



WORLD FEDERATION FOR CHESS COMPOSITION

67th World Congress (WCCC), Alba Iulia, Romania

5-12 July 2025

AGENDA

For the first session:

1. Opening address
2. Tributes
3. Verification of attendance and voting rights
4. Approval of the Minutes of the 66th Meeting (Jūrmala, 2024)
5. Membership of the standing committees, outline of business for the week from spokesmen, timetable for committee meetings
 - WCCT
 - WCCI
 - Solving
 - Album
 - Qualifications
 - Computer matters
 - Studies
 - Youth
 - Codex
6. Proposals and business carried forward
 - 1) Results of the WCCI 2022-24 (Guida)
 - 2) FIDE Album 2019-21 and 2022-24 (Fougiaxis, Gvozdják)
 - 3) Report on the FIDE & WFCC youth solving events 2024 (Nicula)
 - 4) Legal registration and future of the FIDE support (Kovačević)
 - 5) New projects and notable contributions in the previous period (Kovačević)
 - 6) Proposal to thank sponsors and deserving volunteers (Kovačević)
 - 7) Proposals for awards for developing and maintaining software tools, databases and websites (Shankar Ram/Samilo/Nielsen)
 - 8) Proposal for investing in software tools supporting WFCC composing competitions (Guida)
 - 9) Future of composing competitions: World Cup and WCCI (discussion)
 - 10) Ethics & Disciplinary Committee Establishment (Presidium)
 - 11) WFCC & EDC Warning to Georgy Evseev (Presidium)
 - 12) Proposal for updating FIDE Album points system (Turner, Assembly)

WCCC 2025 Commemoration List (Alba Iulia, Romania)

Narvydas Malžinskas	Lithuania	(10.01.1944 – 26.09.2022)
Albinas Bičiūšas	Lithuania	(25.01.1938 – 19.11.2022)
Alexander Kostka	Austria	(09.08.1938 – 19.07.2023)
Gheorghe Leu	Romania	(15.12.1935 – 08.05.2024)
Valery Barsukov	Russia	(21.05.1939 – 04.08.2024)
Petko A. Petkov	Bulgaria	(27.02.1942 – 11.08.2024)
Friedrich Hariuc	Romania/Germany	(11.01.1937 – 26.08.2024)
Mordechai Shorek	Israel	(14.07.1943 – 06.09.2024)
Éric Angelini	Belgium	(12.09.1951 – 27.09.2024)
Miguel Uris Escolano	Spain	(28.03.1962 – 07.10.2024)
János Buglos	Hungary	(22.06.1923 – 26.10.2024)
Arnold Grunst	Germany	(03.05.1941 – 07.11.2024)
Poul Hedegaard Jensen	Denmark	(13.03.1927 – 19.11.2024)
Henrik Juel	Denmark	(02.02.1945 – 03.01.2025)
S.N. Ravishankar	India	(16.11.1953 – 08.01.2025)
Barry P. Barnes	Great Britain	(01.08.1937 – 14.01.2025)
Kurt Ewald	Germany	(27.03.1931 – 14.01.2025)
George Teodoru	Romania/Germany	(08.09.1932 – 31.01.2025)
Jacques Savournin	France	(19.06.1930 – 05.02.2025)
Frank Schützhold	Germany	(07.10.1949 – 20.02.2025)
Oliver Ralík	Slovakia	(19.05.1945 – 25.02.2025)
Ivan Garaj	Slovakia	(18.08.1943 – 10.03.2025)
José Antonio López Parcerisa	Spain	(30.07.1942 – 12.03.2025)
Evgeny Vaulin	Russia	(26.06.1953 – 18.03.2025)
Vito Rallo	Italy	(03.08.1939 – 03.04.2025)
Mikhail Kostylev	Russia	(06.07.1960 – 04.04.2025)
Vasily Kozyrev	Russia	(12.04.1951 – 30.04.2025)
Pavlos Moutecidis	Greece	(07.11.1930 – 05.05.2025)
Peter Sickinger	Germany	(06.12.1943 – 13.05.2025)
Erich Bartel	Germany	(21.08.1930 – 15.05.2025)
Ivan Skoba	Czech Republic	(02.02.1950 – 18.06.2025)

WYCS 2024 & WCSC 2024 REPORT

For the year 2024, one of the most important projects of WFCC was to organize the 1st edition of the World Solving Championship for the young players up to 18 years, splitted in two competitions:

World Youth Solving Championship (U14, U16, U18): Florianopolis (Brazil), 4th of November 2024;

World Cadet Solving Championship (U8, U10, U12): Montesilvano (Italy), 21st of November 2024.

The initiative of this premiere belongs to the President of WFCC, Marjan Kovacević, who managed to implement it after negotiations held with Akaki Iashvili (Chair of FIDE Events Commission) and, then, with the organizers of the two championship: Kaiser Luis Mafra (Brazil), Roberto Mogranzini & Nadia Ottavi (Italy). I was nominated as selector of the problems for both competitions and as tournament director for World Cadet Solving Championship, meanwhile Marcos Roland & Ricardo de Mattos Vieira were nominated as co-directors for World Youth Solving Championship.

In both cases, the World Solving Championship was scheduled in the free day of the World Championship at otb chess (in the middle of the competition) and well promoted on FIDE and WFCC sites. A popularization action for solving, made at the venue, from the beginning of the otb competition, has shown efficiency in Italy. The examples given in the set of official rules were very helpful, too. It is also to be mentioned that the level of the participation fee (20 euro) was considered as a decent one.

Each category of age had an unique set of problems, same for open and for girls; the girls had the possibility to chose for participating at open, but none of them used this possibility. The structure of the problems was:

U8, U10: 60 min. (4x2#, 1x3#, 1 eg);

U12: 60 min, (3x2#, 1x3#, 1x4#, 1 eg);

U14, U16, U18: 90 min. (3x2#, 3x3#, 1x4#, 2 eg).

The registration of the solvers was facilitated by using (for the first time) of the soft Swiss Manager, which allows to make public, in real time on chess-results, the lists of registered participants. In Brazil (63 participants), as well as in Italy (228 participants), all the solvers were scheduled in one series, thing that in the second case represents, probably a record; for this, I needed four assistants (selected by me from the otb arbiters) in the excellent hall Dean Martin, in Montesilvano.

The marking of the points was made in Brazil by Marcos Roland & Ricardo de Mattos Vieira and in Italy by me, assisted by Mohammad Alhallak (who took part in several preliminary activities on the technical side). Due to a continuous effort, in both competitions the results were announced in evening of competition's day, at the venue and on chess-results.com.

The young world champions at solving are:

U8: Jan Szumiec (POL) and Sofia Baghramyan (ARM)

U10: Tsogtbileg Anand (MGL), with 100% of points and Mariya Mukhorina (FID)

U12: Shilon Rahav Eliran (ISR) and Nika Venskaya (FID)

U14: Ganbat Tenguundalai (MGL) and Kesaria Mgeladze (GEO)

U16: Nikita Kalinin (FID) and Afruza Khamdamova (UZB)

U18: Kevin Haack (GER) and Marina Putintseva (GBR)

The WFCC Vice-President Abdulla Ali Aal Barket came to the closing ceremony in Montesilvano, in order to mark this inaugural event with a special WFCC plaque presented to the main organizers Roberto Mognanzini and Nadia Ottavi. In the final gala of Italy, the solving chess had a special place at this high level competition, thing that allows us to consider that our target for the first edition of World Youth&Cadet Solving Championship was, in great part, accomplished.

Dinu-Ioan Nicula

3rd WFCC Vice-President

(PR1) Proposal for a WFCC Special Award

In our current times, we have a number of outstanding individuals who have contributed to our community, not just by their compositions, but also by their selfless work in developing and maintaining software tools, databases and websites.

Therefore it is appropriate that the WFCC recognise and appreciate these individuals by presenting a special award to them. This is similar to the "Lifetime achievement award" given by other organisations, usually to recipients who are nearing the end of their careers. We should not wait so long!

My suggested list of recipients, including Harry's recommendation is:

1. Christian Poisson - for the software WinChloe and its associated database.
2. Thomas Maeder - for the software Popeye.
3. Václav Kotěšovec - for his website <http://www.kotesovec.cz/> and his publications.
4. Dmitri Turevski - for the software Olive, Py2Web and his online database <https://www.yacpdb.org/>.
5. Miodrag Mladenović - for the software Solving Tournament Manager (STM).

N.Shankar Ram

3-May-2025

(PR2) Proposal to award a special distinction.

We propose, on behalf of the studies commission and Ukrainian chess composers, to consider at the 67th Congress WCCC and make a decision to award a special distinction of the WFCC to Harold van der Heijden - creator of famous study database with 93,839 endgame studies, and Peter Boll - webmaster of the <https://www.arves.org> famous studies website (since 2004) - for their long-term volunteer contribution to the popularization of chess study in the world.

Steffen Slumstrup Nielsen, Volodymyr Samilo.

Milano, June 19th 2025

FROM: Marco Guida - Italy National Delegate
guidam129@gmail.com

TO: Thomas Maeder – COMPUTER MATTERS Committee Spokesman
Marjan Kovacevic - WFCC President

(PR3)PROPOSAL FOR INVESTING IN SW TOOLS SUPPORTING WFCC COMPETITIONS

Dear Thomas and Marjan,

During the past few years I have been exposed, at various titles, to a number of WFCC activities / competitions, notably as:

- Director for FIDE Album 2016-18, Section A
- Judge in WCCI 2019-21, Section A
- Judge in FIDE Album 2019-21, Section A
- WCCI Spokesman for WCCI 2022-24 (working side by side with Shankar Ram, Director)
- Judge in FIDE World Cup, Section A

In such roles, I have undertaken and witnessed a number of tasks that were very time consuming, effort intensive, largely manual, tedious and error prone. Just to mention a few (list not exhaustive!):

- FIDE Album – Section Director:
 - o Create and search for duplicated entries of joint compositions before sending excel spreadsheets to judges
 - o Consolidate individual spreadsheets by judges and search for, e.g., large discrepancies in scores
 - o Prepare summaries for judges to review such discrepancies
 - o Timely share among judges information on possible anticipations
 - o Etc..
- WCCI Spokesman & Director:
 - o Some of the same tasks as per FIDE Album
 - o Eliminate highest / lowest scores
 - o Eliminate lowest 2 entries
 - o Preparing a graphical standardized layout for the summary tables
 - o Communicate with FIDE Album as WCCI entries with 8+ points and check correctness
- FIDE World Cup & Judge:
 - o Properly and seriously anonymize entries for judges
 - o Assemble the awards in some standardized way

Most of the above activities can be automated and standardized.

According to my experience so far, some efforts have been made already, e.g. (again, list not exhaustive):

- Excel templates for FIDE Album scoresheet, with some macro embedded
- Excel templates for WCCI scoresheet, also with some macro embedded
- Some automation (eg developed by Shankar to help in the last WCCI cycle)
- Etc.

But:

- Most of these efforts are “individual” efforts, maybe done by some more IT-literate past or present Director, but still largely hand-made solutions, hardly usable by anybody else than those that has written them.
- Degree of automation is still very partial, far from what current technology can enable.

As a result, Directors (in WCCI, FIDE WC, FIDE Album) have still to perform many time consuming and tedious activities, to intervene manually in a number of places (potential errors!), to check and double-check many times intermediate and final results, etc. All that takes time from more rewarding and value adding activities connected to their duties.

I would like to suggest that the Computer Matters Committee look more into the subject, identify some priorities (time & costs required vs. potential benefits and return on the investments), identify someone willing to take responsibility to undertake the task, and start launching a first project.

Thank you for your attention

Best Regards

Marco Guida

Addendum by Shankar Ram:

1. Some kind of solution like STM developed by Miodrag Mladenovic.
2. The various WFCC composing tourneys (WCCI, WCCT, Album, World Cup, YCCC) have different procedures and processes.
3. A single all-in-one solution may be too difficult.
4. Instead as a short term option, I can suggest shared Google sheet templates for each type of WFCC tourney.
5. These sheets should have some automation embedded into them - formulas, macros and code.
6. The directors should be able to simply enter the raw data and the embedded automation should do all the different things Marco has listed.
7. (Marco's remarks) They need to be developed by a professional, with controls and guided editing and a proper user manual and long-term support and maintenance commitment. Otherwise risks of errors and misuse by anyone that has not developed it is too high. In other words, the backend can be Excel, the automation can be via macros, but the front-end for the user must be something more solid than just entering data straight in the cells!
8. Like in the STM, some master files with composer names, photo, date of birth, country, and titles could be linked so that these don't have to be entered manually
9. And like in STM, the master file should be updatable for adding new composers

10. Anonymising of entries can also be automated. A google sheets template has to be made. The director copies the FEN to generate the diagram. A serial number is assigned which is copied with composer name into a separate file. He copy pastes other details. He removes and/or edits the "self praising" comments which may identify a particular composer. The final document is generated to share with the judge.
11. For the WCCI, I developed my own Google sheet templates by trial and error to reverse engineer Dmitri Turevsky's coded solutions for the previous WCCI cycles. He shared his code but warned that he himself couldn't remember all the details! I took a look and felt it was beyond my skills to use it.
12. But I am not competent enough to develop standardised templates suggested above. Some of our members who actually do coding could possibly do it, subject to the requirements mentioned by Marco in #7.

[PR4] Proposal to establish a new Standing Committee (Art.11.1 Statutes)

We propose that the existing „ad hoc“ Ethics & Disciplinary Committee be converted into a Standing Committee.

