



World Federation for Chess Composition
63rd Ordinary Meeting (World Congress)
Rhodes, Greece, 16-23 October 2021

MINUTES

OFFICIAL PARTICIPANTS

Harry Fougiaxis	Greece	President
Thomas Maeder	Switzerland	1 st Vice-President
Vidmantas Satkus	Lithuania	2 nd Vice-President
Luc Palmans	Belgium	3 rd Vice-President
Neal Turner	Finland	Secretary
Alexander Kostka	Austria	Deputy
Milan Petras	Czech Republic	Deputy
Bjørn Enemark	Denmark	Delegate
Hannu Harkola	Finland	Delegate
Axel Gilbert	France	Delegate
Rainer Kuhn	Germany	Deputy
Paz Einat	Israel	Deputy
Julia Vysotska	Latvia	Delegate
Johan de Boer	Netherlands	Delegate
Piotr Górski	Poland	Delegate
Dinu-Ioan Nicula	Romania	Delegate
Andrey Selivanov	Russia	Delegate
Marjan Kovačević	Serbia	Delegate
Marek Kolčák	Slovakia	Deputy
Kjell Widlert	Sweden	Delegate
Valery Kopyl	Ukraine	Delegate
Abdulla Ali Hassan	United Arab Emirates	Delegate
Aal Barket Alameeri		

The following countries were not represented:

Argentina, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Bosnia-Herzegovina, Brazil, Bulgaria, Croatia, Estonia, Georgia, Great Britain, Hungary, Italy, Japan, Kazakhstan, Moldova, Mongolia, Morocco, North Macedonia, Slovenia, Spain, United States.

Persons who contributed actively included: Nikos Kalesis and family, Nikos Vasilakis and the 'Knight of Rhodes' chess club, Themis Argirakopoulos (organisation), Luc Palmans, Paz Einat, Neal Turner, Juraj Lörinc (solving events), Udo Degener, Kostas Prentos (composing tourneys).

Valuable support was provided by the sponsors: the Southern Aegean Sea Prefecture and the Municipality of Rhodes, WFCC and the Greek Chess Federation, the Rodos Palace Hotel.

1 Opening Address

The president Harry Fougiaxis opened the meeting and welcomed delegates and observers. He thanked Nikos Kalesis and Nikos Vasilakis for organising the congress and the championship as part of the Rhodes Chess Festival 2021.

2 Tributes

The assembly stood in memory of the following problemists who passed away during the previous two years:

Berta Maćaš	Serbia	(30.11.1937 - 01.06.2016)
Jožef Čengeri	Serbia	(22.08.1942 - 05.02.2018)
Anatoly Bezgodkov	Ukraine	(20.03.1941 - 24.01.2019)
Dragoljub Djokić	Serbia	(24.09.1932 - 19.06.2019)
Pal Benko	Hungary/United States	(15.07.1928 - 26.08.2019)
Matti Kokkonen	Finland	(23.07.1943 - 28.08.2019)
Yoel Aloni	Israel	(30.09.1937 - 09.09.2019)
Sergei Zakharov	Russia	(31.01.1952 - 14.09.2019)
Harri Hurme	Finland	(02.06.1945 - 23.09.2019)
Mirko Marković	Serbia	(22.12.1944 - 26.09.2019)
Roman Yanko	Ukraine	(13.09.1956 - 27.09.2019)
Tomislav Petrović	Serbia	(19.11.1931 - 01.10.2019)
György Bakcsi	Hungary	(06.04.1933 - 11.10.2019)
Oleksandr Dashkovsky	Ukraine	(14.01.1956 - 11.10.2019)
Holger Helledie	Denmark	(24.10.1951 - 24.11.2019)
Nikos Pergialis	Greece	(28.02.1931 - 04.12.2019)
Edward Pałtasz	Poland	(30.08.1936 - 22.12.2019)
Ľudovít Lačný	Slovakia	(08.12.1926 - 25.12.2019)
Mukkur Parthasarathy	India	(21.06.1929 - 03.01.2020)
Ramutis Juozėnas	Lithuania	(25.10.1936 - 20.01.2020)
Vazha Neidze	Georgia	(08.03.1937 - 11.02.2020)
Richard Guy	Great Britain/Australia	(30.09.1916 - 11.03.2020)
Milutin Tasić	Serbia	(23.06.1930 - 19.03.2020)
Yves Tallec	France	(09.12.1927 - 22.04.2020)
Henk Weenink	Netherlands	(22.02.1947 - 07.05.2020)
Vladimir Chekarkov	Russia	(05.01.1937 - 08.05.2020)
Zdeněk Zach	Czech Republic	(05.05.1944 - 22.05.2020)
Eugenijus Bachvalovas	Lithuania	(25.01.1942 - 28.05.2020)
Sergei Rummyantsev	Russia	(10.04.1956 - 02.07.2020)
Raimo Sailas	Finland	(13.09.1945 - 17.07.2020)
Branko Babić	Serbia	(26.10.1978 - 20.07.2020)
Sergei Volobuev	Russia	(18.11.1958 - 04.08.2020)
Jan Lerch	Czech Republic	(14.09.1942 - 26.08.2020)
Donald Smedley	Great Britain	(31.12.1933 - 12.10.2020)
Haji Mammadov	Azerbaijan	(23.05.1954 - 18.11.2020)
Pietro Rossi	Italy	(26.05.1924 - 18.11.2020)

