



WORLD FEDERATION FOR CHESS COMPOSITION  
62<sup>nd</sup> World Congress (WCCC), Vilnius, Lithuania  
17 - 24 August 2019

AGENDA

For the first session:

1. Opening address
2. Tributes
3. Verification of attendance and voting rights
4. Approval of the Minutes of the 61<sup>st</sup> Meeting (Ohrid, 2018)
5. Membership of the standing committees, outline of business for the week from spokesmen, timetable for committee meetings
  - WCCT
  - WCCI
  - Solving
  - FIDE Album
  - Qualifications
  - Computer matters
  - Studies
  - Youth
  - Codex
6. Proposals and business carried forward:
  1. Application of UAE for admission to the WFCC; Update of Statutes
  2. Current progress of the 11<sup>th</sup> WCCT, time schedule
  3. Results of the 2016-18 WCCI; Appeal of Anatoly Slesarenko
  4. Publication of the 2013-15 FIDE album; Current progress of the 2016-18 FIDE album
  5. Suggestion of Crisan/Loustau/Parrinello for a change in the FIDE Album judging phase
  6. Various suggestions of the solving committee; queries of Marjan Kovačević
  7. Update on Youth committee activities
7. Miscellaneous:
  1. Review of the year (with contributions from delegates)
  2. Report on the International Solving Contests 2019/2020 (Steinbrink and Palmans)
  3. Report on the ECSC 2019 (Denkovski); future ECSCs
  4. World Chess Solving Championship 2019: introductory announcements (Królikowski)
  5. Future meetings and WCSC

For subsequent sessions:

1. Election of Auditor and Reserve Auditor for the following year
2. Financial report, balance sheet, auditor's report, budget for the following year
3. Report by the spokesman of each committee on business covered
4. Discussion of proposals and business listed above
5. Report by the Director of the WCSC 2019 (Królikowski)
6. Report on the World Solving Cup 2018-19 (Ott); next WSC
7. Suggestions of the Qualifications committee re. new titles
8. Decision regarding future meetings
9. Any other business
10. Closing summary and vote of thanks



# نادي الفجيرة للشطرنج والثقافة FUJAIRAH CHESS & CULTURE CLUB



Date : 24/07/2019

Ref.no : 1118/5

To: MR. Harry Fougaxis

President of World Federation for Chess Composition (WFCC)

Dear respected sir:

**Sub: Application for admission of United Arab Emirates into membership of the WFCC**

Since 2017, United Arab Emirates became very much involved in the field of chess composition. There were two big solving events, with more than 100 participants each, organized by the Fujairah Chess & Culture Club, under patronage of H.H. Sheikh Mohammed bin Hamad Al Sharqi – Crown Prince of Fujairah.

This year, we joined the International Solving Contest of the WFCC, with the prize fund bigger than in any other single-day chess competition in our country. Among 113 participants there were 14 Grandmasters, more than half of the participants were juniors, and there were 12 girls. To prepare our solvers, we engaged GM Marjan Kovačević to organize a series of lectures in the cities across the UAE.

The foreign guests, including the reigning World Champion Piotr Murdzia and the reigning European Champion Danila Pavlov, were delighted with the conditions in Fujairah competition.

You can find the full report about this even on the FIDE website:

<https://www.fide.com/component/content/article/4-tournaments/11426-2nd-fujairah-endurance-chess-solving-championship-2019.html>

Now we would like UAE to be officially accepted as a member of the WFCC. To assure that UAE would actively participate in the goal and the principal activities of the WFCC, we have already made a contract for the solving competitions in our country for the several more years.

As approved by UAE Ministry of sport, the UAE delegate in the WFCC would be Dr. Abdullah Ali AAL Barkat, the chairman of the Fujairah Chess and Culture Club.

Yours Sincerely,

Dr. Abdullah Ali AAL Barkat

Chairman

Fujairah Chess & Culture Club







# نادي الفجيرة للشطرنج والثقافة FUJAIRAH CHESS & CULTURE CLUB



Date : 25/07/2019

Ref.no : 1119/5

To: **MR. Harry Fougiaxis**

President of World Federation for Chess Composition (WFCC)

Dear Mr. President,

We understood that UAE delegate should orally present application for admission of United Arab Emirates into official membership in the World Federation for Chess Composition, during 62<sup>nd</sup> WCCC in Vilnius, 17-24.08.2019.

Since Dr. Abdulla Ali AAL Barkat, the official delegate of UAE couldn't be present in Vilnius on the given dates, we kindly ask you to accept application of UAE without his presence. Instead, our official application would be read and presented by GM Marjan Kovačević, the delegate of Serbia in the WFCC.

Mr. Kovačević has been involved in the activities of UAE in problem chess and could rightly represent our intentions and potentials to develop chess composition in the future. He could also answer any possible questions.

Yours Sincerely,

*Mohammad Abdulghani*

Executive Director

**FUJAIRAH Chess & Culture Club**



UNITED ARAB EMIRATES

GENERAL AUTHORITY OF SPORTS

No.: 2455

Date: 10/December/2018

HE Dr. **ABDULLA ALI HASSAN AAL BARAKAT ALAMEERI**, Chairman of Board of Fujairah Chess & Culture Club,

Nice Greetings,

**Subject: Joining the World Federation for Chess Composition (WFCC) / Execution: normal**

The General Authority of Sports gives Your Excellency its best compliments and appreciations against your non-stop communication and efforts made in serving this country.

With reference to your letter no. 983/6 dated 25/09/2018 concerning your club's desire join to **the membership of the WFCC**,

After reviewing all the documents your club rendered, your club shall obtain the approval of no objection from the UAE Chess Federation's Board to join the **WFCC** in accordance with the applicable global rule in this regard.

Please apply what is required

Thanks a lot for your continuous cooperation

Best Regards

Saeed Abudl Ghafar Hussain

Secretary-General

Stamp & Signature exist

A copy to the Assistant Secretary General of Sports Affairs

A copy to Sports Affairs' Department



0888



UNITED ARAB EMIRATES

GENERAL AUTHORITY OF SPORTS

No.: 1259

Date: 11/July/2019

HE/ Dr. ABDULLA ALI HASSAN AAL BARAKAT ALAMEERI, Chairman of Board of Fujairah Chess & Culture Club,

Nice Greetings

**Subject: Joining the World Federation for Chess Composition (WFCC) / Execution: normal**

The General Authority of Sports gives Your Excellency its best compliments and appreciations against your non-stop communication and efforts made in serving this country.

With reference to your letter no. 705/61 concerning your club's desire join to the **membership of the WFCC**,

Pursuant to the letter no. 705/61 of the UAE Chess Federation, The federation's board has no objection to your club joining the **WFCC** to be the UAE's representative.

Please note that The General Authority of Sports has no objection to your club join the World Chess Federation.

Thanks a lot for your continuous cooperation

Best Regards

Saeed Abudl Ghafar Hussain

Secretary-General

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Attachments:

Chess Federation's Letter

A copy to Sports Affairs' Department



0043

UAE CHESS FEDERATION

No.: 704/61

Date: 27/December/2018

HE / ABDULLA ALI HASSAN AAL BARAKAT ALAMEERI reverend,

Chairman of Board of Fujairah Chess & Culture Club,

**Subject: Fujairah Chess & Culture Club Joining the World Federation for Chess Composition (WFCC) .**

I am so pleased to give you my and MS/ members of The UAE Chess Federation's best compliments , and with reference to the above-stated subject , we would like to inform Your Excellency the Federation's Board **has no objection to your honorable club join the WFCC** to be the UAE's representative

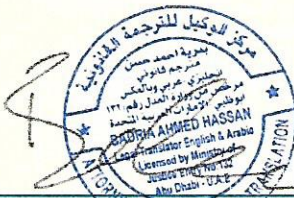
Thanks a lot for your continuous cooperation

Best Regards

Hussain Khalfan Alshamsi

Secretary-General

Stamp & Signature exist



0886



UAE CHESS FEDERATION

No.: 705/61

Date: 27/Deceber/2018

HE / Saeed Abudl Ghafar Hussain reverend,

Secretary-General / General Authority of Sport

Nice Greetings,

**Subject: Fujairah Chess & Culture Club Joining the World Federation for Chess Composition (WFCC) .**

I am so pleased to give you my and MS/ members of The UAE Chess Federation's best compliments , and with reference to the above-stated subject , we would like to inform Your Excellency the Federation's Board has **no objection to Fujairah Chess & Culture Club, join the WFCC** to be the UAE's representative

Thanks a lot for your continuous cooperation

Best Regards

Hussain Khalfan Alshamsi

Secretary-General

Stamp & Signature exist



0887

**To Harry Fougiaxis WFCC President  
and to FIDE-Album Committee**

We suggest a change in the FIDE-Album judging phase which shows several advantages in comparison to the current system.