Members: N. Shankar Ram (India) spokesman; Harry Fougiaxis (Greece), Axel Gilbert (France), Roberto Osorio (Argentina), Klaus Wenda (Austria)

Such an institution follows the objectives of FIDE described in the FIDE Ethics & Disciplinary Code (=EDC). It is the mission of FIDE and the entire chess family to promote the highest possible ethical values and to ensure that the spirit of fair play prevails. Our WFCC as a former Commission of FIDE is a part of the worldwide FIDE family considering itself FIDE's natural partner for all matters of chess composition. The catalogue of ethical values applicable to FIDE including the sanctions to be imposed in the event of violations, are applicable to WFCC by analogy. The legal basis for the Standing Committee to take action will be therefore EDC, without the need of a separate WFCC code:

<https://handbook.fide.com/files/handbook/EthicsAndDisciplinaryCode2022.pdf>

President Marjan Kovačević

Vice-presidents Abdulla Ali Aal Barket, Vidmantas Satkus, Dinu-Ioan Nicula

WFCC & EDC Warning to Georgy Evseev

The Presidium of the WFCC decides in its meeting of 6th July 2025 chaired by President Marjan Kovacevic, applying the Ethics & Disciplinary Code of FIDE (=EDC), to issue the delegate of Russia, Georgy Evseev a

Warning (Part III Art.10.7 EDC)

The Presidium condemns in the strongest terms the statements made by Georgy Evseev on 2.8.2024 at the WCCC in Jurmala, which violated the Ethical Values & Principles of FIDE in many respects. We therefore issue a warning to him, asking him to correct and not repeat such statements. A failure of which may result in a subsequent referral to the WFCC's Ethics & Disciplinary Committee and a reprimand.

The Presidium is aware that Georgy Evseev has earned merit in the past through his active participation in various WFCC projects, which were recognised with honorary membership. No other action is taken on him. His position as delegate, honorary member and judge remains.

Basis of the decision:

After conducting an investigation, the established WFCC's Ethics & Disciplinary Committee has summarized the facts of the case in its report dated 9th March 2025, including the enclosures. The Presidium follows this report as well as the recommendation to issue a warning.

The invasion of Ukraine, subsequent events and the reactions by the world community are well known and documented. The statements by Georgy Evseev, in which such actions are trivialized and presented as "fake news" spread by Ukraine, are in strong contrast to these facts.

Therefore the Presidium sees in his behaviour a multiple violation of various values and principles of the EDC. As the successor organization to the PCCC, a former FIDE commission, the WFCC is part of the "FIDE family" considering itself FIDE's natural partner for all matters related to chess composition. Consequently the EDC is also applicable to it and its officials by analogy.

[PR5] Proposal for updating FIDE Album points system

The protocol from meeting of Permanent Commission of the FIDE for Chess Compositions (PCCC) in Leipzig in 1960 states that it was decided that when calculating points for Album problems '1 Studie = 1 2/3 Probleme'. No argumentation or additional information was registered in the protocol. It has now been in force for over 60 years and now seems a good time to review whether it's still appropriate in light of modern day developments.

Without dwelling on any ideological or personal considerations which may have been in play so many years ago, we address below some of the actual arguments that are put forward in support of the status quo and try demonstrate their shortcomings:

- *Studies were considered to be more valuable than other problems.* – Studies might have had some significance for endgame play and theory in the past. In the computer era of today exact theory and analysing powers well above human capacities are available, which decreases the role of endgame studies.
- *Studies were considered to be closer to the game of chess than other chess problems.*
 - Direct orthodox mates are similarly close to the game of chess and much closer than e.g. fairy chess problems, but in this case no difference in points has been introduced.
- *Studies were considered to be more difficult to get correct.* – This might have been the case in the past, which can be seen from the fact that in the leading endgame studies database one third of the studies are said to be / have been incorrect. The issue of getting a study correct is nowadays of smaller magnitude due to efficient computer checking possibilities.
- *Studies were considered to be more difficult to compose than other problems.* – The length of a study is normally 5-15 moves. It can have been seen to be more difficult to compose a study of such length than e.g. a short direct mate; this is also related to the issue of getting correct mentioned above. With the computer checking and solving programs of today all composing has less limitations and vast possibilities.
- *Studies were considered to be more beautiful and more interesting than other problems.* – Can be disregarded as subjective.

As we see no reason and no justification for continuing to have a bonus system for any type of problem genres, we propose the following: Starting from the Album period 2025-2027 all selected problems and studies are rewarded one point.

May 2024

Finnish Chess Problem Society

ISC 2025 REPORTS

1. Results Presented by the Central Controller

(and explanation for excluding four Azerbaijani scores)

1. Contest overview

The 21st ISC was held on **19 January 2025** in **28 countries** (46 local tournaments) with **745 solvers** (Cat-1 184 – incl. 4 unofficial • Cat-2 254 • Cat-3 307 – incl. 15 unofficial).

Turn-out rose from 669 (2024) to 745 — **+76 solvers (~11 %)**.

Preliminary results (SC version) were published on **18 February**

2. List of winners

Category	1 st	2 nd	3 rd
Cat-1	KacperPiorun (POL)	KlemenŠivić (SLO)	IlijaSerafimović (SRB)
Cat-2	DejanOmorjan (SRB)	RenārsMūzis (LAT)	Dietmar Jahn (GER)
Cat-3	Nikolai Shevyakov (FID)	Ivan Vasiliev (FID)	GlebSukhinin (FID)

In the Category 1 contest there were also sections for juniors, women and seniors with the following top results:

juniors: 1. IlijaSerafimovic (SRB), 2. TarasRudenko (UKR), 3. TenguundalaiGanbold (MGL)

women: 1. TeodoraTraistaru (ROU), 2. AudreyKueh (GBR), 3. RafaellaNevistic (CRO)

seniors: 1. LevGlanzspiegel (ISR), 2. JormaPaavilainen (FIN), 3. Roland Baier (SUI)

In the Category 2 contest there were also sections for juniors, women and seniors with the following top results:

juniors: 1. DejanOmorjan (SRB), 2. RenarsMuzis (LAT), 3. ChristianGlockler (GER)

women: 1. NikaRiabenko (UKR), 2. SwatiMohota (IND), 3. DimitraAmoiridou (GRE)

seniors: 1. Dietmar Jahn (GER), 2. ZivanSusulic (SRB), 3. HannuHarkola (FIN)

3. Four Azerbaijan results were not accepted

Why the CC excluded the Azerbaijan results:

Point	Facts & observations	Breached rule / rationale
1 No on-site supervision / phones on desks	• Solvers sat alone in one room; no local controller or arbiter present.	ISC § 3 – requires a <i>reliable local controller</i> .
	• Phones placed screen-up next to the boards. Controller must ensure fair conditions; visible phones give direct access to engines / databases https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=LaIDKaUCeGw	WCSC/ECSC Rules § 7.2 (applied via ISC § 8): Director must “ <i>prevent any irregularities</i> ”; use of technological aids is forbidden. Without a controller, these duties were impossible and phones violated the ban.
2 Extreme performance jumps	• All four players recorded $\Delta > 400$ Elo ; two reached $\Delta \approx 870$ – the largest ever seen in ISC.	$\Delta > 400$ is already “very rare”; four cases from one unsupervised room are statistically implausible.
	• Z score anomalies ≥ 3.5	
	• Such jumps are thousands-to-one against live-event data.	

3 Round-2 dominance (threemovers)	In Round 2 all four Azeri solvers finished inside the global top-6 (out of 184) with performance ratings:	Four GM-level performances in one round, from a single unsupervised site, is practically impossible by chance.
	– A. Alammammadov 3587	
	– Piriverdiyev 2913	
	– S. Alammammadov 2813	
4 Task-specific anomalies	• Problem 10 (S#5): only 5 correct scores out of 180 Cat-1 solvers ($\approx 2.8\%$), yet 3 of those 4 came from Azerbaijan (75 % of their own quartet).	Unique success on the hardest tasks at a single site points to advance access or external help
	• Problem 11 (H#3): only 2 full solution worldwide – both Azerbaijani.	
	• Same quartet tops Problems 10–12.	
5 Suspicious solution sheets	• #10 sheet shows <i>5.Kd8!!</i> (table-base “only move”).	“Computer-perfect” lines and missing human details match copied answers, not genuine solving.
	• s#5 sheet omits the threat, typical of copying.	
6 Withdrawal from live verification opportunity	In his protest letter the Azerbaijani local controller stated that Azerbaijan will not travel to the 2025 ECSC/WCSC “as a protest” against the doubts raised about their ISC results.	By deciding not to appear in a natural supervised test, the players removed the simplest way to confirm that their January performance was genuine. This reinforces suspicion rather than dispelling it.
7 Historical performance rating mismatch	Araz’s best OTB performance in last nine years: 2411. Suddenly 3261 here – totally off the live-tournament scale. Similar jumps for the other three players.	Such jumps far exceed normal variance and cross the fair-play alarm lines used in the FIDE Anti-Cheating Regulations § 6.5

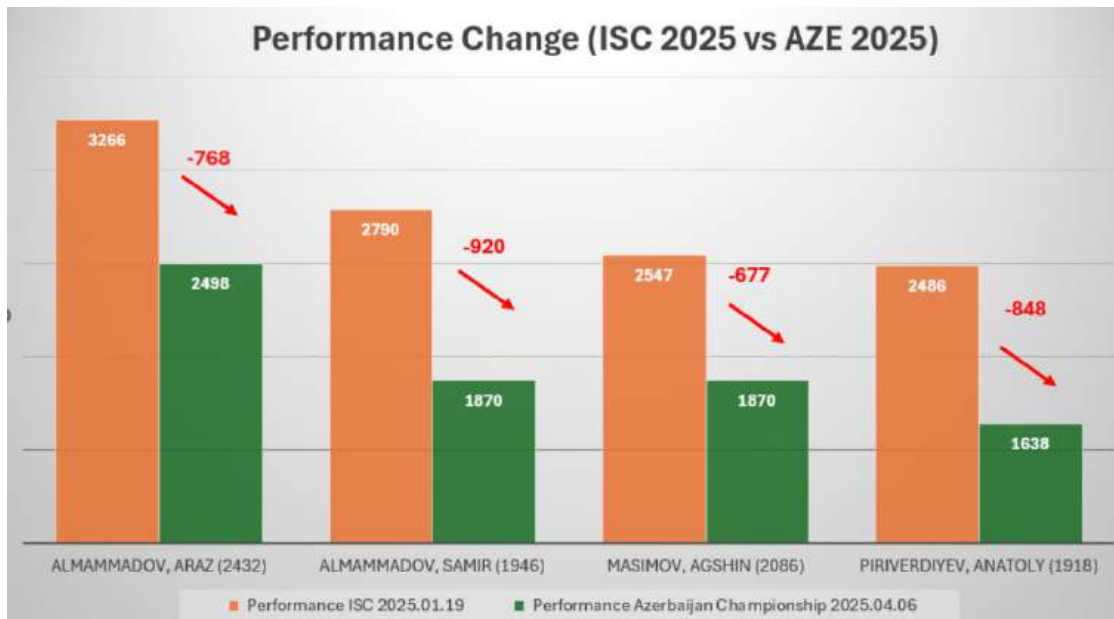
Reality Check: Performance Collapse of Azerbaijani ISC 2025 Players in Their First Live Tournament

When the four Azerbaijani solvers who dominated the 2025 International Solving Contest (ISC) finally appeared in an over-the-board tournament—the Azerbaijan Championship in Sumgait on 6 April 2025—their results told a very different story.

A fall of 700-900 Elo in such a short span is off the scale of normal variance and strongly suggests the ISC results did not reflect genuine solving strength.

Performance Comparison

Name	Rating	Performance ISC 2025.01.19	Performance Azerbaijan Championship 2025.04.06	Performance Difference Azerbaidzan-ISC
Alammammadov, Araz	2432	3266	2498	-768
Alammammadov, Samir	1946	2790	1870	-920
Masimov, Agshin	2086	2547	1870	-677
Piriverdiyev, Anatoly	1918	2486	1638	-848



(Source: <https://solving.wfcc.ch/wsc/2024-2025/2025-04-06-AZE-Sumgait-Champ-Results.pdf>, Azerbaijan Championship 2025)

4. Timeline of protests

Date	Event
30 Jan	CC publishes preliminary list without Azerbaijan.
31 Jan	Azerbaijan local controller files protest.
4 Feb	Three-member Solving Committee(Selivanov,Stephenson,Steinbrink) panel votes 2 – 1 to reinstate the four scores (before analysing full CC data).
18 Feb	The results were published (SC version)
18 - 23 Feb	Six federations (POL, SRB, GRE SLO, NED, BEL) submit protests supporting the CC decision.
24 Jun	All protests forwarded to WFCC President for WCCC agenda.

The Commission's decision was rushed: the Solving Committee voted before it had received the Central Controller's full analysis and the additional data that later became available.



Azerbaijan's Results
ISC 2025.docx

5. Request to delegates

- **Option A – ratify CC results**(*without* the four Azerbaijani scores): keeps historical standards, protects ratings, avoids rewarding an unsupervised venue.
- **Option B – ratify SC results**(*with* the four Azerbaijani scores):Contest is recorded as **unrated/unofficial** because the key procedural breaches remain unresolved

Central Controller's conclusion

The combination of unsupervised play, phones on desks, unprecedented Difference jumps and Z-score anomalies, unique success on the hardest problems, suspicious solution sheets, and a massive performance collapse in the first supervised event provides overwhelming evidence that the four Azerbaijani results are not legitimate.

They must be excluded to maintain the integrity of the ISC and protect honest competitors.

Removing dishonest results would not only correct the damage already done but also protect solving sports from further ranking and result distortions

Accepting Azerbaijan's results would severely damage ISC's reputation, encourage further dishonesty, and create long-term instability in the competitive solving community.

Arvydas Mockus, Central Controller of ISC 2025

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Arvydas Mockus', with a long, sweeping horizontal stroke extending to the right.

