



World Federation for Chess Composition
67th Ordinary Meeting (World Congress)
Alba Iulia, Romania
5-12 July 2025

MINUTES

OFFICIAL PARTICIPANTS

Marjan Kovačević	Serbia	President
Abdulla Ali Aal Barket	United Arab Emirates	1 st Vice-President
Vidmantas Satkus	Lithuania	2 nd Vice-President
Dinu-Ioan Nicula	Romania	3 rd Vice-President
Mohammad Alhallak	United Arab Emirates	Secretary
Roberto Osorio	Argentina (via Zoom)	Delegate
Suren Poghosyan	Armenia (via Zoom)	Delegate
Joachim Hambros	Austria	Deputy
Luc Palmans	Belgium	Delegate
Marcos Roland	Brazil (via Zoom)	Delegate
Bjørn Enemark	Denmark	Delegate
Neal Turner	Finland	Delegate
Axel Gilbert	France	Delegate
Torsten Linß	Germany	Delegate
Ian Watson	Great Britain (via Zoom)	Delegate
Harry Fougiaxis	Greece	Delegate and Honorary President
N. Shankar Ram	India (via Zoom)	Delegate
Paz Einat	Israel	Deputy
Marco Guida	Italy	Delegate
Tadashi Wakashima	Japan	Delegate
Julia Vysotska	Latvia	Delegate
Zoran Gavrilovski	North Macedonia (via Zoom)	Deputy
Mihail Croitor	Moldova	Delegate
Bilguun Sumiya	Mongolia	Delegate
Johan de Boer	Netherlands	Delegate
Piotr Górski	Poland	Delegate
Georgy Evseev	Russia (via Zoom)	Delegate
Peter Gvozdják	Slovakia	Delegate
Joaquim Crusats	Spain (via Zoom)	Delegate
Kjell Widlert	Sweden (via Zoom)	Delegate
Thomas Maeder	Switzerland	Delegate
Valery Kopyl	Ukraine	Delegate
Klaus Wenda	Austria (via Zoom)	Honorary President
Hannu Harkola	Finland (via Zoom)	Honorary member

New delegates were Suren Poghosyan (Armenia) and Ian Watson (Great Britain). Honorary President Klaus Wenda and Honorary Member Hannu Harkola took part via Zoom connection. The following 13 countries were not represented: Azerbaijan, Belarus, Bosnia-Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Croatia, Czech Republic, Estonia, Georgia, Hungary, Kazakhstan, Morocco, Slovenia, and USA.

Persons who contributed actively included: Mihnea Costachi and his parents, Andrada Popa, Mohammad Alhallak (organization), Axel Steinbrink, Luc Palmans, Vlaicu Crișan, Vidmantas Satkus (solving events), Klaus Wenda, Kostas Prentos, Harry Fougiaxis (composing tourneys).

1 Opening Address

The president Marjan Kovačević opened the meeting and welcomed delegates and observers. He thanked Romanian delegate Dinu-Ioan Nicula and the main organizer Mihnea Costachi for the wonderful conditions and hospitality in organizing the congress.

2 Tributes

The assembly stood in memory of the following problemists who passed away:

Sebastião Antônio Da Silva	Brazil	(15.11.1928 – 27.01.2022)
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)
Romans Skuja	Latvia	(13.11.1923 – 24.06.2024)
Dr. Peter Orlik	Germany	(14.05.1934 – 20.07.2024)
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)
Hermann Seitz	Germany	(14.12.1948 – 18.02.2025)
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)

3 Verification of Attendance and Voting Rights

25 countries were represented at the beginning of the opening session, six of them online, and the meeting was declared legal.

4 Approval of the Jūrmala Minutes 2024

The Minutes of the 2024 meeting were approved without amendment.

5 Membership of the Standing Committees

WCCT: T. Maeder, spokesman

O. Comay, H. Fougiaxis, P.Gvozdják, V. Kopyl, K. Widlert

WCCI: M. Guida, spokesman

V. Kopyl, N. Shankar Ram, A. Selivanov, K. Widlert

Solving: M.Kolčák, spokesman

P. Górski, A. Mockus, R. Ott, Vid. Satkus, A. Selivanov, N. Sidiropoulos, A. Steinbrink, [B. Stephenson], D. Wissmann

FIDE Album: H. Fougiaxis, spokesman

P. Einat, P. Gvozdják, A. Selivanov, K. Widlert

Qualifications: D.-I. Nicula, spokesman

J. de Boer, B. Enemark, H. Fougiaxis, N. Turner

Computer Matters: T. Maeder, spokesman

B. Enemark, [M. Křižovenský], [M. Schlosser], [D. Turevsky], J. Vysotska, K. Widlert

Studies: [S. Slumstrup Nielsen], spokesman

[Y. Afek], [I. Aliev], [A. Avni], G. Costeff, [D. Gurgenidze], [H. van der Heijden], [M. Van Herck], M. Minski, [O. Pervakov], [J. Roycroft]

Codex: K. Widlert, spokesman

[M. Caillaud], B.Enemark, [B. Stephenson]

Youth: M. Kovačević, spokesman

[M. Caillaud], O. Comay, [B. Cook], G. Costeff, V. Crişan, P. Einat, [D. Gurgenidze], [M. McDowell], D.-I.Nicula, [S. Slumstrup Nielsen], N. Petković, A. Selivanov, J.Vysotska, T.Wakashima, K. Widlert

Absent members of committees are indicated by [brackets].

6 Notification of Proposals and Business carried forward

Discussion of the proposals and topics was allocated to the committees as follows:

Assembly:

- Future of composing competitions: World Cup and WCCI
- Ethics & Disciplinary Committee decisions
- Proposal to update the FIDE Album points system
- Bids for 2026

WCCI Committee:

- WCCI 2022-24 and beyond

WCCT Committee:

- 12th WCCT

FIDE Album Committee:

- FIDE Albums 2019-21 and 2022-24
- Proposal to change the FIDE Album points system

Solving Committee:

- International Solving Contest 2025 & 2026
- Proposals concerning the Rules

Youth Committee:

- Youth Chess Composing Challenge 2025
- Online platform for composers
- New title for trainers
- Online Solving Challenge for Youth 2025

Codex Committee:

Expected deadlines for composing awards

Computers Committee:

Software tools for composing tournaments

7 Review of the year

Thomas Maeder informed us about the latest anthology of Swiss chess compositions, and about the very nice weekend in Essen where Schwalbe, the German Association for Problem Chess, was founded and began its 100 years old tradition.

