

# PERMANENT COMMISSION OF THE FIDE FOR CHESS COMPOSITIONS (PCCC)

46th Meeting in Moscow, Russia, 26.07 - 02.08.2003

## MINUTES

### Official Participants

<b>John Rice</b>	Great Britain	President
<b>Hannu Harkola</b>	Finland	1st Vice-President
<b>Uri Avner</b>	Israel	2nd Vice-President
<b>Kjell Widlert</b>	Sweden	3rd Vice-President
<b>Paul Valois</b>	Great Britain	Secretary
<b>Agshin Masimov</b>	Azerbaijan	Delegate
<b>Aliaksandr Mikholap</b>	Belarus	Delegate
<b>Edward Stoffelen</b>	Belgium	Deputy for I.Vandemeulebroucke
<b>Fadil Abdurahmanović</b>	Bosnia-Hercegovina	Delegate
<b>Josip Varga</b>	Croatia	Delegate
<b>Michal Dragoun</b>	Czech Republic	Delegate
<b>Bjørn Enemark</b>	Denmark	Delegate
<b>Michel Caillaud</b>	France	Delegate
<b>David Gurgenzidze</b>	Georgia	Delegate
<b>Bernd Ellinghoven</b>	Germany	Delegate
<b>Harry Fougiaxis</b>	Greece	Delegate
<b>Francesco Simoni</b>	Italy	Delegate
<b>Tadashi Wakashima</b>	Japan	Delegate
<b>Vidmantas Satkus</b>	Lithuania	Delegate
<b>Albert Ivanov</b>	Moldova	Delegate
<b>Henk le Grand</b>	Netherlands	Delegate
<b>Władysław Rosolak</b>	Poland	Delegate
<b>Eric Huber</b>	Romania	Deputy for V.Nestorescu
<b>Jakov Vladimirov</b>	Russia	Delegate
<b>Marjan Kovačević</b>	Serbia & Montenegro	Delegate
<b>Bedrich Formánek</b>	Slovakia	Delegate and Honorary President
<b>Marko Klasinc</b>	Slovenia	Delegate
<b>Thomas Maeder</b>	Switzerland	Delegate
<b>Evgeny Reitsen</b>	Ukraine	Delegate
<b>Mike Prcic</b>	USA	Deputy for N.Guttman
<b>Viktor Chepizhny</b>	Russia	Honorary Member

The following countries were not represented: Austria, Brazil, Bulgaria, Estonia, Hungary, Kazakhstan, Latvia, Macedonia, Mongolia and Spain.

Other people who contributed actively included: Aleksandr Artsybashev, Kozma Osul, Nikolai Selivanov, Jana Kopyl (organisation), Yochanan Afek, Günter Büsing, Gady Costeff, Marek Kolčák, Paz Einat, Viktor Melnichenko, John Roycroft, Rainer Staudte, Colin Sydenham, Igor Vereshchagin and Odette Vollenweider (Sub-Committees), Bo Lindgren, Peter Bakker and

Axel Steinbrink (WCSC), Georgy Evseev and Oleg Pervakov (Solving Show), Irina and Maria Kuzmicheva (interpreters).

## §1 Opening Address

President John Rice opened the meeting and welcomed delegates and observers. He paid particular thanks to the three members of the organising committee: Andrei and Olga Selivanov, and Jakov Vladimirov.

## §2 Tribute to Deceased Problemists

The President announced with regret the deaths of many problemists and study experts. The following had been previous members of the Commission:

Aleksandr Pavlovich Kazantsev	(Russia)	(6.9.1906 – 14.9.2002)
Mircea Manolescu	(Romania)	(9.6.1938 – 14.3.2003)
Gino Mentasti	(Italy)	(15.8.1913 - 29.11.2002)
Jan Mortensen	(Denmark)	(13.11.1932 – 11.5.2003)

Others active as problemists were:

Roger Colas	(France)	(5.6.1924 – 2003)
Oleksandr Dmitrenko	(Ukraine)	(14.2.1943 – 21.9.2002)
Ivar Godal	(Norway)	(28.05.1916 – 12.03.02)
Leonid Grigorievich Iskra	(Russia)	(died 2002)
Paul Löschl	(Germany)	(21.5.1918 – 2003)
František Maček	(Czech Republic)	(28.3.1909 - 19.3.2003)
Yury Pavlov	(Russia)	(1928-2001)
Rudolf Queck	(Germany)	(18.10.1910 - 27.4.2003)
Giuseppe Solenghi	(Italy)	(11.3.1934 - 27.3.2003)
Aleksandr Toger	(Israel)	(8.5.1934 – 11.5.2003)
Nils G.G. van Dijk	(Norway)	(21.10.1933 – 17.1.2003)
Johan C. van Gool	(Netherlands)	(15.6.1923 - 23.8.2002)
Luigi Vitale	(Italy)	(5.6.1924 - 17.5.2003)
Viktor Ivanovich Vovneiko	(Belarus)	(1948 - 1998)
Milan R. Vukcevic	(USA)	(11.3.1937 - 10.5.2003)

Finally, two non-problemists:

Ken Whyld (GB, chess historian) (6.3.1926 - 11.7.2003)  
Paula Benedek (Hungary), who frequently attended the WCCC with her husband Attila.

## §3 1. Verification of Attendance and Voting Rights

26 of the 38 member countries were represented at the opening. The meeting was declared legal. 2 further delegates arrived later.

## 2. Application for Membership of PCCC by Lithuania

A letter was received from Vilimantas Satkus on behalf of the Lithuanian Chess Composition Society applying for membership of the PCCC, also proposing his son Vidmantas as delegate. The Society was founded in 1999 and publishes a quarterly magazine Šachmatija. Lithuania was unanimously elected the 39th member of the PCCC. 29 out of 39 member countries were now represented.

#### §4 Approval of the Portorož Minutes 2002

The omission of Bernd Ellinghoven's name from the list of official participants as delegate for Germany was much regretted. Two names in the list of deceased problemists on page 2 were mis-spelt. These should have read: Frits von Meyenfeldt and Viktor Kolpakov. In the absence of further comments, the Minutes were approved nem. con.

*Footnote concerning 2002 PCCC Minutes, Item 9. A letter was received from Igor Vereshchagin commenting on the report of the Codex Sub-Committee. As Mr Vereshchagin was not a delegate, it was felt that his points could not be accepted as a correction to the official Minutes. However, it should be made clear that there was no intention to criticise the translation of the Codex into Russian, and the phrase "and whether it might have been caused by a possibly not quite correct translation into Russian of the official text" should have been omitted. Also the text did not separate report and discussion clearly. John Rice expressed regret if the phrasing had given offence, but stressed that any criticism of the Minutes should be made through the appropriate delegate.*

#### §5 Membership of the Standing Sub-Committees

1. **WCCT** U.Avner Spokesman  
B.Ellinghoven, H.Fougiaxis, M.Kovačević, E.Reitsen, J.Rice, J.Vladimirov
2. **WCCI** M.Klasinc Spokesman  
D.Gurgenidze, V.Melnichenko, A.Selivanov, K.Widlert
3. **WCSC** M.Klasinc Spokesman  
U.Avner, M.Kolčák, M.Kovačević, J.Vladimirov
4. **FIDE-Album** K.Widlert Spokesman  
U.Avner, B.Ellinghoven, H.Gruber, J.Rice, A.Selivanov
5. **Qualifications** H.Harkola Spokesman  
N.Kralin, A.Mikholap, F.Simoni, O.Vollenweider
6. **Computer Matters** T.Maeder Spokesman  
P.Einat, B.Enemark, H.Harkola, H. le Grand
7. **Studies** J.Roycroft Spokesman  
Y.Afek, G.Costeff, D.Gurgenidze, N.Kralin
8. **Codex** G.Büsing Spokesman  
B.Formanek, C.Sydenham, I.Vereshchagin, K.Widlert
9. **Judging** J.Rice Spokesman



(E.Reitsen). The 6th annual volume (2002) and 3rd Album (1996-2000) covering Ukrainian chess composition had been published. **Slovakia** (B.Formánek). The Slovak Chess Problem Organisation celebrated its 50th anniversary, but the lack of young solvers and composers was regretted. **Germany** (B.Ellinghoven). The usual meetings and Solving Championship had been staged and *Editions feenschach-phénix* had published 2 books. **Sweden** (K.Widlert). *Springaren* published an original by Anders Olson, at 102 probably the world's oldest composer. **France** (M.Caillaud). The usual meeting at Messigny took place. Pascal Wassong has released a new version of NATCH, his program for testing proof games, while Christian Poisson continues to develop his database program WINCHLOE, now including some analysis of themes. **Moldova** (A.Ivanov). The *Al'bom Moldovy* was published during 2002.