Analysis ISC 2025 (with a special focus on the AZE-results)

Final Ranking (Top 6 and the AZE-solvers)

Rank	Name	Country	Rating	Points	Perfor	Rating-+/-
1	Araz Almammadov	AZE	2394	53,5	3265	+37,72
2	Kacper Piorun	POL	2717	52,75	3240	+22,64
3	Samir Almammadov	AZE	1907	39,75	2789	+38,19
4	Klemen Sivic	SLO	2369	38,25	2737	+15,94
5	Ilija Serafimovic	SRB	2563	38	2728	+7,19
6	Eddy Van Beers	BEL	2568	37,75	2720	+6,55
16	Agshin Masimov	AZE	2065	32,75	2547	+20,86
21	Anatoly Piriverdiyev	AZE	1791	31	2486	+25,74

Median (rank 92/93) = 14,5 pts.

Sorted by Rating-Win (Top 6 – with all AZE-solvers)

	Name	Country	Rating	Points	Perfor	Rating-+/-
1	Samir Almammadov	AZE	1907	39,75	2789	+38,19
2	Araz Almammadov	AZE	2394	53,5	3265	+37,72
3	Anatoly Piriverdiyev	AZE	1791	31	2486	+25,74
4	Kacper Piorun	POL	2717	52,75	3240	+22,64
5	Tomoki Kurokava	JPN	1905	29,25	2425	+22,51
6	Agshin Masimov	AZE	2065	32,75	2547	+20,86

Result of Rd 1 (Top 6 and the AZE-solvers)

Rank	Name	Country	Rating	Points	Perfor	Rating-+/-
1	Kacper Piorun	POL	2717	29	3294	+14,07
2	Ilija Serafimovic	SRB	2563	25,5	3078	+12,58
3	Araz Almammadov	AZE	2394	24,5	3017	+15,18
4	Eddy Van Beers	BEL	2568	23,5	2955	+9,44
5	Vidmantas Satkus	LTU	2419	22,5	2894	+11,58
6	Lev Glanzspiegel	ISR	2400	22	2863	+11,30
6	Klemen Sivic	SLO	2369	22	2863	+12,06
8	Samir Almammadov	AZE	1907	20,5	2771	+21,08
29	Agshin Masimov	AZE	2065	14	2371	+7,47
52	Anatoly Piriverdiyev	AZE	1791	10,5	2156	+6,45

Median (rank 92/93) = 6,75 pts.

Result of Rd 2 (Top 6 with all AZE-solvers)

Rank	Name	Country	Rating	Points	Perfor	Rating-+/-
1	Araz Almammadov	AZE	2394	29	3587	+45,09
2	Kacper Piorun	POL	2717	23,75	3170	+17,15
3	Anatoly Piriverdiyev	AZE	1791	20,5	2912	+38,60
4	Andy Ooms	BEL	2272	19,75	2853	+21,97
5	Samir Almammadov	AZE	1907	19,25	2813	+34,26
6	Agshin Masimov	AZE	2065	18,75	2773	+26,79

Median (rank 92/93) = 8,5 pts.

Solving History of Araz Almammadov

(no secrets – everybody can see these data in STM – go to statistics-solvers-add new solver)

There are no results in STM before 2016 except the ECSC

Araz Almammadov				
	Title	IM	Country	Azerbaijan
	Rating Type	Rating	Birthday	1971
	Rating	2395 [01.01.2025]	Rank	49 [01.01.2025]
	Current Rating	2432 [19.01.2025]		
	Highest Rating	2466 [< 01.10.2015]	Expiration Date	07.04.2027
	FIDE #			-

Tournaments					
#	End Date	Name	Rank	Perf. Rat.	+/-
23	19.01.2025	21st International Solving Contest 2025 Cat 1	1	3266	38
22	07.04.2024	43rd Azerbaijan Solving Championship 2024	3	2360	-3
21	21.01.2024	20th International Solving Contest 2024 Cat 1	12	2623	14
20	06.09.2023	46th World Chess Solving Championship 2023	36	2348	-14
19	04.09.2023	Open Solving Tournament of WCCC 2023	48	2193	-17
18	25.06.2023	42nd Azerbaijan Chess Solving Championship 2023	1	2411	0
17	19.06.2022	41st Azerbaijan Chess Solving Championship 2022	2	2352	-4
16	07.04.2019	40th Azerbaijan Chess Solving Championship 2019	2	2336	-6
15	08.04.2018	39th Azerbaijan Chess Solving Championship 2018	3	2406	-1
14	09.04.2017	38th Azerbaijan Chess Solving Championship 2017	2	2317	-11
13	03.08.2016	40th World Chess Solving Championship 2016	43	2376	-22
12	01.08.2016	Open Solving Tournament of WCCC 2016	23	2399	-5
11	25.07.2016	1st Azerbaijan Chess Solving Cup 2016	1	2464	0
10	17.04.2016	12th European Chess Solving Championship 2016	6	2580	30
9	15.04.2016	Open Solving Tournament of ECSC 2016	14	2440	-2
8	10.04.2016	37th Azerbaijan Chess Solving Championship 2016	4	2251	-29
7	24.01.2016	12th International Solving Contest 2016 Cat 1	16	2499	2
6	18.05.2014	10th European Chess Solving Championship 2014	17	2471	11
5	28.04.2013	9th European Chess Solving Championship 2013	29	2349	-16
4	22.04.2012	8th European Chess Solving Championship 2012	18	2494	19
3	03.04.2011	7th European Chess Solving Championship 2011	20	2448	20
2	11.04.2010	6th European Chess Solving Championship 2010	17	2433	5
1	30.03.2008	4th European Chess Solving Championship 2008	10	2652	56

Solving History of Samir Almammadov

The ISC 2025 was his 3rd solving tournament at all

Samir Almammadov				
	Title	-	Country	Azerbaijan
	Rating Type	Rating	Birthday	2007
	Rating	1907 [01.01.2025]	Rank	292 [01.01.2025]
	Current Rating	1946 [19.01.2025]		
	Highest Rating	1946 [19.01.2025]	Expiration Date	07.04.2027


Tournaments					
#	End Date	Name	Rank	Perf. Rat.	+/-
3	19.01.2025	21st International Solving Contest 2025 Cat 1	3	2790	38
2	07.04.2024	43rd Azerbaijan Solving Championship 2024	24	1730 h	-
1	21.01.2024	20th International Solving Contest 2024 Cat 1	61	2084 h	-

Solving History of Agshin Masimov

Agshin Masimov				
	Title	-	Country	Azerbaijan
	Rating Type	Rating	Birthday	1962
	Rating	2065 [01.01.2025]	Rank	196 [01.01.2025]
	Current Rating	2086 [19.01.2025]		
	Highest Rating	2204 [< 01.10.2015]	Expiration Date	07.04.2027
	FIDE #		-	-

Tournaments					
#	End Date	Name	Rank	Perf. Rat.	+/-
18	19.01.2025	21st International Solving Contest 2025 Cat 1	16	2547	21
17	07.04.2024	43rd Azerbaijan Solving Championship 2024	16	1927	-10
16	21.01.2024	20th International Solving Contest 2024 Cat 1	45	2222	9
15	25.06.2023	42nd Azerbaijan Chess Solving Championship 2023	8	2081	1
14	19.06.2022	41st Azerbaijan Chess Solving Championship 2022	5	2012	-4
13	07.04.2019	40th Azerbaijan Chess Solving Championship 2019	4	2188	9
12	08.04.2018	39th Azerbaijan Chess Solving Championship 2018	7	1968	-6
11	28.01.2018	14th International Solving Contest 2018 Cat 1	105	2069	0
10	09.04.2017	38th Azerbaijan Chess Solving Championship 2017	9	1952	-12
9	03.08.2016	40th World Chess Solving Championship 2016	79	2038	-7
8	01.08.2016	Open Solving Tournament of WCCC 2016	37	2320	18
7	25.07.2016	1st Azerbaijan Chess Solving Cup 2016	4	2103	2
6	10.04.2016	37th Azerbaijan Chess Solving Championship 2016	7	2029	-6
5	24.01.2016	12th International Solving Contest 2016 Cat 1	66	2215	9
4	28.04.2013	9th European Chess Solving Championship 2013	63	1821	-69
3	03.04.2011	7th European Chess Solving Championship 2011	60	2070	-15
2	11.04.2010	6th European Chess Solving Championship 2010	45	2129	-9
1	30.03.2008	4th European Chess Solving Championship 2008	38	2054	-29

Solving History of Anatoly Piriverdiyev

Anatoly Piriverdiyev				
	Title	-	Country	Azerbaijan
	Rating Type	Rating	Birthday	1949
	Rating	1892 [01.01.2025]	Rank	314 [01.01.2025]
	Current Rating	1918 [19.01.2025]		
	Highest Rating	1942 [< 01.10.2015]	Expiration Date	07.04.2027
	FIDE #		-	-

Tournaments					
#	End Date	Name	Rank	Perf. Rat.	+/-
14	19.01.2025	21st International Solving Contest 2025 Cat 1	21	2486	26
13	07.04.2024	43rd Azerbaijan Solving Championship 2024	21	1843	-4
12	21.01.2024	20th International Solving Contest 2024 Cat 1	33	2347	29
11	25.06.2023	42nd Azerbaijan Chess Solving Championship 2023	12	1891	2
10	07.04.2019	40th Azerbaijan Chess Solving Championship 2019	7	2040	13
9	08.04.2018	39th Azerbaijan Chess Solving Championship 2018	14	1773	-5
8	28.01.2018	14th International Solving Contest 2018 Cat 1	191	1831	-2
7	09.04.2017	38th Azerbaijan Chess Solving Championship 2017	7	1986	13
6	25.07.2016	1st Azerbaijan Chess Solving Cup 2016	6	1868	1
5	10.04.2016	37th Azerbaijan Chess Solving Championship 2016	9	1848	0
4	24.01.2016	12th International Solving Contest 2016 Cat 1	140	1906	4
3	28.04.2013	9th European Chess Solving Championship 2013	62	1838	-20
2	22.04.2012	8th European Chess Solving Championship 2012	64	1821	-27
1	03.04.2011	7th European Chess Solving Championship 2011	61	2055	42

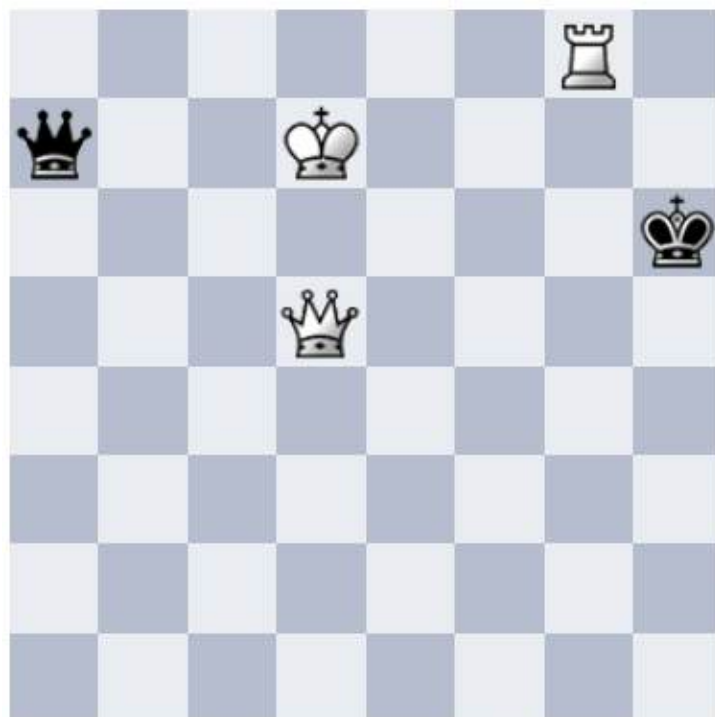
Special look at the second study Nr. 10

Official solution after 2.Qxc4 according solution sheet

- a) 2... ♖f7+! 3. ♔xf7 [1] g1=♔ 4.g8=♗+! [1] ♔g5 5. ♔g7+ ±
 b) 2... ♖d5+! 3. ♔xd5 [1] g1=♔ 4.g8=♗! [1] ♔a7+ 5. ♔d8/~ ±

The first variation was found bei Uri Teichman (ISR), Anatoly Piriverdiyev (AZE) and Araz Almammadov. The second variation was only found by Araz Almammadov.

Please regard that after 4...Qa7+ in the second variation every K-move wins for white. According the table base Kd8 is the „best“ move with #12, Kc8 and Ke8 is a #13 and Kc6, Kd6 and Ke6 is a #14. Therefore the official solution should be 5.K~+-



● Weiß am Zug
○ Schwarz am Zug

Gewinn in 12

Zug	Wert
Kd7-d8	Gewinn in 12
Kd7-c8	Gewinn in 13
Kd7-e8	Gewinn in 13
Kd7-d6	Gewinn in 14
Kd7-c6	Gewinn in 14
Kd7-e6	Gewinn in 14
Dd5-b7	Verlust in 17

This is the solution of Araz Almammadov with 5.Kd8! (exclamation mark):

0. [+]
 1. g8 ♖+ 1. ♔g4 ♖c4. 2. ♔c4 ♖f7+
 3. ♔f7 g1 ♔. 4. g8 ♗ ♔g5. 5. ♔g7+
 2... ♖d5+ 3. ♔xd5 g1 ♔. 4. g8 ♗! ♔a7+
 5. ♔d8!