Currently, the judges start their work after the end of the relevant Album period: we propose instead that **the judging process should start as soon as possible**, e.g. immediately after the first year of the three-year period (see the following suggested schedule, whose timelines are just indicative and the FIDE Album committee may adjust accordingly).

**Example of schedule for FIDE-Album 2019-21**

✓ Closing date for submission of entries for year 2019:	April 1st 2020
✓ Submission of the 2019 entries to the judges:	June 1st 2020
✓ Closing date for submission of entries for year 2020:	April 1st 2021
✓ Final report of the judges for 2019 entries:	May 1st 2021
✓ Submission of the 2020 entries to the judges:	June 1st 2021
✓ Report by the Director and results for year 2019:	July 1st 2021
✓ Closing date for submission of entries for year 2021:	April 1st 2022
✓ Final report of the judges for 2020 entries:	May 1st 2022
✓ Submission of the 2021 entries to the judges:	June 1st 2022
✓ Report by the Director and results for year 2020:	July 1st 2022
✓ Final report of the judges for 2021 entries:	May 1st 2023
✓ Report by the Director and results for year 2021:	June 1st 2023

**Benefits:**

- Points and titles could be granted at a yearly pace (currently, the composers get the points and titles only after the full judging cycle of 3 years.)
- Smoothing the workload of the judges along the 3 years: it allows the judges to organize their work along 3 years, so they have about 33 months (or more) for the same task (\*); that may also help to select problems more comfortably without any unpleasant time pressure
- It should be easier to find judges thanks to smoothing the workload since they would be less discouraged in comparison to the current workload
- Hopefully shorter delay of publication of the Album
- The question of the limit of the number of entries per composer could be studied again or re-evaluated (since this limit has been introduced to reduce workload of the judges).

(\*) With the current system, assuming there are 2000 compositions submitted to a section (as for the fairies of the Album 2013-2015), the weekly workload for the judge is 26 problems/week. With the proposed system, the weekly workload will become 14 problems/week.



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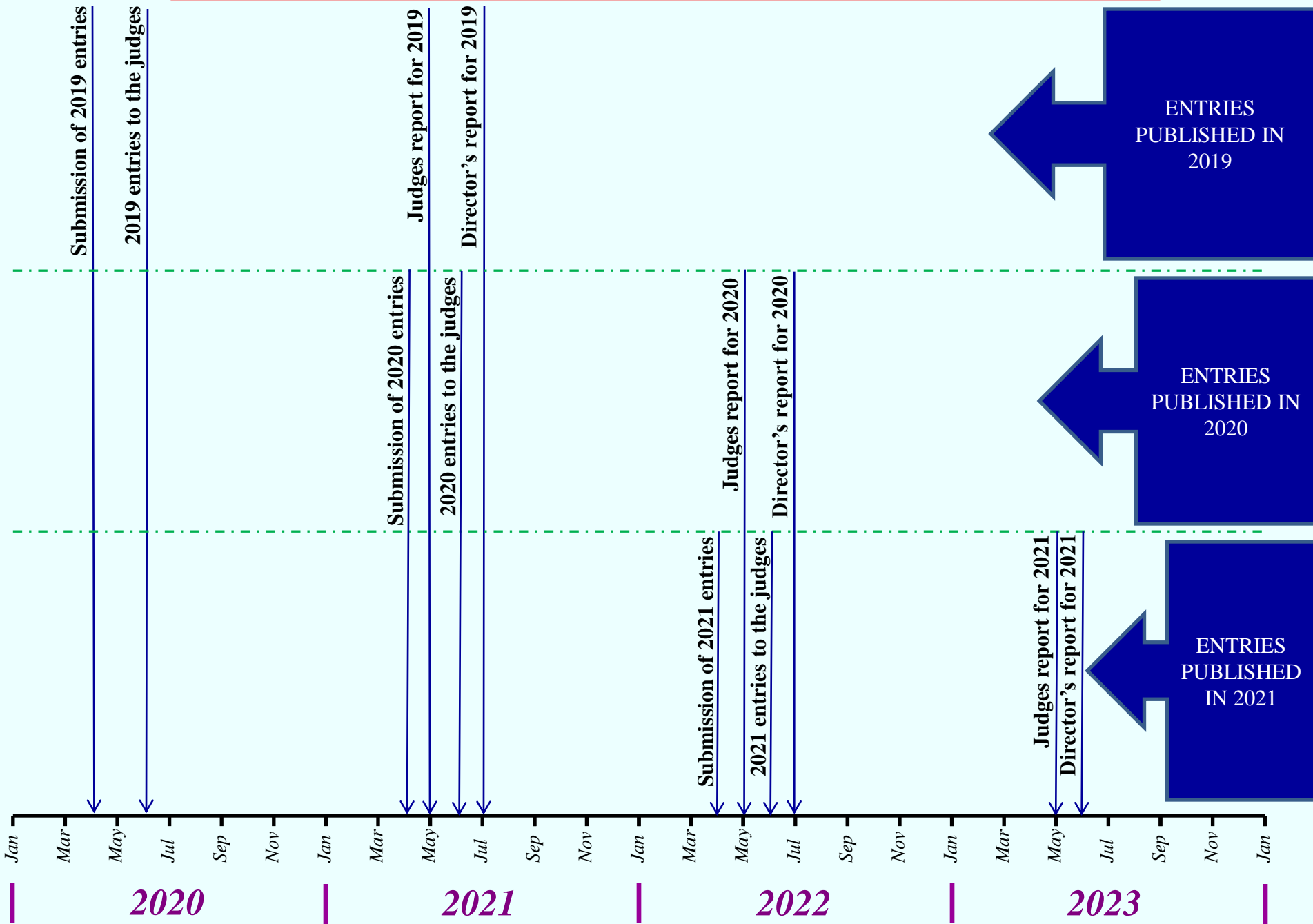


Mario Parrinello  
[mario\\_parrinello@virgilio.it](mailto:mario_parrinello@virgilio.it)

*If you have any question, comment or objection before or during the meeting of the Committee, feel free to ask, we would provide an answer with pleasure.  
Thank you for your attention.*



# EXAMPLE OF SCHEDULE FOR FIDE ALBUM 2019-2021



# **WFCC Vilnius 2019 - Solving Committee - Summary of proposals**

## **1) Proposals about the rules of WCSC/ECSC (see pdf 01)**

- 2.2: non ECU-members can participate (and their rating will count) at the ECSC, but they (or their team) do/does not qualify for the European title.
- 8a: clarification about the point distribution: what to do when the solver gives the wrong threat.
- recommendation 1.2: clarification about length of H#: H#1,5=H#2; H#2,5=H#3; etc. This is the usual procedure in composing/judging H#.
- recommendation H#: the total number of solutions in the H#-round in a WCSC type tourney. This was 7 (seven), but few directors followed this recommendation. We propose 9 (nine).

## **2) Proposals about the rules for rated tournaments (see pdf 02)**

- there is a little change in the numbering of the rules
- a clarification about the date and a specification of the addressees of the announcement. The latter is new as today many tournaments are only locally announced within the country and not to any responsible persons of the WFCC. Therefore we often only know about a solving tournament after it has taken place.
- if a fairy problem is included, the conditions must be mentioned in the announcement of the tournament.

## **3) Proposals for the World Cup (see pdf 03)**

Roland Ott is ready to act again as Director of the World Cup 2019-2020. He proposes to add a 14th category.

## **4) Proposals for ISC (see pdf 04)**

Axel Steinbrink and Luc Palmans are ready to act again as central controllers for the ISC 2020. The proposed date is Sunday, 26 January 2020.

Next year there is no need anymore to register on the MatPlus-website. The rules about this are deleted.

There is a proposal to change the conditions of category 2: solvers with less than 2000 elo can participate, and if all the necessary conditions are fulfilled, it will count for rating.

## **5) Proposal from Abdelaziz Onkoud**

Proposal for the next or future cycle of the World Solving Cup: Any tournament accepted as part of the World Solving Cup is committed to awarding cash prizes for the top three in the rankings: 1st Place: <300 euros; 2nd place: <200 euros; 3rd Place: <100 euros.