Günther Weeth	Germany	(13.08.1935 - 28.12.2020)
Djordje Petrović	Serbia	(05.04.1946 - 30.12.2020)
Yoav Ben-Zvi	Israel	(03.06.1957 - 31.12.2020)
Mikhail Zinar	Ukraine	(09.05.1951 - 04.02.2021)
Alain Biénabe	France	(03.10.1958 - 22.02.2021)
Jaroslav Štúň	Slovakia	(26.02.1951 - 24.02.2021)
Odette Vollenweider	Switzerland	(30.07.1933 - 26.02.2021)
Mark Basisty	Ukraine	(31.08.1957 - 21.03.2021)
Yves Cheylan	France	(14.11.1938 - 01.05.2021)
Harry Goldsteen	Netherlands	(26.07.1939 - 05.06.2021)
Sergey Chidemyan	Armenia	(17.10.1949 - 24.06.2021)
Felix Rossomakho	Russia	(02.08.1937 - 13.08.2021)
Piet le Grand	Netherlands	(08.06.1935 - 14.08.2021)
Ian Shanahan	Australia	(13.06.1962 - 27.08.2021)
Roman Zalokotsky	Ukraine	(03.05.1940 - 17.09.2021)
Vladimir Sychov	Belarus	(01.02.1939 - 21.09.2021)
Colin Russ	Great Britain	(19.03.1930 - 22.09.2021)
Veikko Valo	Finland	(25.08.1945 - 26.09.2021)
Marco Campioli	Italy	(10.06.1954 - 17.10.2021)

3 Verification of Attendance and Voting Rights

21 countries were represented at the beginning of the opening session, and the meeting was declared legal.

4 Approval of the Vilnius Minutes 2019

The Minutes of the 2019 meeting were approved without amendment.

5 Membership of the Standing Committees

5.1. WCCT: [G. Evseev], spokesman, K. Widlert acting spokesman
O. Comay, [V. Dyachuk], H. Fougiaxis, V. Kopyl, T. Maeder, [P.Gvozdják]

5.2. WCCI: [D. Turevsky], spokesman
[D.Gurgenidze], [Z. Hernitz], V. Kopyl, [D. Kostadinov], V. Paliulionis, [M. Prcic], A. Selivanov, K. Widlert

5.3 Solving: L. Palmans, spokesman
M. Kolčák, [M. Mladenović], R. Ott, Vid. Satkus, A. Selivanov, [A. Steinbrink]

5.4. FIDE Album: H. Fougiaxis, spokesman
[G. Büsing], P. Einat, [G. Evseev], [P. Gvozdják], A. Selivanov, K. Widlert

5.5. Qualifications: D.-I. Nicula, spokesman
J. de Boer, B. Enemark, H. Fougiaxis

5.6. Computer Matters: T. Maeder, spokesman
B. Enemark, [I. Ketris], [M. Krížovenský], [M. Schlosser], [B. Stephenson], [D. Turevsky],
J. Vysotska, K. Widlert

5.7. Studies: S. Slumstrup Nielsen, spokesman
[Y. Afek], [I. Aliev], [G. Costeff], [D. Gurgenzidze], [H. van der Heijden], M. Van Herck,
[S. Hornecker], M. Minski, O. Pervakov, [J. Roycroft]

5.8. Codex: K. Widlert, spokesman
M. Caillaud, B. Enemark, [B. Stephenson]

5.9. Youth: M. Kovačević, spokesman
M. Caillaud, O. Comay, V. Crişan, P. Einat, [D. Gurgenzidze], [M. McDowell], D.-I. Nicula,
S. Slumstrup Nielsen, A. Selivanov, J. Vysotska, [T. Wakashima]

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:

- Solving Norms and Solving Titles for Women
- Use of STM for rated solving tournaments
- Yearly World Championship in solving of fairy problems
Solving Committee
- Announcement of Album 2019-21
FIDE Album committee
- Announcement of WCCI 2019-21
WCCI committee
- Qualifying problems from WCCI claimed anticipated in the Album judging phase
FIDE Album and WCCI committees
- Proposal of Ferhat Karmil and suggestions regarding FIDE World Cup
Assembly
- Report of task force on virtual meetings
Assembly

7 Miscellaneous

7.1 Review of the year

Due to the world-wide Covid restrictions much activity had to be curtailed, however some events had still taken place.

Thomas Maeder referred to the emergence of online 'in-situ' solving tourneys and proffered a vote of thanks to those whose work had enabled these to take place.

Paz Einat reported that in Israel they had instigated tourneys which, along with conventional solving, there were unusual stipulations such as construction tasks, corrections, 'best key'. The novel format had had the effect of attracting newcomers.

Vidmantas Satkus related that the relaxing of Covid restrictions had enabled meetings to resume and competitions had been arranged to which foreigners had been invited.

The juniors were not forgotten. Piotr Górski reported that a 'chess puzzles for kids' initiative in Poland had attracted 700 participants, while in Russia an event organised by Andrey Selivanov had seen 30 junior solvers taking part.

7.2 Future Meetings and WCSC

One proposal had been received for the 64th WCCC (& 45th WCSC):

- Fujairah, United Arab Emirates (12-19 November 2022)

A presentation was made by the UAE delegate Mr Abdulla Ali Hassan Aal Barket Alameeri.

Three proposals had been received for the 15th ECSC:

- Kiev, Ukraine (22-25 April 2022)
- Poltava, Ukraine (22-25 April 2022)
- Riga, Latvia (13-15 May 2022)

Presentations were made by Mr Kopyl (UKR) and Ms Vysotska (LAT).

One proposal had been received for the 65th WCCC (& 46th WCSC):

- Sairme, Georgia (13-20 October 2023)

One proposal had been received for the 16th ECSC:

- Moscow, Russia (12-15 May 2023)

7.3 Proposals

7.3.1 Andrey Selivanov submitted a proposal referring to Annex III of the Statutes, in particular the clause addressing Solving Norms:

Norms for the titles International Solving Grandmaster (GM), International Solving Master (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.

Mr Selivanov pointed out that due to the special circumstances of the Covid pandemic a number of top solvers, who might normally have attended, were missing. The result was that the 5 solver target for 2550 could not be met. This would mean that no matter how well a solver did in the current WCSC they could not obtain a GM norm.

Mr Selivanov felt that this would be unfair to those solvers participating in this year's event taking place in these extraordinary times.

The proposal was that for this tournament the above requirement be waived and that the norms would be granted based on rating performance only.

A proposal to give this to the Solving Committee for consideration, with any changes being retroactively implemented to include this year's results did not find favour. The spokesman of the Solving Committee Mr Palmans suggested the proposal be discussed in the Assembly.

