



The International Correspondence Chess Federation

2013 Congress



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ICCF CONGRESS 2012

Krakow, Poland

Introduction

The 2013 ICCF Congress was hosted by the Polish Correspondence Chess Federation, celebrating their 80th year of correspondence chess. The event was held in the beautiful Park Inn near the centre of Krakow, Poland.

Kraków (eng. Cracow) lies in the southern part of Poland, on the Vistula River (Polish pronunciation: Wisła), in a valley at the foot of the Carpathian Mountains, 219 m above sea level; half way between the Jurassic Rock Upland (Polish: Jura Krakowsko-Częstochowska) to the north, and the Tatra Mountains 100 km to the south, constituting the natural border with Slovakia; 230 km west from the border with Ukraine.

Kraków is the second largest and one of the oldest cities in Poland dated back to the 7th century. Kraków has traditionally been one of the leading centres of Polish academic, cultural, and artistic life and is one of Poland's most important economic hubs. It was the capital of Poland from 1038 to 1569; the Polish–Lithuanian Commonwealth from 1569 to 1596; the Grand Duchy of Kraków from 1846 to 1918; and Kraków Voivodeship from the 14th century to 1999. It is now the capital of the Lesser Poland Voivodeship.

The city has a population of approximately 760,000 (metropolitan area 1,395,893) whereas about 8 million people live within a 100 km radius of its main square.

In 1978, Karol Wojtyła, archbishop of Kraków, was elevated to the papacy as Pope John Paul II – the first Slavic pope ever, and the first non-Italian pope in 455 years. In addition, that year, UNESCO approved the first ever sites for its new World Heritage List, including the entire Old Town in inscribing Cracow's Historic Centre.

Entertainment

All Congress participants were treated to exceptional music and show at the opening banquet, performed by the Highlander Folk Band.

At the closing banquet, all participants were treated to a performance of “Mogilanie” – a regional folk group with band.

Seen was a fragment of wedding of Mogilany. In the course of performance, „Mogilanie” moved you to the Cracovian village and showed „oczepiny” – the most important moment of the wedding – symbolic passage of bride from maiden [young lady's] status to bunch of noble-minded married women. Of course as it on the wedding – singings, dances, and a real Cracow music were not missing. There was whirl tybet* skirts and peacock feathers by four-cornered hats, and dances dignified coifs of starost's wives from celendra's* of starosts ...

**tybet=kind of thin wool material; celendra=kind of headgear*

===

The group came into existence in autumn of 1984 and from its beginning; it is working in the Commune Centre of Culture in Mogilany. Program of the group is composed of shows presenting ceremonies and customs the Cracovian village at the turn of the 19th and 20th century. Dresses were made after consultation with specialists from Ethnographic Museum in Cracow.

Musical material – words and melodies – were taken from the archive of this museum and from local interviews conducted in Mogilany and the immediate surroundings.

Janina Kalicińska was the artistic director of the group, with instructor of the dance – Marek Harbaczewski, with instructor of the singing – Izabela de Lehenstein Werndl, the manager of the band – Adam Królik.

Excursions

Participants of the Congress and accompanying persons were offered several and interesting excursions.

- **Underground Cracow and the Main Market Square**

The Main Square (Polish: Rynek Główny w Krakowie) is the main market square of the Old Town in Kraków, Poland and a principal urban space located at the centre of the city. It dates back to the 13th century, and – at roughly 40,000 m² – it is the largest medieval town square in Europe. Rynek Główny is a spacious square surrounded by historical townhouses (kamienice), palaces, and churches. The centre of the square is dominated by the Sukiennice (the Cloth Hall or Drapers' Hall), rebuilt in 1555 in the Renaissance style, topped by a beautiful attic or Polish parapet decorated with carved masks. On one side of the Sukiennice is the Town Hall Tower (Wieża ratuszowa), on the other the 10th century Church of St. Wojciech (St. Adalbert's) and 1898 Adam Mickiewicz Monument. Rising above the square is the Gothic towers of St. Mary's Basilica (Kościół Mariacki).

- **Kazimierz (Jewish District) and Schindler's Factory (Museum)**

Kazimierz – a historical district of Kraków or Jewish District – was for a long time an independent town with its own municipal charter and laws. Best known for being home to a significant Jewish community from the 14th century on until the Holocaust in the Second World War.

- **Auschwitz-Birkenau Museum**

The Auschwitz-Birkenau concentration camp complex, established by German Nazis in 1940, one of the most infamous sites in Europe, saw the deaths of nearly 1.5 million people, most of whom were European Jews.