Ian Watson shared his satisfaction about the first attempt to replace the traditional British Residential weekend with an E-weekend containing a rich program with lectures, solving, quizzes, etc. Participants from Australia to the West Coast of the USA could attend at any time and there was very positive feedback. In the Annex to these minutes Mr. Watson described it as a useful model.

Georgy Evseev reported 30 different solving competitions had been held in Russia and suggested including the rating calculations from youth solving events in Russia in the WFCC Rating List, as FIDE does. The voting was postponed for the WFCC Online meeting on 1st November, and the proposal wasn't accepted, with the slightest margin of 12 votes against and 11 in favor.

Paz Einat announced a memorial composing tourney to mark 100th anniversary of the birth of Efim Rukhlis, and Marjan Kovačević presented the Juniors Solving League of Serbia, with seven rounds during a year and around 150 solvers from all around the country.

8 Reports and Discussions

8.1 WCCI 2022-24

The WCCI Committee spokesman Marco Guida thanked the [WCCI 2002-24](#) Director Narayan Shankar Ram for a huge effort, from the busiest phase from January when the entries were coming until the delivery of the result. Mr. Guida stressed this effort-intensive and time-consuming job was carried out very professionally and very well. The WCCI judges were from 29 countries, which set a record over the past editions in terms of countries represented in the judging team. In total, 248 composers from 39 countries submitted 2,582 problems. In the very last week, more than 50% of the entries came all together. Describing the increasing difficulty to recruit an adequate panel of judges, as well as the tough tasks for the director and the judges, the WCCI Committee spokesman has anticipated that he will stop serving in this position unless changes in format and process are undertaken. After joint discussions of members of WCCI committee & FIDE Album committee, the need for changes to assure the long-term sustainability of WCCI was put on vote and was supported by majority of delegates (26 in favor, 1 against, 3 abstentions).

8.2 FIDE Albums 2019-21 & 2022-24

The FIDE Album Committee spokesman Harry Fougiaxis praised Peter Gvozdiák and Michal Dragoun for their help in the final phase of the FIDE Album 2019-21 preparations. He described Michal Dragoun as an

irreplaceable person in the phase of corrections made in different languages. The process of work on the Album 2022-24 was described as going as planned and without incidents.

8.3 FIDE & WFCC solving competitions

Dinu-loan Nicula described initiating and organizing the first joint FIDE & WFCC solving competitions in Brazil and Italy 2024. As the leader of this new project, the WFCC Vice-President thanked the judges in Florianopolis Marcos Roland and Ricardo Vieira, as well as Mohammad Alhallak for all kinds of help in Montesilvano. Mr. Nicula stressed the importance of the visit made by the WFCC Vice-President Abdulla Ali Aal Barket during the closing ceremony in Montesilvano, where the record number of solvers U12 took part.

8.4 FIDE support and cooperation

The good overall relations with FIDE were praised by Marjan Kovačević and illustrated by the fact that not less than six chess composers had been included in the FIDE Veteran's Program and financially rewarded. He stressed the importance of the WFCC Fujairah Grand Prix and the FIDE solving events for a better position of WFCC as a respectable partner. He also described the new and more complex procedure to get the FIDE yearly support and mentioned the absence of the official registration of WFCC as a possible obstacle.

Thomas Maeder commented that the question of registering was discussed in the past, and no real benefit was seen, when compared with the costs of registration. The high expenses were later presented in a written form by Franziska Iseli, an expert in the field.

In the discussion on the future of the FIDE World Cup, as one of the FIDE Special Projects, the delegates thanked Torsten Linß, who volunteered as the director of this competition in 2025. The question of the future of the FIDE World Cup was left open, to be decided during the WFCC Online meeting in November. As a result, delegates didn't support having this competition in 2026.

[\(https://www.wfcc.ch/wfcc-online-meeting-011125/\)](https://www.wfcc.ch/wfcc-online-meeting-011125/)

8.5 FIDE Album and WFCC books as gifts to sponsors

WFCC President suggested the FIDE Album copies and other WFCC books could be delivered to WFCC sponsors and supporters, first of all to the FIDE officers and the Fujairah Chess & Culture Club. The proposal was realized in an internal agreement with the FIDE Album publisher Peter Gvozdiák, who sent five copies of the latest FIDE Album to be presented to the FIDE officers in the Fujairah CCC.

8.6 Special WFCC Awards for deserving members

The assembly welcomed initiatives by Narayan Shankar Ram, Volodymyr Samilo and Steffen Slumstrup Nielsen (PR1 & PR2 in Agenda) to introduce special awards for individuals who contributed to our community by their selfless work in developing and maintaining software tools, databases and websites. A group was formed to collect nominations and suggest awards for the WCCC 2026. Narayan Shankar Ram accepted to lead the work of the group. The group was joined by Harry Fougiaxis, Thomas Maeder, Julia Vysotska, Marco Guida and Neal Turner.

8.7 Ethics & Disciplinary Committee Establishment

Upon discussions during the last online meeting, Presidium suggested establishing a permanent Ethics & Disciplinary Committee (PR4). With 22 votes for the proposal, one vote against and one abstention, the proposal was accepted to form a new standing committee. Narayan Shankar Ram will be the spokesman, and other members are Harry Fougiaxis, Axel Gilbert, Roberto Osorio and Klaus Wenda. Presidium followed the suggestion of the Ethics & Disciplinary Committee and issued a warning to Georgy Evseev for his speech during Jurmala WCCC.