Mr Einat proposed that, as an exceptional measure, the minimum number be changed from 5 to 4 just for this year's WCSC. This was endorsed by Mr Kovačević.

A vote was sanctioned, with the stipulation that as it was a question of modifying the Statutes, a two thirds majority would be required.

The result of the vote was: 13 for, 5 against, 2 abstentions.

So Mr Einat's proposal was passed.

During the discussion, it was pointed out that there are currently only 11 solvers in the world with a rating of 2550 and a number of those are inactive. Mr Palmans noted that the Solving Committee is aware this will remain an issue in the future and eventually it may become rare for tournaments to have 5 solvers with a rating of more than 2550. The Committee will discuss this specific item after the congress and hopefully find a workable solution.

7.3.2 Mr Ferhat Karmil (Georgia) had submitted a document (Annex 1) which consisted of three proposals:

- a. To manage the administration of the FIDE World Cup on the website ChessStar.com.
- b. The formation of a WFCC ethics committee.
- c. The creation of an arbitration commission to appoint judges and handle complaints from participants in WFCC composing tourneys.

These proposals had been assigned to the Assembly for consideration, but none of them found favour and all were turned down without a vote.

8 Reports and Discussion

8.1 Solving Committee

8.1.1 International Solving Contest (ISC)

- 16th ISC 2020

The 16th ISC took place on 26th January 2020 with 885 solvers from 47 countries participating in 48 tournaments in 31 countries.

Central controller Axel Steinbrink thanked the local controllers as well as the following:

- Ivan Denkovski, Luc Palmans, Marjan Kovačević and Neal Turner for selecting the problems.
- Luc Palmans for preparing the problem and solution sheets.
- Borislav Gadjanski for his help with all activities concerning Mat Plus and daily updates of results on Mat Plus.

The results were as follows:

Category 1: 1. Ulrich Voigt (GER), 2. Kacper Piorun (POL), 3. Evgeny Viktorov (RUS)

Category 2: 1. Aleksandr Smirnov (RUS), 2. Miķelis Emīls Miķelsons (LAT), 3. Bartosz Swiatek (POL)

Category 3: 1. Nikita Ushakov (RUS), 2. Agnesa Stepania Ter-Avetisjan (LAT), 3. Daniil Maneluk (RUS)

Top results for juniors, women and seniors in Category 1 were:

Juniors: 1. Danila Moiseev (RUS), 2. Danila Pavlov (RUS), 3-4. Maksim Romanov (RUS) and Ilija Serafimović (SRB)

Women: 1. Aleksandra Safronova (RUS), 2. Laura Rogule (LAT), 3. Lilia Kosolapova (RUS)

Seniors: 1. John Nunn (GBR), 2. Jorma Paavilainen (FIN), 3. Anatoly Mukoseev (RUS)

- 17th ISC 2021

The 17th ISC which took place on 24th January 2021 was much reduced by the pandemic.

There were 30 tournaments in 10 countries (20 tournaments in Russia) with participants totalling 426 (257 in Russia).

Central controller Axel Steinbrink thanked the local controllers as well as the following:

- Ivan Denkovski who selected most of the problems.
- Luc Palmans for preparing the problem and solution sheets.
- Borislav Gadjanski for the daily update of the results on the Mat Plus website.
- Oleg Efrosinin who coordinated 11 tournaments in Russia with more than 40% of all solvers.

The results were as follows:

Category 1: 1. Danila Pavlov (RUS), 2. Maksim Romanov (RUS), 3. Aleksey Popov (RUS)

Category 2: 1. Nikolay Zhugin (RUS), 2. Serafim Bunin (RUS), 3. Egor Sokolov (RUS)

Category 3: 1. Mariya Karpekina (RUS), 2. Ekaterina Kirdyashkina (RUS), 3. Ulyana Kolodchenko (RUS)

Top results for juniors, women and seniors in Category 1 were:

Juniors: 1. Danila Pavlov (RUS), 2. Maksim Romanov (RUS), 3. Aleksey Popov (RUS)

Women: 1. Lilia Kosolapova (RUS), 2. Marina Kuznetsova (RUS), 3. Marina Putintseva (RUS)

Seniors: 1. Valery Kopyl (UKR), 2. Vladimir Pogorelov (UKR), 3. Anatoly Mukoseev (RUS)

- 18th ISC 2022

The 18th ISC was set to go ahead on 23rd January 2022 with Axel Steinbrink and Luc Palmans as central controllers. The announcement has already been posted on the WFCC site.

8.1.2 World Solving Cup

Director Roland Ott reported as follows:

For the WSC cycle 2019/2020 there were only 10 tournaments compared with 19 of the previous cycle. However, with Aleksey Popov a clear winner could be found, ahead of Piotr Murdzia and Martynas Limontas in places 2 and 3 respectively.

Because of the Covid pandemic, the WSC cycle 2020/2021 had to be cancelled before any tournaments took place.

The new WSC cycle 2021/2022 was set to start immediately after the Congress and will have its first tournament on 27 November 2021 in Bern, Switzerland.

Most countries which participated before have already registered.

All others can still register by sending an email to the Director with expected date range, place and type of tournament not later than 23 November 2021.

If it is too early for them to specify this information, writing only the intention to organise a WSC event in 2022 would be enough for registering.

But it is mandatory to send the announcement/invitation of each tournament at least two months before it starts.

The last tournament of the 2021-22 World Solving Cup will be the Open Solving Tournament of the 2022 congress, scheduled for November 14, 2022.

The 2022-23 World Solving Cup will start on October 1st, 2022.

In the period of Oct 1, 2022 to Nov 13, 2022 countries could choose for which cycle they want to have their WSC tournament if they had not already one for the 2021/2022 cycle.

8.1.3 European Chess Solving Championship (ECSC)

Due to the pandemic there were no competitions held in 2020 or 2021.