## §8 Sub-Committees: Reports and Discussion

### 1. WCCT (World Chess Composition Tourney)

The 7th WCCT was making good progress under Director Živko Janevski, and was currently at the protest stage. It was mentioned that all entries have been published on the websites of Kotěšovec and MatPlus. 38 countries were participating. Spokesman Uri Avner reported that Bosnia-Hercegovina had declined to be a judge in the Helpmate section, and had to be replaced by the reserve country, Great Britain; USA would now be the reserve country. The death of Mircea Manolescu meant that Romania could no longer be a judge in the #3 section. As the reserve country Italy was reluctant to fill the gap, the USA was selected as judge, with Russia as reserve. Uri Avner stressed that each country should approach judging as seriously as possible, to ensure the best result. He reminded country judges about the option of adding + (plus) and - (minus) to the scores, which will help to reduce ties. John Rice suggested that this new method needed to be reviewed once the 7th WCCT was over.

*Proposal 6.4: Legality of positions of Fairy problems.* Marko Klasinc was unhappy that in the last three WCCTs, problems with obviously illegal positions were allowed to participate in sections featuring problems with Fairy conditions. He put forward proposed amendments to the Codex and the Rules for the WCCT, requiring legality of the diagram position whenever a proof game is possible (played according to the fairy condition in question).

The WCCT Sub-Committee expressed its view that a general rule requiring the legality of position for fairy problems was undesirable for many reasons. Apart from technical problems in implementing the proposal, the sub-committee felt it is not the business of the PCCC to interfere with free development in the Fairy-Chess field. They felt that a generalised restriction of this kind might be at odds with the spirit of nonconformity that singles out this domain. The Codex Sub-Committee felt that no changes should be made to the Codex, and that the rules of the WCCT were not their business. The proposal lapsed.

*Proposal 6.3.1: Name of WCCT.* Marko Klasinc proposed that “World Chess Composition Tourney” should be changed to “World Championship in Composing for Teams”. Without any change in abbreviation, this would bring it into alignment with the WCCI (“World Championship in Composing for Individuals”). The WCCT Sub-Committee was not enthusiastic about the proposal. John Rice pointed out that the Statutes would have to be changed. Hannu Harkola said that what was at stake was a change of status to that of a world championship. The proposal was not put to a vote.

*Proposal 6.3.2:* Regular time sequence for the WCCT. Marko Klasinc wished to see a regular time sequence for the WCCT and proposed “A three year period for one cycle of WCCT, ending in the first or second year for the new FIDE Album”. The Sub-Committee felt that there were too many practical problems, and that flexibility was required; it was not yet known how long the new judging system for the 7th WCCT would take. Jakov Vladimirov mentioned that Russia had a 3-year cycle of events based on the FIDE Album cycle, but Hannu Harkola pointed out that no previous WCCT had been completed within 3 years. John Rice concluded the discussion by commenting that while a time cycle for the WCCT was in general desirable, we should wait until the 7th WCCT was complete before possibly reconsidering the matter.

## **2. WCCI (World Championship in Composing for Individuals)**

The offer of Mike Prcic to direct the 2nd WCCI (2001-03) was gratefully accepted. By the end of the week, a complete list of judges had not yet been compiled, but as soon as it was it would be submitted to the President for approval. Problems from the 6th WCCT would be allowed to compete in the 2nd WCCI, for which the proposed closing date for entries would be end June 2004. The 3rd WCCI (2004-06) would be announced in advance on a preliminary basis. Spokesman Marko Klasinc said that a suggestion that WCCI results might form a basis for awarding titles was not the business of the WCCI Sub-Committee. For the future, it was suggested that the WCCI have the same time cycle as the FIDE-Album, perhaps using the same judges, to save work, although John Rice said that there should be no link apparent between the Album and the WCCI.

