decided to use the draft submitted by John Rice as a basis for its work, which will continue during the year.

5.IV Further proposals

Further proposals were discussed in various subcommittees and are referred to under other paragraphs of these minutes (§6.II WCCT, §6.III WCCI, §7 Qualifications).

§6 Competitions

6.I 6th WCCT

Uri Avner reported that the booklet with the entries had been distributed and that the protest phase was still running but about to end soon. There will be a further two month term, with a fixed end date, for replies of the team captains before the judges should do their final work. Details of the subcommittee's report are given in ANNEX 1.

6.II Future WCCTs

Uri Avner reported that, following last year's decision that future WCCTs should be based on 5 judgements, a scheme has been worked out by John Rice according to which judges should award points to the competing problems. (The scheme is annexed to these minutes as ANNEX 2.) After discussion of some aspects of the proposed judging system, this new system, which includes judging by 5 (or 4) countries and ranking according to the average result, was accepted in a **vote** by unanimous decision.

The 7th WCCT will presumably start in 2001. Details of the subcommittee's proposal are given in ANNEX 1

6.III WCCI

Marko Klasinc gave a report of the subcommittee's activities during the year and presented a paper with a skeleton proposal of the rules for the WCCI which was discussed in detail by the Commission. The following decisions were taken:

- a) The WCCI is organized in 8 sections (the same sections as in FIDE albums) (vote: 18+ (in favour), 3- (against), 4= (abstentions))
- b) The WCCI is organized in 3-year-periods (vote: +14, -3, =6).
- c) The WCCI is open for all composers (vote: +20, -0, =3).

- d) A composer can take part only with compositions that have been published (vote: +19, -3, =1).
- e) Joint compositions are not allowed (vote: +16, -5, =5).
- f) Every composer can participate with a maximum of 6 compositions in each section. The four compositions marked best by the judges are considered for the final score (vote: +17, -1, =4).
- g) There are 3 judges in each section (vote: +19, -1, =6).
- h) Judges are not allowed to participate in the section which they judge (vote: +19, -2, =5).
- i) The judges shall mark all compositions (vote: +17, -0, =8).
- j) The composer who gets the highest sum of scores for his 4 best marked compositions becomes the world champion (vote: +21, -0, =4).

After having decided on these questions of principal, Marko Klasinc informed the Commission that many technical details still have to be discussed in the subcommittee. He said that the subcommittee will prepare a detailed announcement until next year's meeting. He suggested that the first WCCI period might be 1998 – 2000, a possible closing date could be in 2001.

6.IV WCSC

6.IV.1 22nd World Chess Solving Championship

The WCSC subcommittee informed the Commission that different versions of the results of the 22nd WCSC in St. Petersburg were published. It was in particular stated:

„The final results of the 22nd WCSC were not correctly published in the booklet on the last day of the St. Petersburg congress, because the booklet was printed before the last corrections of the scores (caused by the protests) were accepted by the judges. Two versions of results were published (different for the teams and for the individuals). The more accurate version was that one for the individuals and even in that one the score of Mr. J. Paavilainen has to be corrected in the selfmate section (from 8.5 to 9.0 points) and the second team of Russia should be added on the end of the list as unofficial.“

6.IV.2 23st World Chess Solving Championship

Bo Lindgren selected the problems for the 23rd WCSC. He and Dirk Borst directed the WCSC.

The final results of the 23rd WCSC were as follows:

a) Teams:

| | | | |
|-----|-------------------------|--------------|----------|
| 1. | Russia (World Champion) | 148.0 points | 660 min. |
| 2. | Germany | 146.5 | 631 |
| 3. | Israel | 143.0 | 599 |
| 4. | Yugoslavia | 135.5 | 587 |
| 5. | Finland | 130.5 | 692 |
| 6. | Great Britain | 129.0 | 706 |
| 7. | Netherlands | 125.0 | 706 |
| 8. | Ukraine | 121.0 | 710 |
| 9. | Poland | 117.0 | 685 |
| 10. | Slovakia | 115.0 | 711 |
| 11. | Japan | 107.0 | 686 |
| 12. | Czechia | 101.5 | 643 |

| | | | |
|-----|-------------|------|-----|
| 13. | Switzerland | 94.5 | 710 |
| 14. | Slovenia | 93.0 | 684 |
| 15. | Hungary | 73.5 | 717 |
| 16. | Romania | 60.5 | 716 |
| 17. | Macedonia | 57.5 | 716 |
| 18. | Azerbaijan | 57.0 | 717 |
| 19. | Belgium | 52.0 | 714 |
| 20. | Moldovia | 35.0 | 717 |
| | Israel – 2 | 85.5 | 702 |

The team Israel-2 was an inofficial participant.