## **6) Proposal from Andrei Selivanov**

I propose to limit the fairies problem to only one problem (in France always 2) and the publication of the announcement to specify all the conditions of the fairies (direct, selfmate or helpmate), the number of moves and fairies condition.

## **7) Guidelines for directors of solving tournaments (see pdf 05)**

The last years the people who are involved with the administration of the solving tournaments (Solving Tournament Manager, World Cup, rating, databases, ...) noticed that often the directors of solving tournaments didn't follow the rules. Some infringements were small; other were very important. Because the general feeling is that all rated solving tournaments should be run under the same conditions, and exceptions or private initiatives are unacceptable, the solving committee decided to take some steps.

Luc Palmans, Roland Ott and Axel Steinbrink have produced a "Guidebook" (see pdf) with instructions for the directors of rated solving tournaments. There are no new rules in this document (except those which will be discussed in Vilnius) but hopefully it can be useful for the directors in the future. Several items in this "Guidebook" are open for discussion in the solving committee in Vilnius. If necessary, some rules will be changed and will be presented to the General Meeting for a voting.

After the congress of Vilnius, the final version of this "Guidebook" will be published on the WFCC-website. If possible, a Russian translation will be provided. When the directors register their tournament, they will receive this "Guidebook".

This "Guidebook" is also for the solvers, and in the future they can refer to it when they notice some irregularities in solving tournaments.

## **8) Questions for other committees**

The solving committee has some questions for other committees or the General Meeting:

*1. For the youth committee (and maybe also the General Meeting):*

What is the "legal status" of the solving competitions that are organized at oth European/World (youth) championships?

*2. For the codex:*

The solving committee asks for clear rules about the status of original problems which are used in solving tournaments. This important item (not only solving; also lectures, internet, Facebook, ....) was not adequately solved last year.

From the minutes of Ohrid 2018

"With the recent requirement that all problems used in World Solving Cup tournaments should be displayed on the WSC web pages, questions have arisen about the status of original problems used in these tourneys. According to the Codex (Article20(2)(b)) such problems would indeed be considered 'published' and that the date of the solving tourney would determine their 'priority date' (Article22(2) (a)). However the committee was of the opinion that these problems were still eligible to appear in both formal and informal composing tourneys."

### *3. For the General Meeting:*

What is the position of WFCC concerning money prizes or any other financial reward for solving/composing/judging official WFCC tournaments?

### *4. For the General Meeting (and not only concerning the Solving Committee):*

Since 2018 the laws in Europe on privacy are severely changed. Any consequences for WFCC? Should we take some steps?

## **9) Some final remarks**

- Before Vilnius Luc Palmans will publish an update of Solving Tournament Database. Neal Turner made a file with the recent problems. Brian Cook made a free app based on the Solving Tournament Database for solving #2. Roland Ott had some suggestions to “transfer” the database to Yet Another Chess Problem Database.
- This year there were some improvements of Solving Tournament Manager.
- For a moment we thought that FIDE would like to organize a solving tournament at the otb Olympiad in Russia next year. But this proved to be a private initiative.
- There was a question from Ukraine for a candidate for solving judge. The spokesman didn’t receive any official documents.
- A proposal to organize ISC on a Saturday was retrieved.



# WORLD (EUROPEAN) CHESS SOLVING CHAMPIONSHIP (WCSC/ECSC)

## Rules

1.1. The WCSC (ECSC) is a competition for national teams and individual solvers.

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

Round 1	3 twomovers	20 minutes solving time
Round 2	3 threemovers	60 minutes solving time
Round 3	3 endgames	100 minutes solving time
Round 4	3 helpmates (h#2, h#3, h# >3)	50 minutes solving time
Round 5	3 moremovers (at least one 4# and one >4#)	80 minutes solving time
Round 6	3 selfmates (s#2, s#3, s# >3)	50 minutes solving time

Round 4 and Round 6 may be exchanged. The breaks between rounds are at least 15 minutes.

2.1. The WCSC (ECSC) is organised by a country which is a member of the FIDE and has been appointed by the WFCC.

2.2. WCSC (ECSC) is open to all members of the FIDE ~~(ECU)~~. But solvers outside of the ECU are not considered for the team competition and also not for the individual European championship results, only for the overall individual results.

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.

3.1. The organising country nominates the Director of the WCSC (ECSC), if possible, before the announcement of the tournament. It is recommended that the Director should have a title FIDE Solving Judge or he should have experience as a director / judge of at least three rated solving tournaments.

3.2. The organising country has to nominate an Assistant Director to represent the Director in case he is unable to attend the WCSC (ECSC).

3.3. The Director is responsible for the selection of problems to be solved. He makes the diagram copies for the tournament. It is his responsibility to ensure that the solvers do not know the selection of problems.

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

4.2. All countries are entitled to enter one team, the organising country two teams. A country participating with a team(s) is allowed to nominate one further solver for the individual championship.

4.3. A country may nominate two more solvers from extra categories (juniors, women, seniors) out of this quota. For the junior's / women's / senior's championship juniors / women / seniors from the regular national quota compete as well.

4.4. A country not participating with a team may send one (one or two at ECSC) solver(s) for the individual championship.

4.5. The top 50 solvers / top 15 women / top 15 juniors of the current or the preceding rating list are entitled to participate in the individual WCSC (ECSC) including its respective special categories.

5.1. A country and individuals mentioned in point 4.5 must notify the organiser of their intention to participate not later than three months before the tournament; unless in the organiser's announcement a later date is given.

5.2. The rules for the eligibility of participating solvers (whether team members or individual nominees) shall be the same as for FIDE over-the-board events.

5.3. Each country must notify the names of all solvers participating on its behalf in writing to the Director or the person nominated for this purpose by the Director or WFCC not less than 24 hours before the tournament starts. If required, the notification must include all documents according to the FIDE rules for establishing the eligibility of the participants.

5.4. The WFCC or the person so nominated is responsible for determining the eligibility of participants.

5.5. Teams and/or solvers may be admitted at a later time at the discretion of the Director.

6.1. The problems to be solved should be originals, or, alternatively, little known problems published more than 5 calendar years before the tournament.

6.2. The selected problems should show a clear theme and a good level of quality and difficulty. It is recommended that in every round, the three problems should represent different styles.

6.3. Fairy conditions and retro problems are not allowed. The positions should be legal. All problems should have only one solution, except in the helpmate round when more single solutions are specified. The problems should be computer tested as far as possible.

7.1. The problems to be solved must be presented on printed diagrams.

7.2. A solver may use the chess board(s) and men made available by the organiser, or his own set(s). The use of all electronic or technological aids which can help in solving is forbidden as



well as any other kind of unfair behaviour. The Director's rights and duties are to prevent any irregularities and to penalize them if necessary.

7.3. A solver must write the solutions only on the sheet provided by the Director.

8. The solutions are to be written in algebraic notation in the following way:

a) in direct mate problems: all moves in all variations of full length which defend against the threat, including the threat if it is of full length, except the last move of Black and the mating move (i.e. in twomovers only the key; in threemovers all three-move variations, including the full length threat, up to the second white move, etc.). **If there is no threat at all or an existing threat of full length is not written, all variations of full length are to be given.**

b) in selfmate problems: all moves except the mating move in all variations of full length which defend against the threat, including the threat if it is of full length. If there is no threat at all or an existing threat of full length is not written, all variations of full length are to be given.

c) in helpmate problems: all moves.

d) in studies: all moves up to an obvious win or draw.

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.

9.2. If a solver believes he has found a cook, he may give it instead of the solution. In this case, he has to give the complete moves of the cook according to point 8. The correct and complete solution or cook of a problem scores 5 points.

9.3. An incomplete solution scores fewer points. Incorrect or incomplete variations or single solutions score 0 (zero) points. If more than the required number of solutions for a particular problem is written, it is enough that one of the solutions is incorrect for the solver to score 0 (zero) points for this problem. If more than one continuation following a defence (or more than one threat) is written, it is enough that one of them is incorrect for the solver to score 0 (zero) points for this variation (threat).

9.4. The Director must determine the distribution of points for a solution (i.e. for different variations, moves or single solutions) before the tournament starts. For a helpmate(s) with more than one solution the distribution of points should be indicated on the solving sheet.

9.5. If a problem has no solution, 0 (zero) points are awarded for this problem and all solvers get the full time score in this round.

9.6. Retro problems and problems with fairy conditions (see 6.3.) are treated like problems with no solution. A problem with an illegal position is treated like one with a legal position.