8.1.4 World Chess Solving Championship (WCSC) 2021

The director Luc Palmans thanked the president and organisers for the excellent conditions they provided. He thanked helpers Paz Einat and Neal Turner and also acknowledged the assistance of Roland Ott, Axel Steinbrink and Miodrag Mladenović with administrative functions.

He then announced the results of the 44th WCSC.

With 16 teams and 65 solvers participating, the top results are:

Teams		Individuals	
1. Russia	174	1. Danila Pavlov (RUS)	90
2. Poland	168	2. Kacper Piorun (POL)	81 (339')
3. Serbia	150.25	3. Ural Khasanov (RUS)	81 (360')
4. Netherlands	143	4. Eddy Van Beers (BEL)	80
5. Lithuania	138.5	5. Piotr Murdzia (POL)	79.5
6. Greece-1	135	6. Piotr Górski (POL)	78.5
7. France	130.75	7. David Hodge (GBR)	77.5
8. Belgium	130	8. Danila Moiseev (RUS)	76.75
9. Germany	129.75	9. Ilija Serafimović (SRB)	75.75
10. Israel	120.5	10. Marjan Kovačević (SRB)	72.5

The three top solvers in the category of seniors (18 participants): 1. Marjan Kovačević (SRB), 2. Michel Caillaud (FRA), 3. Jorma Paavilainen (FIN). 13 juniors competed, the top places going to Danila Pavlov (RUS), Ural Khasanov (RUS) and Danila Moiseev (RUS). This year there were 3 lady solvers, Marina Putintseva (RUS), Kamila Hryshchenko (UKR) and Ajuna Soerjadi (NED).

There were 64 participants in the Open Solving Tournament, directed by Paz Einat assisted by Neal Turner and Luc Palmans.

The winners were: 1. Eddy Van Beers (BEL), 2. Ural Khasanov (RUS), 3. Piotr Murdzia (POL).
Best seniors out of 19 participants were: 1. Mark Erenburg (ISR), 2. Michel Caillaud (FRA), 3. Ofer Comay (ISR). From the 13 juniors taking part, the top solvers were: 1. Ural Khasanov (RUS), 2. Danila Pavlov (RUS), 3. Danila Moiseev (RUS).

8.1.5 Other Solving Matters

- The Committee proposed to reduce the period of inactivity from 5 to 3 years for a solver to be designated 'non-active' and removed from the solvers' rating list. Solvers that became active again would be restored to the list with their current rating.

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

The Committee had discussed the exact date for this '3-year period' (mostly by email before the congress) and there was an agreement for 2 January 2025. This will be included in the STM.

For consistency, the Committee suggested updating also the WCSC (ECSC) rules as follows:

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

In a vote the Assembly accepted these changes: 20 for, 1 abstention.

- It was proposed that solving titles for women be introduced: Women International Solving Grandmaster (WGM), Women International Solving Master (WIM) and Women FIDE Solving Master (WFM). In each case the conditions for norms and titles would be the same as for men except that the required ratings would be 100 points lower. This follows the policy of FIDE for women chess players, but it became the object of heated debate with varied opinions both for and against.

Finally the proposal was put to a vote: 12 for, 1 against with 8 abstentions - and so was passed.

- The subject of an official World Championship for Fairy Solving was broached. With fairy chess becoming more and more significant there was a need to recognise it in the sphere of solving. As previous attempts to include it in the WCSC have failed, then maybe a separate competition could be instigated. The Solving committee were asking for the go-ahead to set up a task force to examine the possibilities. Despite some doubts being expressed in the room, the president was of the opinion that the task force idea was good and that the Solving committee should proceed.

- A slight change in the text of the Guidelines document (under point 6) was agreed: "...published problems at least six years old or modified published problems at least six years old."

- Solving tournament directors will be encouraged to use STM, and would be coached in the use of the application if necessary. However, it would not be mandatory.

- A proposal that the organising country could enter 3 teams (currently 2) in the WCSC did not find favour with the Solving Committee, as it would reduce the level of the competition.

8.2 WCCT Committee

Acting spokesman Kjell Widlert reported on the status of the 11th WCCT.

All the entries had been distributed to the judging countries, and the judging was in progress with the results due by September 2022.

8.3 WCCI Committee

Kjell Widlert reported that the task of finding judges for the next WCCI was still in progress with Mr Kopyl working hard to complete it.

The question had been discussed of problems qualifying for the FIDE Albums from the WCCI that later proved to be unsound or anticipated. If this occurred before the Album indexing was finalised, then the Album editor would not want to include them.

The recommendation of the WCCI committee was that in this case the problem should be reviewed by the Album judges and if deemed to be excluded, any Album points gained by the problem subtracted. However if the composer had already been awarded a title based on these points then the title should not be taken away (see also 8.4.3).

8.4 FIDE Album Committee

8.4.1 2016-2018 Album

Spokesman Mr Fougiaxis reported progress on the 2016-18 Album.

Editor Peter Gvozdják had related that the indexing work was going smoothly, except for the fairies section in which the selected problems had been submitted with delay. Deadlines were set for the end of the year (fairies will need a couple of months more), and there would be enough time for the printing to be completed by the next Congress.

8.4.2 2019-2021 Album

Judges were selected in all sections and the Spokesman announced the names. He also laid out the schedule for the Album 2019-21 as follows:

- Announcement	1.1.2022
- Submissions	1.6.2022
- Directors forward problems to judges	1.9.2022
- Directors forward final report to Spokesman	1.9.2023
- Spokesman forwards problems to Editor	1.11.2023
- Indexing, typesetting and printing	1.5.2025

8.4.3 Other Album matters

The committee had discussed the phenomena of the continuing increase in the number of problems qualifying for the Albums. The new Album would contain over 2000 problems in 1000 pages.

It was conjectured that the use of computers was leading to a general improvement in the level of composing.

Suggestions to try to address the situation included raising the threshold from 8 to 8.5 points, or possibly splitting the Album into two volumes.

The question had arisen: Who is the Director of the Album?

The answer, according to Mr Fougiaxis, was that there was no official office of Director, but that the Committee spokesman could be considered the *de facto* director.