Mr. Evseev commented that he also considered some of the discussions inappropriate, but he thought they were emotional or just expressing opinions. He added that if some actions should be taken by the committee he would like to see the guidelines for EDC decisions, available for everyone. Neal Turner expressed his opinion that the talk about hostilities in Ukraine weren't brought up by the Russian delegate,

and Marjan Kovačević suggested that delegates should avoid provoking the discussions on hostilities the same as responding to it.

8.8 ISC 2025 irregularities

Following protests submitted by six countries and evidence from the reports (Points 9.1 to 9.5 in Agenda), the assembly voted to exclude results of the four Category 1 solvers from Sumgait (Azerbaijan), with 22 votes for exclusion and six abstentions. Consequently, all rating lists starting in January 2025 will be changed. An appeal committee for the future ISC competitions was appointed by the WFCC presidium at the WFCC Online Meeting on 1st November 2025. ISC 2026 is planned for the end of January, with Arvydas Mockus as Central Controller once again.

After discussion on who and how should decide about the possible sanctions to the solvers from Sumgait, the assembly supported a proposal by Mr. Mockus to ban the four mentioned solvers from the next two ISC tournaments, with 20 votes for the sanctions, 2 against and 8 abstentions. Klaus Wenda added that the newly established Ethics & Disciplinary Committee will discuss the matter and make a proposal for more detailed wording of the already accepted ban.

8.9 Decisions regarding future meetings: WCCC, WCSC & ECSC

Out of two received bids for the ECSC 2026, 18 delegates voted for Skopje and 8 for Vilnius, while 2 abstained. The decision was made to have the 19th European Chess Solving Championship in Skopje, North Macedonia, 8-10 May 2026.

The only bid for WCCC & WCSC 2026 came from the Spanish Chess Club Dama Negra, with the technical support of the Spanish Society of Chess Problemists (SEPA). The delegates made some remarks, including the high prices, and the deadline for new bids was postponed till 1st October. Once again, the only bid came from the same Spanish organizer, and was accepted without voting during the WFCC Online Meeting on 1st November. However, on 20th November the main organizer Patricia Claros Aguilar unexpectedly withdrew the offer.

In this unpleasant situation, Torsten Linß and the German Schwalbe association decided to offer a bid they had planned for 2027. In the email voting, 28 delegates gladly accepted the bid, and it was decided to hold the 68th World Congress of Chess Composition and the 49th World Chess Solving Championship in the Maritim Hotel Magdeburg, Germany, 8–15 August 2026.

8.10 21st ISC - Report

After the final changes were approved by the assembly, the ISC report by the Central Controller Arvydas Mockus was presented in an Annex to the Minutes.

8.11 18th ECSC - Report

In the role of assistant of the ECSC Director Borislav Gadžanski, Axel Steinbrink reported on the 18th ECSC, held in the impressive halls of the University of Athens. Poland won the team competition once again, ahead of the domestic team who came on the podium for the first time, and the bronze medals went to the Lithuanian squad. **Team**

Results

Eddy Van Beers achieved an amazing double triumph in the individual competitions. Before winning in the ECSC, ahead of Piotr Murdzia and Martynas Limontas, he was the best in the Open tournament, this time ahead of Piotr Murdzia and Kacper Piorun who shared second place with equal number of points and equal time. **Individual Results**

8.12 WSC 2024-25 - Report

As in the previous editions, the WSC season 2024-2025 was directed by Roland Ott, with Marek Kolčák and Axel Steinbrink as assistant directors. The same team will continue organizing it in the season 2025-2026 Roland Ott presented [results of the World Solving Cup 2024-25](#), won by Eddy Van Beers (BEL), who was already confirmed as the winner before the last tournament. In the second and third place follow Piotr Murdzia (POL) and Kacper Piorun (POL). There were again 18 WSC tournaments in 17 countries, and 72 solvers managed to earn WSC points.

8.13 48th WCSC - Report

The 48th WCSC Director Luc Palmans presented results from Alba Iulia, including the record ninth [individual win](#) of Piotr Murdzia and the record 14th [team win](#) of Poland. Daria Efimova became the first women's world champion when the title was [declared official](#). Mr. Palmans declared this was his last directing of WCSC events.

8.14 Computers Committee

The discussion about software tools supporting composing tournaments was reopened after some years, upon a proposal by Marco Guida that WFCC should invest in such technical tools (**PR3**). The committee spokesman Thomas Maeder formulated some initial steps: to create a list of already existing tools; to look for tech people that are part of our community; to identify priority tasks, and to define initial user requirements. No decision has been made yet.

8.15 WCCT Committee

Thomas Maeder will be the new spokesman of the committee. The [12th WCCT](#) runs as planned, with the WCCT page initialized and the first circular letter issued right after the congress. It was decided not to be too strict about the initial deadline for registering (1st July) and to wait till the end of July. After the congress, the initial number of registered countries grew to 35. The previous WCCT Committee spokesman Georgy Evseev withdrew from all the committees, but he helped with collecting materials for WCCT-12.

8.16 Solving Committee

Piotr Górski will be the new spokesman of the committee. It was agreed to extend Point 1.2 of the WCSC/ECSC Rules according to the Proposal [PR9](#) from the Agenda, and the point distribution in the World Solving Cup was changed as suggested in the Proposal [PR11](#). The committee didn't recommend the proposals: [PR6](#), [PR7](#), [PR8](#), [PR10](#), and [PR12](#) in Agenda. Some of them will be discussed again (see Annexes).

8.17 Youth Committee

The [9th YCCC 2025](#) attracted 66 entries by 34 participants from 13 countries. Belgium, Brazil, China and Singapore were represented for the first time, promoting new waves of young composers from Romania and Ukraine. The success in YCCC influenced the composers from China to join the WCCT for the first time. Gady Costeff organized the My First [Endgame Study](#) composing event, supported by ChessBase India and Satanick Mukhuty. It attracted 50 studies by 35 beginners in the field.

Nikola Petković has presented a project of an online platform for young composers, to be launched at the beginning of 2026, under the name of the [WFCC Chess Composers Club](#).

Online Solving Challenge for Youth (OSCY) has continued, and the tireless Brian Cook is ready to keep directing it in 2026.

