

# 9th WCCI 2022-2024 – Director’s Report

by Shankar Ram

## Acknowledgements:

I would like to express my sincere thanks to the WFCC President, Marjan Kovačević for inviting me to serve as Director, and to the WFCC Presidium and delegates for endorsing his proposal. I am especially grateful to Marco Guida, the WCCI spokesman, for his ongoing support throughout the process. My appreciation also goes to Harry Fougiaxis and Dmitri Turevski for generously sharing their valuable experience from previous editions.

Of course, a special thanks is due to the 40 judges whose outstanding work enabled us to complete the results well ahead of schedule. I should not forget the reserve judges, who were ready to step in if needed. I also acknowledge the supervising panel for their careful review and error-checking.

Finally, heartfelt thanks to all the composers who submitted entries. Their participation truly made this a world-class and genuinely international competition.

## The Judge Hunt:

Marco and I initiated the search to finalise 40 judges for the 8 section around February 2023. Over the course of the next 6 months, we wrote to around 70 possible candidates from around 39 countries, before finalising the list of 40 judges. Subsequently, we added 2 more as one of the selected judges had passed away and one declined due to health reasons. We also managed to find reserve judges for 6 of the 8 sections. Earlier the supervising panel consisting of Brian Cook, Neal Turner and Gady Costeff was also constituted. The final picture before the announcement was:

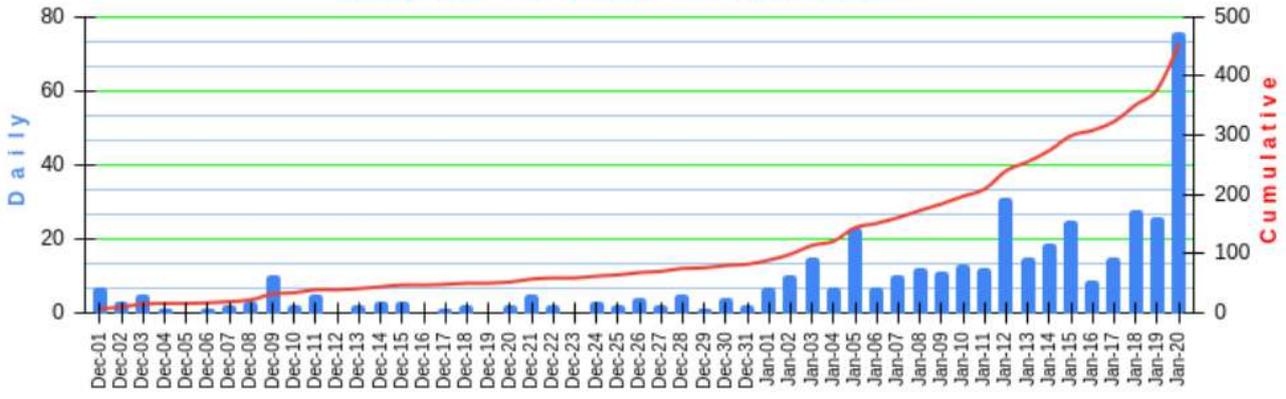
	WCCI 2022-24: Judges			40 Judges, 6 Reserve Judges, from 29 Countries				
	A (#2)	B (#3)	C (#n)	D (eg)	E (h#)	F (s#)	G (fairy)	H (retro)
	Moen	Gavrilovski	Kraetschmer	Sprenger	Roland	Borodavkin	Widlert	Caillaud
	Khramtsevic	Onkoud	Mihalco	Pasman	Simoni	Laue	Wakashima	Brand
	Markovcij	Narayanan	Marandyuk	Gonzalez	Klasinc	Erenburg	Gadjanski	Crisan
	Mosiashvili	Stojnic	Shavyrin	Ostmoe	Velikhanov	Azhusin	Einat	Le Gleuher
	Shire	Valtonen	Schmitt	Gasparyan	Fougiaxis	Havran	Klemanič	Prentos
Reserve Judge	Novitsky	Quah		Nielsen	Comay		Seetharaman	Frolkin
Spokesman: Marco Guida; Director: N. Shankar Ram; Supervising Panel: Neal Turner, Gady Costeff, Brian Cook								

## Arrival of the entries:

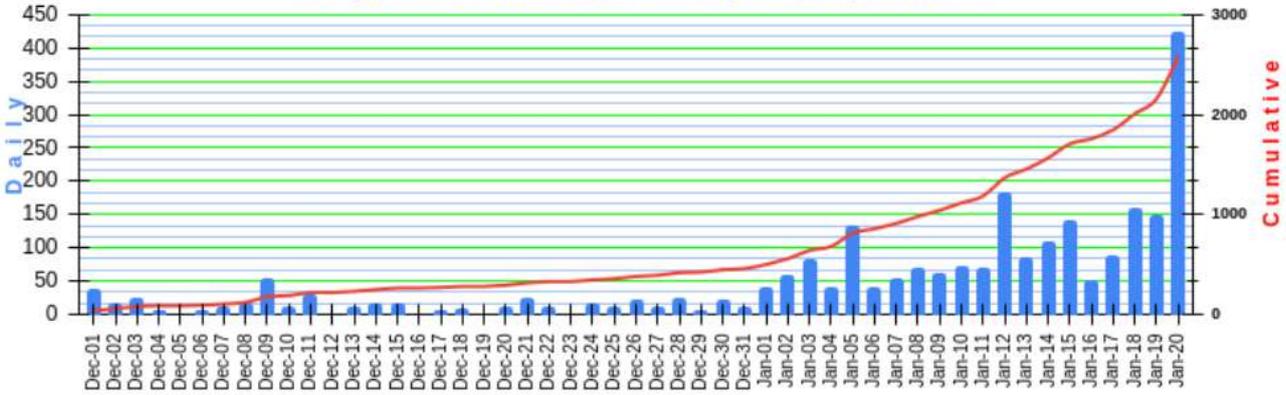
The entries started coming in from 1-Dec-2024. Most participants followed the rules of submission: single file, PDF format, compositions numbered 1 to 6 (or 4 or 5), though some submissions were in .DOCX or image format, including scans. Most sent in their entries to multiple sections together, while others sent them separately. Some submissions were not numbered. All these discrepancies were easily corrected, except in a few cases where I asked the composers to resubmit in the correct format. One composer tried to send his compatriot’s entry without a proper authorisation. After several futile attempts, I finally accepted that submission. After a rather slow beginning in December, the entries picked up speed in January, with the highest number of submissions on the last day (20-Jan).