Mr Harkola expressed some concerns about the seemingly uneven access to the Albums, citing the Endgames section of the up-coming Album where, out of 168 entries, 120 were by just 3 composers. Did this point to something wrong with the system?

Mr Kovačević suggested that often it was a limited number of composers that dictated the 'fashion' in a genre, which could lead to their over-representation in the Albums.

Also there is a smaller number of active composers nowadays than in the past.

With reference to the issue of problems qualifying from the WCCI which turned out to be cooked or anticipated (see 8.3), the committee supported the suggestion that these should be reviewed by the Album judges too and be excluded, if confirmed defective. This was approved by the Assembly without a vote.

8.5 Qualifications Committee

The spokesman Dinu-loan Nicula thanked the members of the committee, Harry Fougiaxis, Bjørn Enemark, Johan de Boer for their work and proposed the award of composing, solving and judging titles as follows:

International Master of the FIDE for Chess Compositions to:

Mark Erenburg (Israel)
Mikhail Khramsevitsch (Belarus)
Olivier Schmitt (France)

FIDE Master for Chess Compositions to:

Aleksandr Kostyukov (Russia)
Mikhail Mishko † (Ukraine)
Pierre Tritten (France)
Julia Vysotska (Latvia)
Viktor Zheglov (Russia)

International Grandmaster of the FIDE for Solving to:

Danila Pavlov (Russia)

International Master of the FIDE for Solving to:

Ural Khasanov (Russia)
Nikos Sidiropoulos (Greece)

FIDE Solving Master to:

David Hodge (Great Britain)
Frank Richter (Germany)
Ilija Serafimović (Serbia)

International Judge of the FIDE for Chess Compositions to:

Igor Agapov (Russia) – threemovers
Aleksandr Azhusin (Russia) – selfmates
Sergey Bilyk (Russia) – threemovers
Mikola Chernyavsky (Ukraine) – twomovers
Ferhat Karmil [ex-Ferad Kakabadze] (Georgia) – moremovers
Valery Kirillov (Russia) – moremovers, selfmates
Anatoly Mityushin (Ukraine) – helpmates
Pavel Murashev (Russia) – twomovers
Anatoly Styopochkin (Russia) – selfmates
Aleksandr Sygurov (Russia) – threemovers, moremovers

FIDE Solving Judge to:

Paz Einat (Israel)

All these titles were accepted by the assembly by acclamation.

8.6 Computer Matters Committee

Thomas Maeder reported that there were no topics of discussion this year and the committee did not meet.

8.7 Studies Committee

There was nothing to report from the Studies committee.

8.8 Codex Committee

There was nothing to report from the Codex committee.

8.9 Youth Committee

Marjan Kovačević reported the results of the 5th Youth Chess Composing Challenge. He described the results as extraordinary, with a record 50 participants from 12 countries, with many such as Canada, France, Vietnam appearing for the first time.

The results were as follows:

Section A – twomovers (Judge David Shire):

1. Ural Khasanov (Russia), 2. Ilija Serafimović (Serbia), 3. Hajime Tachioka (Japan)

Section B – endgames (Judge Steffen Slumstrup Nielsen):

1. Aleksey Popov (Russia), 2. Ilija Serafimović (Serbia), 3. Andrii Sergiienko (Ukraine)

Section C – free theme / all genres (with a panel of 10 judges):

1. Toshimasa Fujiwara (Japan), 2. Benjamin Defromont (France), 3. Itay Richardson (Israel)

Mr Kovačević thanked the judges and pointed out the importance of internet sources for bringing problem chess to the attention of a new generation.

There was special mention of Yochanan Afek for his articles on Chessbase and Facebook.

The organisers planned to repeat the formula next year, while introducing the idea of a 'workshop' with the judges offering guidance and encouragement to the participants.

8.10 Task Force on virtual meetings

During 2021 a number of virtual meetings had taken place using the Zoom platform. The meetings had been hosted by Andrey Selivanov with Harry Fougiaxis and Julia Vysotska as co-hosts.

The meetings were a success with many delegates, as well as others, participating and much useful discussion taking place. It was considered desirable that this type of virtual gatherings should continue in the future. If this were to happen it would be necessary to give them official status with guidelines, rules, protocols defined concerning jurisdiction, participation, voting etc, allowing them to proceed in conformance with the Statutes.

A task force was set up whose members (Kjell Widlert, Marjan Kovačević, Thomas Maeder, Axel Gilbert, Shankar Ram) would examine the options and report back with recommendations.

The task force had produced a summary of their discussions (Annex 2) and put forward proposals for amending the Statutes with reference to virtual meetings. The proposals consisted of two new sub-paragraphs which would be added to paragraphs "6.3 Representatives" and "8 Meetings".

It was pointed out that the two paragraphs essentially said the same thing and could be merged into one. A new formulation was proposed which would be inserted under paragraph 8 of the Statutes, "Meetings":

8.3 Physical and online participation at Meetings

For both Ordinary and Extraordinary meetings, the online participation of members may be allowed. If necessary, a live meeting may be completely replaced by an online meeting. Members participating online and members physically present have equal rights.

In the subsequent discussion questions were raised about the wording 'may be'.

It was explained that this referred to the fact that 'hybrid' meetings would only be possible if the technology was available in the room. Without it there could be no online participation in live meetings.

In a vote the amendment was passed unanimously.

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

With no meeting having taken place last year, the treasurer Thomas Maeder presented two sets of documents (Annex 3) to the Assembly:

- The financial report 2019-20 with the budget for 2020-21 and the balance sheet of 30.06.2020.
- The financial report 2020-21 with the budget for 2021-22 and the balance sheet of 30.06.2021.

The auditor, Bjørn Enemark confirmed that he had reviewed the documents and found them in order.

It was pointed out by Mr Kovačević that there was no provision in the budget for next year's ECSC. Mr Maeder replied that no request had been submitted, however when pressed on the need for support, he agreed that 500€ should be allocated.

The financial report and budget were accepted in a vote: 18 for, 2 abstentions.