David Gurgenidze organized the World Cup in Chess Solving for Cadets in Batumi this June, with 149 participants (U8, U10 & U12).

The World Cadets Chess Solving Championships U8, U10 & U12 will be held in Almaty (Kazakhstan), on 25th September (see the later [report from Dinu-Ioan Nicula](#)).

[Youth Evening](#) was a successful novelty in the WCCC 2025 program. It brought to the stage nine young participants aged 11-22.

The Youth committee supported an initiative by Andrey Selivanov to introduce the title of FIDE Trainer for Chess Composition (solving & composing). A decision was made to finalize the criteria and the procedures in the [WFCC Online Meeting on 1st November 2025](#), when they were accepted. The names of the new titles were left to be decided in the WCCC 2026.

8.18 Codex Committee

Codex: Proposal by M. Guida to announce the expected deadlines for the awards of the formal composing tournaments ([PR 14](#)) was supported by the Codex committee. Some details and the exact wording were left to be discussed and voted.

8.19 FIDE Album Points

The Finnish proposal ([PR5](#) in the agenda) that endgames should count 1 point instead of 1.67 wasn't accepted. Nine delegates voted for the change, 15 against, and six abstained.

8.20 WFCC Fujairah Grand Prix 2025-26 has started, based on all individual results (official and unofficial) from Athens ECSC 2025 and Alba Iulia WCSC 2025. The Grand Prix budget for 2025 was distributed to 27 winners in each competition (22,000 Euros in total) and to the event's organizers (5,000 Euros in total). The last two legs were planned to include ECSC 2026 & WCSC 2026, with the Final in Fujairah, at the end of 2026. The whole Grand Prix Budget is granted by HH Sheikh Mohammed bin Hamad Al Sharqi, Crown Prince of Fujairah. See [the Grand Prix official website](#).

8.21 [Presidium's proposals for changes in the budget for 2025](#) (PR15) were accepted.

8.22 Qualifications Committee

During the WCCC 2025 (see Annexes) and the [Online Meeting in November](#), the Qualifications Committee approved the following new titles:

International Grandmaster of the FIDE for Chess Compositions: Vlaicu Crişan (Romania), Jorge Lois (Argentina)

International Master of the FIDE for Chess Compositions: Dirk Borst (Netherlands), Sergiy Didukh (Ukraine), Gérard Doukhan (France), Jan Timman (Netherlands)

FIDE Master for Chess Compositions: Alyaksandr Bulauka (Belarus), Evgeny Gavryliv (Ukraine), Ján Golha (Slovakia), Raúl Jordan (Germany), Vladimir Kuzmichev (Russia), Michael Pisman (Israel)

Honorary Master of the FIDE for Chess Compositions: Lkhundevin Togookhuu (Mongolia), Valeriu Petrovici (Romania)

International Judge of the FIDE for Chess Compositions: Jarosław Brzozowicz (Poland, twomovers), Daniele Gatti (Italy, endgames and selfmates), Gunter Jordan (Germany, selfmates), Rainer Kuhn (Germany, helpmates), Jorma Paavilainen (Finland, threemovers, moremovers and helpmates), Bogusz Piliczewski (Poland, twomovers), Gerhard Schoen (Germany, extension for threemovers).

International Solving Master of the FIDE: Maxim Kharitonov (Russia), Bilguun Sumiya (Mongolia)

Women FIDE Solving Master: Audrey Kueh (Great Britain), Anna Shukhman (Russia)

9 Election of Auditors

The current auditor, Marco Guida and the reserve auditor, Johan de Boer were proposed and were accepted (no formal voting).

10 Financial Report, Balance Sheet, Auditor's Report, Budget

Julia Vysotska presented to the Assembly the financial report 2024-25 with the budget for 2025-26 and the balance sheet of 30.06.2025 (see the Annexes).

The auditor, Marco Guida confirmed that he had reviewed the documents and found them in order. The financial report and budget were unanimously accepted.

12 Conclusion

The President thanked the delegates and the spokesmen of committees for their work during the week. He congratulated the organizers for providing excellent facilities and wonderful conditions, which contributed to a memorable congress. Then he declared the meeting closed.

Marjan Kovačević (President)

Mohammad Alhallak (Secretary)

August 2026

OSCY Report to WCCC 2025

Operationally, the software continues to perform satisfactorily; the few minor bugs reported being quickly fixed. STM has been used for tournament management, suitably enhanced by Misha and initialised by Axel for the purpose, and has worked admirably – saving considerable time by automatically populating the 18 very complex classification tables. The other really valuable calculations provided by STM are the ‘virtual performance ratings’, produced whenever a round has 10 or more fully rated participants; enabling unrated solvers not only to compare their results against rated solvers but to follow their improvement. The WFCC template has been used to provide certificates to everyone who participated in Season 1, which have been very well received.

The format, a 60 minute Classical round and a 5-40 minute Blitz round, has proven popular with solvers. Countless outstanding performances have been achieved and everyone has avoided the feared ‘nil points’ curse in every round. The suggestions of the founding fathers of Vlaicu, Paz and Marjan PLUS the excellent quality assurance work of Ian Watson have all added significantly to the OSCY solving experience.

Participation is another matter. While numbers of solvers for each round have generally been lower than anticipated, those over the duration of the 9 challenges so far have been more acceptable; reflecting considerable churn. The key to getting registrations would appear to be strong leaders such as Bruno in Brazil, Vlaicu/Mihnea in Romania and Mustapha in Morocco, while maintaining the initial interest would seem to depend more on strong parenting and/or mentoring.

So far then, a very qualified success. As with all category 2/3 events, it provides another good entry level for novice solvers and an extra bridge between the o.t.b. and solving communities. Those who ‘acquire the solving bug’ now have the opportunity to practice like never before (with ISC, BOOM, informal @Home events and some national championships), most indexed on the WFCC Solving Calendar.

REPORT OF THE QUALIFICATIONS COMMITTEE

The Qualifications Committee held its meeting on 10th July 2025, in order to examine the new title applications received after the last official approval of titles (Jurmala, 2024), as well as the title norms for solving, obtained in the same period at the rated tournaments.