## **3. WCSC (World Chess Solving Championship)**

Director Bo Lindgren announced the results of the 27th WCSC, Moscow:

**Team:** 1. Russia-1 158.5 pts.; 2. Germany 149; 3. Finland 139; 4. Serbia & Montenegro 139; 5. Poland 135.5; 6. Japan 135.5. A record number of 22 countries competed. Bo Lindgren and his team were thanked for their work in difficult conditions.

**Individual:** 1. Andrei Selivanov (Russia-1) 82.5 pts; 2. Georgy Evseev (Russia-1) 76; 3. Dolf Wissmann (Netherlands) 75.5; 4. Jorma Paavilainen (Finland) 73.5; 5. Marjan Kovačević (Serbia & Montenegro) 73; 6. Tadashi Wakashima (Japan) 72.

*Proposal 6.6:* GM and IM titles for Solving. Jakov Vladimirov proposed that the obligatory requirement to compete in the WCSC to gain these titles be dropped. He pointed out that the recipients of comparable titles (over-the-board; composers) were not obliged to compete in a World Championship. The Sub-Committee felt that we were in a different situation to the practical game and that no change was necessary.

*Proposal 6.2:* International Solving Contest. Uri Avner proposed that the PCCC should organise an international solving tourney to take place in many countries simultaneously. A full discussion took place, with some comments referring back to Proposal 6.6. Marjan Kovačević felt that this new tourney should be unofficial, for fun, without titles. Many solving competitions were organised in his country, including at the recent European Junior Rapidplay Championships in Budva. Also there was a virtual circus of national championships (Germany, Poland, Czech Republic, Slovakia etc) in the summer at which FIDE Master title norms could be gained. A European Championship and a Balkaniad had been mooted. Aliaksandr Mikholap supported the proposed tourney as many solvers had no opportunity to get to the WCSC and compete for titles, while Jakov Vladimirov mentioned the distance problems hindering many solvers in his country. Uri Avner said that his idea was in part to allow solvers to compete against the very best, a different type of competition which would not rival the WCSC. There seemed to be general support for the

proposal, and John Rice invited Uri Avner to co-ordinate a discussion with experienced solving organisers regarding the practicalities, with an eye to considering the proposal further at the 2004 meeting.

Spokesman Marko Klasinc discussed the responses received to a questionnaire about the WCSC. Solvers felt that studies should remain in the WCSC, particularly as game-playing programs were strong enough to eliminate arguments about solutions. There was some question about the marking of variations, and it was felt that studies with just one line and a clear conclusion were preferable. WCSC Director Bo Lindgren commented on this year's studies; there was doubt only about the first one, and here the help of GM Mestel had been enlisted. John Rice said it was desirable for the WCSC director always to have a game-playing program to hand. Some solvers felt that the inclusion of a Fairy round in the WCSC was desirable, as a world champion solver ought to demonstrate his ability in all genres. John Rice said that this suggestion had been around for some time, and it was up to the supporters of it to put forward a proposal. Regarding helpmates, the WCSC Sub-Committee said that multi-solutions were preferable to twins. Uri Avner recommended separate diagrams for twins.

*Calculation of norms.* The new rules need to be added to the Statutes Annex as well as to the PCCC website and the Solving Website. Following a protest from Agshin Masimov saying that the stipulation of problem 12 in this year's Open could not be understood, Marko Klasinc said that it was desirable to publicise well in advance on the PCCC website which Fairy types would feature in the Open Tourney, and that definitions should be printed on the Open Tourney sheets. However, the Open Director should be free to select which types of Fairy problems he wanted.

*Proposal:* Marko Klasinc proposed that on the sheet of paper headed "Solvers' rating", there should be two amendments. The words **and norms** should be added, thus "Criteria for acceptability of the tournaments at which ratings and norms can be gained". Also, wherever the phrase "WCCC-Open" appears, the phrase **if it fulfils the tournament criteria** should be added. It was desirable that in future Open Tournaments at least 5 genres should be represented by at least 2 problems each, to ensure that participants in the Open could gain both norms and ratings. The amendments were approved unanimously. Marko Klasinc pointed out that this year only the German Championship was strong enough for the granting of norms. John Rice reminded delegates that they should send Marko full details of solving tourneys in their countries so that he could assess the acceptability for the granting of norms.

#### **4. FIDE Albums**

FIDE Album 1995-1997. All judging was complete, but 2 sections had not yet reached the editors. A realistic timetable was for the Album to be published in June 2004.