Special look at the S#5 Nr. 12

Official solution according solution sheet:

1. ♖a4! ~ 2. ♕e6+ ♘e5 3. ♖d3+ ♗xd3 4. ♕c4+ ♗e3 5. ♕c3+ [2.5]
1... ♙b4 2. ♕b3+ ♘c3 3. ♖a5 g2 4. ♖g5 g1~ 5. ♖xg1 [2.5]

Please regard that after a random B-move either 2.Qe6+ or 2.Qb3+ (or both) has a solution in 5 moves. But for all B-moves (with the exception of Bb4) there is also a solution in 4: 1 ... Ba1...h8 2. Rd3+ 3.Qc4+ 4.Qc3+ Bxc3# and 1 ... Ba5 2. Rxa5 g2 3. Rg5 e1~ 4. Rxg1 f2#. After g2 only 2.Qe6+ works.

Therefore it would be better to write the official solution as follows:

1.Ra4! g2 2. Qe6+ Be5 4. Rd3+ Kxd3 4. Qc4+ Ke3 5. Qc3+ (2,5) Bxc3#

1. ... Bb4 2. Qb3+ Bc3 3. Ra5 g2 4. Rg5 g1~ 5. Rxg1 (2,5) f2#

1. ... Ba1...h8/Ba5 2. Rd3+/Rxa5 =s#4 (no points)

How did the solvers (there were only 8 solvers who got points for this s#5) write their solution: (only the first moves)

5 solvers with 5 points:

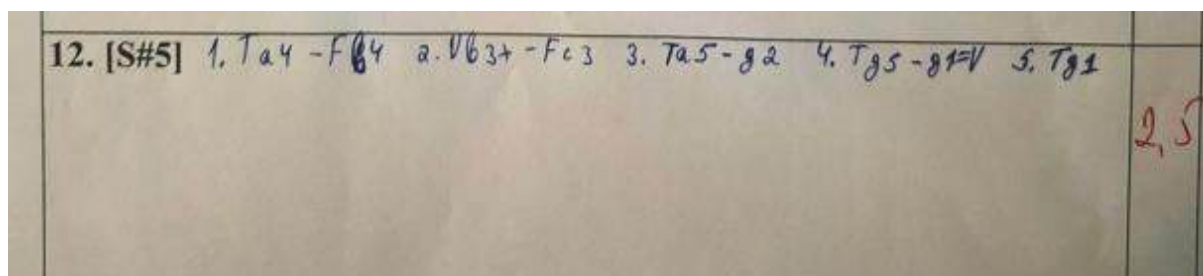
Kacper Piorun (POL):	1.Ra4! ~	2. Qe6+ ...	1. ... Bb4,Ba5,Be5	2. Qb3+ ...
Tomas Peitl (SVK):	1.Ra4!	(2.Qe6 ...)	1. ... Bb4	2. Qb3+ ...
Roland Baier (SUI):	1.Ra4! B~	2. Qb3+ ...	1. ... g2	2. Qe6+ ...
Andy Ooms (BEL):	1.Ra4! ~	2. Qe6+ ...	1. ... Bb4/Ba5	2. Qb3+ ...
Araz Almammadov (AZE):	1.Ra4! ~	2. Qe6+ ...	1. ... Bb4	2. Qb3+ ...

3 solvers with 2,5 points:

Daniel Dumitrescu (ROU): 1. Ra4! ZZ B~ 2. Qb3+ ...

Agashin Masimov (AZE): 1. Ra4! ~ 2. Qe6+ ...

Samir Almammadov (AZE) 1. Ra4! Bb4 2. Qb3+ ...



Solving Committee report on the 21st International Solving Contest (ISC) 2025

The contest was conducted on 19 January 2025 in 28 countries with 46 tournaments with a total of 745 solvers (15 unofficial solvers in cat-3) – 184 solvers in cat-1, 254 solvers in cat-2 and 292 solvers in cat-3. Compared with 2024 the total turnout rose from 669 to 745 — an increase of 76 solvers (about 11 %). The results were published on 18th of February

Category 1:

Results by Solving Committee	Results by Central Controller
1. Araz Almammadov (AZE)	1. Kacper Piorun (POL)
2. Kacper Piorun (POL)	2. Klemen Šivić (SLO)
3. Samir Almammadov (AZE)	3. Ilija Serafimović (SRB)

Category 2: 1. Dejan Omorjan (SRB), 2. Renars Muzis (LAT), 3. Dietmar Jahn (GER)

Category 3: 1. Nikolai Shevyakov (FID), 2. Ivan Vasiliev (FID), 3. Gleb Sukhinin (FID)

In the Category 1 contest there were also sections for juniors, women and seniors with the following top results:

Section	Results by Solving Committee	Results by Central Controller
Junior	1. Samir Almammadov (AZE)	1. Ilija Serafimović (SRB)
	2. Ilija Serafimović (SRB)	2. Taras Rudenko (UKR)
	3. Taras Rudenko (UKR)	3. Tenguundalai Ganbold (MGL)
Women	1. Teodora Traistaru (ROU)	1. Teodora Traistaru (ROU)
	2. Audrey Kueh (GBR)	2. Audrey Kueh (GBR)
	3. Rafaella Nevistić (CRO)	3. Rafaella Nevistić (CRO)
Senior	1. Lev Glanzspiegel (ISR)	1. Lev Glanzspiegel (ISR)
	2. Agshin Masimov (AZE)	2. Jorma Paavilainen (FIN)
	3. Jorma Paavilainen (FIN)	3. Roland Baier (SUI)

In the Category 2 contest there were also sections for juniors, women and seniors with the following top results:

juniors: 1. Dejan Omorjan (SRB), 2. Renars Muzis (LAT), 3. Christian Glockler (GER)

women: 1. Nika Riabenko (UKR), 2. Swati Mohota (IND), 3. Dimitra Amoiridou (GRE)

seniors: 1. Dietmar Jahn (GER), 2. Zivan Susulic (SRB), 3. Hannu Harkola (FIN)

PDF certificates for Categories 2 & 3 have already been e-mailed to all local controllers.

Category 1 certificates will be issued once WFCC delegates decide whether to ratify the SC list or the CC list.

Protest of the Ilham Aliev

Dear Colleagues,

I recently received a letter from Arvydas Mockus, which was deeply disappointing. As the Azerbaijan Chess Composition Commission, we categorically reject the allegations made against us. These accusations not only target our solvers and my own reputation but also cast an unjust shadow over our entire country.

Azerbaijan has a longstanding tradition in both chess and chess solving. To date, we have organized 43 solving championships, all conducted with the utmost accuracy and fairness. I have served as the Chairman of the Azerbaijan Chess Federation Composition Commission for many years and as the Chief Arbiter of the Azerbaijan Chess Solving Championships for over two decades. Furthermore, I have officiated at the European Championship in Antalya alongside M. Velimirovic and at the World Cup in Moscow with A. Azhusin. In all the competitions I have overseen, there has never been any instance of cheating, nor have I ever allowed such misconduct to take place.

Throughout the years, I have ensured the participation of winners from national chess championships, as well as medalists and competitors from World and European championships in Azerbaijani competitions. Thus, the exceptional results achieved by our solvers are far from coincidental.

I understand that there may be limited knowledge of previous ISC competitions, or perhaps some aspects are being overlooked. ISC competitions have historically encountered various challenges. For instance, Andrey Zhuravlev (Russia), who held the top spot in the world ranking for a considerable period, secured this position through ISC competitions and maintained it for years, despite having no notable achievements in other events or participation in World and European championships. However, no action was ever taken against him.

Are you now attempting to compare Araz Alammadov with Andrey Zhuravlev? Let me remind you that Araz Alammadov is a 16-time champion of Azerbaijan and a renowned chess composer, having won silver medals in European and World championships.

A closer examination of the Category 1 results reveals numerous solvers whose names are unfamiliar yet who have accumulated significant points. Why is their performance not being questioned?

Regarding Category 3, I must emphasize that concerns about the time factor have been raised repeatedly. Our experienced solvers have attempted the problems from Category 3, and the time required to solve them has frequently raised doubts.

During the competition, I instructed all participants to switch off their phones and place them on the table. There were only four participants in the room, making it relatively easy to monitor them. The competition regulations do not prohibit switching off and placing phones on the table. If any misconduct had been intended,

do you not think we would have taken precautions while photographs were being taken?

We categorically reject the degrading "agreement" proposed by the 21st ISC Director. It is entirely unacceptable that the competition director has taken an unjust stance against us, particularly since he does not have the authority to make such a decision. According to the competition regulations, such matters should be addressed by the Competition Commission.

******(ISC 2025 Announcement – After handling possible appeals, the central controller will present the results and their report to the Solving Committee by 20.02.2025. After review, the results will be published on the WFCC website.)******

It is deeply regrettable that we were not informed of the discussions within the Solving Committee. However, it is apparent that the Resolution Commission did not reach the decision desired by the competition director, which may explain his actions, which we consider to be improper.

As a sign of protest, I hereby declare that I will no longer organize competitions in the 1st category. I have often hosted ISC competitions at my own expense, thereby promoting chess solving among young players. We have even awarded monetary prizes and diplomas, albeit modest ones, to encourage participation.

Furthermore, we had planned to participate as a team in the upcoming congress in Romania. However, the treatment we have received has made us reconsider this decision, casting doubt on our participation.

Throughout this process, not a single reliable piece of evidence has been presented to prove the alleged improprieties. The accusations against us are based solely on the subjective opinions of certain individuals. No violations of the competition rules were recorded during the event.

We live in a democratic society where laws and principles of justice have been established over centuries. Your allegations against our Commission and our solvers are unfounded and lack factual support.

According to Article 11 of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, adopted by the United Nations General Assembly, no one may be accused of an offense unless proven guilty. This principle, known as the presumption of innocence, has been blatantly disregarded in this matter. Your approach demonstrates clear bias against our Chess Composition Commission and our solvers.

If this unjust treatment continues, we will be compelled to seek legal action to protect our fundamental rights.

We once again demand full recognition of our solvers' results.

Sincerely, **Ilham Aliev.**

Chairman of the Azerbaijan Chess Federation Composition Commission and
WFCC delegate of Azerbaijan.

Dear Colleagues,

I have read the protests submitted by M. Klasinc and M. Gorski. While M. Gorski's letter was written in a relatively mild tone, I cannot say the same for M. Klasinc's. It is often said that wisdom comes with age, yet I found no trace of it in M. Klasinc's letter. There is only one thing I can say about such a rude statement: Shame on you! I did not expect this from you.

Before addressing the main issue, I am resending my initial letter, as I am not certain that you have had the opportunity to review it.

1. M. Klasinc is surprised that the protest was submitted by me rather than the participants, while M. Gorski focuses on the issue of mobile phones. I have already covered these points in detail in my first letter, so I will not repeat them here.

2. Those who submitted the protest are contradicting the very regulations they themselves established. How do you intend to overturn the decision made by the commission formed by the Solving Committee? From a legal standpoint, this is entirely improper—more precisely, it constitutes a violation of the rules. Any legal expert would be able to explain this to you.

3. If we are to discuss suspicions—what M. Klasinc refers to as “cheating”—then let me remind you of an issue that was once widely discussed among solvers. I recall that on one occasion, M. Gorski won the title of World Champion, and in that competition, the Chief Arbiter happened to be Polish...

I am not making any allegations; I am merely recalling the rumors that circulated at the time. After all, his results in that time were not particularly strong. There are numerous such examples, and even more in the field of composition.

So, what should we do now? Should we annul all these results?

4. As for the ISC matter—this competition no longer exists for me, and I will not organize it again.

Sincerely, **Ilham Aliev.**
Chairman of the Azerbaijan Chess Federation Composition Commission and
WFCC delegate of Azerbaijan.

Appeal of Greece against the 2025 ISC results

23.02.2025

Addressed to the ISC Central Controller, WFCC President, and members of the Solving Committee

Dear Mr Mockus,

With great amount of surprise, we were informed about the unexpected change of the 2025 ISC results. The results of the Azerbaijani solvers at Sumgait, which were previously not included in the overall table, were eventually added on the list and two of them took two out of the first three places. We noticed that the results of the four Azerbaijani solvers were extremely surprising and all of them had astronomical performances (in relation to their ratings).

You have publicly expressed the opinion that these results must not be included and that's why you did not score them officially in the first place. The explanation is quite clear and more than sufficient to us. The Azerbaijani solvers did not have the proper supervision in the room, their performance is inexplicable and there is strong suspicion of external help (mobile phones on the tables). You obviously have at your disposal much more evidence - and the necessary integrity - so we trust your objections.

When you informed the Solving Committee about these anomalies, a Jury was formed to investigate your findings; the Jury eventually made an incomprehensive decision with 2:1 accepting the Sumgait tournament results. This is really unpleasant as the danger for our beloved sport, from similar disrespectful actions in the near future, is very serious. We are expecting that in the next WFCC Congress of July, the Presidium and the delegates will investigate properly the issue and will reverse this decision of the ISC Jury. Not only were the highest scorers affected, but all solvers including all the Greek solvers as well.

With this letter, we protest against the Jury's decision to have the Sumgait results included in the ISC and we kindly ask to remove them. We believe accepting our protest is fair play and also a sign that we can decisively face similar cases in the future.

This is not the first time we are witnessing outrageously abnormal results in the ISC. There were similar cases in 2016, 2018, 2022 (to mention only the most blatant) with solvers from a particular country. Of course, these exceptional performances in the ISC did not repeat when the same solvers had participated in strong competitions like WCSC or ECSC (if they participated at all). We are of the opinion that now is the right time to correct this irregularity forever. It is our duty if we want to save the honour and respect that our chess community deserves.