b) Individuals:

| | | | |
|-----|---|-------------|----------|
| 1. | Ofer Comay (Israel) (World Champion) | 76.0 points | 274 min. |
| 2. | Sergey Rumyantsev (Russia) | 75.0 | 337 |
| 3. | Jorma Paavilainen (Finland) | 73.0 | 335 |
| 4. | Michael Pfannkuche (Germany) | 71.0 | 324 |
| 5. | Dolf Wissmann (Netherlands) | 70.5 | 353 |
| 6. | Boris Tummes (Germany) | 68.5 | 341 |
| 7. | Vladimir Pogorelov (Ukraine) | 68.5 | 350 |
| 8. | Tadashi Wakashima (Japan) | 66.0 | 333 |
| 9. | Michal Dragoun (Czechia) | 64.0 | 318 |
| 10. | Piotr Murdzia (Poland) | 61.5 | 328 |
| 11. | Henry Tanner (Finland) | 61.0 | 357 |
| 12. | Arno Zude (Germany) | 60.5 | 321 |
| 13. | Jonathan Mestel (Great Britain) | 60.5 | 359 |
| 14. | Milan Velimirovic (Yugoslavia) | 60.0 | 274 |
| 15. | Michel Caillaud (France) | 60.0 | 359 |

and 53 further participants.

6.V FIDE-Album, Report by the Subcommittee

6.V.1 General

Last year's proposal by Toma Garai concerning the work of preparing and producing the albums has been discussed by the subcommittee. Kjell Widlert, the spokesman of the subcommittee, reported that the text has been edited in the meantime. The subcommittee suggested not to publish the text in official form but rather in a magazine. The subcommittee will contact Toma Garai to get his approval for publication.

The President raised the question of how to treat compositions with promoted force in the FIDE album. The subcommittee's view that compositions with promoted force are not automatically excluded from the various album sections was generally accepted by the Commission.

6.V.2 FIDE Album 1986-88 and 1989-91

Kjell Widlert reported that the new edition of the FIDE-album 1986-88 in three languages has not yet been printed but may be available before the end of 1999. New copies of the Album 1989-91 have been bound and this album is available.

6.V.3 FIDE Album 1992-94

The spokesman informed the Commission that all judges have finished their work but that some minor questions have still to be dealt with. The work on the index is in progress and it is hoped that the album can be ready until next year's meeting.

6.V.4 FIDE Album 1995-97

This album has been announced in early 1999. As compared to last year's proposals, there were some minor changes of directors and judges but all posts have been filled now.

§7 Qualifications

Ignas Vandemeulebroucke gave a report on the work of the subcommittee which included the following proposals.

7.I Honorary Master

The proposals to grant the title of Honorary Master of Chess Composition to Mr. Savo Zlatic from Croatia and to Mr. Giorgio Mirri of Italy were supported and accepted by the Commission (23 in favour, 1 against and 1 abstention).

7.II International Judges

The subcommittee recommended to award the title of international judge to:

- Paz Einat, Israel, for twomovers and threemovers;
- Thomas Maeder, Switzerland, for helpmates and fairies;
- Markus Manhart, Germany, for helpmates and fairies;
- Michael McDowell, Great Britain, for helpmates;
- Anatoli Slesarenko, Russia, for twomovers;

The subcommittee further recommended the following extensions of the title of international judge:

- Franz Pachl, Germany, for helpmates;
- Hans Gruber, Germany, for helpmates and selfmates

The Commission accepted this proposal (25 in favour, 1 abstention)

Later, the Commission also accepted (17 in favour, 2 against and 8 abstentions) to grant the title of international judge to

- Valeri Barsukov, Russia, for helpmates.

7.III Titles for solvers

Based on the results of the open solving tourney and WCSC, the award of the following titles was recommended:

Grandmaster in solving for

- Jorma Paavilainen, Finland

International Master in solving for

- Boris Tummes, Germany
- Piotr Murdzia, Poland

FIDE Master in solving for

- Michal Dragoun, Czechia
- Marek Kolcak, Slovakia

This proposal was generally accepted by the Commission.

Subject to confirmation by FIDE, all the proposed titles were thus granted.

7.IV Solver title norms

John Rice referred to a decision taken a few years ago according to which title norms for solvers can be obtained in events other than the WCSC. He asked whether details of the procedure have been worked out in the meantime. The spokesman Ignaas Vandemeulebroucke informed the Commission that two subcommittees were involved, i.e. the qualification and the WCSC subcommittee. Proposals had been drafted from the spokesman of the WCSC, Hemmo Axt, and himself and an exchange of letters between them had taken place. However, he had no information about the discussion within the WCSC subcommittee in this matter. According to Marko Klasinc, this year's spokesman of the WCSC subcommittee, the matter has so far not been discussed in the WCSC subcommittee. The President suggested that I.

Vandemeulebroucke and M. Klasinc should discuss the matter internally and then decide which subcommittee should take further action. Later, Marko Klasinc informed the Commission that it was agreed that the WCSC subcommittee should prepare general principles which are then presented to the Commission and/or to the qualification subcommittee.

In this context, Hannu Harkola noted that it was decided before that only the title of FIDE Master can be obtained in „external“ solving tourneys; it was also discussed in previous years that such tourneys should have qualified judges. He asked whether any progress has been made in this matter. Ignaas Vandemeulebroucke replied that this was only a general proposal which had not further been considered so far. The President suggested that the WCSC subcommittee should make a detailed proposal until next year.