The 51-day trend can be seen in the 3 charts:

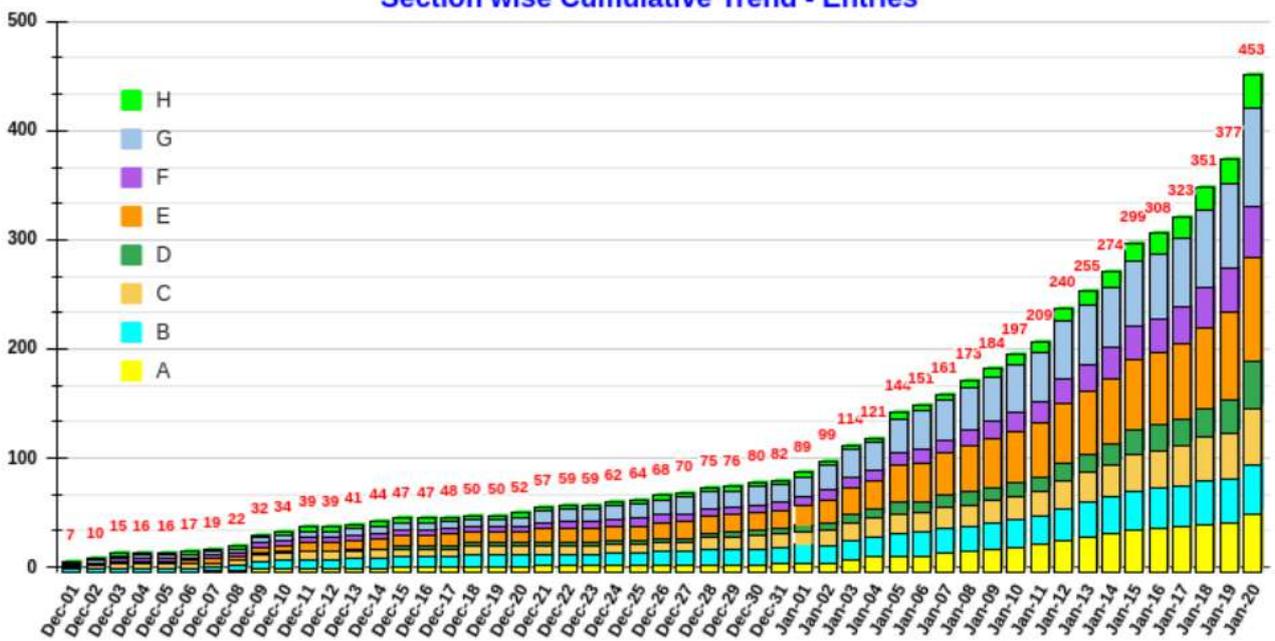
Daily and Cumulative Receipt: Entries



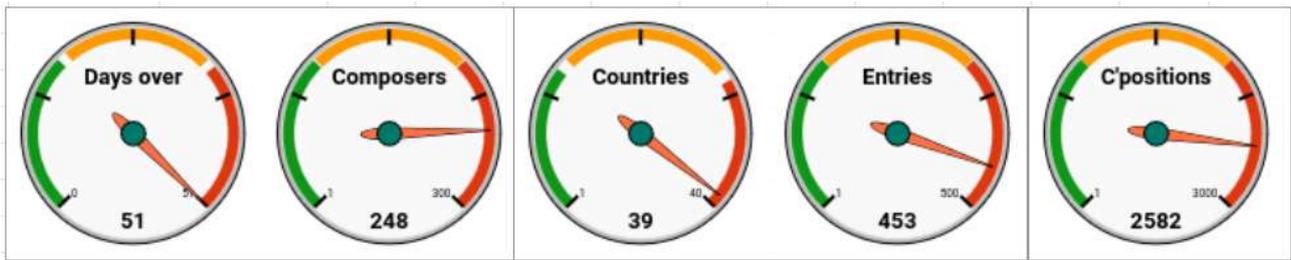
Daily and Cumulative Receipt: Compositions