With best regards, the Greek problemists

Panagiotis Konidaris, Nikos Sidiropoulos, Nikos Mendrinos, Dimitris Skyrianoglou,
Alexandros Dimitriadis, Georgia Grapsa, Kostas Prentos, Theodoros Giakatis, Evangelos Petridis,
Harry Fougiaxis (delegate of Greece and WFCC Honorary President)

Warsaw, 22.02.2025

Dear WFCC,

I am writing to officially protest the acceptance of the results of four solvers from Sumgait in Category 1. My concerns are outlined below:

While I acknowledge that there is no definitive proof of cheating, the situation raises serious questions. A single solver significantly outperforming their previous best rating may be unusual but still plausible. However, when four solvers from the same location—without the presence of any other competitors—achieve similarly extraordinary results, it indicates a clear anomaly. I am not directly accusing them of cheating; rather, I argue that the irregularity is sufficient reason to deem their results unofficial.

Another reason for removing Sumgait solvers' results is the visible use of electronic equipment on desks next to the chess boards. This demonstrates that the tournament was not conducted in accordance with WFCC regulation (see Annex II, Part II, Point 6 of the *Handbook of Chess Composition*). Such lapses are unacceptable for top-level chess solving competitors and contradict the standards upheld by premier chess events organized by FIDE, to which we try to establish bonds (e.g., junior world solving championships).

I would also like to highlight the excellent report prepared by the ISC main controller, Arvidas Mockus. Unfortunately, the solving committee was not familiar with the report and reached the decision prematurely.

For clarity, my protest does not extend to the results of Sumgait's Category 3 solvers, who competed at a different venue.

This decision is of great importance. I am concerned that failing to address such obvious anomalies could jeopardize the future of the ISC.

I propose convening an online meeting of WFCC delegates to discuss the matter and conduct a formal vote. However, if the decision must rest with the solving committee, I recommend appointing a different panel—one whose members are familiar with basic statistical principles and the latest regulations regarding online chess activities. This is particularly crucial for online tournaments, where we should be familiar with experiences from online OTB events. In such tournaments, excessively high move accuracy - especially during critical moments - is grounds for disqualification.

Yours faithfully,
Piotr Górski
Delegate of Poland

Appeal of Serbia against the ISC 2025 results

To the ISC Central Controller and members of the Solving Committee

Dear all,

1. The ISC 2025 Central Controller has done a huge work of selecting and marking entries for all three categories. The only issue was how to treat the four results for Sumgait, Category 1.
2. For the dispute between Central Controller and a Local Controller no Appealing Committee was appointed in advance. An a posteriori selection of the Appealing Committee, made by the Solving Committee, and the final interpretation of the Rules were very unlucky, not matching the serious approach of the Central Controller. When Axel Steinbrink, as the most experienced ISC Central Controller, presented radically different opinion to the other two members of the Appealing Committee, it suggested something was wrong with the automatic use of 2:1 majority instead of a deeper discussion and analyze of all arguments of the Central Controller.
3. The ISC has no centralized control of fair play. In OTB chess such conditions are accepted in unofficial online tournaments only, where organizers have right to ban a participant based on matching his moves with the first software options. The probability for all four solvers in Sumgait to increase their performances as they did was estimated by Mr. Steinbrink to be 0,0001 % ...
4. The photos of mobile phones in Sumgait only confirmed the arguments of the Central Controller.
5. Since long ago the ISC has been facing serious issues, and one of them is to engage a motivated Central Controller. Once the members of Solving Committee put their trust in Arvydas Mockus, his decisions deserve a higher appreciation, and the current dispute should be solved in the next WFCC Congress, in July. This should be the right beginning in solving the inherent ISC problems.

Best wishes

Serbian problemists
Borislav Gadjanski,
Ilija Serafimović,
Marjan Kovačević (delegate of Serbia and WFCC President)

24th February 2025

The protest separately written by Ilija Serafimović:

Hello Mister Mockus,

Thank you for your contribution to organising this tournament and its fairness. Azerbaijan results were suspicious from the start, and especially after the reasoning you provided. I agree it is really bad for ISC: people will lose their wish to participate in this tournament, even though it is very nicely designed. Also most people have a chance to solve for the first time exactly at this tournament.

We also had strange results last year and now this. It's just too bad for ISC. I want to lodge a protest, at least because it is very dangerous to allow such things without discussion. But I'm not sure how much there is to do.

Best regards!

Ilija

Protest against results of 21 ISC.

As solvers who took part in the ISC in The Netherlands we like to file a protest against the inclusion of the solvers from Azerbaijan.

We do not want to add more arguments to the discussion as the clarification from the central controller is more than sufficient for us.

So we would like to ask to make a definite decision during the Congress this year.

Yours sincerely,

Hans Uitenbroek

Eddy Van Beers

Joost Michielsen

Wouter van Rijn

Appeal against changed results of ISC 2025

To:

ISC Central controller, WFCC President and all delegates, members of Solving Committee

ISC was established in 2004 after initiative of late Uri Avner. Even then, there was a debate about possible irregularities and cheating. Therefore the first ISC was realized in January 2005 in the nature of an experiment, with no norms or rating points involved. It was emphasized that this is a tournament based on the trust and honour of all participants.

This year results of all solvers in one venue (Azerbaijan) were suspicious. Their results would not be so striking if the results of the other solvers were not significantly lower, which they could not have expected, and which is why their results stood out all the more. Among those with much lower results were world champions Paavilainen, Baier, Comay, Gorski, Pfankuche, Nunn, and many other grandmasters. Only multiple World and European champion Piorun was much more successful but still worse than the best of Azerbaijanis. Central controller found more irregularities, not only suspicious results, and didn't include their results in the table. He explained his decision in a very convincing way, proving that the results of all four solvers from the same country (Azerbaijan) were impossibly high and therefore only possible as a result of cheating. I shall not repeat his reliable arguments. He himself emphasized that cheating cannot be absolutely proven because the competition system itself does not enable this, unless someone admits to cheating. A local controller from Azerbaijan made a protest and a three men commission was established and decided that disputed results should be included in the final table regardless of all the arguments of the central controller.

My protest against this decision of a commission is based on further arguments:

- After the table of results was published on MatPlus no one appeal was sent to the central controller by any of excluded solvers, as required by Article 8 of the Rules for ISC, which means that those four solvers agreed with the published results with them being excluded, and consequently they admitted their cheating. An appeal was sent by the local controller, who has no interest of his own in challenging the decision of the central controller. In legal language, one would say that he is not a party to the proceedings. Even more, controllers are a part of WFCC therefore they have no right to appeal, only solvers can appeal. For this formal reason alone, the appeal should be rejected.

- The members of the committee were nominated on the principle that none of the members of the committee had competed at the ISC themselves. There was no reason for this. Even at WSCS/ECSC, an appeals committee is usually appointed from among the strong solvers themselves. Thus, the only three remaining members were appointed. What if all other members of Solving committee were competing as well? One of appointed was Mr. Selivanov which is an absolutely controversial decision. He comes from a country that is not allowed to participate at the ISC due to sanctions, which in itself may constitute a conflict of interest, as his opinion may be related to this. It is also known that he is in a personal dispute with the central controller. In addition, he himself was repeatedly suspected of cheating, although never proven. The most obvious example was the WCSC in 2003 when he became

the world champion, but the championship director, the late Bo Lindgren, told that he sent problems beforehand to Mr. Selivanov, the main organizer of the WCCC. Mr. Selivanov denied receiving the problems, but unfortunately the director only made this known after the championship was over, when the results had already been confirmed. In this sense, the appointment of Mr. Selivanov to the appeals committee is completely inappropriate.

- Conflicts of interest and influencing the decisions of committee members:

Apart from mentioned above, Mr. Selivanov shared his opinion in solving forums even before appeal from Azerbaijan's local controller was sent which could affect decisions of other members.

As well as Mr. Ott, who was not a member, did share his opinion with members of committee, and by this possibly influenced to their decisions.

- A very weighty and well-argued opinion of world most experienced director of countless solving tournaments Mr. Steinbrink (based on many years of judging experiences) was the same as one of the central controller but unfortunately he was in the minority. The third member of the committee, Mr. Stephenson, distanced himself from the statistical analyses that proved the impossible results of the Azerbaijani solvers, on the pretext that he did not have enough technical knowledge to understand them, even though the analyses were absolutely clear. However, in his opinion, he agreed that the disputed results were very suspicious. Regardless, he decided to follow the practice of the courts, where it is enough to acquit the accused if there is no clear evidence of guilt. This is the most controversial thing about his decision since we are not in a court. In a court a violence of formal procedures (as describes above in my first argument) would stop a case immediately, which should be done also in this case.

- Since ISC is based on the trust and honour the decisions could and should be made differently as in the court. Significant suspicion of the regularity of the results is sufficient to invalidate such results, because the competition system itself does not allow for the existence of clear evidence of fraud.

Conclusion and proposal:

- The appeal of the Azerbaijani local controller should be rejected and the decision of the commission should be annulled.

- The final results should not include solvers from Azerbaijan. They are confirmed at the WFCC congress, as they are every year.

Marko Klasinc
WFCC delegate of Slovenia
22nd February 2025

[PR6] ISC Proposals

1. Make the ISC great again!

Dear colleagues

The International Solving Contest was created about 20 years ago so that solvers from many countries can compete with each other in a friendly, not overly competitive atmosphere. Thanks to the many local events, we can participate without having to make an expensive journey, such as to a WCCC. And as there is no selection pressure, less strong solvers can also participate, even in countries with many strong solvers, where the selection for the WCSC or ECSC is difficult. It was soon recognised that the impact of the ISC could be considerably increased by creating categories 2 (for weaker solvers) and, later, 3 (for youngsters). I think that on behalf of many countries, I can say that the Swiss problemists always look at the numbers of participants achieved in these categories in other countries with a little envy and with a lot of respect for the hard work of the respective local organisers.

In recent years, however, disturbing things related to the ISC have happened:

- top solvers from some countries have travelled long distances to participate in the ISC
- the planned timetable has been arbitrarily disregarded for futile reasons
- problems presented were already public before the tournament had even started according to schedule
- some solving results have to be described, with some euphemism, as "peculiar"
- doubts regarding such results have been described as attacks against the respective country
- a lawyer was consulted to find the appropriate response to certain things
- reasonable decisions by the Central Controller were overturned

All of these points are, in my opinion, 100% absurd, go head-on against the spirit of the ISC and jeopardise its future. I propose to the WFCC to change the rules of the ISC so that the original spirit of the ISC can be restored.

Possible changes for reaching this goal include:

1 the Central Controller can decide to remove local competitions from the ranking list that (s)he deems irregular, in particular

- local competitions that do not adhere to the schedule for invalid reasons or without prior consultation with the Central Controller
- local competitions with many "peculiar" results

2 Decisions of the Central Controller are final

3 The ISC is no longer effective for solver ratings

Given the events of recent years, I find it hard to imagine that we will find a person willing to take on the role of Central Controller without an appropriate response. Points 1 and 2 express the trust that we need to have when we elect a person for this role. If this trust proves to have been too optimistic after a competition, we can always choose a different Central Controller for the next year. Once we have improved the rules, we can hope to be able to find such a person.

Point 3 counteracts the excessive ambition of certain participants.

--

Thomas Maeder

WFCC delegate for Switzerland

2. Proposal for Changes ISC §8 rule

Current text (§8):

"8. Appeals by solvers have to be sent to the central controllers who will decide in the first instance. In case of disagreement a 3 man committee with members of the WFCC Solving Committee will be appointed for the final decision."

Proposed replacement (§8):

"8. Appeals by solvers have to be sent to the central controllers, whose decision is final."

Justification for the Proposed Change

The current version of §8 is both redundant and contradictory for the following reasons::

1. **Contradiction with Rule §2:**

This rule explicitly states that *"the Central Controller is responsible for the overall organization of the contest."* If the Solving Committee can overrule the CC, then the CC is not truly responsible, and §2 loses its meaning.

2. **Contradiction with the Annex ("Tasks of the Central Controllers"):**

The Annex clearly includes *"decision on possible appeals by solvers"* as one of the CC's responsibilities. The phrase "decision" implies final authority — not just a first opinion subject to overruling.

3. **Legal clarity and structural coherence:**

Combining §2, the Annex, and §8 leads to confusion over who has final authority. Delegates, directors, and solvers cannot rely on a consistent appeals process when rules contradict each other.

Additional Considerations

- Only the CC has access to full information (timing of dispatch, local supervision, problem integrity, etc.). Therefore, decisions made by the CC are more informed than those of a distant committee.
- Appeals must be resolved quickly. Introducing a second layer of decision-making risks delays and weakens the CC's ability to enforce order and fairness.
- A single clear line of responsibility reinforces trust in the contest. When all parties know that the CC's decision is final, procedures become simpler, faster, and more accountable.

Submitted by: Arvydas Mockus, Central Controller ISC 2025

3. Statistical Criteria for Verifying ISC Results

The International Solving Contest (ISC) is held in a hybrid format: each country solves on its own territory under the supervision of local judges. The Central Controller (CC) coordinates the event, but the remote nature of the competition creates risks such as problem leakage, unequal supervision and solving conditions, and a noticeable increase in anomalous results.

The acceptance of such results leads to dissatisfaction among solvers, a general atmosphere of suspicion, and loss of trust in the organisers' ability to ensure the contest's fairness and transparency.

Some unresolved anomalies have been quietly discussed within the ISC community for years. The lack of clear action and failure to restore a sense of fairness have gradually damaged the contest's reputation.

I propose to give the CC a clearly defined, fully automated mechanism for detecting anomalies, based on the well-established **Z-score** and **Difference (Δ)** model.

FIDE already recognises Z-scores as a formal anti-cheating trigger (Anti-Cheating Regulations § 6.5; Fair-Play Regulations § 1.6).