After an individual analyse made by each member (Dinu-Ioan Nicula, Harry Fougiaxis, Björn Enemark, Johan De Boer, Neal Turner) and then in common, the Qualifications Committee has decided unanimously that the next titles are fulfilling the conditions to be awarded by WFCC:

CHESS COMPOSITION

Grand Master of the FIDE: Vlaicu Crişan (Romania); Jorge Lois (Argentina);

International Master of the FIDE: Dirk Borst (Netherlands); Sergiy Didukh (Ukraine), Gerard Doukhan (France), Jan Timman (Netherlands);

FIDE Master: Aleksandr Bulauka (Belarus), Evgeny Gavriliv (Ukraine), Jan Golha (Slovakia), Raúl Jordan (Germany), Vladimir Kuzmichev (Russia), Michael Pasman (Israel).

HONORARY MASTER FOR CHESS COMPOSITIONS

Lkhundevin Togookhuu (Mongolia)

INTERNATIONAL JUDGE FOR CHESS COMPOSITIONS

Jarosław Brzozowicz (Poland) – 2#

Daniele Gatti (Italy) – endgames, selfmates

Gunter Jordan (Germany) – selfmates

Rainer Kuhn (Germany)– helpmates
Jorma Paavilainen (Finland) – 3#, n#, helpmates
Bogusz Piliczewski (Poland) – 2#
Gerhard Schoen(Germany) –extension for 3#

SOLVING

International Master: Maxim Kharitonov (Russia), Bilguun Sumiya (Mongolia)

Woman FIDE Master: Audrey Kueh (Great Britain), Anna Shukman (Russia)

Alba Iulia
11th of July 2025

Dinu-loan Nicula
Spokesman

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.

Report of the solving committee

Solving committee met twice, once on Monday and once on Tuesday.

Attendance:

- Marek Kolčák – Spokesman
- Vidmantas Satkus
- Axel Steinbrink
- Nikos Sidiropoulos
- Roland Ott
- Dolf Wissmann
- Andrey Selivanov
- Arvydas Mockus
- Piotr Górski

Suggestions of the Solving Committee

ISC proposals (PR6)

Solving committee does not recommend the suggestions in point 1. (“1. Make the ISC great again!”) and point 2. (“Proposal for Changes ISC §8 rule”). Instead, the committee proposes a change of rules of the ISC, which could be put to a vote.

Solving committee was unanimous that the ISC should be a rated tournament. The committee also suggests keeping the two instances for appeals.

Solving committee postpones decision about point 3. (“Statistical Criteria for Verifying ISC Results”) for a future discussion.

Proposal PR7 – wild cards

Not recommended by the committee.

Proposal PR8 – Senior Team Championship

Not recommended by the committee.

Proposal PR9 Toilet breaks

Recommended by the committee.

Proposed wording in the time-table of § 1.2 of the “RULES FOR THE WORLD (EUROPEAN) CHAMPIONSHIP IN SOLVING OF CHESS PROBLEMS (WCSC/ECSC)”:

(one new column is added.)

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	No re-entry after exit
Round 2	3 threemovers	60 minutes solving time	No re-entry after exit
Round 3	3 endgames	100 minutes solving time	1 toilet break allowed
Round 4	3 helpmates ($h\#2$, $h\#3$, $h\# > 3$)	50 minutes solving time	No re-entry after exit
Round 5	3 moremovers (at least one 4# and one $> 4\#$)	80 minutes solving time	1 toilet break allowed
Round 6	3 selfmates ($s\#2$, $s\#3$, $s\# > 3$)	50 minutes solving time	No re-entry after exit

We would like the general assembly to vote on this.

Proposal PR10 – main lines information

Not recommended by the committee.

Proposal PR11 – WSC point distribution

Recommended by the committee.

We would like the general assembly to vote on this.

Proposal PR12 – rules on protests

The committee does not recommend the proposal in the current form. The topic will be revisited in future.

Irregularities in ISC 2025.

Solving committee did not discuss the issue of irregularities in detail, as the matter now lies with the general assembly. However, it was noted that the handling of the situation — especially the post-tournament appointment of the appeals committee — was inappropriate.

As a result, we propose the following change to the rules:

Change of ISC Rules proposal

Current rules (Excerpt):

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.

Proposed rules:

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 three-member committee will make the final decision. This committee must be appointed before the tournament by the presidium of WFCC.

Proposed rules with changes highlighted:

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 **three-member** committee ~~with members of the WFCC Solving Committee~~ will make the final decision. **This committee must be appointed before the tournament by the presidium of WFCC.**

The Solving Committee is willing to advise the Presidium in appointing members to this committee. For the ISC 2026, we propose the following members: Axel Steinbrink, Luc Palmans, Piotr Murdzia. Two of them have confirmed their willingness to serve.

Change in Committee Spokesman

Marek Kolčák has resigned from his role as spokesman of the Solving Committee. The committee has elected Piotr Górski as his successor.

Participants (in presence and on-line):

WCCI Committee Members

- Marco GUIDA – WCCI Spokesman
- Narayan SHANKAR RAM – WCCI Committee Member
- Kjell WIDLERT - WCCI Committee & FIDE Album Committee Member
- Valery KOPYL - WCCI Committee & FIDE Album Committee Member
- Andrey SELIVANOV - WCCI Committee & FIDE Album Committee Member

Other Attendees

- Harry FOUGIAXIS – FIDE Album Committee Spokesman
- Paz Einat - FIDE Album Committee Member
- Peter GVOZDJAK - FIDE Album Committee Member

Agenda:

1. Assessment of WCCI 2022-24
2. The future of WCCI

1. Assessment of WCCI 2022-24

Marco GUIDA and Narayan SHANKAR RAM have shared their feedback on the current WCCI format and process, based on their first-hand experience during the last 2022-24 cycle that had just been concluded.

Such experience have highlighted a number of major drawbacks in the current format and process, which, in Summary (the details have been discussed with Committee members in more depth), fall under 3 main areas:

- Increasing difficulty to recruit an adequate panel of judges (5 per Section)
- Tough task for the Director to manage the process within the strict deadlines, with huge amount of manual activities and high risk of mistakes.
- Tough task for judges to properly assess so many entries in a very short time for such an important competition..