Section wise Cumulative Trend - Entries

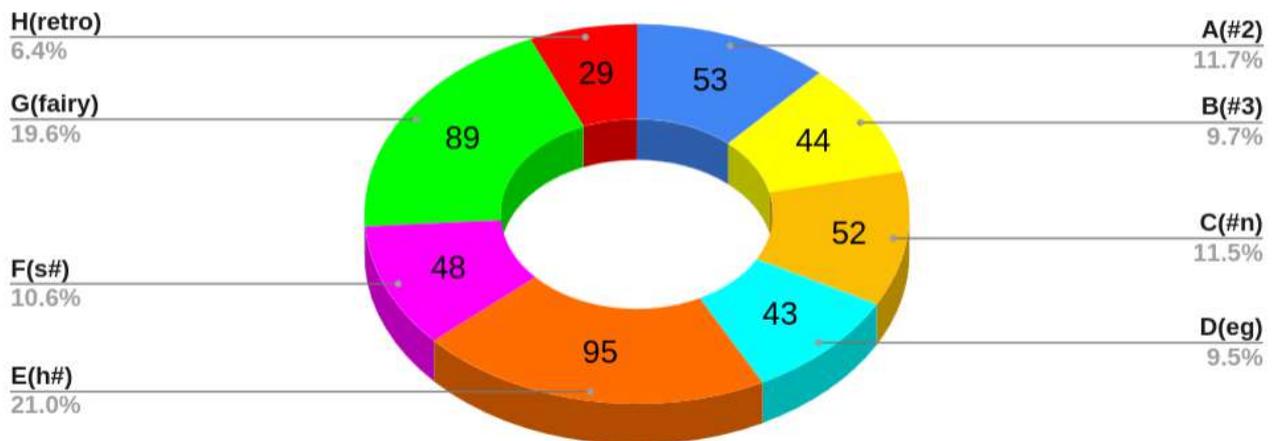


The final picture was:



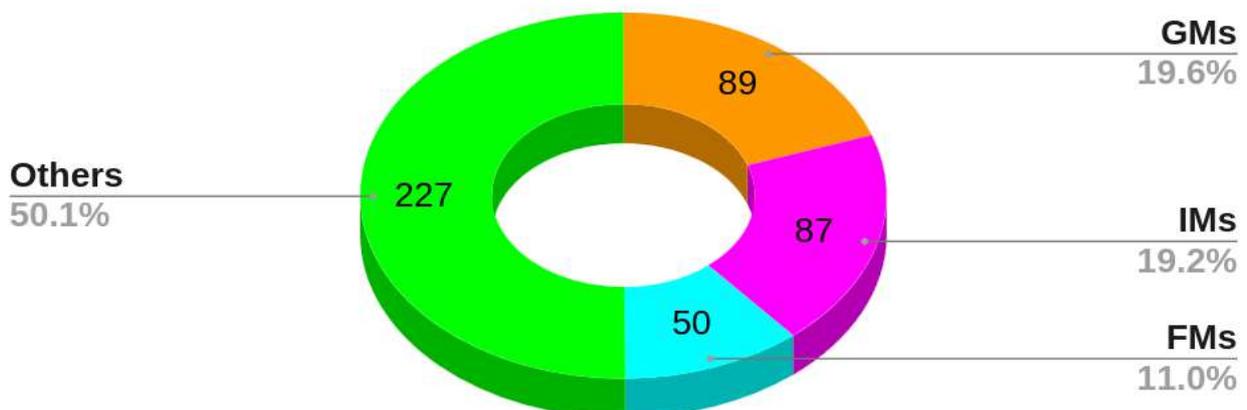
	#2 A	#3 B	#n C	eg D	h# E	s# F	fairy G	retros H	Entries	Compositions
Section Totals (Entries)	53	44	52	43	95	48	89	29	453	
Section Totals (Compositions)	297	249	282	249	551	274	512	168		2582

### Sections and Entries



As expected, the h#s and fairies sections dominated.