9.7. If a move is written incorrectly, unclear or ambiguously, this variation or single solution is regarded as incorrect. If, however, the Director (or the jury, pt 13.5) is sure that the correct move was intended, this variation or single solution must be regarded as correct.

10.1. During the solving a solver may leave the solving room only with a permission of the Director and accompanied by a controller.

10.2. When a solver hands over the solving sheet a controller immediately writes the elapsed time on the solver's solving sheet. Elapsed time is rounded up in minutes (i.e. when the last minute starts solvers get full time). After handing the solving sheet, the solver has no right to make any change to the solutions. He should leave the room and may not return until the round is ended.

10.3. The Director announces 10 minutes left and the last minute in each round. After the announcement of the last minute all solvers remain sitting to the end of the round. When the end is declared they stop writing and wait until the controllers collect all the solving sheets.

11.1. For the team result in each round, the scores of the two (three at ECSC) best solvers of a team for this round are taken in consideration. The points of all rounds will be totalled, as well as the respective solving time (in minutes). At ECSC for a team with only two members the result of the third member is 0 (zero) points and full time in all rounds.

11.2. For the individual score, the points a solver achieves in the different rounds will be totalled, as well as the solving time.

11.3. A solver with 0 (zero) points in a round scores the full time for this round.

11.4. The number of points determines the ranking. In the event of a tie on points, the solver or team with the shorter total solving time will be ranked higher.

12.1. Participants must be informed of the official solutions with a distribution of points of a round immediately after the end of that round. The results of the rounds must be announced in written form as soon as possible.

12.2. If a problem has proved to be incorrect (cooks, duals, no solution) this must be announced as soon as possible including the respective distribution of points.

13.1. The Director has to publish his reports daily as soon as possible. Report after 10 pm is treated like at 8 am (on the following day). He should announce in advance when the report is to be published.

13.2. Protests against any announcement must reach the Director in written form not later than one hour after this announcement. He is allowed to accept protests out of time. If the Director cannot be found, a protest should be handed to any of his assistants or a protest remark is to be made on the announcement board. Protests have to be given by the team-leaders or by an individual solver.

13.3. The Director's task is to deal with such protests and to settle disputes. His decision, along with his argument, is to be given in written form. He has to ensure that a solution given by a solver only can be seen by this solver himself, or by the leader or other members of his team.

13.4. Objections to any decision by the Director must be made in writing and must reach the Director within one hour of the announcement of the decision.

13.5. Such objections shall be dealt with by a jury consisting of three neutral persons nominated by the WFCC or by the team-leaders. The majority decision of the jury (in written form with the argument) is final.

14. These Rules should be published on the official announcement board at least 24 hours before the start of the first round as well as a Director's timetable for the complete tournament (registration, start of the rounds, preliminary results, timetable for protests, final results, prize giving, etc.).

This version of the Rules was accepted at the WFCC Congress in Belgrade 2016.

### **Recommendations / explanations of the WFCC:**

Ad. 1.2. For helpmates h#1.5 (or h#2 - White begins) is considered as h#2 and h#2.5 (or h#3 - White begins) as h#3. (Vilnius 2019)

Ad. 4.3. If a country is represented with only two solvers at the ECSC they can decide if they compete as a team. (Crete 2010)

Ad 6.2. Studies with just one line and a clear conclusion are preferable. (Moscow 2003)

Helpmates: Multiple solutions are preferable to twins. Some thematic relationship between the single solutions, and a reasonable number of single solutions altogether in a round (max. ~~seven~~nine), are recommended. (Halkidiki 2004 and Vilnius 2019)

Ad. 7.2. A director may use yellow and red cards for noticed irregularities putting them on the solver's table. (Kobe 2012)

Ad. 7.3. Solvers should be allowed to write their names on the backside of solving sheets. (Kobe 2012)

Ad. 9.4. It is recommended that only the key move (except in direct twomovers) doesn't score, and that variations in one problem should be of equal worth.

Points in studies should be given only for white moves. (Crete 2010)

Ad. 9.7. Judges can determine a possible correctness of such moves by following the further effect(s) of written move(s) or by the presence/absence of signs for capture, check, mate etc. normally used by a solver. (Crete 2010)

The Director should use common sense, especially in cases when it is not specified which of two pieces of the same kind moves to the specific square. (Kobe 2012)



## Solvers' rating

The rating is an integer numerical value which shows the solving strength of a solver. A solver gains it by solving at two approved / rated tournaments.

A rating can be gained at the [WCSC](#), [ECSC](#), WCCC Open, or other tournaments which fulfil definite criteria. Ratings are calculated after each tournament. A rating list is published four times a year. It is calculated on the basis of the results of solving tournaments completed (including the report) by the end of March, June, September and December. If a tournament starts in one period and is finished in another period, the ratings of solvers are taken from the rating list valid at the start of the tournament, and the tournament is included in the period when it is finished. In case that at the same tournament different tables are produced (like one extra for juniors) ratings are calculated only for the major tournament.

The Solving Tournament Manager (STM) software is used for the issue of the quarterly rating lists.

The use of the STM software is recommended for all rated solving tournaments and it is mandatory for WCSC and ECSC, as well as for their open solving tournaments and for ISC (central controllers only).

### Criteria for acceptability of tournaments at which ratings and norms can be gained

<b>R1</b>	The tournaments should be announced and reported to the responsible WFCC representative (committee) at least two months beforehand but not at all later than the day before the tournament takes place.
<b>R2</b>	At least 10 solvers <del>(15 rated solvers from at least 3 countries for gaining norms)</del> with a full rating must compete in the tournament.
<b>R3</b>	The selected problems should be originals or originally published problems more than 5 calendar years before the tournament. The selected problems should show a clear theme and a good level of quality and difficulty and should represent different styles.
<b>R4</b>	There should be at least 12 problems of different types to solve.
<b>R5</b>	Problems for solving can be chosen from seven groups: twomovers, threemovers, moremovers, endgames, helpmates, selfmates and fairy chess problems.
<b>R6</b>	At the tournament at least 5 groups must be represented.
<b>R7</b>	No group can be represented by more than 3 problems.
<b>R8</b>	The tournament may be divided into several rounds and/or days.
<b>R9</b>	The correct and complete solution or cook of all problems scores 5 points each. Points for partly solved problems can only have a maximum of two decimal places.
<b>R10</b>	When fairy problems are included at the tournament it is <del>recommended</del> necessary that the corresponding fairy conditions are announced at least two months beforehand. <del>This is obligatory for the WCCC/ECSC Open and it must be announced on the WFCC site and on the WCCC/ECSC organiser's website.</del>

<b>R11</b>	All tournament documentation (name of tournament director, diagrams of problems, solutions, complete list with detailed results per problem and possible complaints, etc.) should be sent to the responsible WFCC representative (committee) within 5 days (10 days for multiple-locations tournaments) after the end of the competition.
<b>R12</b>	In addition the solving sheets have to be kept by the tournament director for at least 4 weeks to enable probing possible issues.

The representative (committee) has the right to confirm or not the acceptability of the tournament and determines the tournament coefficient. The final decision is approved by the WFCC.

### Criteria for gaining norms

<b>N1</b>	At least 15 rated solvers from at least 3 countries with a full rating must compete in the tournament.
<b>N2</b>	Norms for the titles International Solving Grandmaster of the FIDE (GM), International Solving Master of the FIDE (IM), FIDE Solving Master (FM) can be gained in a tournament if at least 5 solvers with current rating of 2550 / 2450 / 2350 respectively participate in it.
<b>N3</b>	Norms cannot be gained at tournaments which take place in multiple locations.
<b>N4</b>	A solver obtains a GM / IM / FM norm when he/she achieves a performance rating of at least 2650 / 2550 / 2450. The solver must be placed within the number of solvers with the qualifying rating of 2550 / 2450 / 2350 (i.e. at least sixth place when there are 6 solvers with the qualifying rating of 2550 / 2450 / 2350).

### Criteria for gaining titles

<b>T1</b>	International Solving Grandmaster of the FIDE: A solver must gain a norm 3 times (at least once at the WCSC or ECSC) and achieve a rating of <b>2550</b> .
<b>T2</b>	International Solving Master of the FIDE: A solver must gain a norm twice and achieve a rating of <b>2450</b> .
<b>T3</b>	FIDE Solving Master: A solver must gain a norm twice and achieve a rating of <b>2350</b> .
<b>T4</b>	The obligatory rating may be achieved anytime (i.e. at any official rating list or as a current rating after a tournament).