It is opinion of WCCI Committee that these issues set serious risks for the long-term sustainability of WCCI, unless changes in format and process are undertaken.

2. Options for the future of WCCI

During the past year Marco GUIDA and Narayan SHANKAR RAM have tried to address such issues identifying and documenting a few options for change. The background material has been distributed in advance and discussed in details with the WCCI and FIDE Album Committees members, to collect feedbacks and advices. Without entering into much details here, such options falls under 3 main headings:

- **Option 1.** WCCI remains an independent 3-yearly competition, with similar format and rules, but significantly simplified process, most notably: only 3 judges per Section; one Director per Section; these shall be the same judges and Directors that will work for the FIDE Album related to the same period.
- **Option 2.** WCCI becomes a “by-product” of FIDE Album for the relevant 3-years period. Different possible methods have been proposed and discussed, that will eventually be further refined and evaluated.
- **Option 3.** In the light of the current difficulties faced also by another relevant WFCC competition, i.e. the FIDE World Cup, WCCI and FIDE World Cup merge into a single competition with radically

different format, most notably: yearly competition; based on originals; judged by a panel of 3 judges instead of one single judge per Section.

Of course the obvious options “no change” or “discontinue WCCI”, are on the table, yet not recommended by WCCI Committee.

Conclusions

Based on the discussion we had across all the participants to the meeting, there is a broad consensus that a change should be undertaken, yet with 2 participants expressing a preference for maintaining the status quo, most notably as the requirement for having 5 judges is concerned.

As the preference for Option 1, 2 or 3 is concerned, opinions vary: Options 2 and 3 got the majority of the preferences, with each participant having a slight preference for one of the two options, but full openness to the other.

Each option will require further and deeper thoughts and discussion, to define all details and produce a complete and detailed proposal. That will require time and effort by the WCCI Committee, in close coordination with the FIDE Album Committee (in the light of the obvious connection of Option 1 and 2 with FIDE Album).

To avoid wasting time and efforts, it has been therefore decided to make a first step in the process, asking the Delegates to vote on the following proposal:

“Do you agree to change the format and rules of WCCI starting with the next 2025-27 cycle?”

Marco GUIDA has anticipated that he will stop serving as WCCI Spokesman in case the current format and rules of WCCI will not change.

As the vast majority of Delegates voted YES, then WCCI Spokesman confirm its wish to continue leading, with the support of Narayan Shankar Ram, the efforts of the WCCI Committee to refine and detail as appropriate the options identified above.

The goal is to prepare by the next WCCC a complete written proposal for a final vote and decision by Delegates during the next WCCC, on time to start the next cycle (2025-27) according to a new format and rules.

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 big improvement to the last year, 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

Anonymizing Entries for WFCC Formal Composing Tourneys

High-level Requirements

Marco Guida, Narayan Shankar Ram, July 11th, 2025

All entries taking part in the competition should be delivered to the Judge(s) by the Director(s) of the Tourney as a PDF file with all entries presented in anonymous and uniform layout and format.

The standpoint is that the author of a chess problem can be often identified through a number of big or small hints that, either alone or in combination, tell a lot about who the author can possibly be:

- The layout of the PDF page
- The style he uses for Diagrams
- The language he uses for describing the problem content
- The way he describes the Solution and the Play
- The style he uses to label moves
- The style he uses to comment the content (more formal vs more natural language oriented; more or less details; etc.).

Obviously, the composing style and the kind of thematic content of the problem will still tell a lot about who the composer could be, but without other hints it will be difficult for a judge to identify the author with certainty.

To properly anonymize entries, therefore, it is required to:

1. Obviously, remove references to the author (name, e-mail, postal address, City, Country, etc.).
2. Anonymize the Diagrams: they shall be same style and layout for all participants
3. Anonymize the Solution: solution shall be presented in a standardized and normalized format, using for all entries:
 - a. The same text formatting (font style, font size, line length, line spacing, line indentation, separators, number format, symbols, colours, etc.)
 - b. The same symbols/letters for identifying pieces: ideally use a symbolic notation (with icons for pieces); alternatively only use English notation (Q, K, R, S, B).
 - c. The same format for labelling moves with letters (low/high cap, parenthesis, etc.)
4. Anonymize the Language:
 - a. If a natural language description of the problem and of its thematic content is included, other than English sentences shall be translated into English.
 - b. Any non-English word, either in the Solution or in the comments, shall be translated into English.
5. Anonymize the “Style” of comments, ideally:
 - a. Comments should be re-phrased to “normalize” them, hiding as much as possible traces of personal styles.
 - b. Possibly even summarize comments, to normalize across all participants not only the style, but also the level of details given.

Such re-phrasing, if done with some AI-based technology, will also allow to adjust possible “englishized” usage of words and constructs from other native languages, as well as possible grammar errors that might reveal the native language, and therefore the Country affiliation, of participants.

I would like in this context to be rather the “end-user” setting needs, then the IT person suggesting how to solve the problem.

But unfortunately I have an IT background and I cannot refrain from suggesting that we should probably think of a tool that will offer:

- A user interface for the Composer to enter in a pre-structured way the position, the solution and the comments (I cannot think of any method or technology that will allow to meet the above requirements starting from a plain PDF ...).
- A back-endengine, possibly exploiting AI technology in certain areas.

Maybe some tool do exist already around (e.g. the Matplus tool we used last year to enter entries for the Jurmala #2 Internet Tourney organized by Marjan).

Chess Problemists' Conferences by Zoom

Based on the BCPS Easter 2025 "e-Weekend"

An experiment done by the BCPS shows that it is feasible to have entirely-online conferences of chess problemists. Here we describe the "e-Weekend" run by the BCPS at Easter 2025, as a possible model for future e-events.

Background

In the past, the BCPS held a physical weekend event once a year, but the attendance figures were low, and we decided to see if an online weekend would attract more interest. The e-event was held on the Friday evening and the Saturday afternoon and evening, April 18th and 19th 2025. It was an experimental event, which we planned over the preceding three months.