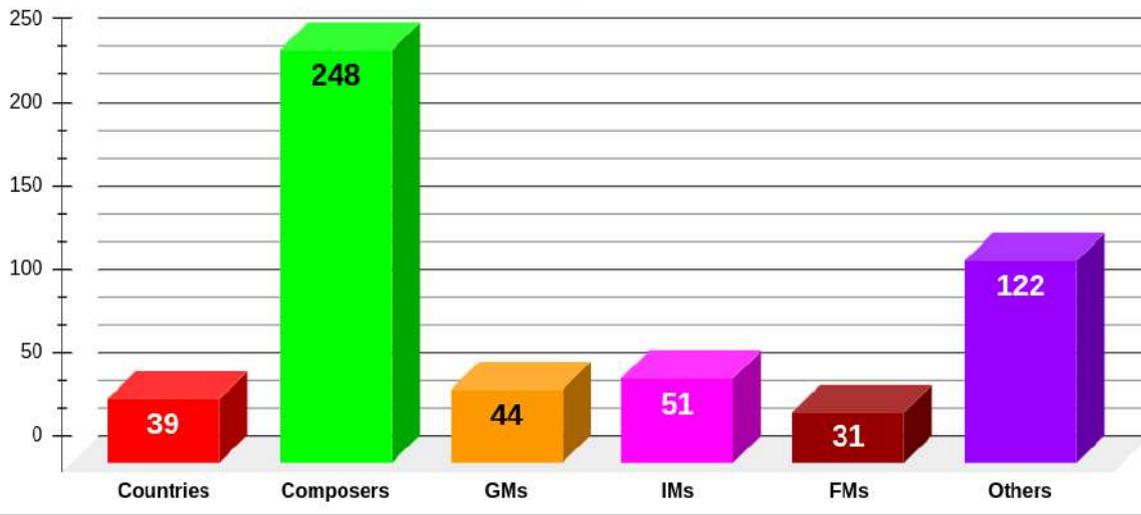
### Titles and Entries



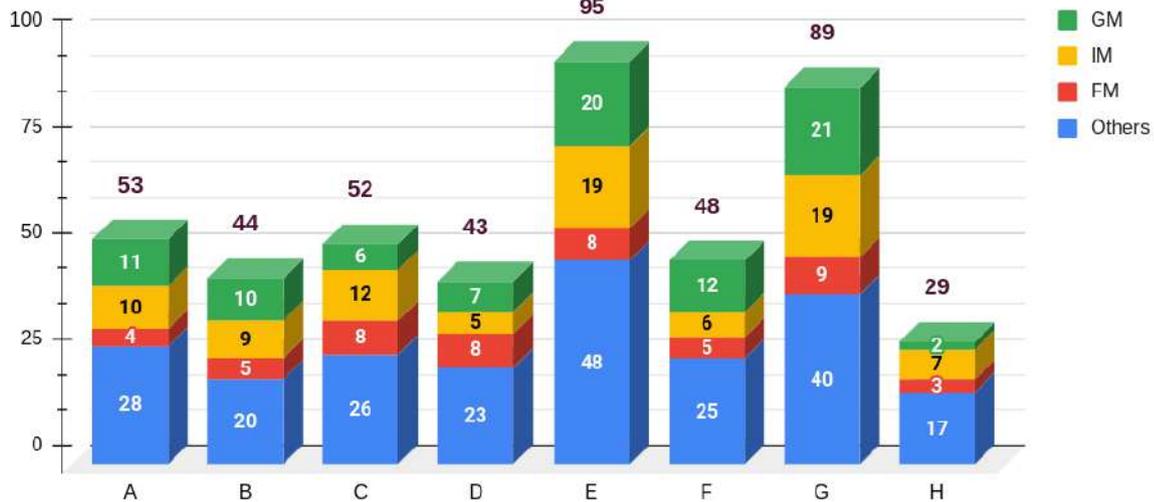
There was an even split between titled and other composers.

These two charts show the breakup between composers, countries, titles, sections and entries:

**Countries, Composers and Titles**

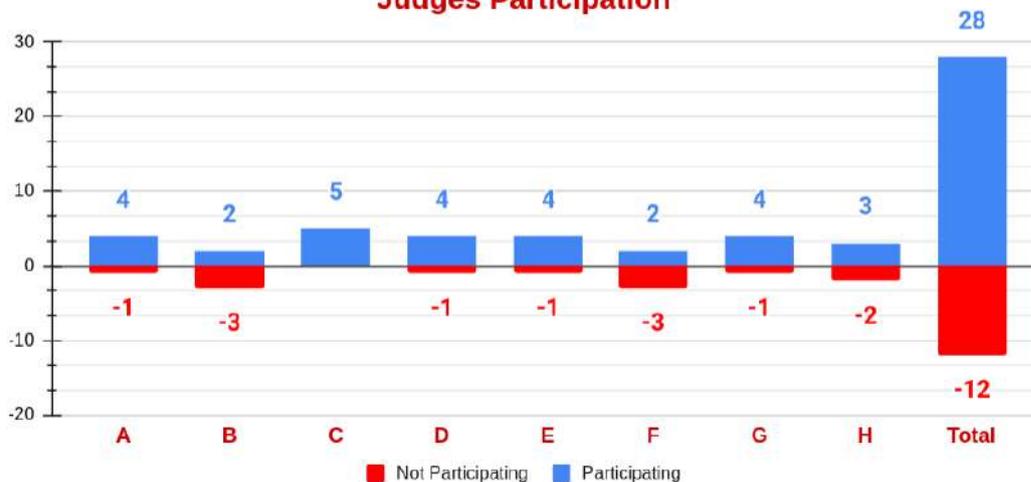


**Sections, Titles and Entries**



Judges participated in all sections, with only #3s and s#s showing a lower figure:

**Judges Participation**



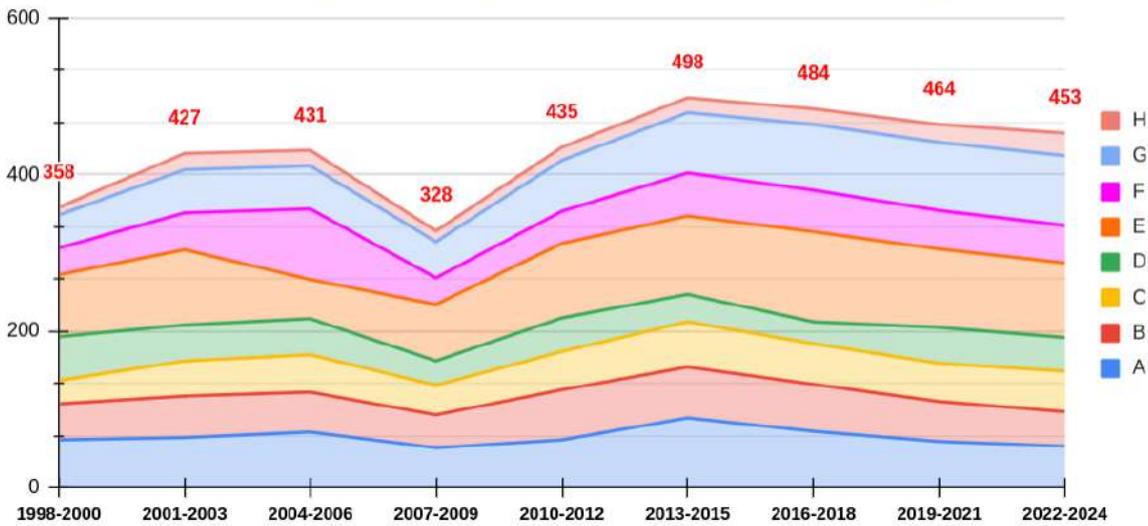
These two tables show the comparison with past cycles:

<b>WCCI statistics - 1998-2000 to 2022-2024 (Entries)</b>									
<b>Period</b>	<b>A</b>	<b>B</b>	<b>C</b>	<b>D</b>	<b>E</b>	<b>F</b>	<b>G</b>	<b>H</b>	<b>Total</b>
<b>1998-2000</b>	61	46	30	56	79	34	42	10	<b>358</b>
<b>2001-2003</b>	64	53	45	46	96	47	55	21	<b>427</b>
<b>2004-2006</b>	71	51	48	46	50	90	55	20	<b>431</b>
<b>2007-2009</b>	51	42	38	31	72	34	46	14	<b>328</b>
<b>2010-2012</b>	61	64	49	43	95	41	65	17	<b>435</b>
<b>2013-2015</b>	89	65	58	35	100	55	77	19	<b>498</b>
<b>2016-2018</b>	72	60	52	28	115	53	84	20	<b>484</b>
<b>2019-2021</b>	59	51	49	46	100	49	87	23	<b>464</b>
<b>2022-2024</b>	53	44	52	43	95	48	89	29	<b>453</b>

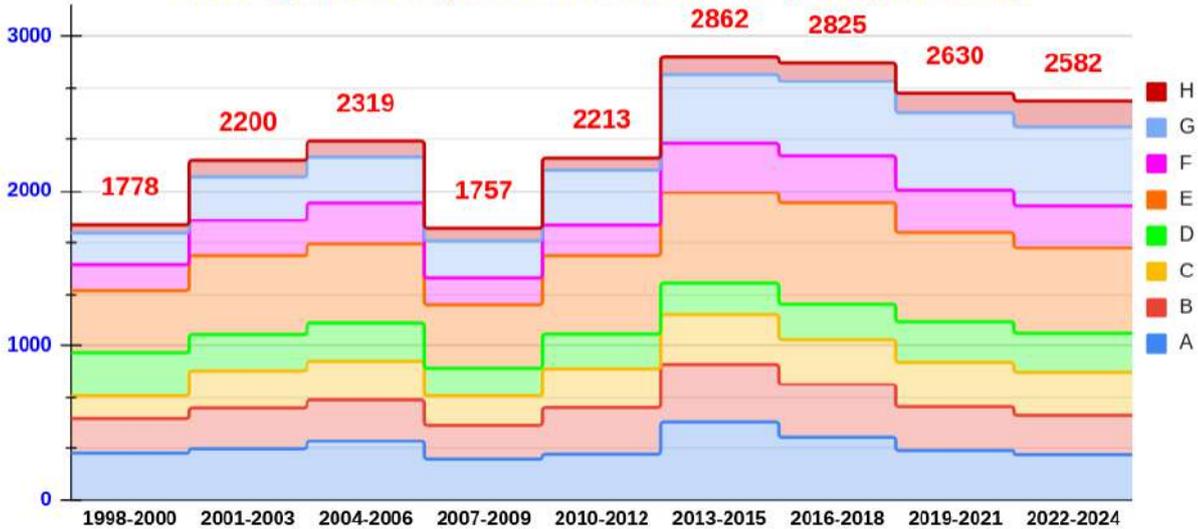
<b>WCCI Statistics - 1998-2000 to 2022-2024 (Compositions)</b>										
<b>Period</b>	<b>Composers</b>	<b>A</b>	<b>B</b>	<b>C</b>	<b>D</b>	<b>E</b>	<b>F</b>	<b>G</b>	<b>H</b>	<b>Total</b>
<b>1998-2000</b>	206	306	220	150	280	400	168	205	49	<b>1778</b>
<b>2001-2003</b>	226	333	267	236	233	510	229	283	109	<b>2200</b>
<b>2004-2006</b>	224	383	267	245	253	511	261	301	98	<b>2319</b>
<b>2007-2009</b>	168	269	215	192	176	408	174	246	77	<b>1757</b>
<b>2010-2012</b>	227	299	304	245	224	507	197	356	81	<b>2213</b>
<b>2013-2015</b>	248	506	369	325	202	584	319	449	108	<b>2862</b>
<b>2016-2018</b>	265	411	338	288	227	658	305	482	116	<b>2825</b>
<b>2019-2021</b>	258	322	286	281	266	575	277	495	128	<b>2630</b>
<b>2022-2024</b>	248	297	249	282	249	551	274	512	168	<b>2582</b>

These three charts show the section wise trend across the past cycles:

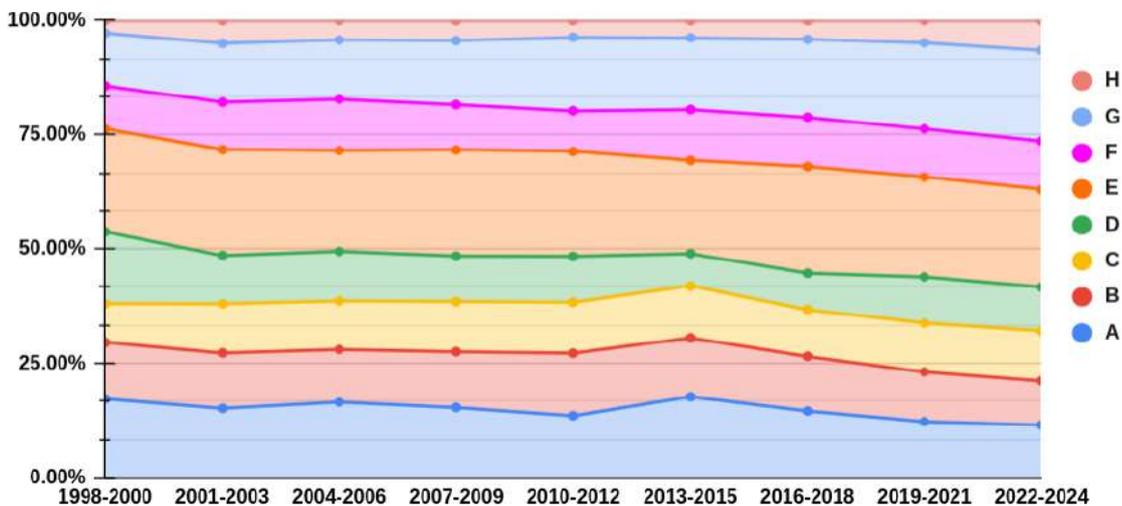
**Past Cycles Comparison Section wise (Entries)**