(This version of the criteria was accepted at the PCCC Congress in Wageningen 2006. A small change in the criteria was accepted in Rhodes 2007. Further changes were accepted in Crete 2010 and Berne 2014.)

### Rules for rating calculation

The basis for calculating ratings at a solving tournament is the average of ratings of all solvers with ratings (*AveRat*) and the average of achieved results of those solvers (*AveRes*).

*AveRat* = average rating of all solvers with ratings (subtracting by 1600)

*AveRes* = average result of all solvers with ratings

**A rating for a solver without a rating:**

It is calculated as a **performance rating** (*PerfRat*), i.e. a temporary rating achieved by a solver at a tournament upon the formula:

$$PerfRat = AveRat \times Res / AveRes$$

*Res* = result of a solver achieved at a tournament

Solver's first rating is called half-rating. At his next tournament he gets another half-rating. The average of all half-ratings is calculated and put to the rating list.

### **Change of a rating for a solver with rating:**

The expected result (*ExpRes*) is calculated for all solvers with ratings upon the formula:

$$ExpRes = AveRes \times Rat / AveRat$$

*Rat* = rating of a solver from the last rating list

The expected result might exceed 100% of the winner's result. In such a case the corrections (*CorrExpRes* and *CorrPerfRat*) are made upon the formulas:

$$CorrExpRes = AveRes + (ExpRes - AveRes) \times (MaxRes - AveRes) / (MaxExpRes - AveRes)$$

*CorrExpRes* = corrected expected result (cannot exceed 100% of the winner's result)

*MaxRes* = result of the winner

*MaxExpRes* = the highest expected result before correction (higher than the winner's result)

*CorrPerfRat* =  $AveRat + (PerfRat - AveRat) / (MaxPerfRat - AveRat) \times (MaxRes \times MaxRat / MaxCorrExpRes - AveRat)$

*CorrPerfRat* = corrected performance rating

*MaxRat* = the highest solver's rating

*MaxPerfRat* = performance rating of the winner

*MaxCorrExpRes* = the highest corrected expected result

**Change of rating** (*ChOfRat*) is calculated from the difference between the expected result and the achieved result upon the formula:

$$ChOfRat = KT \times (Res - ExpRes)$$

or in a case of correction:

$$ChOfRat = KT \times (Res - CorrExpRes)$$

*KT* = tournament coefficient (from 1 to 4)

If the problems at the tournament are not given 5 points each the *KT* is corrected upon the formula:

$$CorrKT = KT \times 5 \times N / AbsMaxRes$$

*CorrKT* = corrected tournament coefficient

*N* = number of problems at the tournament

*AbsMaxRes* = theoretical *MaxRes* at the tournament

### **New rating is calculated upon the formula:**

$$NewRat = Rat + ChOfRat$$

All calculations are made to the second decimal place. Ratings are published as integers. For publishing use the ratings are increased by 1600.

After five years of non-participation in rated tournaments, a solver will be expelled from the rating (half-rating) list. Should he participate in the future, his original rating (but not half-rating) will be accepted.

Ratings are calculated after each tournament. An updated rating list is published four times a year (at 1st January, 1st April, 1st July and 1st October).



## ANNEX

### Tournament coefficient

Category	Coefficient	Criteria for tournament
<b>A frame for coefficients for tournaments organised according to the WCSC rules:</b>		
<b>W40</b>	4	WCSC, ECSC
<b>W30</b>	3	WCSC-type tournament for norms
<b>W25</b>	2.5	participation of at least 5 solvers with a rating of 2300 or higher
<b>W20</b>	2	participation of at least 5 solvers with a rating of 2200 or higher
<b>W15</b>	1.5	participation of at least 5 solvers with a rating of 2100 or higher
<b>W10</b>	1	Other tournaments organised according to the WCSC/ECSC rules
<b>A frame for coefficients for tournaments organised according to other rules:</b>		
<b>O20</b>	2	WCCC and ECSC Open
<b>O15</b>	1.5	Participation of at least 15 rated solvers from at least three different countries and with at least 5 solvers with a rating of 2350 or higher
<b>O10</b>	1	Other tournaments

The representative (committee) has the right to confirm or not the acceptability of the tournament and determines the tournament coefficient.

This version of the rules was accepted at the PCCC Congress in Wageningen 2006. A change in the publication of the rating list was accepted in Rhodes 2007.

A change regarding negative *NewRat* was accepted in Rio 2009.

Changes of the criteria for the acceptability of tournaments at which ratings and norms can be gained were accepted in Berne 2014, in Dresden 2017 and in Ohrid 2018.

## Rules for the World Solving Cup (WSC)

1. The WSC is a competition for individual solvers who compete at solving tournaments appointed by the WFCC.
2. Tournaments have to meet the criteria for acceptability of tournaments at which ratings can be gained and must run at one place. In the case of tournaments with multiple locations only the tournament in the country and place of the central controller counts for the WSC.
3. Each member country of the FIDE may enter one tournament for the WSC which is open for all participants. Countries should register their tournaments to be included in the WSC before or during the WFCC congress, but not more than one month later to the WSC Director.
4. A list of registered tournaments is published on the WFCC website. The official announcement of each tournament is published on the WFCC website at least two months before it starts.
5. The Open solving tournament organized during the ECSC counts for the WSC and the one during the WFCC congress counts as the final WSC tournament of a season.
6. A season of the WSC is a period between the two WFCC congresses.
7. Tournaments are sorted into fourteen categories depending on the average rating of the ten participating solvers with the highest ratings. ~~If this rating is lower than 2000 a tournament doesn't count for the WSC.~~
8. The best solvers from each tournament get WSC points. Depending on the category of a tournament a specific number of the best placed solvers get points. If two or more solvers share places they all get points for the highest place they share.
9. The sum of a solver's six best tournaments is taken into account for the WSC final result. In case of a tie of points the average of solver's performance ratings from those tournaments decides. All solvers getting points are included in the final table.
10. The director of each tournament sends the complete results, problems and solutions to the WSC Director at most three days after the tournament ends. They are published on the WFCC website.
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.

### Categories of tournaments and distribution of WSC points:

[illegible]

## Rules for the International Solving Contest (ISC)

- Event:** The ISC is a solving competition appointed by the WFCC for individual solvers taking place on multiple locations worldwide on a Sunday at the end of January concurrently in all participating countries.
- Organisation:** at the WCCC of the preceding year central controller(s) are appointed by the WFCC delegates who will take the overall responsibility of the contest.
- Admittance:** For the admittance of each participating place a reliable local controller with email address has to be appointed for the responsibility of organising the local tournament, preferably by the local controller of the respective country; otherwise the central controllers decide about the acceptance of local controllers.  
There is no limit for the amount of local competitions and multiple places per country are possible. Solvers are admitted in any local competitions, also in other countries.
- Categories:** The competition comprises three solver categories:
  - **Category 1** for experienced solvers, but open for all solvers
  - **Category 2** for inexperienced solvers with no rating or with an active, non-active or half-rating of less than ~~1700~~ 2000
  - **Category 3** for youth not older than 13 years in the year of the competitionSeparate results are recorded for youth, females and seniors. For Category 1 (and 2) only results of solvers will be rated. However, for all solvers no norms for titles are possible.
- Begin:** The start of the contest should be at 11 a.m. CET (Central European Time) in all countries. Central controllers can allow a different begin of the contest for Asia and the Americas and an earlier or later begin of one hour at most for all other countries.
- Rounds:** The rounds of the contest last two hours for all categories.  
There are two rounds for category 1 and 2 with a break of at least half an hour with a maximum of one and a half hour between the two rounds.  
For category 3 there is one round only.
- Modus:**
  - **Category 1:** for each round a 2#, 3#, n#, eg, h# and s#
  - **Category 2:** ~~in first for each~~ round two 2# and one 3#, n#, ~~and~~ eg and s# and in ~~one second~~ round one #2, two 3# and one n#, eg and h#  
~~and in the other round a s#~~
  - **Category 3:** four 2#, a 3# and an eg
- Rules and Appeals:** General applicable solving rules of the WCSC/ECSC apply accordingly. 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.
- Tools:** (technical tools used by central and local controllers)  
All communication between central and local controllers by **email**  
~~Entry of results by local controllers on MatPlus website: <http://www.matplus.net/>~~  
Usage of **WFCC Solving Tournament Manager** by all controllers highly recommended for reducing the efforts of all involved parties  
The results will be transferred automatically to the MatPlus-website where they can be seen by all solvers.
- Timeline:** (specification of latest deadlines in days - ISC = date of contest)
  - registration of local controllers until the end of the previous year
  - ~~registration at MatPlus website by local controllers: ISC-14~~
  - distribution of complete documentation by central to local controllers: ISC-7
  - top 3 results of Cat. 1 sent by email to central controllers: ISC (Sunday evening)
  - ~~entry of preliminary results of Cat. 1 at MatPlus by local controllers: ISC+1—ISC+2~~
  - mailing of all results to central controllers: ISC+~~3~~ +2
  - ~~entry of preliminary results of Cat. 2 & 3 at MatPlus website by local controllers: ISC+5~~
  - mailing of scanned solving sheets to central controllers: ISC+~~10~~ 8