The complex comprises the Auschwitz Birkenau and the I camp (or Auschwitz II) camp with a total of about 150 buildings and 300 ruins. Auschwitz was only partially destroyed by

fleeing Nazis when the camp was liberated, so you are able to see many of the original brick buildings as you walk around. Visitors pass through the iron gates crowned with the infamous motto "Arbeit macht frei" („Work makes [you] free”).

- **Wieliczka Salt Mine**

The Wieliczka Salt Mine (Polish: Kopalnia soli Wieliczka), located in the town of Wieliczka in southern Poland, lies within the Kraków metropolitan area.

The mine, built in the 13th century, produced table salt continuously until 2007, as one of the world's oldest salt mines still in operation. From its beginning and throughout its existence, the Royal mine was run by the Żupy krakowskie Salt Mines, believed to be the world's 14th-oldest company. Commercial mining was discontinued in 1996 due to low salt prices and mine flooding.

The mine's attractions include dozens of statues and an entire chapel that has been carved out of the rock salt by the miners. The oldest sculptures are augmented by the new carvings by actual artists. About 1.2 million people visit the Wieliczka Salt Mine annually. The Wieliczka mine is often referred to as „the Underground Salt Cathedral of Poland.”

In 1978, it was placed on the original UNESCO list of the World Heritage Sites. Even the crystals of the chandeliers are made from rock salt that has been dissolved and reconstituted to achieve a clear, glass-like appearance. It also houses a private rehabilitation and wellness complex.

- **Wawel**

Wawel is an architectural complex erected over many centuries atop a limestone outcrop on the left bank of the Vistula River in Kraków, Poland, at an altitude of 228 metres above the sea level. It is a place of great significance to the Polish people as up until 1611 it was a formal residence of Polish Kings. It is because Cracow was the capital city of Crown of the Kingdom of Poland and later The Polish–Lithuanian Commonwealth.

The Royal Castle with an armoury and the Cathedral are situated on the Wawel hill from which the castle took its name. Polish Royalty and many distinguished Poles are interred in the Wawel Cathedral where Royal coronations were conducted. Some of the oldest masonry parts of Wawel, such as the Serene Virgin Mary Rotunda dates back to 970. There are also some wooden parts of the complex that date over century earlier to about IX century.

- **Authentic Polish Restaurant**

On Thursday, our Polish hosts treated a number of ICCF officials and guests to an authentic Polish dinner experience at Chłopskie Jadło, one of the most popular and one of the longest-operating restaurant networks in Poland serving Polish cuisine dishes. We were treated to warm conversations, outstanding Polish food, and a spectacular presentation at the end of the evening featuring a “revolving shower of treats” intended to wish all guests a fond farewell and safe retreat back to the hotel.

The interior of Chłopskie Jadło restaurants refers to the design of village cottages. The idea was to create a kind of a heritage park, transferring guests to the world of the 10th century

peasant Poland. The main theme of the restaurant is now a fowl, as well as folkloristic elements arranged in a modern way. The blue colour, dominant inside until that time, was replaced with warm shades of red and beige. So it looks like folk motives, as well as the best Polish culinary traditions received a new form in Chłopskie Jadło, keeping up with the times.

International Correspondence Chess Federation

Chess Events

Simultaneous Chess Competition with GM Kamil Mitoń

GM Kamil Mitoń gave show on 12 boards winning against ICCF participants 10,5:1,5. Show started at 21:00 and took until 00:20 after midnight (3 hours and 20 minutes).

Neil Limbert could reach draw and Iurii Koshmak beat GM Kamil Mitoń

ICCF Congress 2013

Simultaneous Chess Competition with

GM Kamil Mitoń

Kraków, Poland, July 23

Participants				
	Name	FED	Rtg	Results
1	Bennedik Martin	GER	2086	0
2	Staroske Uwe	GER		0
3	Kosolapov Vadim	UKR		0
4	Limbert Neil	ENG		0,5
5	Canibal Jaromir	CZE	1818	0
6	Poleshchuk Nikolay	RUS		0
7	Dearnley Andrew	ENG		0
8	Langeveld Ron	NED		0
9	Helbich Ján	SVK	2136	0
10	Koshmak Iurii	UKR	2235	1
11	Boger Raymond	NOR	1969	0
12	Hall Richard	ENG	2150	0

ICCF Blitz Tournament

The traditional ICCF Blitz tournament was conducted. Two players shared the first place – IM Dmitry Lybin from Belarus and IM Virginijus Dambrauskas from Lithuania. However, Dmitry was better by tie breaking; in addition, Dmitry won against Virginijus.