**Past Cycles Comparison Section wise (Compositions)**

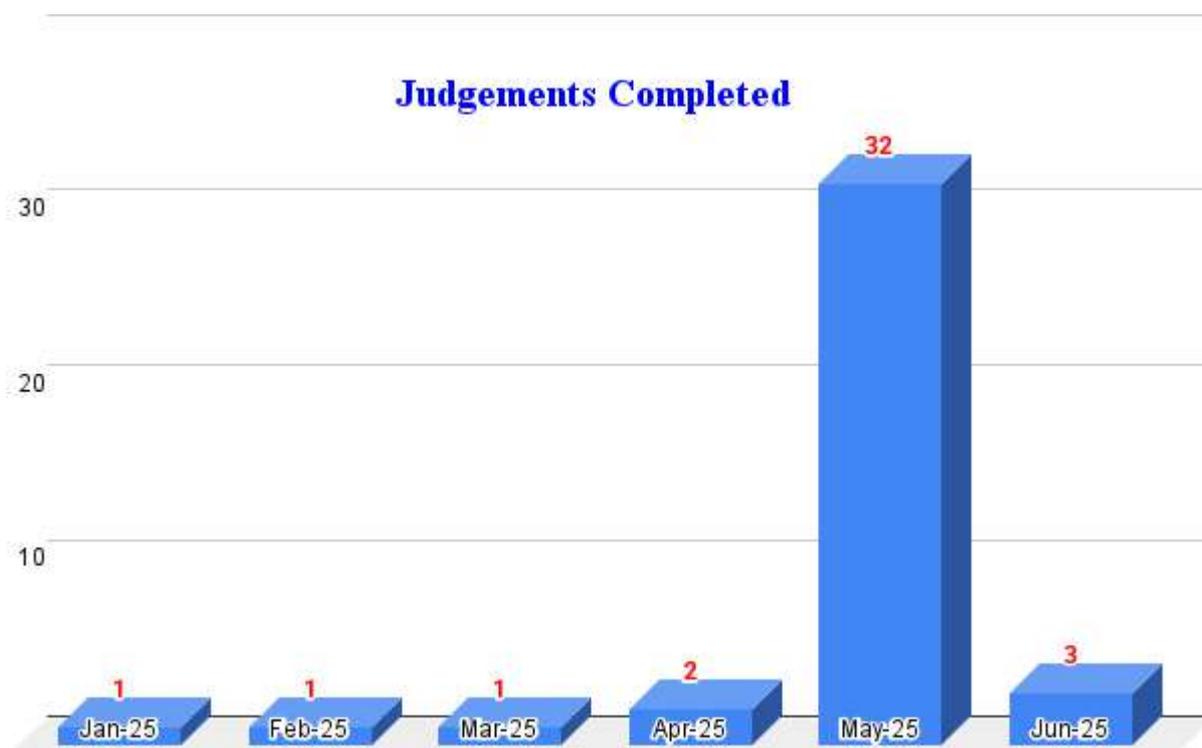


**Past Cycles Comparison Section Percentage wise (Compositions)**



### The Judging Run:

The majority of the judgements arrived in May-25, with 1-3 in the other months:



This was followed by a review process of entries which had zero scores by some but not all judges and entries which had a significant difference in their scores between judges. This phase was speedily completed and after a review by the President and the supervising panel, we were able to publish the results on 16-Jun-25, 2 weeks before the deadline of 30-Jun-25. The result tables included the details of points, eliminations and ranks of each composer's entries. Also published were the Winner summaries with photos of the 3 winners in each section, their top 4 entries and top entries by other composers.

### Cook Thrills and Chills:

Then, a cook was reported in section G, which proved to be valid and resulted in the elimination of one entry and a rearrangement of the 4th to 6th places. Another cook reported in section H turned out to be invalid. With crossed fingers we waited for 30-June to publish the revised results. At the last minute another cook was reported in section H. This led to a see-saw of it being declared valid, then invalid, again valid and finally invalid and we eventually declared the results final!

## WCCI: 1998-2024

All the super stars!