**Formatiert:** Standard, Keine Aufzählungen oder Nummerierungen

**Formatiert:** Standard, Einzug: Links: 0 cm, Erste Zeile: 0 cm



- publication of preliminary results by central controllers: ISC+21
- possible appeals by solvers: ISC+28
- publication of final results: ISC+35
- prize giving and distribution of certificates at next WCCC

## Annex

### PDF Documents local controllers receive from central controllers by email

- One sheet with diagrams of the problems for each round
- One solving sheet for writing the solutions by solvers for each round
- One sheet with diagrams and solutions of the problems for each round
- A form for summarising the results

### Tasks of the local controllers

- Organisation of the local contest including reservation of suitable tournament venue
- Announcement in local publications (magazines, Internet websites etc.)
- Invitation of local solvers by mail or email
- Reproduction of various sheets to be distributed to solvers during contest
- Checking of solutions and point giving on solving sheets
- Email of preliminary results of 3 top solvers of Category 1 to central controllers
- ~~Entry of preliminary results on special MatPlus website~~
- Email of results to central controllers
- Email of scanned solving sheets to central controllers
- Keeping of original solving sheets to ensure back-up
- Using of WFCC Solving Tournament Manager is highly recommended!

### Tasks of the central controllers

- Selection of problems according to the rules for WCSC/ECSC and creation of the whole documentation necessary for the contest; especially diagrams at least for category 3 with coordinates (digits and letters) and rules for writing the solutions (like "twomovers: only the key-move" etc.)
- Creation of the invitation document, including distribution to WFCC delegates and previous local controllers
- ~~Acceptance and registration of announced persons as local controllers on the MatPlus website~~
- Distribution of the complete documentation to local controllers
- Supervision of the overall contest
- Checking of the markings of local controllers
- Decision on possible appeals by solvers
- Distribution of final results to WFCC delegates, local controllers and the WFCC web publisher

# **Guidelines for directors of rated solving tournaments**

Although the rules for rated solving tournaments are clear and easy accessible at the website of WFCC, a lot of tournament directors still violate the rules. Sometimes these mistakes are small and unimportant, but other times they can be very important. Some examples: incorrect studies although already known as incorrect in the database of van der Heijden; too many solutions in H#; points for first moves of orthodox problems other than #2 and selfmates, sometimes even for problems with a threat; many local and recent problems, etc. To ensure that all rated tournaments are run under the same conditions, the solving committee has produced this text with the most essential guidelines. There are no new rules in this text (except those which have been accepted in Vilnius). These guidelines are also to the benefit of the solvers, who can refer to them when they notice an irregularity.

## **1. Stick to the rules**

For starters: take a good look at the latest rules on the website of WFCC (<https://www.wfcc.ch/>). In fact, everything is published there!

## **2. Announcement**

The detailed announcement must be forwarded to the responsible person of the rating system, and if necessary, the responsible director of the World Solving Cup, at least two months before the start of the tournament. This announcement includes all details: dates, venue, program, name of the director, information about the used fairy problems, ... If no information about the solving tournament is sent at least a week before the tournament the tournament will not be rated and no solving norms will be possible for solvers.

## **3. Preparation work of the director**

The director is responsible for the selection of the problems: he can do himself, or let it done by someone else, or he can work in cooperation with other person(s). In any case, he has the final responsibility for the selection. For more details about the selection, see number 6.

The director must decide the points distribution for every problem. For more details, see number 7.

The director must prepare all the necessary documents for the solvers: solving sheets, diagrams, solutions, ...

The use of Solving Tournament Manager is obligatory. In case the director can't use the Solving Tournament Manager (no computer, no experience with the software, ...), he must inform the responsible of the rating system in advance. In this case a solution can be worked out.

In case the director would like to experiment (selection of problems, tournament system, number of problems, ...) he must inform the spokesman of the solving committee in advance. The solving committee will advise as soon as possible if the suggested experiments are acceptable.

### *Recommendations for diagrams and solutions:*

Diagrams should show the stipulation in a common form (H#2, S#3, +, = etc.), the number of white and black pieces and they should be numbered with Arabic numbers (e.g. 1-18 for WCSC type tournaments, not A-R)

Solution sheets should be provided with the source of the problems and at least in one version with Latin letters.

## **4. The tournament**

The rules of the tournament are well covered in the rules for the World (European) Chess Solving Championship (WCSC/ECSC) in chapter 7 to 14 (<https://www.wfcc.ch/1999-2012/wcsc/>).

## **5. After the tournament**

The director must as soon as possible (maximum 5 days - 10 days for multiple-locations tournaments like the ISC) transmit all the necessary information to the responsible of the rating system and/or the responsible of the World Solving Cup: documents with diagrams, with solutions, and the Solving Tournament Manager files.

These responsables will check and publish these documents as soon as possible.

The rating will automatically be calculated by the Solving Tournament Manager. Also all the information about category, norms, difficulty of problems, etc. will be done by the Solving Tournament Manager.

## **6. Selection of problems**

All the problems and studies must be:

- originals
- or published problems at least five years old
- or modified published problems (correction, versions, ....) at least five years old. Mirroring is not recommended as solvers easily recognise them if they know the original problem.
- not be used in previous rated solving tournaments (especially WCSC, ECSC and ISC). Check the website of the W FCC and the Solving Tournament Database.

The director must use common sense in his selection, and must avoid problems which could be known by the solvers (compositions of local composers and magazines, well known problems from FIDE-Albums, ....). A good mix of styles, themes, composers, ... is advisable.

It is recommendable that at least one problem is quite easy to avoid many possibly frustrated solvers with 0 total points; but the majority of problems shouldn't be too easy to enable a good differentiation of the results for the solvers. On the other hand no problem should be so difficult that chances are very high that no solver can solve it.

All the problems (orthodox, H# and S#) must be computer checked. To ensure correct diagrams it is highly recommended that diagrams are copied electronically to the problem sheets to avoid errors by manually transferring them on the diagram sheet distributed to solvers.

For solutions of a single problem more than 10 lines should be necessary to write.

The director must take care with the **selection of studies**:

- check in the database of Harold van der Heijden if the study is known to be incorrect; if the director does not has licensed the database, he must take contact with the spokesman of the solving committee or ask the help of someone who has the licensed database.
- check the study with computer engines
- avoid incomprehensible database lines
- the study should have a clear main line, without obscure side lines, and should not be too long

#### *Helpmates:*

In a WCSC-tournament the maximum for total solutions is 9. In an Open tournament the maximum for total solutions is “number of H#  $\times$  3”. For example: in a Open tournament with two helpmates, the maximum for total number of solutions is 6.

In a WCSC tournament there must be a H#2, a H#3 and a longer H#.

A small remark: H#1,5 is the same as a H#2; H#2,5 is the same as a H#3, etc.

#### *Moremovers:*

In a WCSC tournament there must be at least one #4 and at least one longer than #4.

#### *Selfmates:*

In a WCSC tournament there must be a S#2, a S#3 and a longer S#. It is advisable to use a S#4 in stead of a very difficult longer S#.

#### *Fairy:*

In this context, a fairy problem is every sort of problem which is not commonly used in solving tournaments (orthodox, helpmate and selfmate). If the director uses a fairy problem (or problems), he must announce the condition in advance. Examples: “reflexmate”, “circe”, “andernach”, “nightrider”, “shortest proof game”, etc.

## **7. Points’ distribution**

No points for key moves of orthodox problems (except 2#) and selfmates can be given, especially when threats are in place, but also with Zugzwang.

Points can only be given to full line variations of problems. Example: in a #5 only lines till the 4th move before the mating move can get points. It is not possible to give points “halfway” the solution. For studies only points for WHITE moves of the MAIN line can be given, NO points for black moves and moves of side lines!