ICCF Blitz Tournament

Kraków 2013-07-24/2013-07-24

Standings - round 11



Place	S.No.	Title	Name	Fed.	FIDE	Local	R. ChArb.	Total	MBch.	Bch.	Wins	Prog.
1	1	IM	Lybin, Dmitry	BLR	2413	2413	0	8.5	57.50	71.00	7	51.5
2	3	IM	Dambrauskas, Virginijus	LTU	2280	2280	0	8.5	56.50	69.50	8	47.5
3	5	FM	Baumbach, Friedrich, Dr.	GER	2232	2232	0	7.5	57.00	69.50	6	50.0
4	6		Soderberg, Per	SWE	2181	2181	0	7.5	57.00	67.00	6	47.0
5	8		Semrl, Marjan	SLO	2114	2114	0	6.5	57.50	69.00	5	42.5
6	2	FM	Buchniecek, Petr	CZE	2354	2354	0	6.5	56.00	68.50	6	38.5
7	4	FM	Rabchonok, Gennady	BLR	2263	2263	0	6.5	54.00	64.00	5	41.0
8	12	FM	Jones, Brian	AUS	2050	2050	0	6.0	57.50	70.00	6	38.0
9	11		Poli, Giuseppe	ITA	2061	2061	0	6.0	50.50	62.00	6	31.0
10	13		Boger, Raymond	NOR	1969	1969	0	5.5	48.00	58.00	5	28.5
11	16		Poleshchuk, Nikolay	RUS	0	1000	0	5.5	46.50	56.50	5	28.5
12	9		Kupsys, Alfonsas	LTU	2105	2105	0	5.5	43.50	52.50	5	30.5
13	19		Avotins, Maigonis	LAT	0	1000	0	5.0	51.00	63.00	3	35.5
14	7		Hall, Richard V M	ENG	2150	2150	0	4.5	47.00	57.00	3	29.0
15	20		Caressa, Marco	ITA	0	1000	0	4.5	43.50	53.50	3	28.5
16	10		Bennedik, Martin	GER	2086	2086	0	4.0	44.50	52.50	3	26.0
17	15		Riikonen, Olavi	FIN	0	1000	0	4.0	43.50	52.50	3	19.0
18	17		Gaujens, Artis	LAT	0	1000	0	3.5	41.50	49.00	3	17.5
19	18		Colin, Sonny	SWE	0	1000	0	3.0	43.00	51.00	3	19.0
20	14		Volf, Michal	CZE	1723	1723	0	1.5	43.50	54.00	1	11.0

Inter

Chess Match – ICCF versus Krakow

<div> <div> MECZ KRAKÓW - ICCF Kraków, ul. Zyblikiewicza 1 2013-07-25 </div> <div> ICCF Congress 2013  Kraków, Poland </div> </div>			
Match	gospodarz (home)	Result game	gość (away)
	Kraków (Polska)	-	ICCF
1	Stanach, Fabian	½ - ½	Lybin, Dmitry
2	Pierzak, Rafael	0 - 1	Dambrauskas, Virginijus
3	Madej, Roman	0 - 1	Helbich, Jan
4	Kowalewski, Władysław	0 - 1	Kupsys, Alfonsas
5	Budkiewicz, Magdalena	0 - 1	Baumbach, Friedrich, Dr.
6	Piskorz, Henryk	1 - 0	Bendana, Guy Dr.
7	Radwan, Jan	1 - 0	Jones, Brian
8	Jasińska-Kuzia, Lidia	0 - 1	Boger, Raymond
9	Ostrowski, Michał	½ - ½	Dearnley, Andrew
10	Rojek, Stanisław	1 - 0	Binder, Gerghard
11	Klimczyk, Janusz	0 - 1	Rabchonok, Gennady
12	Chrzanowski, Bogdan	½ - ½	Mrkvicka, Josef
13	Sanetra, Danuta	0 - 1	Avotins, Majgonis
14	Pietrzak, Janusz	1 - 0	Volf, Michal
	KRAKÓW (Cracow)	5½ - 8½	ICCF (Congres)
<div> <div>  Kapitan Piotr Walczak </div> <div>  </div> <div>  kapitan Mariusz Wozniak </div> </div>			