10 Election of Auditors

The current auditor, Bjørn Enemark and a new reserve auditor, Johan de Boer were proposed and were accepted (no formal voting).

11 Future Meetings

Of the three proposals that had been received for the 15th ECSC that of Poltava was withdrawn, leaving a choice between Kiev, Ukraine (22-25 April 2022) and Riga, Latvia (13-15 May 2022).

In a secret vote the result was: Riga 11 votes, Kiev 5 votes with 5 abstentions.

The bid of Riga was accepted.

The bid of Fujairah, United Arab Emirates for the 64th WCCC (& 45th WCSC) on 12-19 November 2022 was the only one received and was accepted without a vote.

The two applications for 2023 - Moscow (ECSC) and Sairme (WCCC) - were discussed, with the conclusion that it was too early to make a decision before other countries had had the opportunity to bid.

However as the next Congress was happening so late in the year, a new protocol needed to be devised to give the successful bidders enough time to organise. It was decided that countries be set a deadline of 1.4.2022 to submit their proposals for hosting the 65th WCCC or 16th ECSC in 2023. After this date there would be one or more virtual meetings where the bidders would have the opportunity to give presentations and answer questions. Voting would then proceed.

12 Any Other Business

The President reminded delegates that next year would be an election year for the Presidium.

He gave notice that he would not standing for re-election, and was doing this in order to give delegates time to consider their options.

13 Conclusion

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

Harry Fougiaxis (President)

Neal Turner (Secretary)

November 2021

OPEN APPEAL

Dear Mr. President of the WFCC!
Dear delegates of the WFCC International Congress!

I, Ferhat Karmil, master of FIDE chess composition, owner and founder of the site ChessStar.com, I am writing to you with a proposal for the regular holding of the World Cup on the composition of chess compositions on the website ChessStar.com - item "A".

I am also sending two proposals for the work of the WFCC - items "B" and "C".

A) The IX FIDE World Cup-2021 is undoubtedly a prestigious competition:

https://www.wfcc.ch/competitions/composing/fidewcc_2021/

However, with all its advantages, as the collective discussion on the Internet networks showed, a number of fundamental shortcomings were identified. I will write about these shortcomings below, but now I want to introduce to you the site ChessStar.com so that you have a clear idea of why it is important to hold World Cups using our capabilities.

At the moment on the website www.chessstar.com a universal Internet platform has been developed that allows in practice to take advantage of all the advantages in conducting any complexity of composing contests online, including anonymous contests.

Website ChessStar.com is the only chess composition website where registered chess composers can design their compositions in real time in their "Personal Account" and send them to various competitions, with the possibility of editing their works during the competition period.

There are two types of registration on the site: "Standard" and "Anonymous".

When registering a user "standard", the user's first name, last name, country of residence and email address are known, and he/she can take part in both annual contests of the site and in other, various contests (anniversary, memorial and others), with different dates.

When registering a user "anonymously", the login is issued to the anonymous user automatically. This type of registration allows users to participate only in anonymous contests, with limited access to some sections of the site. The author's personal data is unknown to anyone.

After the final results of anonymous contests, this user is given the opportunity to enter his valid data (first name, last name, country of residence and email address) and he/she is notified about this, both in the newsletter and in the message in the "Personal Account". Personal data (first name, last name, country of residence and e-mail address, which is necessary to identify the author) are transferred automatically to their works as soon as these users enter their data and confirm the data entry by clicking on the "Save" button. The judges' report is drawn up within the time specified in the terms of the competition and is published on the website, in the news. Section: results of competitions:

https://www.chessstar.com/news/composition/sections_news.php?SECTION_ID=465 .

Anonymous users are automatically deactivated after they save the entered data in the "Personal Account", due to their irrelevance.

The "Anonymous" registration button is active if an anonymous contest is relevant.

On the ChessStar website for anonymous users, any number of registrations is possible.

We have already successfully conducted one anonymous contest "Fazilet-100MT" (https://www.chessstar.com/competitions/anonymous/others/others.php?SECTION_ID=1583) in 2020 and we are holding the second anonymous contest "RASIM-100MT".

A new functional related to the animation of moves was introduced on the site in 2021. It is already working and mastering by chess composers.

At the beginning of 2022, we will add English language as well as other genres, such as cooperative, self mats, and so on, i.e. all genres specified in the terms of the World Cup competition will function on the site.

Moreover, we also offer a newsletter, thanks to which subscribers, and we have more than 800 of them, will be able to receive the latest news, and there is also an opportunity to use videos in English and Russian in advertising, which we have already started publishing on our YouTube channel: https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCxfKpKJfvaRZmMOc3_Siowg

Further. The functions of the site moderators will include exclusively the administration of the site. All possible problems on the site will be solved by the site. Since backup is performed daily on the hosting where our site is hosted, there can be no question of any data loss.

The status in holding such a tournament as the World Cup, of course, remains the same.

The site administration will be fully accountable to the organizers of the tournament during its holding.

And now I will describe the identified shortcomings during the World Cup in recent years.

It is important to note that the method of conducting this competition is outdated and has outlived itself, it is high time to use new technologies, in particular the possibilities of Internet resources, where many processes that take a lot of time and effort "in manual mode" take place automatically. See for yourself.

1. The participants of the World Cup send their works to the director, who knows all the author's data! This is already a violation of anonymity, since none of the participants is immune from the fact that their data will not be known to interested third parties, meaning both the organizers of the contest and the judges! Moreover, it is a very time-consuming job for the director to sort through all the compositions, then depersonalize them and send them to the judges and so on! This takes a lot of time and effort, as reported above.

2. When judges receive competitive works from the tournament director, it can be very difficult to meet the tight deadlines set by the terms of the competition for the preparation of a judicial report at the proper level. Hence the superficiality in the judicial reports.

3. The organizers of the World Cup take part in their own competition. This is not very correct in relation to the participants of the contest and to the judges in whose sections their works take part.

4. There is no possibility for the contest participants to freely edit their contest works.

What is the advantage of hosting the World Cup on the website ChessStar.com ?