<https://handbook.fide.com/files/handbook/ACCRregulations.pdf>,
https://handbook.fide.com/files/handbook/FPL_Regulations_2024.pdf)

a) Proposed Add to the ISC Rules(new §11):

(to be inserted after the current § 10)

11. Statistical Verification of Results

11.1 After each contest the STM automatically calculates Z-score and Difference (Δ) for every participant.

11.2 Anomaly – any result with $\Delta \geq 450$ Elo and Z-score ≥ 3.5

11.3 If an anomalous solver finished 1st–20th, the CC may refuse to accept the result.

11.4 The CC's decision is final; individual appeals are not envisaged.

I analysed all live WCSC / ECSC championships and Opens (2007-2024), a dozen WSC tournaments and all ISC events available in STM (2017-2025) - > 50 tournaments in total.

Not a single over-the-board tournament has produced anomalies exceeding these thresholds.

Only **three ISC results** breach $\Delta > 450$ & $Z > 3.5$.

Benefits

Transparency – Thresholds are public, fixed, and objectively calculated, eliminating speculation and subjective judgement. The system calculates everything automatically. This also protects solvers from subjective decisions by the CC.

Speed – One person (the Central Controller) makes the decision quickly. There are no long protest procedures

Prevention – If people know that results are carefully checked, they are less likely to look for ways to improve their score unfairly.

If delegates reject this statistical safeguard and anomalous results cannot be refused, the Central Controller cannot properly fulfil his responsibility to supervise a fair contest. In such a case, the CC- feeling responsible to protect honest solvers-should have the right to declare the tournament unrated if there is doubt about its integrity.

b) Proposed Add to the ISC Rules(alternative to a)):

(to be inserted after the current § 10)

11. In case of serious doubts about the tournament's integrity, the Central Controller may decide that the event remains unrated, in order to maintain fairness and credibility.

This authority aligns with the CC's mandate to safeguard the integrity and reputation of the contest.

It helps maintain the trustworthiness of the WFCC ratings without the need to question or reject individual results directly.

Submitted by: Arvydas Mockus (CC of ISC 2025)

[PR7] WCSC/ECSC – Wild Cards

We suggest that the WCSC (ECSC) organizing country has to opportunity to award three wild cards and the wining country from the last WCSC (ECSC) has to opportunity to award one wild card.

The Articles of the WCSC (ECSC) rules, which must be amended.

4.5 The top 50 solvers / top 25 women / top 25 juniors / top 25 seniors of the current or the preceding rating list of active solvers are entitled to participate in the individual WCSC (ECSC) including its respective special categories.

The WCSC (ECSC) organizing country could nominate three wild cards for solvers out of national quota. The country which won the last WCSC (ECSC) team championship could nominate one wild card for one of its solvers.

Solving Committee

[PR8] WCSC & ECSC – Seniors Team Championship

There are 28% seniors solvers on the rating list 1.1.2025 and 32% on the rating list 1.4.2025. They are evenly distributed throughout the rating list. Of course, it would be great if we could organize a competition of women's or junior's teams, but it is not realistic yet. But organizing a World (European) senior's team championship is easy without significant increasing the number of WCSC (ECSC) participants. The World and European o.t.b. chess teams championship have been held for decades. Our situation is much simpler. We don't have to organize a new competition because of this, we just need to evaluate a new category within the WCSC (ECSC).

The Articles of the WCSC (ECSC) rules, which must be amended.

2.3 The WCSC (ECSC) is an official team World (European) championship if teams of at least 7 countries participate. It is an official individual World (European) championship if at least 30 solvers with a full rating from at least 10 countries participate. For juniors (up to 23 years in the year of the event), women and seniors (from 60 years in the year of the event) required numbers are 10 solvers with at least a half rating from at least 5 different countries.

The WCSC (ECSC) is an official senior's team championship if senior's team of at least 7 countires participate.

4.1 The teams consist of three (four at ECSC) solvers and the team-leader who may be one of the solvers. Team consisting of only two (two or three at ECSC) solvers are also permitted. The members of the team simultaneously compete in the individual championship.

The senior's teams consist of three (four at ECSC) solvers and the team-leader who may be one of the solvers. Team consisting of only two (two or three at ECSC) solvers are also permitted. The solver could be a member of both teams (team in a main competition and senior's team) simultaneously.

4.3 A country may nominate three more solvers from extra categories one of each from juniors, women, seniors out of this quota. The maximum quota for solvers the same category (juniors, women, seniors) are 4 for WCSC and 5 for ECSC except for those solvers who start on the basis of Article 4.5. For the junior's / women's / senior's championship juniors / women / seniors from the regular nation quota compete as well.

(Blue – expelled, Red – added)

Solving Committee

WCSC/ECSC Rules & Solving rules, proposals

[PR9] Proposal for Changes/Update to the WCSC/ECSC Rules

1.Toilet-break restriction for rounds shorter than 60 minutes

Rationale

46th World Chess Solving Championship, Batumi 2023: a non-favourite solver left the hall for the toilet in every round and later finished inside the top ten and raise unnecessary suspicions.

Walking during play distracts other competitors and, in rounds under 60 minutes, is neither necessary nor sporting.

Because effective supervision outside the hall is impossible, especially when team-mates or helpers can freely move close to the playing zone and potentially pass information to the solver in the corridor or restroom, it is prudent to forbid re-entry during rounds whose solving time does not exceed 60 minutes.

Proven in practice: this restriction was applied at the ECSC 2025 in Athens, worked smoothly, and demonstrated its effectiveness; it is therefore timely to formalise it in the official rules.

Proposed wording in the time-table of § 1.2

(full text with the new sentence highlighted in bold)

1.2. It consists of 6 rounds over two days, with 3 rounds each day according to the following table:

<i>Round 1</i>	<i>3 twomovers</i>	<i>20 minutes solving time</i>	Once leave the game zone, its not possible return.
<i>Round 2</i>	<i>3 threemovers</i>	<i>60 minutes solving time</i>	Once leave the game zone, its not possible return.
<i>Round 3</i>	<i>3 endgames</i>	<i>100 minutes solving time</i>	1 exit to the toilet available
<i>Round 4</i>	<i>3 helpmates (h#2, h#3, h# >3)</i>	<i>50 minutes solving time</i>	Once leave the game zone, its not possible return.
<i>Round 5</i>	<i>3 moremovers (at least one 4# and one >4#)</i>	<i>80 minutes solving time</i>	1 exit to the toilet available
<i>Round 6</i>	<i>3 selfmates (s#2, s#3, s# >3)</i>	<i>50 minutes solving time</i>	Once leave the game zone, its not possible return.

[PR10] 2. Proposal to amend § 9.1 of the WFCC Solving Rules

Rationale

During the 33rd Chess Solving Championship of Slovakia 2025 the jury awarded only 2.5 points out of 5 for study № 9 to solvers who had provided a single, fully correct main line.

Current wording of § 9.1 says that “in all other problems and studies only one solution is to be given.” . The published stipulation for study № 9 did not state that two main lines were required.

Nevertheless, the jury treated the study as if two main lines were obligatory, causing an inconsistent and, in the protester’s view, unfair scoring decision.

The incident created uncertainty for solvers and directors alike. To prevent similar misunderstandings and to guide future juries unambiguously, the rules should spell out that:

Requiring more than one main line is permissible, but must be declared in the stipulation, and If no such declaration is made, one correct main line is sufficient for the full five points.

The following addition to § 9.1 achieves this clarity without altering the scoring philosophy of the WFCC.

Proposal to amend § 9.1 of the WFCC Solving Rules

(full text with the new sentence highlighted in bold)

*9.1. In helpmate(s) for which more than one single solution is indicated the solver has to give all requested single solutions for a complete solution. In all other problems and studies only one solution is to be given. **If two (or more) main lines are required, this must be stated explicitly in the stipulation. Unless the stipulation explicitly states otherwise, one correct main line in a study earns the full five points.***

Submitted by: Arvydas Mockus (LTU), 2025.06.17

[PR11] Proposal to Reform the World Solving Cup (WSC) Scoring System

I propose that the Solving Committee reconsiders and submits for approval a **reform of the WSC points system** by:

1. **Reducing the bonus points** awarded at the World and European Championships (WCSC and ECSC Opens), and
2. **Increasing the fixed points** granted for national championships in lower-category countries.

Minimum number of scoring tournaments remains six.

Proposed Points Allocation

Categories	Average rating of ten best solvers	1 pl.	2 pl.	3 pl.	4 pl.	5 pl.	6 pl.	7 pl.	8 pl.	9 pl.	10 pl.	11 pl.	12 pl.	13 pl.	14 pl.	15 pl.
1	>=2600	28	26	24	22	20	18	16	14	12	10	8	6	4	2	1
2	>=2550	26	24	22	20	18	16	14	12	10	8	6	4	2	1	
3	>=2500	24	22	20	18	16	14	12	10	8	6	4	2	1		
4	>=2450	22	20	18	16	14	12	10	8	6	4	2	1			
5	>=2400	20	18	16	14	12	10	8	6	4	2	1				
6	>=2350	18	16	14	12	10	8	6	4	2	1					
7	>=2300	16	14	12	10	8	6	4	2	1						
8	>=2250	14	12	10	8	6	4	2	1							
9	>=2200	12	10	8	6	4	2	1								
10 to 14	<2200	10	8	6	4	2	1									

Purpose of the WSC

The primary goal of the World Solving Cup is to **encourage participation in national solving tournaments in different countries**, thereby promoting international mobility and broader engagement among solvers.

Why the current system is failing

1. Disproportionate point distribution between categories kills competition intrigue

- The World Championship awards 46 points, whereas a champion of a low-category country earns only 2 points.
- This is a clear imbalance that demotivates participation in smaller countries.
- Winners in strong tournaments win by large margins, leaving no real intrigue or close competition.

2. The current system discriminates against weaker countries

- It is far more beneficial to place 1st or 2nd in a strong tournament than to win four national championships in low-category countries.
- The points system undervalues consistent participation and the significance of victories.

3. The system no longer aligns with the idea of a World Cup

- The WSC should be won through victories and participation across multiple countries and stages, not simply by duplicating the winners of WCSC/ECSC Opens.
- A player who wins 5–6 national championships should have a real chance to win the WSC.

4. Low-category countries lose the ability to attract top players

- For example, legendary GM Limontas no longer attends—even when sponsored—because 1–2 points have no impact on the standings and offer no motivation. The absence of famous names harms the sport's prestige, growth, and visibility.
- A minimum of 10 points would change solver behavior and restore motivation.

5. Organizers in weaker countries lose motivation to host WSC tournaments

- Hosting events that have no real impact on the WSC standings becomes a pointless effort.
- In the long run, this will reduce the number of WSC tournaments and the willingness of countries to host them.

6. A 10-point minimum for any tournament victory would encourage travel to various countries

– All events would become meaningful, encouraging solvers to explore new destinations and strategically plan their season.

7. More players would appear in the WSC standings

– With a 10-point minimum system, at least six solvers in every tournament would receive points.
– This would increase the number of ranked players, motivation, competitiveness, and overall visibility.

8. Statistical models show inequality

– Even a player who wins six different WSC stages (in smaller countries) might not achieve a prize position under the current rules.

Proposed Benefits of Reform

- **Restores balance:** Encourages top solvers to compete in more than just WCSC/ECSC Opens.
- **Makes all countries matter:** Smaller federations and their tournaments would have real impact on the WSC, encouraging broader international participation.
- **Stimulates participation:** More countries will attract international solvers, improving local quality and visibility.
- **Reinforces the true idea of a World Cup:**
A solver who wins multiple national championships should be ahead of a player who never wins but places 4th–6th in one or two strong events. The title of World Cup winner should reflect broad international success — not isolated high placements.

Submitted by: Arvydas Mockus (LTU), 2025.05.27

[PR12] Proposal to Add a Protest Regulation to the WSC Rules

The World Solving Cup tournaments are now among the most prestigious WFCC-rated events. They attract many titled solvers, count for the official rating list and award valuable Cup points. However, the problem is that in different countries we encounter arbiters of very different skill levels, and mistakes occur. Players sometimes do not receive points even after solving the tasks, and later they do not know where to turn or what protest procedure to follow.

Over the last few months I noticed two such errors.

- In the Finnish championship Grand Grandmaster MartynasLimontas had to leave for home earlier; when he got back he found out that he had not received 1 point, and he did not know how or to whom he should protest.
- Robert Włodarczyk, in the Slovak championship, solved a study according to the given conditions and should have received 5 points but got only 2.5. An official protest was sent to the Solving Committee; it remained unresolved and without any official reply.

According to rule 11 the WSC Director has the right and the duty not to include a tournament in the WSC standings if irregularities occurred, but he hesitates to take drastic action or lacks clear instructions. **(11. The WSC Director decides should a tournament be included in the WSC in case of exceeding deadline for the registration and for the announcement of the tournaments (items 3 and 4). He decides the same in ten days after the tournament ends in a case of exceeding deadline for sending results of the tournament (item 10) or any other irregularity.)**

Failing to correct blatant mistakes and to restore the players' points is a very dangerous precedent, which would later have to be applied uniformly in every case — even if, for example, an arbiter

maliciously refused to award 60 points out of 60. Such a result would have to be accepted, just as we accepted cases where players lost 1 or 2.5 points.

During the 2023/2024 season I travelled to 13 stages and saw various differences in the interpretation of the same rules: in one place points were given, in another not, in identical situations. Therefore we need a single WSC arbiter who would decide all disputed situations and interpret them uniformly. This should be done by the WSC Director himself, or by a judge appointed at the start of the season from the FIDE Solving Judges list (<https://www.wfcc.ch/Titles/sj/>).

Why this is a problem?

Fair-play risk: wrong scores may stay in the rating list and Cup standings. Loss of trust: solvers feel unprotected, tournament directors have no clear guidelines, and the Solving Committee entirely inactive because there is no official protest procedure.

Why a formal WSC protest regulation is needed?