Congress Participants – Voting Members

Zone 1

Europe

Responsible Individual

Austria (AUT)	Dr. Uwe Staroske as Proxy
Belarus (BLR)	Mariusz Wojnar as Proxy
Belgium (BEL)	
Bulgaria (BUL)	
Croatia (CRO)	Josef Mrkvička as Proxy and Auditor
Czech Republic (CZE)	Josef Mrkvička as Delegate and Auditor
Denmark (DEN)	Andrew Dearnley as Proxy and NTTC
England (ENG)	Andrew Dearnley as Delegate and NTTC
Estonia (EST)	Esko Nuutilainen as Proxy and Honorary Member
Finland (FIN)	Esko Nuutilainen as Delegate and Honorary Member
France (FRA)	Eric Ruch as Delegate and President
Germany (GER)	Dr. Uwe Staroske as Delegate
Greece (GRE)	
Hungary (HUN)	Dr. Fritz Baumbach as Proxy, Honorary Member, and WC
Iceland (ISL)	Per Söderberg as Proxy and PRC Commissioner
Ireland (IRL)	George Pyrrich as Proxy and FD
Israel (ISR)	Eric Ruch as Proxy and President
Italy (ITA)	Giovanni Mastrojeni as Delegate
Latvia (LAT)	Artis Gaujens as Delegate
Lithuania (LTU)	Marijonas Ročius as Delegate
Luxembourg (LUX)	Ulrich Baumgartner as Proxy
Malta (MLT)	Voluntarily Withdrew
Netherlands (NED)	Ron Langeveld as Delegate (Designee) and WC
Norway (NOR)	Raymond Boger as Delegate
Poland (POL)	Mariusz Wojnar as Delegate
Portugal (POR)	
Romania (ROM)	Gianni Mastrojeni as Proxy
Russia (RUS)	Sergey Grodzensky as Delegate

Scotland (SCO)	George Pyrich as Delegate and FD
Slovakia (SVK)	Dr. Ján Helbich as Delegate (Designee)
Slovenia (SLO)	Marjan Šemrl as Delegate (Designee) and WC
Spain (ESP)	George Pyrich as Proxy
Sweden (SWE)	Per Söderberg as Delegate and PRC Commissioner
Switzerland (SUI)	Ulrich Baumgartner as Delegate
Turkey (TUR)	
Ukraine (UKR)	Iurii Koshmak as Delegate (Designee)
Wales (WLS)	Austin Lockwood as Delegate and SD

Zone 2

Responsible Individual

Latin America

Argentina (ARG)	Andrew Dearnley as Proxy and NTTC
Brazil (BRA)	
Chile (CHI)	
Cuba (CUB)	
Ecuador (ECU)	Eric Ruch as Proxy and Delegate
Guatemala (GUA)	
Nicaragua (NCA)	Dr. Guy José Bendaña Guerrero as Delegate
Panama (PAN)	
Peru (PER)	
Venezuela (VEN)*	Austin Lockwood as Proxy*

Zone 3

Responsible Individual

North America/Pacific

Australia (AUS)	Brian Jones as Delegate
Canada (CAN)	Ralph Marconi as Delegate
Hong Kong (HKG)	Brian Jones as Proxy
Japan (JPN)	
New Zealand (NZL)	Leonard (Corky) Schakel as Proxy
USA (USA)	Leonard (Corky) Schakel as Delegate

Zone 4
Africa/Asia

Responsible Individual

<i>Cape Verde Islands (CPV) *</i>	<i>Austin Lockwood as Proxy*</i>
India (IND)	
Republic of South Africa (RSA)	Dinand Knol as Delegate and ZD
Tunisia (TUN)	

* Proxy selection dependent upon receiving Congress approval for MF acceptance

36 Member Federations – Zone 1
09 Member Federations – Zone 2
06 Member Federations – Zone 3
03 Member Federations – Zone 4
54 total MFs

Note: After initial Congress business was conducted, new Member Federation applications for Venezuela (Zone 2) and Cape Verde Islands (Zone 4) were accepted, bringing the Congress totals to:

36 Member Federations – Zone 1
10 Member Federations – Zone 2
06 Member Federations – Zone 3
04 Member Federations – Zone 4
56 total MFs

The following Member Federations and their players (active players represented in parentheses) were not represented at this Congress:

- Belgium (70)
- Bulgaria (91)
- Greece (20)
- Portugal (92)
- Turkey (119)
- Brazil (130)
- Chile (14)
- Cuba (46)
- Guatemala (13)
- Panama (2)
- Peru (48)
- Japan (22)
- India (43)
- Tunisia (8)