The director must decide the points’ distribution for every problem. To ensure consistency, the solving committee will decide in Vilnius about a standard system of points distribution per problem. See attached pdf with some proposals.

## **8. After the tournament**

The solvers can’t be punished for violations of the rules by the tournament director. It is never the intention to bully the tournament directors (after all, they have to do a lot of work). But two things can be done:



- a) when the point distribution of one or more problems is unacceptable, the tournament director will be asked to check the solutions, and if necessary change the points (with the consequence that the final ranking might change) before the tournament is accepted for rating calculation and solving norms.
- b) if the rules are violated in an unacceptable way, the solving committee can decide to refuse this tournament director for rating points calculation of directed tournaments in the next year (a one year ban).

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
	Scoring system in STM:		Variations default							
1	5,0									
2	2,5	5,0								
3	1,5	3,0	5,0							
4	1,0	2,5	4,0	5,0						
5	1,0	2,0	3,0	4,0	5,0					
6	1,0	1,5	2,5	3,0	4,0	5,0				
7	1,0	1,5	2,0	3,0	3,5	4,0	5,0			
8	1,0	1,5	2,0	2,5	3,0	3,5	4,0	5,0		
9	0,5	1,0	1,5	2,0	3,0	3,5	4,0	4,5	5,0	
10	0,5	1,0	1,5	2,0	2,5	3,0	3,5	4,0	4,5	5,0

Variations 0,10										
1	5,0									
2	2,5	5,0								
3	1,7	3,3	5,0							
4	1,3	2,5	3,8	5,0						
5	1,0	2,0	3,0	4,0	5,0					
6	0,8	1,7	2,5	3,3	4,2	5,0				
7	0,7	1,4	2,1	2,9	3,6	4,3	5,0			
8	0,6	1,3	1,9	2,5	3,1	3,8	4,4	5,0		
9	0,6	1,1	1,7	2,2	2,8	3,3	3,9	4,4	5,0	
10	0,5	1,0	1,5	2,0	2,5	3,0	3,5	4,0	4,5	5,0

Variations 0,01										
1	5,00									
2	2,50	5,00								
3	1,67	3,33	5,00							
4	1,25	2,50	3,75	5,00						
5	1,00	2,00	3,00	4,00	5,00					
6	0,83	1,67	2,50	3,33	4,17	5,00				
7	0,71	1,43	2,14	2,86	3,57	4,29	5,00			
8	0,63	1,25	1,88	2,50	3,13	3,75	4,38	5,00		
9	0,56	1,11	1,67	2,22	2,78	3,33	3,89	4,44	5,00	
10	0,50	1,00	1,50	2,00	2,50	3,00	3,50	4,00	4,50	5,00

**Topics suggested by Marjan Kovačević  
for the consideration of solving committee**

**Do recent selections of problems correspond with the main aims of solving events?**

If we agree the primary aim of solving competitions should be to promote the Art of chess composition, it is logical to offer quality and beauty to the solvers. And not only to the beginners (especially important), but to the vast majority, whose main pleasure is to discover beautiful ideas, and appreciate them even after failing to solve.

WCSC/ECSC Rules, point 6.2, says: “The selected problems should show **a clear theme and a good level of quality** and difficulty.” Do we follow our rules?

**Helpmates and the longest selfmates**

Instead of perfectly matching multiphase concepts as models of a good h#2-3, we often get poorly related solutions, some even added to fool the solver. Instead of a single-line h#n with tricky and pointed combination that win recent tourneys, we face boring constructions of mating nets without any clear theme – multiplied in different ways. The average S#6 and S#7, as recently presented, don't promote the beauty of selfmate and deprive solver from pleasure. Presenting the true beauty of h# and S# is even more important in Open tourneys, where newcomers should be attracted to these two genres, usually unknown to chess players.

**Endgames needing computer analyzes**

Endgames have always been the hardest to select. First it was because there was no computer to check the soundness, and now because of computer-approved-soundness. As with the most difficult h#s and S#s, that could hardly be made correct without computer, we should follow the rule: **„A man without computer should solve only what a man without computer was able to compose”**.

**The imbalance of six WCSC rounds**

Another main aim should be objectivity of competition, including a balance of difficulty over all 6 genres. Since we have precise statistics of difficulty, it has become obvious that h#s, S#s, and endgames always get to the Top 5 in difficulty.

The total number of h# solutions keeps exceeding recommendation of „maximum 7” (recent average being around 9). The length of h#n has grown from 4 to 6-7 moves, multiplied by more solutions, or twins (also not recommended).

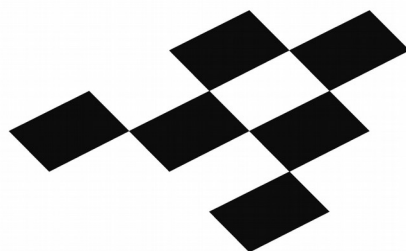
Since the length of S#n has jumped from 4 to 6-7 moves, overall results have been disastrous. In the last eight official competitions inside WCSC/ECSC average points on S#6/7 were: **0.00, 0.02** (only 1 solver got 2 points), **0.03** (1 solver got 2.5 points), **0.06, 0.12, 0.21, 0.48** and **1.21**.

Should h#s, S#s and endgames become so much more difficult than the other three rounds?

**Conclusion and suggestion**

Helpmates should stick to the rules of quality and harmony, with h#n being either a long single-liner, or not longer than 4 moves. S#n should go back to the „human measure” of 4 moves, and only those endgames that could be checked without a computer should be selected.

For a better balance, more of difficulty should be shifted to #2, #3 and #n.



# WORLD FEDERATION FOR CHESS COMPOSITION

## Financial Report 2018-19

### Budget 2018-19

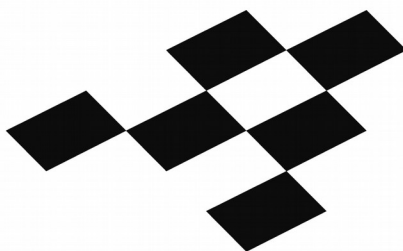
	+	-
	€	€
Contribution from FIDE 2018	2'900.00	
ISC 2018		150.00
WCSC 2018		500.00
WCCC 2018		500.00
World Solving Cup 2017-18		300.00
Web sites		400.00
ECSC 2018		300.00
Special project		500.00
Banking		100.00
Other expenses		150.00
Earnings		0.00
<b>Total</b>	<b>2'900.00</b>	<b>2'900.00</b>

### Earnings 2018-19

	+	-
	€	€
FIDE	3'500.00	
ISC 2018		140.00
WCSC 2018		500.00
WCCC 2018		500.00
World Solving Cup 2017-18		300.00
Web sites		512.36
ECSC 2018		300.00
Special project		500.00
10. WCCT 2015-17		678.84
Banking		54.72
Profit		14.08
<b>Total</b>	<b>3'500.00</b>	<b>3'500.00</b>

### Budget 2019-20

	+	-
	€	€
FIDE	3'000.00	
ISC 2019		300.00
WCSC 2019		500.00
WCCC 2019		500.00
World Solving Cup 2018-19		300.00
Web sites		400.00
WCCI 2016-18		500.00
10. WCCT 2015-17		300.00
Banking		100.00
Other expenses		100.00
Earnings		0.00
<b>Total</b>	<b>3'000.00</b>	<b>3'000.00</b>



# WORLD FEDERATION FOR CHESS COMPOSITION

## Financial Repor 30.06.2019

### Assets

	CHF	€	€
Bank			5'977.56
Debtors			3'000.00
<b>Total</b>			<b>8'977.56</b>

### Liabilities and Equity

	€	€
Creditors		5'437.03
<i>Equity 01.07.2018</i>	<i>3'526.44</i>	
<i>Profits since 01.07.2018</i>	<i>14.08</i>	
Equity	<u>3'540.52</u>	3'540.53
		<b>8'977.56</b>



## DEAR CHESS FRIENDS, WELCOME TO POLTAVA!

POLTAVA is a multifaceted, interesting city with a centuries-old history. What exciting sights can you see in Poltava?

### 1. IVANOVA MOUNTAIN

Ivanova Gora is a high picturesque hill that rises above the Vorskla River. This place has become a favorite for tourists and for local residents, because from here one can see an incredible panorama of the city - the Vorskla Valley, Holy Cross Monastery. Be sure you can also take pictures near the snow-white rotunda, architectural landmark of the city of Poltava.