FIDE Album 1998-2000. The late Mircea Manolescu had been replaced as a #3 judge by Wieland Bruch. The sheer volume of helpmate entries (over 2570) had delayed the distribution of problems to judges. One composer had submitted his entries very late though illness, but the Sub-Committee had decided to accept them. The Album might appear in the summer of 2006.

FIDE Album 2001-2003. Spokesman Kjell Widlert circulated a list of proposed directors and judges, which was deemed acceptable by the Commission.

Instructions for Directors and Judges. A new set of instructions had been prepared and would be distributed and placed on the PCCC website.

Electronic submission of entries (as proposed by the sub-committee for Computer Matters) might be possible for some sections as early as the 2001-3 Album.

## 5. Qualifications

The title of **International Judge** was awarded to:

Amatzia Avni (Israel) for studies

Roman Zalokotsky (Ukraine) for helpmates.

Mr Zalokotsky had previously been known as Roman Fedorovich (given name and patronymic only). Spokesman Hannu Harkola reminded delegates that there are now A and B forms (first distributed in Wageningen) which need to be completed for International Judge applications. These will be sent out afresh with the 2003 minutes.

The title of **FIDE Master for Solving** was awarded to:

Eric Huber (Romania) 2 norms – Open Tourney, WCSC

Marko Klasinc (Slovenia) 2nd norm in Open Tourney

Srećko Radović (Serbia & M) 2nd norm in WCSC

Ronald Schäfer (Germany) 2nd norm in German Championship

Ljubomir Širan (Slovakia) 2nd norm in Open Tourney

The title of **International Master for Solving** was awarded to:

Michal Dragoun (Czech Rep.) 2nd norm in German Championship

Eric Huber (Romania) 2 norms – Open Tourney, WCSC

Thomas Maeder (Switzerland) 2 norms – Open Tourney, WCSC

Bogusz Piliczewski (Poland) 2nd norm in Open Tourney

Vladimir Pogorelov (Ukraine) 2nd norm in Open Tourney

GM norms were achieved in the WCSC by D.Wissmann (2nd), B.Piliczewski and A.Selivanov (both 1st); in the Open Tourney by T.Maeder and A.Tüngler (both 1st). First IM norms were achieved in the Open by K.Prentos, A.Tüngler and H.Uitenbroek. First FM norms were achieved in the WCSC by A.Mukoseev, D.Pletnev, V.Semenenko and K.Yamada, and in the Open by K.Prentos.

*Proposal 6.1:* Uri Avner had proposed (Wageningen 2001) that the GM title for Composition should be easier to gain. A modification of his proposal by Bjorn Enemark was that the GM title should be awarded for 50 points, with problems counting 1 point and studies 1.2 points each. Spokesman Hannu Harkola stated that 42 composers had gained the GM title, of whom 18 were now deceased. If the proposal were to be implemented, then a further 20 composers (7 of them deceased) would gain the title. The Sub-Committee felt that it was best to pass the matter over to the Commission for general discussion. John Rice said that there was no time for an informed discussion, and that an additional session would have to be included in the programme for 2004 to allow this topic to be debated in full.

## 6. Computer Matters

A suggestion was made by Paz Einat that FIDE Album entries could be submitted electronically. Perhaps a program could be downloaded from the PCCC website which would allow composers to email entries to directors. This would reduce errors in copying. The FIDE Album Sub-Committee, while appreciating the desirability of moving towards electronic submission of Album entries, stressed that for the time being composers should continue to submit copies on paper, and that the use of a computer should not be made a criterion for the selection of directors and judges. John Rice said that the Computer Matters Sub-Committee should recommend the best technical method of electronic submission of entries.



*Proposal 6.9:* John Roycroft proposed that access to databases should be a criterion for the granting of an International Judge title for studies. The Computer Matters Sub-Committee felt that it should not be, as remoter judges might not have such access. A list of endgame databases with links should be listed on the PCCC website; the same should apply to solving programs.

One of the 1995-97 FIDE Album directors had published selected problems on his website. This was seen as undesirable as it might harm sales of the printed version.

## **7. Studies**

The Study of the Year for 1998, 1999 and 2000 had been chosen:

- 1998: B.Gusev & K.Sumbatyan, 1 Pr= Moscow Tourney;
- 1999: N.Kralin, Pr Magadan-60;
- 2000: Y.Afek, 1 Pr= Kralin-55 JT.