Congress Participants – Officials

Title	Last	First	Position	Attended?
President	Ruch	Eric	EB	Yes
General Secretary	Millstone	Michael	EB	Yes
Finance Director	Pyrich	George	EB	Yes
World Tournament Director	Geider	Frank	EB	No
Marketing Director	Dearnley *	Andrew	EB	Yes
Services Director	Lockwood	Austin	EB	Yes
Zone 1 Director	Caressa	Marco	EB	Yes
Zone 2 Director	Cranbourne	Carlos	EB	No
Zone 3 Director	Bokar	Dr. Jason	EB	Yes
Zone 4 Director	Knol	Dinand	EB	Yes
Title Tournament Commissioner	Tani	Gian-Maria	MC	No
Non-Title Tournament Commissioner	Hömske *	Markus	MC	Yes
Direct Entry Commissioner	Pheby	Ian M.	MC	No
Webmaster	Figlio	Gino	MC	No
Qualification Commissioner	Limbert	Neil	MC	Yes
Ratings Commissioner	Binder	Gerhard	MC	Yes
Rules Commissioner	Söderberg	Per	MC	Yes

* Andrew Dearnley (ENG) was elected early in the first day of Congress

* Markus Hömske was selected by the EB to replace Andrew as the NTTC

Congress Participants – All Attendees

No	FED	Surname	First Name	Capacity
1	FRA	Ruch	Eric	ICCF President/ ICCF Delegate
2	USA	Millstone	Michael	ICCF Official/ General Secretary
3	AUS	Jones	Brian	ICCF Delegate/ Head of Delegation
4	BLR	Lybin	Dmitry	ICCF Official/ Arbiters Committee Chairperson/Anthem Composer
5	BLR	Rabchonok	Gennady	Accompanying Person
6	CAN	Marconi	Ralph	ICCF Delegate/ Head of Delegation
7	CAN	Fafard-Marconi	Thérèse	Accompanying Person
8	CZE	Mrkvička	Josef	ICCF Delegate/ Head of Delegation
9	CZE	Mrkvičková	Alena	Member of Delegation
10	CZE	Canibal	Jaromír	Member of Delegation
11	CZE	Canibalová	Milada	Accompanying Person
12	CZE	Přívozník	Luboš	Member of Delegation
13	CZE	Mališová	Lenka	Accompanying Person
14	CZE	Volf	Michal	Member of Delegation
15	ENG	Dearnley	Andrew	ICCF Delegate/ ICCF Official/ NTTC
16	ENG	Limbert	Neil	Member of Delegation/ ICCF Official/ Qualifications Commissioner
17	ENG	Hall	Richard	ICCF Official/ Arbitration Commission
18	ENG	Lloyd	Michael	Accompanying Person
19	FIN	Nuutilainen	Esko	ICCF Delegate/Head of Delegation/ Honorary Member
20	FIN	Nuutilainen	Seija	Accompanying Person
21	FIN	Riikonen	Olavi	Member of Delegation
22	FIN	Riikonen	Anneli	Accompanying Person
23	FIN	Lehikoinen	Pertti	Member of Delegation/ WC20
24	FRA	Hömske	Markus	ICCF Official
25	GER	Binder	Gerhard	ICCF Official/ Rating Commissioner

26	GER	Binder	Elisabeth	Accompanying Person
27	GER	ICCF Contractor		ICCF Webserver Developer
28	GER			Accompanying Person
29	GER			Accompanying Person
30	GER			Accompanying Person
31	GER	Baumbach	Fritz	ICCF Honorary Member/ WC11/ ICCF Delegate (proxy HUN)
32	GER	Pöschel	Margot	Accompanying Person
33	GER	Pöschel	Beatrice	Accompanying Person
34	GER	Rittner	Horst	ICCF Honorary Member/ WC06
35	GER	Rittner	Hannelore	Accompanying Person
36	GER	Staroske	Uwe	ICCF Delegate/ Head of Delegation
37	ITA	Mastrojeni	Giovanni	ICCF Delegate/ Head of Delegation
38	ITA	Nastasi	Elena	Accompanying Person
39	ITA	Bresadola	Guido	ICCF Official/ TO
40	ITA	Fonio	Maria	Accompanying Person
41	ITA	Bresadola	Alessio	Accompanying Person
42	ITA	Bresadola	Ilaria	Accompanying Person
43	ITA	Dosi	Alberto	Member of Delegation
44	ITA	Poli	Giuseppe	Member of Delegation
45	ITA	Finocchiaro	Fabio	Member of Delegation/ WC25
46	ITA	Tinjaca Ramirez	Luz Marina	Member of Delegation
47	ITA	Caressa	Marco	ICCF Official/ Zone 1 Director
48	LAT	Gaujens	Artis	ICCF Delegate/ Head of Delegation
49	LAT	Avotīnš	Maigonis	Member of Delegation
50	LAT	Avotina	Anita	Accompanying Person
51	LTU	Ročius	Marijonas	ICCF Delegate/ Head of Delegation
52	LTU	Kupšys	Alfonsas	Member of Delegation