1. There are no contest directors ("intermediaries" between the participants of the anonymous contest and the judges).

2. It is not possible for the organizers of the contest and the site administrators to determine which of the submitted works may belong to one or another author.

3. All users see the published contest works on the site pages.

4. Any of the contest participants can edit their works and correct them online during the period specified by the terms of the contest.

5. The simplicity of forming participants works in the "Personal account", with their subsequent submission to the contest, thanks to a special program, both in text format and with the help of animation moves.

6. The time of publication of the author's works on the site is almost instantaneous, since when sending a composition to the contest, the moderator immediately receives a message about the received composition.

7. Judges can immediately review, check for predecessors or select tasks and sketches for preliminary award.

8. Easy registration, logins are granted to registered users automatically in the form of CS-N (where N is any integer).

9. Participants have the option to publish the competition problems and studies so that the publication could see only judges of their sections, and each of the contestants could only see his/her

work, they want to edit in the competitive period. All published works will be visible after the preliminary results.

As you can see, everything is simple and transparent. There is no bureaucracy associated with the receptions of compositions, then their depersonalization, followed by sending to the judges. Everything is done on the site in automatic mode!

We guarantee that no data will be lost, and we are fully responsible for holding such a contest on the site.

The site administration and its management, including myself, will be accountable to the organizers of the World Cup for the duration of the competition, as reported above.

Spending World Cups on the ChessStar website can save both time and money!

Moreover, we offer all international competitions on our website under the auspices of the WFCC! We have all the conditions for holding any contests.

In my opinion, the proposed format of the competition will allow subsequent Cups to be held at a higher technical level, eliminating these shortcomings.

B) Due to the fact that recently there has been a situation where the attitude of some chess composers goes beyond elementary etiquette, I propose to create a WFCC ethics commission, which will have all the powers in terms of preventive and administrative measures.

C) I also propose to create an arbitration commission, whose rights and duties will include the appointment of judges for the World Cup and other competitions held by the WFCC, consideration of complaints from participants of these competitions, and so on.

Regarding the selection of referees for the World Cup, the format of public discussion of candidates is also possible. Namely, at the preliminary stage, the delegates of the countries propose the candidacy of an arbitrator by sections (it does not have to be the arbitrator of their country). And then the list is put to the vote of delegates who can vote for one arbitrator, except for the candidate nominated by this delegate. At the same time, the delegate must first obtain consent from the candidate for judging.

I would like to emphasize that if you, dear Mr. President of the WFCC and delegates of the WFCC International Congress approve this appeal, regarding point A), all agreements between the site ChessStar.com in my person and the WFCC in the person of the President will be supported by legal and organizational mechanisms that create guarantees for the fulfillment of all our obligations. The requirements of the European Law on Personal Data (GDPR) will also be met.

I ask you to publish my APPEAL on the WFCC website and the WFCC Congress website, as well as to consider my proposals by the Congress delegates.

Sincerely, Ferhat Karmil,

admin@chessstar.com

Batumi, Georgia, 03/10/21

ANNEX 2

Summary of discussions between members of WFCC task force on virtual meetings

We need to quickly make virtual meetings equal to physical meetings as much as possible. The current pandemic and the gap between physical meetings make this a necessity.

Benefits of virtual meetings: convenience, cost, continuity, faster decisions, better participation, benefit for those unable to attend, more representative voting.

Mr Wenda's suggestions:

According to article 8.2 of the WCCC statutes, the Presidium may call for an "extraordinary meeting" in times of emergency.

Virtual meetings could be considered as extraordinary meetings.

Extraordinary meetings can take up any topic for discussion and decisions, except:

- 1) Presidium elections*
- 2) Agenda items listed in section 12 (mostly related to budget and finances)*
- 3) Admission and expulsion of members*
- 4) Dissolution of the WFCC*

Change of statutes is not excluded from the scope of such extraordinary meetings. Therefore, even changes in rules of admission of new members could be considered. All decisions taken in such meetings need to be ratified in the next physical meeting.

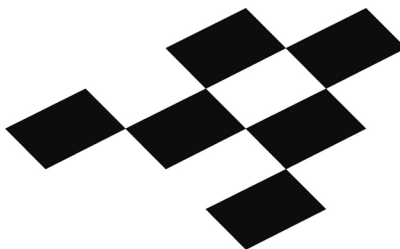
Our proposals:

1. Consider virtual meetings as extraordinary meetings and take up important topics including changes in statutes without waiting for the next physical meeting.
2. Voting in virtual meetings can be done through Zoom polls, Google forms or even simple emails.
3. Within the main virtual meeting, with both delegates and non-delegates, a separate private meeting can be organised using a feature of Zoom called "Zoom Rooms Private Meetings". Or the entire virtual meeting can be made "delegates only".
4. After satisfactory conclusion of (1), (2) and (3):
 - a. Discussion and voting on Women's solving norms titles.
 - b. Discussion and voting on change in membership admission rules to allow virtual participation of country member delegates in WCCC meetings.
 - c. Discussion and voting on future physical meetings to be in "hybrid mode" to allow participation of those unable to attend. This will require a camera, microphone, speakers, large screen and fast internet to be made available in the meeting room. Many hotels already have such facilities, including the hotel Rodos in Rhodes.
5. There are, for sure, other topics to be discussed, and voted, too. Such as decision making in extraordinary situations, voting rights when choosing venues for ECSC, etc.