1. Clarity: every solver must know where and when to appeal.
2. Speed: Fixed deadlines for the tournament director and WSC Director.
3. Authority: a binding chain of action (director → WSC Director) ensures corrections are enforced.
4. Deterrence: if a director refuses to act, the event is automatically declared unrated and outside the Cup—preventing abuses.
5. Consistency: by having a single protest procedure for all WSC tournaments, we avoid situations where each director or country handles protests in its own improvised way without clear rules.

Proposed new § 12 – Protests

12. Protests

12.1 *A solver may lodge a written protest if he/she believes WSC tournament results were scored incorrectly or the rules were violated.*

12.2 *The protest must be submitted to the tournament director **within two (2) days** after the end of the tournament.*

12.3 *The tournament director shall reply in writing **within one (1) day** of receiving the protest.*

12.4 *If the solver is not satisfied, the protest may be appealed to the WSC Director **within four (4) days** after the end of the tournament.*

12.5 *The WSC Director shall examine the protest—or delegate it to a pre-season-appointed WFCC arbiter from the official FIDE Solving Judges list (<https://www.wfcc.ch/titles/sj/>)—and shall issue a decision **within five (5) days**. If the protest is upheld, the WSC Director instructs the tournament director to correct the results.*

12.6 *If the tournament director refuses to make the correction, the WSC Director **must** declare the tournament unrated and not recognised as part of the World Solving Cup.*

(The time limits are aligned with the existing deadlines: the tournament director sends results to the WSC Director within three days, and the WSC Director finalises the event within ten days. Adjustments are possible, but should remain inside that window to avoid amending other clauses.)

By adopting this short, precise addition, we close a critical gap, protect solvers, and give directors and the WSC Director clear guidance for all future events. Rating & Cup integrity – guarantees that only correctly-scored results enter the WFCC rating list and World Solving Cup standings, thereby preserving the proportional distribution of Cup points and long-term rating fairness.

Submitted by: Arvydas Mockus (LTU), 2025.06.27

(PR13) Proposal for Solving Committee

Issue

World (European) Chess Solving Championship rules definition of senior is given in paragraph 2.3 as follows: “from 60 years in the year of the event”.

This definition is no longer aligned with FIDE current regulations, which state there are two distinct categories:

- Open 50+ for players who are 50 or older in the year of the tournament
- Open 65+ for players who are 65 or older in the year of the tournament

According to [Wikipedia](#), originally the minimum age was 60 for men, and 50 for women.

Since 2014, the Senior Championship is split into two different age categories, 50+ and 65+, with separate open and women-only tournaments. Participants must reach the age of 50 or 65 years by December 31 of the year of the event. There is a category for players 75+ which provides special prizes.

Proposal

The following alignment measures should be carefully considered by the Solving Committee to be enforced starting from **1st January 2027**:

1. Perform a similar split in the rating lists, quarterly produced by Solving Tournament Manager.
2. Allow each country to register **two** senior solvers, one for each category (50+ and 65+) in both ECSC and WCSC.

Financial Impact

This proposal might have a financial impact of **€2250** per year:

- ECSC: €1050 (1st €450, 2nd €350, 3rd €250)
- WCSC: €1200 (1st €500, 2nd €400, 3rd €300)

For this reason, the proposal is to apply this change only after the budget will be agreed with ECSC/WCSC sponsor, HH Sheikh Mohammed bin Hamad Al Sharqi, Crown Prince of Fujairah, for the following edition of Fujairah Grand Prix Series (2027-2028).

Milano, May 30th 2025

FROM: Marco Guida - Italy National Delegate
guidam129@gmail.com

TO: Kjell Widlert - CODEX Committee Spokesman
Marjan Kovacevic - WFCC President

(PR14) PROPOSAL FOR AN AMENDMENT TO THE CODEX

Dear Kjell and Marjan,

I heard complaints by fellow composers about excessive delays in awarding Formal composing tournaments (and I have personally experienced time-to-award exceeding 2 years!).

In some cases the announcement do not specify the planned timeframe of the judging process; in other cases the announced timeline is not met and sometimes Directors do not even reply to emails asking for visibility.

For Informal tournaments, the CODEX (Annex II - Guidelines for the Organization of Tournaments; Part I - Composition Tournaments; Point 6 – Miscellaneous; Comma e) states:

“An author who, within a period of 18 months from sending a chess composition to the director of an informal tournament, has neither received evidence of publication nor any other information concerning his composition may assume free disposal of his composition and may send it to another composing tournament).”

In the case of Informal tournaments, many magazines take 2 years or more years to publish the Award (often a mix of delays by judges and editorial constraints). But at least the problem is published, and can be used for, e.g., WCCI, FIDE Album, etc.

In Formal tournaments problems are generally NOT published (only awarded entries are published) and, if not awarded, they are back to the authors that may publish them elsewhere as originals. Since a rule as defined for Informal tournaments do not exist today, I kindly propose to the CODEX Committee to consider adding under Point 6 – Miscellaneous (or where it is deemed more appropriate) some text to state the following principles:

- In the announcement of a Formal tournament there must be a clear indication of: deadline for the publication of the Award; how it will be made available to participants.
- In case the Award is not issued within such deadline, the Director must inform in writing all participants of the delay and of a new deadline.
- Failing the Director to do so, or should the delay for the publication of the Award exceed a reasonable time (maybe 6 months after the original deadline?) then the problem(s) return to the composer and he may send it to another tournament.

Thank you in advance for your kind attention and my best regards.

Marco Guida

[PR15] Presidium's proposals for changes in the budget for 2025

The planned budget for 2025 turned to contradict some new circumstances:

1. With the start of the WFCC Fujairah Grand Prix 2025-26 this year, the planned sum of 500 Euros for WCSC 2025 prizes (for individual and teams winners) seem not really needed when compared with Grand Prix budget of 12,000 Euros distributed on 27 different prizes in the WCSC 2025.
2. The planned budget of 150 Euros for the winners of ISC 2025 was cancelled by the WFCC decision to forbid money prizes in ISC.
3. Engaging ISC Central Controller proved to be a hard task, and Solving Committee made proposal to allocate a budget of 500 Euros for the ISC central controller 2025 Arvydas Mockus.
4. The planned money prizes of 300 Euros for the winners of the World Solving Cup 2024/2025 may appear underrated in the new circumstances, having in mind the tradition and for such a traditional and very well organized cycle of solving events.

With all these circumstances in mind, Presidium suggests following changes in the planned budget:

1. To reallocate the planned budget of 500 Euros for the WCSC 2025 winners to the stipend for the ISC 2025 central controller Arvydas Mockus.
2. To reallocate the planned budget of 150 Euros for the ISC 2025 to increase the budget for the WSC winners from 300 Euros to 450 Euros.

These changes keep the budget allocated to solving projects, while not increasing expenses.

3. Presidium also approved the stipend of 900 Euros to Dinu-Ioan Nicula for the three different posts in the FIDE & WFCC project: selecting problems for WYCSC in Brazil (300 Euros), selecting problems for WCCSC in Italy (300 Euros) and for directing the same competition. Successful realization of this project has brought WFCC a significant income.

WFCC Presidium



Proposal for 19th ECSC Vilnius, Lithuania (3-5 July, 2026)

On behalf of the Lithuanian Chess Composers' Society, we propose to organise the 19th European Chess Solving Championship.

DATES

3rd - 5th July, 2026.

VENUE

VILNIUS PARK PLAZA★★★★ (the same place as 43rd WCSC, 2019),
M. K. Ciurlionio str. 84, Vilnius.

ENTRY FEE

€70

ACCOMMODATION

There will be no designated hotel for the event.

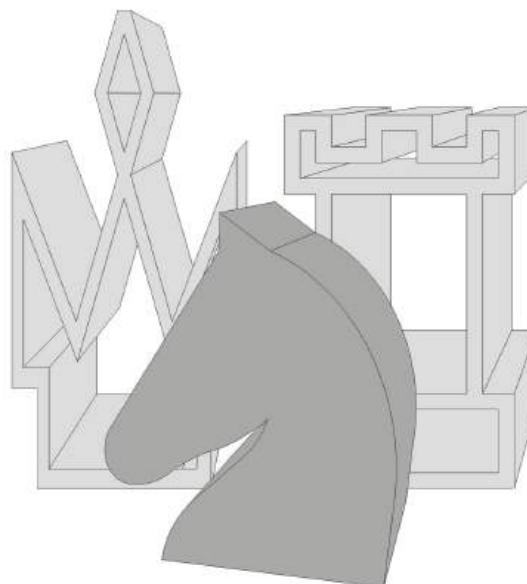
But we will do our best to propose a better price at the hotel PARK PLAZA.

CONTACT

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ANNUAL CALENDAR REPORT

As Coordinator of the Calendar I'm very happy with the amount of new tourneys which have been added to the website since WCCC Jurmala 2024.

This number is 120 tourneys. This number includes informal and formal tourneys. Number is high, which sadly also partly tells the story of passed problemists, because there has been quite many Memorial Tourneys.

Still I can see some problemists being active to send the announcements to my email, so that I don't have to hunt them from magazines or websites. This is bigimprovement to the lasty ear, but now the directors are forgetting that we need also the pre-award and final award to make the list complete.

So I ask that all editors in the magazines should remember to add my email when they send the awards to the participants. It is good for ourselves to have one place from where we can find all tourneys and awards with one look.

I hope that you all in Romania have pleasant holiday there with chess.

GENS UNA SUMUS

Kenneth Solja

Co-ordinator of the Composing Calendar

(PR17)

Proposal for additional virtual meetings of the WFCC assembly
in between the annual in-person WCCC meetings

by Shankar Ram

At present, the annual WCCC meeting is not able to resolve all pending proposals and take decisions. Some of the proposals discussed in the WCCCs get postponed to the next meeting, next year. Also, after an issue arises that needs attention, it has to wait till the next WCCC meeting.

Due to this there is a delay in the review and implementation of useful and valuable proposals. The WFCC statutes provide for only a single meeting per year. In the current times, with the availability of so many aids and tools, such a situation is an anachronism. Other organisations plan and conduct meetings as and when required to complete their work.

Towards remedying this, I wish to present a proposal to mandatorily hold a minimum of 2-3 virtual meetings between the annual in-person WCCC meetings. This would help to discuss, approve and implement pending proposals and also free the time of the presidium and delegates to take up fresh proposals. Of course, a modification of the statutes (Section 8: Meeting) would be required.

N.Shankar Ram

30-June-2025



19th EUROPEAN CHES SOLVING CHAMPIONSHIP SKOPJE 2026

Hotel Continental, 08 - 10 May 2026

PROPOSAL

Contents

1. Invitation²
2. Contact / Information²
3. Tournament System, Entry Fee²
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1. Invitation

This is the official invitation to all European Chess Solving Federations to participate in the 19th EUROPEAN CHESS SOLVING CHAMPIONSHIP. The event would be held in hotel Continental Skopje, North Macedonia. Proposed dates are 08th May (arrival and opening) to 10th May 2026 (departure).

North Macedonia is well known and recognized organizer of prestige chess events like:

- European Blitz, Rapid and Fisher Chess Championship 2024 and 2018 in Skopje in same hotel as proposed for this event,
- World Senior team chess championship 2023 in Struga
- European Chess Club Cup 2021 in Struga, and 2015 in Skopje
- Individual European Chess Championship 2019 in Skopje

And the most important in 2018, we were hosting the World Congress of Chess Composition and World Chess Solving Championships in Ohrid.

2. Contact / Information

Technical Organizer is Chess Club Gambit Asseco See with support of Chess Federation of North Macedonia,

Tournament Director: IO Zoran Stojčevski

Contact email: zorans@asee.io

3. Tournament System, Entry Fee

The European Chess Solving Championship will be in the well-known format. A lot of additional program will be proposed for guests and participants.

The Championship is included in the WFCC Fujairah Grand Prix 2025-26. Grand Prix prizes and Grand Prix points will be available to all the solvers, including the unofficial ECSC participants.

Entry fee will be €60 per participant.

4. Schedule

The schedule for the event is presented in the table as follows:

Date	Hours	Activity
Friday 7-8 th May	20:00	Arrival and Registration
Friday 8 th May	16:30	Open Solving (90'+90')
Friday 8 th May	21:00	Captains meeting
Saturday 9 th May	11:00	ECSC 1 st day
Saturday 9 th May	18:00	Machine gun
Saturday 9 th December	21:30	Traditional Macedonian Dinner with live music ^{*)}
Sunday 10 th May	10:00	ECSC 2 nd day
Sunday 8 th December	17:00	Closing ceremony and prize giving

**) Dinner in the famous traditional restaurant with live music for only 30 EUR per person (more details on official site)*

5. Prize Fund

The monetary prizes for the solvers of ECSC 2026 are set at a total of €10,000 as a part of the WFCC Fujairah Grand Prix 2025-26, and distributed the same as in the ECSC 2025. These prizes are granted by HH Sheikh Mohammed bin Hamad Al Sharqi, Crown Prince of Fujairah.

Organizer will secure prizes as vouchers for chess literature from prestige web site MODERN CHESS

6. Accommodation

The prices in the official hotels (Bed and Breakfast) are as follows:

4* Hotel Continental – Skopje (playing venue), (<https://www.hotelcontinental.com.mk/>)

Single room BB per person 55 EUR

Double room BB per person 40 EUR

Triple room BB per person 35 EUR

3* VIP – Skopje, (<https://wiphotel.com.mk/>)

Single Room BB per person 35 EUR

Double Room BB per person 25 EUR

These are suggested hotels, not mandatory ones.

8. Transfer

The organizers will provide transfer from Skopje Airport to the official hotels on 8(7)th May and from the official hotels to Airports on 10 (11)th May, for guests in official hotels

On a special request, it is possible to organize a transfer from Sofia or Prishtina airport. (Estimated price for taxi is round 150 EUR)

9. Entry visa to North Macedonia

Teams or players needing visas are requested to contact the Organizing Committee at least 2 months before the event and apply on time to the respective North Macedonian embassy. The Organizing Committee will provide invitation and required confirmation of booking in the official hotel after the necessary payments. The Organizing Committee has no responsibility for late or not complete applications.