53	LTU	Dambrauskas	Virginijus	Member of Delegation
54	NCA	Bendaña Guerrero	Guy José	ICCF Delegate
55	NED	Langeveld	Ron	ICCF Delegate (Designee)/ WC26
56	NOR	Boger	Raymond	ICCF Delegate
57	POL	Stefaniak	Tomasz	Polish CCF President/ Member of Delegation/ Organizing Committee
58	POL	Delega	Tomasz	President of the Polish Chess Federation
59	POL	Juszkiewicz	Barbara	Member of Delegation/ Organizing Committee
60	POL	Kozłowski	Waldemar	Member of Delegation
61	POL	Pierzak	Rafael	Member of Delegation
62	POL	Sądowski	Marek	Member of Delegation
63	POL	Turski	Grzegorz	Member of Delegation
64	POL	Stanach	Fabian	Member of Delegation
65	POL	Stanach	Katarzyna	Accompanying Person
66	POL	Walczak	Piotr	Member of Delegation
67	POL	Walczak	Lucyna	Accompanying Person
68	POL	Wojnar	Mariusz	ICCF Delegate/ Head of Delegation/ Organizing Committee
69	POL	Wojnar	Marzena	Accompanying Person
70	POL	Wojnar	Ewa	Accompanying Person/ Organizing Committee
71	RSA	Knol	Dinand	ICCF Delegate/ ICCF Official/ Zone 4 Director
72	RSA	Knol	Hannie	Accompanying Person
73	RUS	Poleshchuk	Nikolay	Member of Delegation
74	RUS	Saveleva	Vilga	Accompanying Person
75	RUS	Grodzensky	Sergey	ICCF Delegate/ Head of Delegation
76	RUS	Grodzenskaya	Natalia	Accompanying Person
77	SCO	Pyrich	George	ICCF Delegate/ ICCF Official/ Finance Director
78	SCO	Pyrich	Catherine	Accompanying Person

79	SLO	Šemrl	Marjan	ICCF Delegate/ WC24
80	SUI	Baumgartner	Ulrich	ICCF Delegate
81	SVK	Helbich	Ján	ICCF Delegate (Designee)
82	SVK	Helbichová	Tatiana	Accompanying Person
83	SWE	Söderberg	Per	ICCF Delegate/ ICCF Official/ Rules Commissioner
84	SWE	Colin	Sonny	Member of Delegation
85	SWE	Colin	Malin	Accompanying Person
86	UKR	Koshmak	Iurii	ICCF Delegate (Designee)
87	UKR	Begliy	Mikhail	Member of Delegation
88	USA	Bokar	Jason	ICCF Official/ Zone 3 Director
89	USA	Schakel	Leonard	ICCF Delegate
90	USA	Schakel	Sally	Accompanying Person
91	WLS	Lockwood	Austin	ICCF Delegate/ ICCF Official

Congress Participants - World Champions

#	WC #	Period	Surname	First Name	MF
1	06	1968-1971	Rittner	Horst	GER
2	11	1983-1989	Baumbach	Fritz	GER
3	20	2004-2011	Lehikoinen	Pertti	FIN
4	24	2009-2012	Šemrl	Marjan	SLO
5	25	2009-2013	Finocchiaro	Fabio	ITA
6	26	2010-?	Langeveld	Ron	NED

President's Report to Congress

Dear Delegates, ICCF Officials, Chess Friends,

Next month we will meet for the annual ICCF Congress that will be held for the fourth time in Poland and the first time in Krakow to celebrate the 80th anniversary of the Polish Correspondence Chess Federation. It will be the fourth time that Poland will host the ICCF Congress after Warsaw in 1973, Poznan in 1983 and Gdansk in 1993.

The Polish Correspondence Chess Federation welcomes all Delegates and ICCF officials to attend the 42nd ICCF Congress in Krakow, which will be held between 20 July and 27 July.

Much information about travel and accommodation can be found on the congress website.