Method

The whole event was held by Zoom. Members who wished to take part were asked to send an e-mail to the controller registering their interest. Near the date of the event, those who had registered were sent the Zoom joining details by e-mail. When the event was running, attendees could join at any time and could leave the event and rejoin later whenever they wished. Two people were used to run the event, one to be meeting host and one to operate the chess position software.

Programme

The event started at 7pm (UK time) on the Friday, running through until 9.30pm. On the Saturday, the event ran from 2pm to 9.30pm. During these times, there were three lectures, given by Afek, Mestel, and Shire, each having a one-hour time slot. There were also: a Show My Problem session for an hour, the AGM of the BCPS, and social sessions where attendees chatted and exchanged ideas. In addition, there were an informal solving competition and several quizzes, for which problem sheets and quiz questions were sent out by e-mail on the Friday evening. Competitors were asked to e-mail their answers by Saturday afternoon. The results of the solving competition were announced, and all the answers given out, on the Saturday evening.

The times were chosen to make the event as accessible as possible to overseas members. The BCPS has members across the globe, so no times are ideal, but the times chosen did enable members in the Americas and Australasia to at least take part in some sessions.

Software

The BCPS already had a basic-level paid subscription to Zoom. This has a maximum meeting length of 30 hours and allows up to 100 attendees. We decided to use this for our event - hence the Friday evening and all-day Saturday times, but if the number of people registering had been greater, then we would have upgraded our subscription. The cost of the basic-level and the next-up levels are small.

Attendees were encouraged to use video rather than merely audio, to make the event more like a social occasion. Chat was also enabled. The event host admitted attendees to the event, and he oversaw the sessions, functioning as chairman. He did occasionally mute an attendee (this was not needed for any reason other than to remove background noise when an attendee hadn't realised it was from his machine). Screen-sharing enabled attendees to show problems that they hadn't notified to the controller in advance.

It is possible to use ChessBase for presenting most chess problems, and we have done so for our lectures in the past, but for our e-Weekend, David Hodge wrote a new program which he specially designed for presenting chess problems online. This worked very well. It was used for all the lectures and for several other sessions. (David is willing to make his program available to other problem societies who may want to run events like this one.)

Advertising

The e-Weekend was announced on the BCPS website and in the BCPS magazine The Problemist. This began some two months before Easter but resulted in only a modest number of registrations. About two weeks before Easter, we sent a bulk e-mail to all the BCPS members for whom we had current e-mail addresses (about 250 people). This was much more effective and about two thirds of the registrations came from this. Members continued to register up to the day the event began.

Attendees

In round numbers, 50 people registered, 45 attended at least part of the event, and the peak attendance at any one time was 30. We received feedback from about half the attendees after the event. It was clear from the comments that attendees thought the event was a considerable success.

Future events

We intend to hold another e-Weekend, probably around the same time next year. It's likely that this will be over somewhat longer than our first event, perhaps a full weekend rather than just an evening and a day. We might include morning sessions, to truly make the times accessible across the planet. We will probably also include one or more composing events, which has been requested by a lot of attendees.

It would be possible to have a somewhat more formal solving tourney as part of an online event. Brian Cook ran his Easter BOOM tourney in parallel with the e-Weekend, and the two could in future be linked together more strongly - e.g. leaving time gaps in the e-Weekend programme for people to do the BOOM solving.

An e-event does demand quite a lot of time from the organisers, prior to the event, although somewhat less than a physical event demands. During the event, a host has to be present at all times to supervise the Zoom software, and for the size of event we held, a second person to operate the chess position software is required. When we run our next event, we will also build in some resilience, having dual hosts, so that if one person's laptop were to fail there would be a back-up person ready to restart the Zoom immediately. We might also have break-out rooms, to enable two activities to happen simultaneously.

In such ways, a larger-scale e-conference is envisageable.

I would be happy to give more information on the event.

Ian Watson 26-06-25

FINANCIAL REPORT

WORLD FEDERATION FOR CHESS COMPOSITION

Balance Sheet

		2024/25	2023/24	2022/23			2024/25	2023/24	2022/23
Assets	Notes	30.06.2025	30.06.2024	30.06.2023	Liabilities and Equity	Notes	30.06.2025	30.06.2024	30.06.2023
Cash		€ 23,164	€ 22,596	€ 2,979	Retained earnings 01.07.2025		€ 7,438	€ 2,979	€ 4,480
- Bank	1	€ 18,833	€ 22,596	€ 2,979	Profit (+) / Loss(-)		€ 1,279	€ 4,459	-€ 1,500
- Petty cash		€ 4,331			Total Equity		€ 8,717	€ 7,438	€ 2,979
Debtors		€ 1,125	€ 88	€ 0	Creditors		€ 15,572	€ 15,246	€ 0
- Prepaid expense	2	€ 125	€ 88	€ 0	- FIDE Spec.project prepaid income	3.1	€ 3,000	€ 10,000	
- Prepaid support WCCC 2025		€ 1,000			- Fujairah Gov. projects prepaid income	3.2	€ 5,322	€ 4,000	
					- FIDE World Composing Cup 2025		€ 3,000		
					- Other creditors	3.3	€ 4,250	€ 1,246	
Total		€ 24,289	€ 22,684	€ 2,979	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:

€ 5,500.00 Withdrawn for cash payments 2024/25 & 2025/26
€ 3,000.00 Transferred to the organizers of WCCC 2025 for cash payments
€ 1,505.50 Producing FIDE booklet 100 endgames
€ 1,177.70 Exchange rate losses and commissions
€ 1,000.00 Prepaid WFCC support for WCCC 2025 organizers
€ **12,183.20**

€ 18,833 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

€	10,000.00	€	(7,000.00)	Total decrease 2024/25 (costs & realized income)
€	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

€	5,322.30	30.06.2025, Prepaid income for projects supported by Fujairah Government
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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 Gurgendize 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
€	4,250.00	

Income Statement 30.06.2025	notes	ACTUAL 30.06.2025	Budget	ACTUAL 30.06.2024
		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		€ (5,935)	€ (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)	
- FIDE World Composing Cup 2025		€ (3,000)		
- IT (websites)		€ (485)	€ (500)	€ (418)
- Swiss manager program - lifetime license				€ (150)
- Other expenses / & banking			€ (200)	€ (23)
Income (+) / Loss (-)		€ 1,279	€ (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
-- 1st WCCSC Youth solving, particip.fees		€	3,100	Income from Youth Solving 2024, FIDE project
		€	3,420	Income from Youth Solving, participation 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)
	30.06.25	€	694	Net income from the booklet

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,

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.