Section	1998-2000	2001-2003	2004-2006	2007-2009	2010-2012	2013-2015	2016-2018	2019-2021	2022-2024
A: Twomovers	Chepizhny Kovačević Slesarenko	Kovačević Slesarenko Dyachuk	Dyachuk Kovačević Bruch	Kovačević Gvozdjak Dyachuk	Kovačević Dyachuk Shanshin	Kovačević Dyachuk Gvozdjak	Dyachuk Kovačević Shanshin	Dyachuk Murashev Kovačević	Dyachuk Kovačević/Murashev
B: Threemovers	Marandiyuk Bruch Wessels	Shavryin Marandiyuk Marker	Marandiyuk Shavryin Bakharev	Marandiyuk Gvozdjak Kuzovkov	Feoktistov Marandiyuk Kuzovkov	Marandiyuk Kuzovkov Feoktistov	Feoktistov Kuzovkov Shavryin	Kuzovkov Agapov Shavryin	Gvozdjak Kuzovkov Agapov
C: Moremovers	Marandiyuk Herzberg Kuzovkov	Marandiyuk Shavryin Feoktistov	Marandiyuk Marker Feoktistov	Marandiyuk Kuzovkov Feoktistov	Marandiyuk Kuzovkov Feoktistov	Marandiyuk Kuzovkov Davidenko	Marandiyuk Kuzovkov Davidenko	Kuzovkov Marandiyuk Shavryin	Kuzovkov Shavryin Marandiyuk
D: Endgame Studies	Gurgenidze Kralin Vysokosov	Vysokosov Pervakov Gurgenidze	Pervakov Sochniev Gurgenidze	Pervakov Didukh Bazlov	Didukh Becker Pervakov	Pervakov Bazlov Arestov	Pervakov Minski Nielsen	Nielsen Pervakov Didukh	Pervakov Nielsen Pasma
E: Helpmates	Janevski Gurov Abdurahmanovic	Gurov Parrinello Pachl	Chepizhny Gurov Dragoun/Janevski	O. Semenenko Chepizhny Gurov	Dragoun O. Semenenko Chepizhny	O. Semenenko Krizhanivskiy Gurov	Krizhanivskiy O. Semenenko Abdurahmanovic	Kolesnik O. Semenenko Paliulionis	Ylijoki Gurov O. Semenenko
F: Selfmates	Petkov Selivanov Azhusin	Selivanov Feoktistov Janevski	Selivanov Avner Janevski	Selivanov Soroka Feoktistov	Selivanov Linn Kostadinov	Selivanov Feoktistov Erenburg	Selivanov Gavrillovski Kuzovkov	Selivanov Gavrillovski Kozjura	Selivanov Feoktistov/Kuzovkov
G: Fairies	Petkov Aschwanden Wakashima	Aschwanden Wenda Lörinc	Dragoun Lörinc Wenda	Petkov Gvozdjak Wenda	Petkov Crisan Gvozdjak	Dyachuk Lörinc Comay	Crisan Petkov Grolman/Gadjanski	Petkov V. Semenenko Kotěšovec	Gvozdjak Dragoun Lörinc
H: Retros	Kislyak Le Gleuher Zolotarev	Le Gleuher Kislyak Aschwanden	Aschwanden Le Gleuher Baibikov	Baibikov Petrovič Dupont	Baibikov Beluhov Dupont	Baibikov Baier Dupont	Baier Baibikov Dupont	Baier Baibikov Prentos	Baier Baibikov Frolkin

### Learnings:

We came across many unusual cases and circumstances which had no precedents and had to be resolved using our judgement. All these will be considered in the preparation for the next WCCI.

### Software choices:

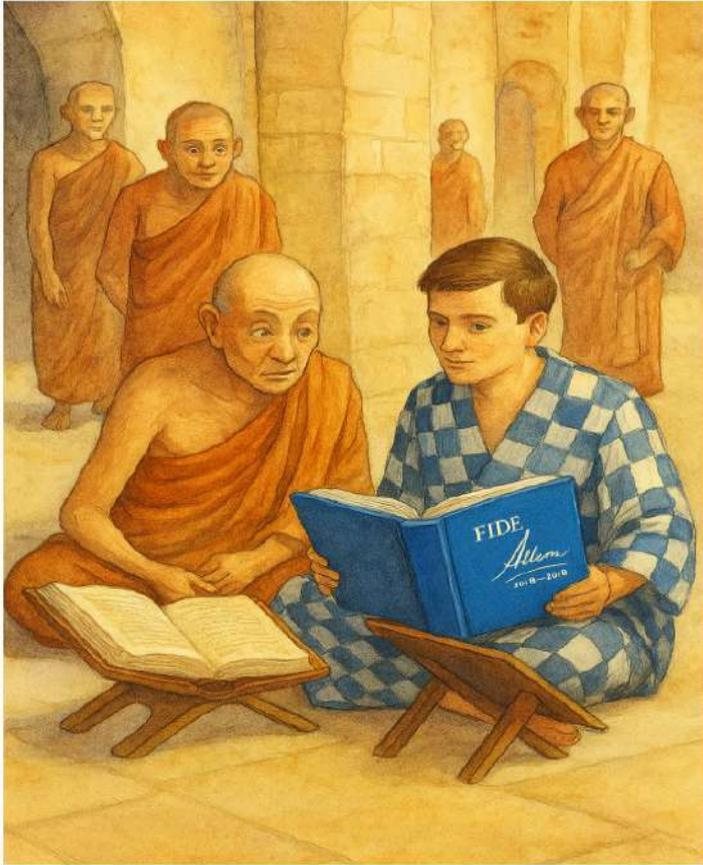
I used Google sheets with pure formulas for all the results tables, including the procedures to eliminate the highest and lowest scores, mark them with a strikethrough font; select the best 4 entries of each composer, marking the other entries with a strikethrough font; ranking the final scores with a tie break using the highest, second highest, third highest and fourth highest. Despite this the 2-3 places were tied in sections A and F. Some of the formulas were quite complex and were developed with the currently available AIs!

### The Humorous Side:

Finally some topical AI-generated images and cartoons to keep things from getting too serious!