<http://kszgk.com/iccfcongress2013/>

This year we have implemented for the first time a detailed schedule for the submission of the proposals to be considered by the Congress. A deadline was given to the Member Federations and the Officials to send their proposals and time was given to all commissions/committees/officials to review and discuss them, before submitting their reports.

I would like to thank all members of these commissions for their dedicated work in preparing these reports: they will inform the Delegates before voting.

This year we have received many important proposals dealing with some of the key features of ICCF rules: time control, leaves, special leaves, nodes and postal play, scoring system, chess960 ratings, code of conduct, etc.

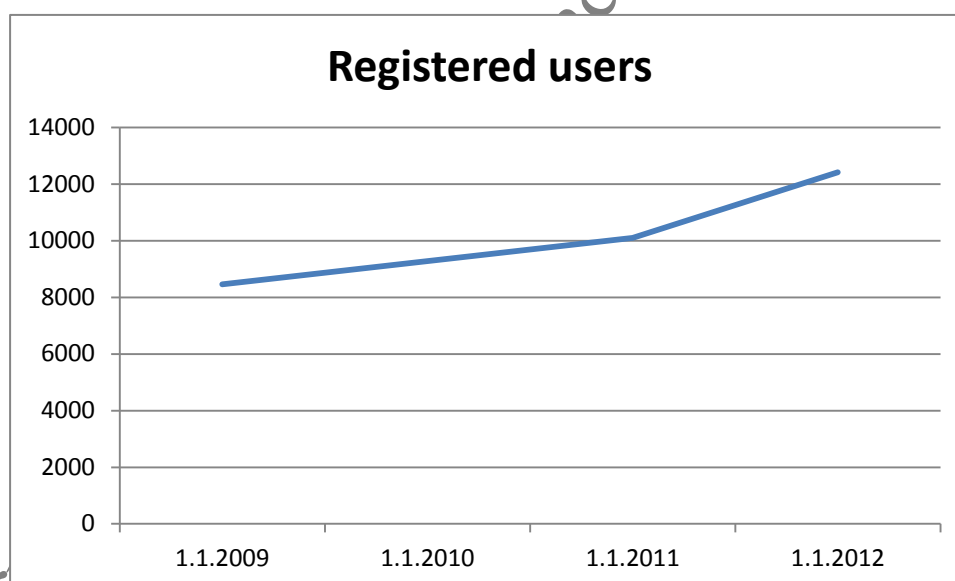
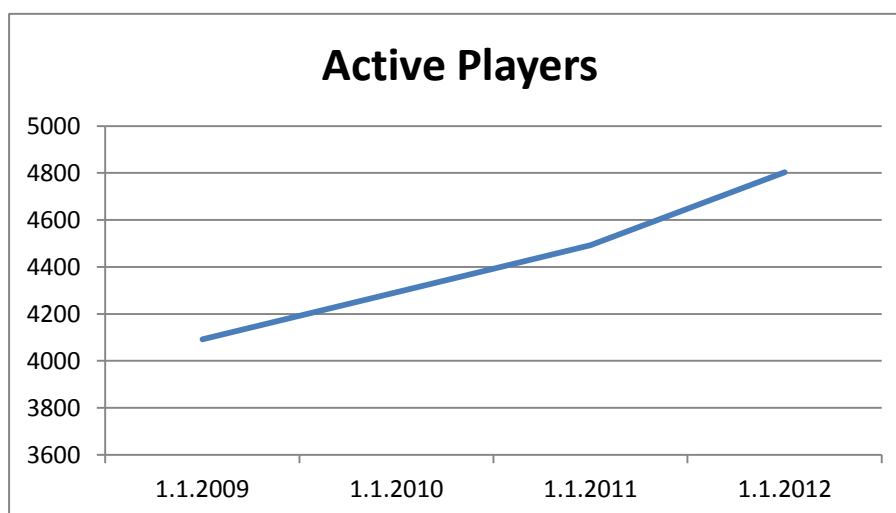
Another new feature that has been introduced this year is related to nomination and acceptance of proxies and I refer you to the General Secretary's report where you can find all the key dates leading to the Congress.

In 2012, the number of active players and registered users on the ICCF server has continued to increase in 2012.

The number of active players (the players who are currently playing at least one game – note that this definition is different from the definition of active players used for rating purposes) has increased by 17% over the last 3 and 7% over the last 18-months.

In the same time, the number of registered players has increased by 47% and 23% respectively.

Date	Active Players	Registered users
31/12/2009	4092	8464
01/07/2011	4493	10095
31/12/2012	4803	12418



Some other statistics over the 4-year period 2009-2012 can be found in the Finance Director's report, providing a different view of the player's activity on the ICCF server. These statistics demonstrate that most of our tournaments are benefiting from an increased interest by the players (some more than others do).