### 2. GALUSHKA MONUMENT

On the same mountain there is another indisputable symbol of the city - the Galushka Monument. The wooden plate is covered with an embroidered rushnyk, and on it there is a plate with 12 delicious dumplings and a huge spoon. This is a popular modern monument located in Poltava on Cathedral Square. It symbolizes family prosperity and comfort and, at the same time,

depicts the traditional signature dish of the Poltava region.



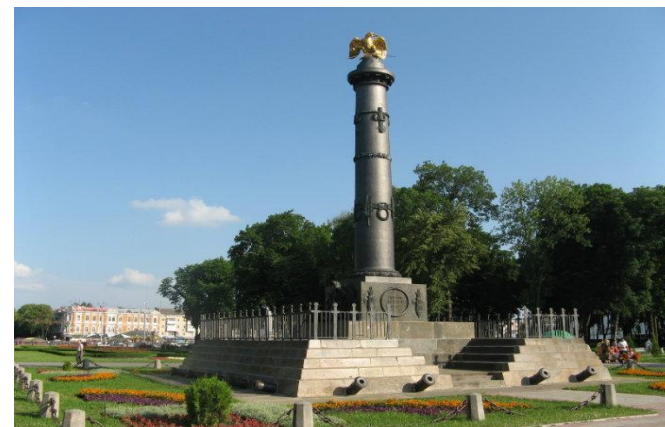
### 3. CIRSCUS

The architects did their work perfectly - the square resembles the sun. From the central part of it, the diameter of which is almost 400 meters, streets like rays diverge in 8 different directions. You can do a few circles, admiring the old buildings, the architectural ensemble of high classicism.



### 4. MONUMENT OF GLORY

On the round square there is the Column of Glory. Installed in honor of the victory of the Russian army over the troops of the Swedish King Charles XII in the Battle of Poltava. One of the main attractions of the center of Poltava. The monument was built in 1806-1811. in honor of the 100th anniversary of the Battle of Poltava.



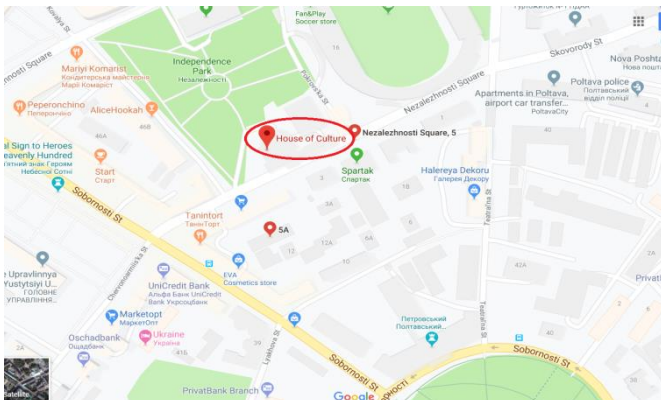
### 5. LOCAL HISTORY MUSEUM

The house of the Poltava provincial zemstvo, where the Local Lore Museum is now located, is a three-storey mansion in the style of Ukrainian Art Nouveau.





The competitions will be held in the **LOCAL HOUSE OF CULTURE** (Independence Maidan, 5) in a specially designed large hall.



The accommodation of guests of the championship is planned in the hotel “ALMAZ”, which famous for its high-quality service and affordable prices. The hotel also has a restaurant with its own brewery!

<http://www.almaz.poltava.ua/uk/>



## We invite you to visit the beautiful city of Poltava in order to take part in XV European Chess Solving Championship

Planned date of the championship:  
April 24 - 26, 2020



v.kopyl@i.ua  
[www.chess-kopyl.com.ua](http://www.chess-kopyl.com.ua)

Dear Chess Friends!

You can get to Poltava city in the following way:

**\*If you arrive by airplane to Kyiv**

**Kyiv – Poltava distance is 365 km**

1) Boryspil Airport

From Boryspil Airport to Poltava you can get by comfortable buses of these transport companies:

- Zelenyy Slon (Green Elephant) <https://zs7.com.ua/> tel.+38 (098) 932-05-05, +38 (095) 932-05-05, +38 (093) 932-05-05

- Vladislav tel. +38 (050) 872-72-72, +38 (067) 535-14-24, +38 (093) 107-30-00

Buses run every hour, collecting passengers from both terminal D and terminal F. It is highly recommended to reserve a seat at a bus by phone or with assistance of organizational committee of the tourney indicating the exact date, time, airport and terminal of your arrival

2) Zhuliany Airport

You need to get to the Central Railway Station first by means of trolleybus No9, which stops near the airport. Or you can take a taxi (it will cost you about 15 Euro). In 100 m from the main entrance of the Central Railway Station there is a bus station, from where the buses of the below mentioned transport companies depart. Platforms No 1 and 2.

- Zelenyy Slon (Green Elephant) <https://zs7.com.ua/> tel.+38 (098) 932-05-05, +38 (095) 932-05-05, +38 (093) 932-05-05

- Vladislav tel. +38 (050) 872-72-72, +38 (067) 535-14-24, +38 (093) 107-30-00

It is highly recommended to reserve a seat at a bus by phone or with assistance of organizational committee of the tourney indicating the exact date, time, airport and terminal of your arrival

**\*If you arrive by train to Kyiv city to the Central railway Station**

In 100 m from the main entrance of the Central Railway Station there is a bus station, from where the buses of the below mentioned transport companies depart. Platforms No 1 and 2.

- Zelenyy Slon (Green Elephant) <https://zs7.com.ua/> tel.+38 (098) 932-05-05, +38 (095) 932-05-05, +38 (093) 932-05-05

- Vladislav tel. +38 (050) 872-72-72, +38 (067) 535-14-24, +38 (093) 107-30-00

It is highly recommended to reserve a seat at a bus by phone or with assistance of organizational committee of the tourney indicating the exact date, time, airport and terminal of your arrival

**\* If you arrive by airplane to Kharkiv Airport**

**Kharkiv – Poltava distance is 141 km**

Please contact the organizational committee if you plan to come to Kharkiv airport in order to get further instructions

63<sup>rd</sup> WCCC and 44<sup>th</sup> WCSC 2020  
Bid of GREECE

Week of: 3 to 10 October 2020

Place: Island of Rhodes, Greece

Venue: Rodos Palace, 5-star luxury hotel, <https://www.rodos-palace.gr>

The congress and the championship will be held from Saturday, 3 October 2020 (arrival) to Saturday, 10 October 2020 (departure), with the WCSC on Tuesday and Wednesday (6 and 7 October 2020).

Prices:

- Per person / per day in a single room: 110€
- Per person / per day in a double room: 75€

Prices include breakfast, lunch and dinner in buffet, transport from and to the airport on the arrival and departure dates, excursion to the old city of Rhodes, all registration fees, access to all congress activities, free WiFi, closing banquet, all taxes according to the Greek law.

## Vilnius WCCC 2019 Commemoration List

Carlos Lago	Argentina	(10.01.1936 - 22.09.2018)
Herbert Lang	Germany	(12.05.1941 - 05.11.2018)
Heinz Gfeller	Switzerland	(25.07.1933 - 12.11.2018)
Stewart Crow	Great Britain	(13.02.1930 - 02.12.2018)
Nikos Dambassis	Greece	(02.05.1918 - 15.12.2018)
Rolf Notter	Switzerland	(22.03.1927 - 27.12.2018)
Kurt Zatti	Switzerland	(24.03.1925 - 27.01.2019)
Robert (Bob) Burger	United States	(21.06.1931 - 06.02.2019)
Mečislovas Rimkus	Lithuania	(23.12.1942 - 08.02.2019)
Viktor Razumenko	Russia	(18.02.1937 - 11.02.2019)
Petre Stojoski	North Macedonia	(15.06.1951 - 12.02.2019)
Vladimir Voronin	Russia	(31.03.1950 - 08.03.2019)
Dieter Müller	Germany	(14.10.1946 - 18.03.2019)
Krassimir Gandev	Bulgaria	(21.03.1946 - 12.04.2019)
Timothy Whitworth	Great Britain	(31.07.1932 - 17.04.2019)
Arieh Grinblat	Israel	(16.01.1937 - 21.04.2019)
Dieter Kutzborski	Germany	(14.06.1947 - 27.04.2019)
Stanislav Kirilichenko	Ukraine	(20.07.1938 - 21.06.2019)
Miodrag Radomirović	Kosovo/Serbia	(08.04.1951 - 04.07.2019)