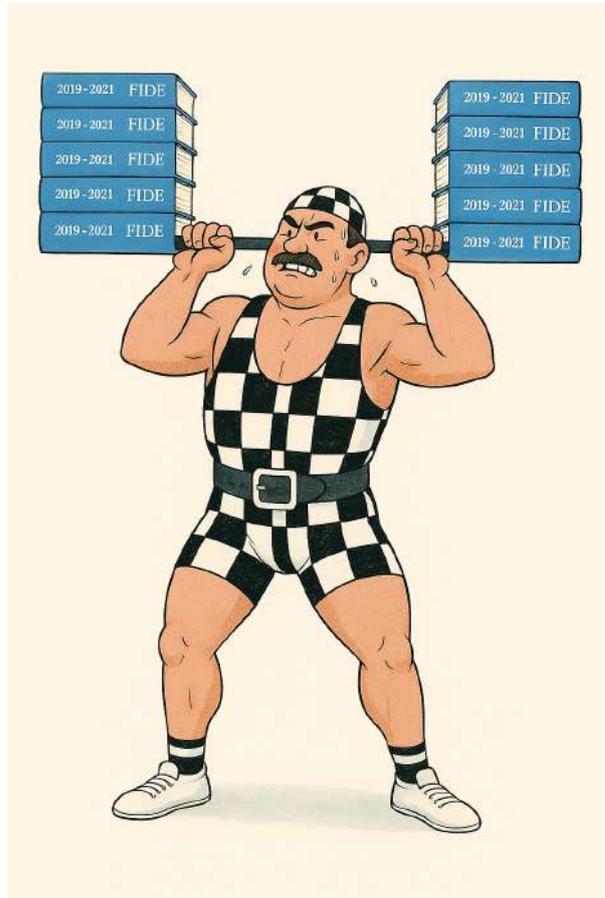


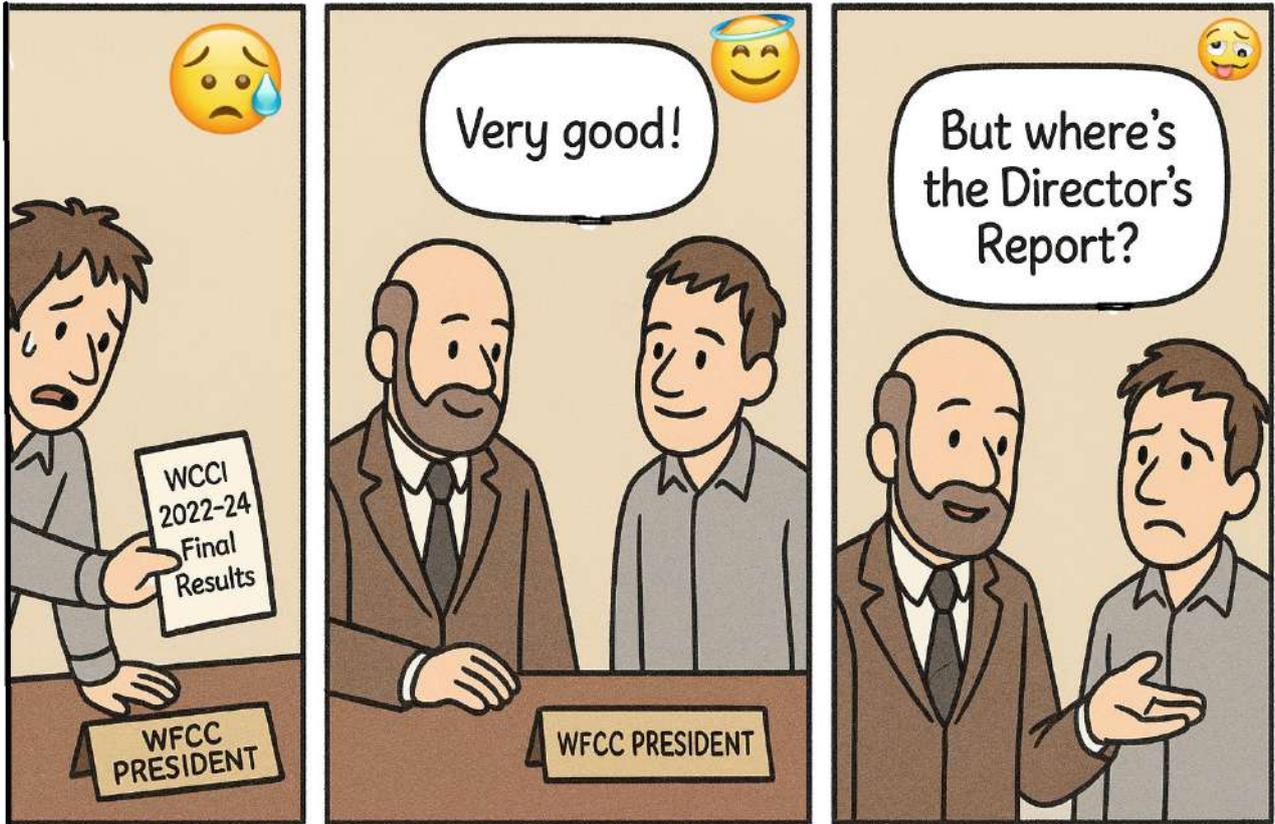




Read the FIDE Album in style, comfortably, with our exclusive FIDE Album reading stand!

Special offer for all WCCC attendees!  
Hurry!  
Offer available while stocks last!





**A Director's Job is Never Done!**

And here is the report and the job is hopefully done!

Shankar Ram

Bengaluru

2-Jul-2025