7.V -- The Qualification subcommittee asked the delegates to submit information about the international judges of their countries: name, address, birthdate and whether or not they are willing to do further international judging work. The information should be sent to the subcommittee's spokesman as soon as possible so that a list can be prepared until the next meeting.

§8 Computer Matters, Report by the Subcommittee

The spokesman Thomas Maeder gave a report on the activities of the subcommittee which concentrated on 5 topics:

1. The subcommittee agreed that the PCCC was not the appropriate body for establishing and maintaining a collection of information about problemists and publications, as proposed by Macedonia. It suggested not to take a decision on this proposal.
2. It was considered how the work of the PCCC could benefit from the use of the Internet. The spokesman informed the Commission that there are presently two mailing lists used by the PCCC, one for PCCC members and the other for the subcommittee for computer matters. He is prepared to install and administer new mailing lists upon request. He also drew attention to an unofficial Web-site run by Hannu Harkola which can be used for publishing information about the work of the PCCC. Such information should be sent to Hannu Harkola (e-mail: hannu.harkola@sci.fi).
3. With specific regard to the recent publication on CD-ROM of the helpmate-collection of Dr. J. Niemann, the subcommittee suggested to collect information about problem friends who have collections and who are willing to collaborate in projects that make the collections publicly available. A questionnaire has been prepared for this purpose.
4. The work on a standard format for the textual representation of chess compositions has been taken up again and it is hoped to finish it soon.
5. The subcommittee will establish contacts to the International Computer Chess Association (ICCA).

Details of the report are annexed to these minutes as ANNEX 3.

§9 Studies subcommittee

As the spokesman of the subcommittee, John Roycroft reported to the Commission about the selection of the Study of the Year for the period 1995-97. The subcommittee further considered how to deal with studies that are extracted from databases and that take part in tournaments.

A detailed report is annexed to these minutes as ANNEX 4.

§10 Terminology Subcommittee

The spokesman John Rice informed the Commission that the subcommittee had decided to discontinue its work for the time being.

The full report of the subcommittee is annexed to these minutes as ANNEX 5.

§11 Codex, Report by the Subcommittee

The spokesman Günter Büsing reported that the work of the subcommittee concentrated on three topics: a) publication of the codex; b) reactions on the codex; and c) possible amendments or additions.

a) Publications have so far been made in German (*Die Schwalbe*, XII/1997; also in *Rochade Europa*, V/1998 and in *feenschach* VI-VII/1998), French (*Phénix* V/1998), Russian (*Schachmatnaja kompozicija* No.22/1998), English (*The Problemist* VII/1998) Czech (*Sachova skladba* several issues) and in Italian (Internet 1999).

b) The subcommittee is aware of several articles that have been published and discussed the contents thereof. It will continue to collect reactions and consider them in view of possible amendments or improvements of the text.

c) The subcommittee presently has the intention to add an introduction to the codex. As a preliminary measure, a text has been drafted that can be used together with publication of the codex and which is annexed to these minutes as ANNEX 6.

§12 Future Meetings and future WCSC

A proposal to organize next year's meeting in Pula, Croatia, was accepted. A further proposal from The Netherlands to organize the meeting in 2001 in Wageningen was also accepted by the Commission. The Slovenian delegate informed the Commission that Slovenia considers an invitation for 2001, either in Portoroz, Bled or in Piran. This event is somehow related to the chess olympiad that will take place in Bled in 2002. However, this was not yet a real proposal to organize the meeting.

§13 Any other Business

Bo Lindgren made a suggestion concerning the organization of future open solving tournaments. His idea included a splitting of the tournament into two sections which can run simultaneously, one covering „orthodox“ compositions (2#, 3#, n#, studies, h# and s#) and the other fairy chess (e.g. problems with Circe, maximummers, fairy pieces). Each solver can take part in any one of the sections, or in both, and the organization would be very simple if the

compositions to solve were distributed as two separate sets and the solutions to each set were evaluated separately. Josip Varga said that he would be prepared to organize next year's open solving tournament accordingly. Marko Klasinc said that the WCSC subcommittee would consider the idea during the year.

John Roycroft made a suggestion concerning the citation of compositions which are awarded in congress composition tourneys. The proposal was to indicate as source „WCCC, Town where the meeting takes place, Year“ and the specific tourney. The terms „FIDE-meeting (plus serial number of the meeting)“ or „PCCC“ should not be used.

As there was no further other business, the President finally expressed his thanks for the good work of the delegates, the secretary, the subcommittees, the organizers of this meeting and all others who contributed to the success of the meeting which took place in a friendly atmosphere, and then declared the meeting closed.

Bratislava, December 1999

München, December 1999

(signature)

(signature)

Dr. B. Formánek
President

G. Büsing
Secretary

Annexes:

1. WCCT Subcommittee
2. WCCT Judging
3. Subcommittee for Computer Matters
4. Studies Subcommittee
5. Terminology Subcommittee
6. Codex Subcommittee
7. List of Addresses