

## ANNEX 1

To the WFCC President  
Mr. **Harry Fougiaxis**

### Protest

The judging of the studies section in the WCCI 2007-2009 of the Russian judge Vitaly Kovalenko provokes perplexity and questions even after cursory acquaintance with the final protocol.

1.As is clear from the protocol, Kovalenko didn't use half-points in his evaluations of studies (it is quite obvious that the judge hadn't read the WCCI General Rules). This influenced a lot the final ranking of the evaluated compositions.

2.Low points of judge Kovalenko (comparing to the points of the other two judges) given to the compositions of the Ukrainian studies composer Sergiy Didukh betray the prejudiced and incompetent judging.

Please, compare the judges' points to three studies by the Ukrainian author: Iuri Akobia (3,5; 4; 4), Martin Minski (2,5; 3,5; 3,5) and Vitaly Kovalenko (1; 2; 2).

We think that in this situation when the title of the World Champion was in question, the WCCI Director should have paid attention to such a wide disparity of points and he should have found out the reasons of this.

The Ukrainian Commission in Chess Composition asks You, Mr. President, not to approve the final protocol of the studies section in the WCCI 2007-2009 and to make an examination of the judge's report of Vitaly Kovalenko.

According to the results of examination decide the fate of the studies section.

The President of the Ukrainian Commission in Chess Composition **Valery Kopyl**.

May 27, 2011

To Harry Fougiaxis,  
the WFCC President

To Mike Prcic,  
the WCCI 2007-2009 Tourney Director

Dear Mr. Fougiaxis and Mr. Prcic,

I am writing this letter to protest the scores of the Russian judge Vitaly Kovalenko in the WCCI 2007-2009.

The complete results of this competition with points for every chess composition were published on 18.05.2011 on the WFCC website. It is not necessary to be a studies expert so as to see that the judging of Mr. Kovalenko was very unusual.

Firstly, he didn't use half-points in his evaluations. The 4-points system has been employed for long in all the major competitions organized by WFCC, in particular, WCCT and FIDE Album. I don't know of any other cases where a judge refused to use half-points in these tourneys. This surely leads to very approximate evaluation of quality of entries and significant distortion of results.

Secondly, this was rather stern judging which must have humiliated many competitors. 169 studies participated in the WCCI. 2 studies received 4 points from Mr. Kovalenko and 20 studies received 3 points. The rest 147 studies received 1 or 2 points. Such scores are usually given to very ordinary pieces of work worth a commendation or a weak honourable mention. It's hard for me to explain why three of my best studies (no.4, 5 and 6), all prize-winners in strong tourneys, received 1 and 2 from Mr. Kovalenko. The sum of points for these studies impresses by the wide disparity:

Study no.	4	5	6	Sum
Iuri Akobia	3.5	4	4	11.5
<b>Vitaly Kovalenko</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>5 (!!!)</b>
Martin Minski	2.5	3.5	3.5	9.5

These facts indicate that the judging of Mr. Kovalenko was incompetent, prejudiced and decisive for the final ranking. Apparently, his professional skills of a judge are not good enough for judging such major events as WCCI 2007-2009 and FIDE Album 2007-2009. His name is not in the list of International judges on the WFCC website. That's why I am asking you to consider on a WFCC meeting the question of Vitaly Kovalenko's judging in WCCI 2007-2009 and replace him by a qualified judge for a new evaluation of studies in the WCCI 2007-2009.

Sincerely,  
Sergiy Didukh

Participants of the WCCI 2007-2009 who support this protest:  
Sochniev Aleksey, Kekely Lubos, Salai Jr. Ladislav, Vlasenko Valery, Gasparyan Aleksey, Afek Yochanan, Croitor Mihail, Hlinka Michal, Osintsev Sergey.

May 31, 2011



**WORLD FEDERATION  
FOR CHESS COMPOSITION**

WCCI 2007-09 ENDGAME STUDIES SECTION

REPLY TO THE PROTEST BY UKRAINE AND Mr DIDUKH

Any attempt to challenge the scores by Mr Kovalenko is deemed inappropriate, as the rules of WCCI do not provide a mechanism for such an action.

Statistical analysis (details of the analysis can be given upon request) proves the scores by Mr Kovalenko were much stricter than those of the other two judges. This applies to most of the composers who participated in the Championship and not only to Mr Didukh.

Not using half-points is not against the rules (and, in fact, two judges in other sections did the same). With regard to the remark that Mr Kovalenko is not an International Judge, we point out that during the selection of the WCCI 2007-09 judges there had been 25 negative replies for different reasons. Under these circumstances, it was essentially necessary to also have judges who do not formally have the International Judge title; a practice that was followed also in previous Albums and WCCIs.

The WCCI committee concluded that some changes to the Championship in the future could be the only possible reaction to the protests and issues of this kind. The changes were accepted by the Assembly in the Jesi Meeting, and they include a new judging system and the establishment of a jury to deal with objections.

As for the FIDE Album 2007-09, Mr Kovalenko will be allowed to continue his work as a judge. All the section directors have instructed the judges to strictly follow the guidelines that are available on the WFCC website.

Co-signed by  
The Presidium  
Director of the WCCI 2007-09  
Spokesman of the WCCI Committee  
Jesi, August 2011