Other suggestions for future virtual meetings:

- a) To be announced at least 2 weeks in advance, with a detailed agenda.
- b) Invitations to online meetings should be sent with ICS Calendar format file.
- c) Delegates to appoint deputies if they are unable to attend
- d) Member countries to discuss the decisions that are planned for being taken

ANNEX 3



WORLD FEDERATION FOR CHESS COMPOSITION

Financial Report 2019-20

Budget 2019-20

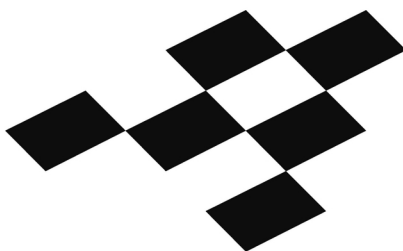
	+	-
	€	€
Contribution from FIDE 2018	3'000.00	
ISC 2019		300.00
WCSC 2019		500.00
WCCC 2019		500.00
World Solving Cup 2018-19		300.00
Web sites		400.00
WCCI 2016-18		500.00

Earnings 2019-20

	+	-
	€	€
FIDE	1'100.00	
ISC 2019		300.00
WCSC 2019		500.00
WCCC 2019		500.00
World Solving Cup 2018-19		300.00
Web sites		364.33
WCCI 2016-18		500.00

Budget 2020-21

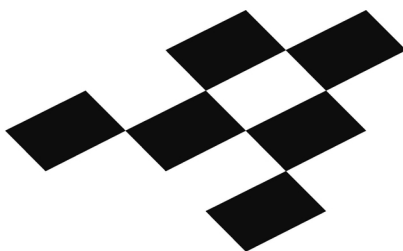
	+	-
	€	€
FIDE	1'100.00	
ISC 2020		150.00
WCSC 2020		0.00
WCCC 2020		0.00
World Solving Cup 2019-20		300.00
Web sites		400.00



WORLD FEDERATION FOR CHESS COMPOSITION

Balance Sheet 30.6.2020

Assets			Liabilities and Equity		
CHF	€	€		€	€
Bank		7'907.69	Creditors		7'187.03
Debtors		1'100.00	<i>Equity 01.07.2019</i>	3'540.52	
			<i>Profits since 01.07.2019</i>	<i>-1'719.87</i>	
			Equity	<u>1'820.65</u>	1'820.66
Total		9'007.69			9'007.69



WORLD FEDERATION FOR CHESS COMPOSITION

Financial Report 2020-21

Budget 2020-21

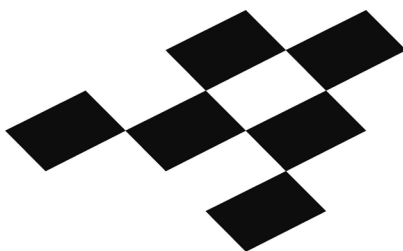
	+	-
	€	€
FIDE	1'100.00	
ISC 2020		150.00
WCSC 2020 (canceled)		0.00
WCCC 2020 (canceled)		0.00
World Solving Cup 2019-20		300.00
Web sites		400.00
Banking		100.00
Other expenses		150.00
Earnings		0.00
Total	1'100.00	1'100.00

Earnings 2020-21

	+	-
	€	€
FIDE	3'000.00	
ISC 2020		0.00
WCSC 2020 (canceled)		0.00
WCCC 2020 (canceled)		0.00
World Solving Cup 2019-20		0.00
Web sites		262.73
Banking		55.18
Profit		2'682.09
Total	3'000.00	3'000.00

Budget 2021-22

	+	-
	€	€
FIDE	3'000.00	
ISC 2021		150.00
WCSC 2021		1'000.00
WCCC 2021		500.00
WCCT 2020-2023		400.00
Youth Chess Composition Challenge 2021		100.00
Web sites		600.00
Banking		100.00
Other expenses		150.00
ISC 2020		150.00
World Solving Cup 2019-20		300.00
World Solving Cup 2020-21 (canceled)		0.00
Earnings		-450.00
Total	3'000.00	3'000.00
ECSC 2022		500



WORLD FEDERATION FOR CHESS COMPOSITION

Balance Sheet 30.6.2021

Assets			Liabilities and Equity		
CHF	€	€		€	€
Bank		8'878.07	Creditors		7'375.32
Debtors		3'000.00	<i>Equity 01.07.2020</i>	<i>1'820.66</i>	
			<i>Profits since 01.07.2020</i>	<i>2'682.09</i>	
			Equity	<u>4'502.75</u>	4'502.75
Total		11'878.07			11'878.07

APPENDIX TO WCCC 2021 MINUTES OF MEETING

REPORT OF THE QUALIFICATIONS COMMITTEE

After the cancellation of WCCC 2020, the Qualifications Committee was asked by the WFCC President to examine the new title applications received after WCCC 2019, as well as the title norms for solving, obtained in the same period at the rated tournaments.

After an individual analysis made by each member (Dinu-loan Nicula, Harry Fougiaxis, Bjørn Enemark, Johan de Boer), the Qualifications Committee had an online meeting, in which it was decided unanimously that the following titles are fulfilling the conditions to be awarded by WFCC (no application was received for International Judge for Chess Composition):

CHESS COMPOSITION

International Grandmaster of the FIDE: Igor Agapov (Russia), Valery Kopyl (Ukraine), Vasil Krizhanivsky (Ukraine), Martin Minski (Germany), Dragan Stojnić (Serbia).

International Master of the FIDE: Michael Barth (Germany), Marco Guida (Italy), Sergey Khachaturov (Russia), C.G.S. Narayanan (India), Emanuel Navon (Israel), Steffen Slumstrup Nielsen (Denmark), Viktoras Paliulionis (Lithuania), Aleksandr Pankratiev (Russia), Vladislav Tarasyuk (Ukraine).

FIDE Master: Mark Basisty (Ukraine), Gennady Chumakov (Russia), Joaquim Crusats (Spain), Klaus Förster (Germany), Marko Klasinc (Slovenia), Leonid Lyubashevsky (Israel), Petro Novitsky (Ukraine), Geir Sune Tallaksen Østmoe (Norway), Ladislav Packa (Slovakia), Mihailo Stojnić (Serbia).

SOLVING

International Master of the FIDE: Danila Moiseev (Russia)

FIDE SOLVING JUDGE

Andrey Selivanov (Russia)

Please put into the attention of the national delegates the titles proposed above in order to be approved, together with our best salutations, hoping in better times for the world, as well as for chess.

Bucuresti
5th of November 2020

Dinu-loan Nicula
Spokesman

Att: Mr. Harry Fougiaxis, President of World Federation for Chess Composition