Delegates were asked to supply Spokesman John Roycroft with information about sources through which these studies could be publicized. The Sub-Committee recommended Harold van der Heijden as Study Director for the 2001-03 FIDE Album.

## **8. Codex**

*Proposal 6.5:* Longest moremovers. Bedrich Formánek reported that two problems by Lutz Neweklowsky (Germany) claiming to be the longest moremovers with and without promoted pieces had been displayed for some time on Vaclav Kotěšovec's website, and he felt that the composer should now receive some certificate in recognition of his feat. Spokesman Günter Büsing reported that it was not the business of the Sub-Committee to consider what sort of recognition might be given to composing achievements, and he personally was against any sort of certificate. John Rice said that task records were the domain of magazines and books, not of the PCCC. The matter was considered closed.

*Short Threat.* This topic was mentioned on page 10 of the 2002 Minutes. It became clear that Jakov Vladimirov was in fact referring to Article 11 (Short Solution) of the Codex as being unsatisfactory. John Rice asked Spokesman Günter Büsing to report back next year regarding Article 11.

The Sub-Committee also considered an email from Andrew Buchanan referring to retro problems where more than 50 moves without pawn moves or captures are required to reach the position, or where repetition of moves is involved. The matter requires further consideration before next year. Marko Klasinc mentioned that in certain over-the-board situations, FIDE now allows 100 moves.

## **9. Judging**

*Proposal 6.6:* Jakov Vladimirov proposed that the requirement for the International Judge title that a judge complete two awards outside his own country be dropped. The Judging Sub-Committee rejected the proposal, as did the Qualifications Sub-Committee. John Rice suggested that problemists should put themselves forward more actively as potential judges to magazine editors. The Judging Sub-Committee felt that applicants should be allowed to include the Album

and WCCI among their 6 awards. A specific proposal connected with this would be made next year.

## **10. Terminology**

The Sub-Committee has decided to work between the Congresses, first of all on two topics: (a) Terminology of motives (b) Terminology of basic chess composition terms. Juraj Brabec would act as a collaborator of the Sub-Committee. Also other collaborators willing to act on specific fields would be welcome. Offers and proposals should be sent to Bedrich Formánek. The material will be prepared not later than 6 weeks before the next meeting.

## **11. Presidium Elections**

*Proposal 6.8:* Jakov Vladimirov proposed that “Candidates for the posts of President and Vice-Presidents of the PCCC need not be existing delegates”. The Sub-Committee recommended rejection of the proposal, which required a two-thirds majority to be passed. A vote resulted in 6 votes in favour of the proposal, 13 against, with 5 abstentions.

## **§9 Future meetings of the PCCC and future WCSC**

*Invitation 2004.* Harry Fougiaxis, on behalf of the Greek Chess Composition Committee, offered to hold the 47th World Congress of Chess Composition (WCCC) and the 28th World Chess Solving Championship (WCSC) at the Creta Maris Hotel, Hersonissos (near Heraklion), Crete, from Saturday October 2nd to Saturday October 9th 2004. Prices would be 75 Euros per person (double room, full board) or 100 Euros (single room, full board). There was a possibility that a slight reduction of these prices might be negotiable. Some cheaper hotels were also available in Hersonissos, and a list would be prepared for the Congress website. There would be no overlap with the Chess Olympiad being held in September 2004. The offer to stage the 2004 Congress in Crete was accepted unanimously.

*Invitation 2005.* Michal Dragoun indicated that it might be possible next year to make an invitation for 2005 in the Czech Republic (Pardubice).

## **§10 Other Business.**

*Badges.* Igor Vereshchagin suggested that badges, similar to those from FIDE, for the various titles that the PCCC awarded, be produced and sold to title-holders. Such PCCC badges had been produced many years ago, but an example could not be found. The question will be raised again next year if Igor Vereshchagin is still willing to continue with the matter.

## **§11. Conclusion**

President John Rice concluded by saying that he had been very impressed by the work done by Sub-Committees and their spokesmen, and by the willingness of all who had contributed to the Congress. The meeting was declared closed.

**John Rice**  
President

**Paul Valois**  
Secretary

September 2003