Proposal for

68TH WORLD CONGRESS OF CHESS COMPOSITION

Benidorm – Spain

August 1–8, 2026

The **Club de Ajedrez Dama Negra**, with the technical support of the *Spanish Society of Chess Problemists* (SEPA), would like to propose hosting the 68th World Congress of Chess Composition (WCCC) and the 49th World Chess Solving Championship (WCSC).

WCSC 2026 will be part of the WFCC Fujairah Grand Prix, featuring a prize fund of €12,000.

LOCATION: Set on Spain's stunning Mediterranean coast, Benidorm offers the perfect blend of inspiring surroundings, vibrant culture, and endless sunshine. Enjoy pristine beaches, lively nightlife, and world-class dining as you connect and unwind in this unforgettable destination.

TRANSPORTATION: Benidorm is easily accessible from Alicante-Elche Airport, just a 45-minute drive away, with regular shuttle and taxi services available. Alicante-Elche Airport offers direct flights to major European hubs such as Madrid, Barcelona, London, Paris, and Frankfurt. Well-connected by high-speed trains and buses, Benidorm offers smooth links to major Spanish cities and beyond, making your journey simple and convenient.

VENUE: Gran Hotel Bali (www.granhotelbali.com/en/)

Experience the conference in style at the iconic 4-star Gran Hotel Bali, Europe's tallest hotel offering spectacular panoramic views of Benidorm and the Mediterranean Sea. Located just steps from the beach, this modern hotel combines luxury, comfort, and world-class amenities. There are spacious meeting rooms, a great solving hall, exquisite dining, and a relaxing pool area, among other amenities.

ACCOMODATION: Gran Hotel Bali*

Double Room:	€125 per person/night with breakfast
	€140 per person/night with half board
	€154 per person/night with full board
Single Room:	€144 per night with breakfast



* Please note: These prices are tentative, as the hotel cannot confirm them so far in advance. However, significant changes are not expected.

The registration fee is €100 for active participants and €50 for accompanying persons, including the final banquet.

Arrangements for airport transfers, excursions, and alternative hotels near the venue at special rates are currently being negotiated. Details will be provided before a final decision is made.

CONTACT:

Patricia Claros Aguilar
www.eventosdeajedrez.com
pclarosaguilar@gmail.com



**EVENTOS
DE AJEDREZ**



SEPA

Sociedad Española de
Problemistas de Ajedrez

FUNDADA EN 1935
Fundador:
Antoni F. Argüelles

WORLD FEDERATION FOR CHESS COMPOSITION

Balance Sheet

2024/25 2023/24 2022/23

Assets	Notes	30.06.2025	30.06.2024	30.06.2023
Cash		€ 24,164	€ 22,596	€ 2,979
- Bank	1	€ 19,833	€ 22,596	€ 2,979
- Petty cash		€ 4,331		
Debtors		€ 125	€ 88	€ 0
- Prepaid expense	2	€ 125	€ 88	€ 0
Total		€ 24,289	€ 22,684	€ 2,979

2024/25 2023/24 2022/23

Liabilities and Equity	Notes	30.06.2025	30.06.2024	30.06.2023
Retained earnings 01.07.2025		€ 7,438	€ 2,979	€ 4,480
Profit (+) / Loss(-)		€ 4,279	€ 4,459	-€ 1,500
Total Equity		€ 11,717	€ 7,438	€ 2,979
Creditors		€ 12,572	€ 15,246	€ 0
- FIDE Spec.project prepaid income	3.1	€ 3,000	€ 10,000	
- Fujairah Gov. projects prepaid income	3.2	€ 5,322	€ 4,000	
- Other creditors	3.3	€ 4,250	€ 1,246	
Total		€ 24,289	€ 22,684	€ 2,979

Notes:

1. Bank

The bank account for WFCC in UAE was opened on 01.11.2023, currency: AED.

The 2nd bank account, EUR currency, opened on 28.08.2024.

€ 22,596 Saldo 30.06.2024

The total cash received 01.07.2024-30.06.2025 in EUR:

€	5,000.00	Fujairah Government support 2024/25
€	3,420.00	1st WCCSC Youth solving, participation fees
€	8,420.00	

Total cash spent:

€	4,500.00	Withdrawn for cash payments 2024/25
€	4,000.00	Transferred to the organizers of WCCC 2025 for cash payments
€	1,505.50	Producing FIDE booklett 100 endgames
€	1,177.70	Exchange rate losses and commissions
€	11,183.20	
	€ 19,833	Saldo 30.06.2025

2. Debtors: prepaid expense

- Prepaid expense: wfcc.ch hosting 01.07.25-31.05.25 and wfcc.ch domain 01.07.25-31.10.25

3.1. Creditors: FIDE Special project prepaid income

€10000 were given by FIDE for special projects in 2024, 100 years of FIDE (replacement of FIDE Composing Cup in 2024):

€	4,000.00	Youth Solving competition 2024
	€ (900.00)	Dinu-Ioan Nicula, eur300x3 for 2x selector & 1x director Youth Solving
	€ (3,100.00)	Income from Youth Solving 2024
€	3,000.00	Booklet / selection of 100 best endgames
	€ (1,505.50)	For the booklet, publication&shipment, to Peter Gvozdzak (transfer, 17.12.2024)

	€	(400.00)	For the booklet, editing, to Peter Gvozdzak (26.04.25)
	€	(400.00)	For the booklet, typesetting, to Lubomir Širan (26.04.25)
	€	(694.50)	Income from the booklet
€	3,000.00		Support for the next FIDE Album
	€	-	Nothing spent in 2024-25, all amount remains for FA 2022-24
<hr/>			
€	10,000.00	€	(7,000.00) Total decrease 2024/25 (costs & realized income)
<hr/>			
€	3,000.00		30.06.25: Remained as FIDE support for FA 2022-24

3.2. Creditors: Fujairah Government conditional support, prepaid income

From the Financial Report 2022-23:

Conditional yearly support by Fujairah government means the support of concrete WFCC projects. The projects of each year should be agreed in the budget, with the obligation of WFCC to have Fujairah Government logo for each supported project (banner, website, booklet etc.)

€	4,000.00	30.06.2024: Prepaid income for projects supported by Fujairah Government
€	(1,000.00)	The expense in 2024-25 - support of WCCC Jurmala
€	5,000.00	The support received in 2024
€	(1,500.00)	YCCC vouchers for 3 participants YCCC2024, WCCC 2025
€	(1,177.70)	Banking commissions/currency exchange losses
<hr/>		
€	5,322.30	30.06.2025, Prepaid income for projects supported by Fujairah Government

The income will be shown in the next financial period, together with the costs, when the projects in progress (the Budget).

3.3. Creditors: Other Creditors

€	1,000.00	David Gurgenidze for WCCC Batumi, by Fujairah Gov.
€	50.00	Money prize for the 2nd place in ISC 2024, Danila Pavlov
€	800.00	FIDE booklet expenses paid by FCCC
€	900.00	Youth solving, selector & director, Dinu-Ioan Nicula
€	1,500.00	YCCC vouchers for 4 participants YCCC2024
<hr/>		
€	4,250.00	

WORLD FEDERATION FOR CHESS COMPOSITION

Income Statement 30.06.2025		ACTUAL 30.06.2025	Budget	ACTUAL 30.06.2024
	notes	2024-25	2024-25	2023-24
Special Projects				
(1) FIDE Youth solving, income	1	€ 4,000	€ 4,000	€ -
1.WCCSC Youth solving, particip.fees		€ 3,420		
FIDE Youth Solving, cost		€ (900)	€ (4,000)	
Profit from FIDE Youth Solving		€ 6,520	€ -	€ -
(2) FIDE Booklet 100 best endgames, income	2	€ 3,000	€ 3,000	€ -
FIDE Booklet 100 best endgames, cost		€ (2,306)	€ (3,000)	
Profit from FIDE Booklet 100 best endgames		€ 694	€ -	€ -
(3) Fujairah Government support (* non-prof.)	3	€ 4,006	€ 1,000	€ 1,000
Support to WCCC 2024 / 2023		€ (1,000)	€ (1,000)	€ (1,000)
Support to YCCC 2024		€ (1,500)	€ -	€ -
Banking		€ (1,506)		
Income from Special projects		€ 14,426	€ 8,000	€ 1,000
Profit from Special projects		€ 7,214	€ -	€ -
Other Income		€ -	€ 3,000	€ 6,000
Income FIDE (2023 & 2024)	4	€ -	€ 3,000	€ 6,000
Expenses		€ (2,935)	€ (3,150)	€ (1,541)
- ISC 2024 / 2023		€ (150)	€ (150)	€ (150)
- ECSC 2023 (**)	5	€ (500)	€ (500)	
- WCSC 2024 / 2023		€ (500)	€ (500)	€ (500)
- WSC 2023-24 / 2022-23		€ (300)	€ (300)	€ (300)
- Jurmala WCCC 2024		€ (1,000)	€ (1,000)	

- IT (websites)		€ (485)	€ (500)	€ (418)
- Swiss manager program - lifetime license				€ (150)
- Other expenses / & banking			€ (200)	€ (23)
Income (+) / Loss (-)		€ 4,279	€ (150)	€ 4,459

Notes:

1. -- FIDE Youth solving	30.06.24	€ 4,000	Youth Solving competition 2024, from FIDE
		€ (900)	Dinu-Ioan Nicula, eur300x3 for 2x selector & 1x director Youth Solving
		€ 3,100	Income from Youth Solving 2024, FIDE project
		€ 3,420	Income from Youth Solving, participation fees
-- 1st WCCSC Youth solving, particip.fees	30.06.25	€ 6,520	Total net income from Youth Solving project
2. -- FIDE Booklett 100 best endgames	30.06.24	€ 3,000	Booklet / selection of 100 best endgames, from FIDE
		€ (1,506)	For the booklet, publication&shipment, to Peter Gvozdjak (bank, 17.12.24)
		€ (400)	For the booklet, editing, to Peter Gvozdjak (26.04.25)
		€ (400)	For the booklet, typesetting, to Lubomir Širan (26.04.25)
	30.06.2025	€ 694	Net income from the booklett

FIDE projects have less costs than expected in the Budget thanks to the contributors carrying out their tasks on a volunteering basis

3. - Fujairah Government Support (conditional)

The support from FG covers the expenses of concrete WFCC projects. The amount of income is equal to the amount of costs.

The remaining amount of yearly support (eur 5000) goes to the future projects (prepaid income in the Balance sheet)

Conditional yearly support by Fujairah government means the support of concrete WFCC projects. The projects of each year should be agreed in the budget, with the obligation of WFCC to have Fujairah Government logo for each supported project (banner, website, booklet etc.)

See the note 3.2 to the Balance sheet.

4. FIDE support: in 2023/24 the support of 2 years was received, 2022/23 and 2023/34.

Instead of the planned in the budget support of 3000 EUR in 2024/25 the special project included 3000 eur support to the future FIDE Album.

See note 3.1 to the Balance sheet.

5. As in 2024 WFCC got the support from FIDE for 2023, the organizers of ECSC 2023 applied and got for the support of €500.

WORLD FEDERATION FOR CHESS COMPOSITION

The Budget 30.06.2025		Budget	Budget
	notes	2025-26	2024-25
Special Projects			
(1) FIDE Youth solving, income	1	€ -	€ 4,000
1.WCCSC Youth solving, particip.fees		€ -	
FIDE Youth Solving, cost		€ -	€ (4,000)
Profit from FIDE Youth Solving		€ -	€ -
(2) FIDE Booklet 100 best endgames, income	2	€ -	€ 3,000
FIDE Booklet 100 best endgames, cost		€ -	€ (3,000)
Profit from FIDE Booklet 100 best endgames		€ -	€ -
(3) Fujairah Government support (* non-prof.)	3	€ 3,500	€ 1,000
Support to WCCC 2025 / 2024		€ (1,000)	€ (1,000)
Support to YCCC 2025 / 2024		€ (2,500)	€ -
Income from Special projects		€ 3,500	€ 8,000
Profit from Special projects		€ -	€ -
Other Income		€ 3,000	€ 3,000
FIDE yearly support	4	€ 3,000	€ 3,000
Expenses		€ (1,650)	€ (3,150)
- ISC 2025 (controller / ISC 2024,2023)	5	€ (500)	€ (150)
- WCSC 2025		€ -	€ (500)
- WSC 2024-25		€ (450)	€ (300)
- ECSC 2025 / 2023		€ -	€ (500)
- WCCC 2025 / 2024		€ -	€ (1,000)
- IT (websites)		€ (500)	€ (500)
- Other expenses & banking		€ (200)	€ (200)
Income (+) / Loss (-)		€ 1,350	€ (150)

1., 2., 4 - FIDE yearly support / special project

The decision about the amount of FIDE support for Y2025/26 is not made yet.

Preliminary, the support of EUR 3000 is counted for the budget, but might be different (if any).

3. - Fujairah Government Support (conditional)

The support from FG covers the expenses of concrete WFCC projects. The amount of income is equal to the amount of costs.

The remaining amount of yearly support (eur 5000) goes to the future projects (prepaid income in the Balance sheet)

5. - Changes in the expenses of ISC 2025, WCSC 2025 and WSC 2024-25, as per proposal by Presidium:

before		the offer	
- ISC 2025 winners	€ 150.00	€ 500.00	- ISC 2025 Central Controller
- WCSC 2025	€ 500.00	€ 0.00	- WCSC 2025
- WSC 2024-25	€ 300.00	€ 450.00	- WSC 2024-25
	€ 950.00	€ 950.00	