The Budget 30.06.2025	notes	Budget	
		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		€ (4,650)	€ (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)
- FIDE World Composing Cup		€ (3,000)	
- IT (websites)		€ (500)	€ (500)
- Other expenses & banking		€ (200)	€ (200)
Income (+) / Loss (-)		€ (1,650)	€ (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	

The changes in the expenses of ISC 2025, WCSC 2025 and WSC 2024-25 as above accepted by delegates.

AUDITOR's REPORT

Audit of WFCC Financial Report 2024-25 (@ June 30th, 2025) - Summary

I received from the WFCC Financial Officer the following documents for Audit prior to WCCC:

- Income Statement (July 1st 2024 – June 30th 2025): Draft and Final Version (on July 2nd, 2025).
- Balance Sheet (July 1st 2024 – June 30th 2025): Draft and Final Version (on July 10th, 2025).
- Budget, in the same format as the Income Statement, for the next financial year (July 1st 2025 – June 30th 2026): Draft and Final Version (July 10th, 2025).
- Copy of all payment receipts in the relevant financial year
- Copy of the Bank Statement @ June 30th, 2025 of the EUR Credit Account in the name of WFCC at the Sharjah Islamic Bank.

Income Statement

As per past practice, the Financial Report has been prepared following a “by competence” approach, therefore including in the Income Statement only those income and expenses related to the financial year 2024-25.

Income properly accounts for the money received in the financial year by three sources of income: FIDE and Fujairah Government (conditioned to projects developed during the year) as in the past, and fees from participants in the WCCSC Youth Solving held in 2024.

Expenses incurred by WFCC in the financial year in connection to such initiatives and projects are all properly reported and fully supported by payment receipts. We appreciate the efforts made in grouping Income and Expenses related to the same initiatives, which makes easier to understand what the money received has been used for, and if (and how much) earnings / losses each initiative has possibly generated.

Bank and Cash Flow

As recommended last year, a EUR denominated Account has been opened in August 1st, 2024 to receive payments in EUR. The pre-existing AED denominated Bank Account is still open, since cash for payments can be withdrawn only from AED denominated Bank Accounts (money is transferred from EUR to AED denominated Accounts to be withdrawn by the Treasurer), the latter therefore still existing today as a purely “technical” account.

An extensive double-check across payment receipts, Bank Statements and Balance Sheet has been carried out by Johan De Boer (Reserve Auditor), for which as Main Auditor I am very grateful. All the money received, payment issued and cash withdrawn have been reconciliated and properly reflected in the Bank Statements @ June 30th, 2025.

As a result of money transferred between the two Bank Account (transaction and currency exchange commissions) and of significant currency fluctuation during the past financial year, WFCC has experienced some higher than expected loss worth a total of 1.177,70 €, most of which last August 2024, when the new EUR Account has been opened and all the money transferred from the pre-existing AED Account in one shot.

Balance Sheet

Given the “by competence” approach taken in financial reporting, the Income Statement of the fiscal year does not include among the income certain amounts of money actually received during the current financial year (and properly included in the Bank Balance @ June 30th, 2025), but that will actually finance projects in the next financial year(s). It does not include as well any provisional expenses incurred in the current financial year for projects that will occur in the next financial year(s). Both (income and related expenses) will of-course appear in the Budget for the next financial year(s).

The Balance Sheet properly accounts for the above: both Assets and Liabilities & Equity are reported consistently with Income Statement and Cash Flow (most notably as money already received for future initiatives, and expenses already incurred in connection with future projects are concerned).

Conclusions & Recommendations for the future.

The Financial Report has been properly prepared, well documented and it correctly accounts for all material events having an impact on WFCC finances. From the Report, WFCC appears well managed and in good financial health. In consideration of the reported delays in receiving the “traditional” support from FIDE and of the uncertainty of its amount, I wish to reassure the Delegates that the continuity of the business is not at risks in the short to mid term, in consideration of the existing Assets, most notably cash reserves.

Even if most of the losses incurred during the last financial year in connection with exchange rates fluctuations are attributable to a single, one-shot event (transfer of all existing money in the AED denominated Account into the new EUR denominated Account last August 2024), currency exchange costs and currency fluctuations continue setting potential risks. It is recommended to identify and apply contingency action to minimise such risks for the future.

At the time of the approval of the Financial Report has to be voted, the Bank Statement @June 30th, 2025 of the AED denominated Account was not yet available. Given the “technical” nature of such Account, and in the light of the documented transactions, it can be reasonably estimated that the balance @ June 30th, 2025 will show a small amount (as required to keep the Account itself alive) with no material impact on WFCC finances.

I therefore recommend the delegates to provisionally approve the Financial Report as available today, subject to the final validation once the Bank Statement of the AED denominated Account will become available in the next few days.

Alba Iulia, July 11th, 2025

Marco Guida



Audit of WFCC Financial Report 2024-25 (@ June 30th, 2025) - Addendum

We received on October 1st, 2025 the Copy of the Bank Statement @ June 30th, 2025 of the AED denominated Accounts in the name of WFCC from the Sharjah Islamic Bank (July 1st 2024 – June 30th 2025), which was missing at the time the Provisional Audit Report was prepared.

The balance of the Bank Account @June 30th, 2025 is in line with the expectations.

The provisional Audit Report @July 11th, 2025, provisionally approval by Delegates on July 11th, 2025, shall therefore be made definitive, without the need of further voting.

Milano, October 13th, 2025

Marco Guida