For this significant achievement, I would like to thank all ICCF and Member Federation volunteers. These results are yours!

Based on this increased interest in our tournaments, the Executive Board has decided to propose a new schedule of tournament fees which, if adopted by the Congress, will mean an average of 20% of reduction in the tournament fees, following a similar reduction in 2011 and an increase to 50% of

the Direct Entry rebate towards the Member Federations in 2012. I am confident that this will boost the interest of the ICCF tournaments and help the National Federation in recruiting new members.

A proposal to modify the ICCF Statutes will be made in Poland in order to accept the membership of Cape Verde in the Zone 4, while the membership of Venezuela will be proposed in the Zone 2.

In Poland, I will have the pleasure to congratulate two new World Champions: Fabio Finocchiaro (ITA) the 25th World Champion and Ron Langeveld (NED) the 26th World Champion who will attend the Congress in Krakow.

In Leeds in 2009, we have introduced a completely new structure for the World Championship aiming at providing more prestige to the most important of the ICCF titles by starting a final every one and a half year and ultimately every two years in 2013. I am glad to see that the final of the 28th World championship has just started on June 10, two years after the start of the preceding final. This is a clear demonstration that the new structure has working as planned while the Working Group chaired by Gerhard Binder (GER) will propose to the Congress a few adjustments to the rules in order to correct some of its undesirable side effects.

Many other tournaments have been started this year and are detailed in the various reports provided by the Commissioners and the Tournament Offices. The Tournament Calendar is now an established practice allowing many players to plan their tournaments throughout the year and help the Member Federation to advertise well in advance these tournaments. The on-time start of the ICCF tournaments have been drastically improved over the last years thanks to the dedicated work of many officers.

In 2012, the website and the server have been fully integrated in www.iccf.com with a new professional design. Most of the server developments decided in Pretoria have been implemented or will be implemented before we meet in Krakow, despite the fact that there have been just a little bit more than eight months since we have left South Africa. Globalization of the server has been one of the most interesting features implemented this year allowing players to see the website pages in Czech, French, German, Russian, and Spanish. I am sure that it will allow us future developments amongst our Federations and I encourage everyone to use this wonderful tool to promote CC in their respective countries, and remaining federations to find suitable volunteers to translate the server in their mother language. The tool is ready for you!

To continue the development of the ICCF, we will need more volunteers and I am convinced that we will find good candidates for the position of Marketing Director to be elected in Krakow. It is necessary!

Next year the Congress will be organized by the Correspondence Chess League of Australia and held in Sydney in October 2014, and we are waiting for official bids for the 2015 Congress, an election year of the Executive Board members and the Auditor.

I wish to see you all in Krakow in July.

Amici Sumus

Eric Ruch
ICCF President

Congress Opening – Monday, July 22, 2013

Opening Ceremonies

At 09:30, our host, Mr. Mariusz Wojnar provided some brief welcoming remarks.

Two distinguished members of the Polish Chess community were introduced and each spoke briefly and wished us well in our Congress.

Mr. Tomasz Delega of the Polish Chess Federation welcomed all to Poland and provided best wishes for a successful Congress.

Mr. Tomasz Stefaniak, President of the Polish Correspondence Chess Federation welcomed everyone to Poland and Krakow and added his warm welcome to all.

ICCF President Eric Ruch called the 2013 Congress to Order

President's Opening Speech

OPENING DISCOURS

***ICCF Congress 2013 – Krakow, Poland
Monday 22nd July 2013.***

Distinguished Guests, Members of the Polish Chess Federation, Delegates, and Member Federation Delegation Members, Accompanying Persons, ICCF Officials, Ladies, and Gentlemen:

May I first thank Mr. Tomasz Delega of the Polish Chess Federation for those very kind words of welcome and for your great support of this Congress and our Polish correspondence chess friends for your warm welcome.

I would also like to thank Tomasz Stefaniak, the newly elected President of the Polish Correspondence Chess Federation for his visit to the ICCF Congress and his support of correspondence chess.

It is my great pleasure that an ICCF Congress is being held here in Krakow to celebrate the 80th anniversary of the Polish Correspondence Chess Federation. It is the fourth congress in Poland but the first time in Krakow after Warsaw in 1973, Poznan in 1983, and Gdansk in 1993 renewing the tradition of celebrating the anniversary of the federation by organizing the ICCF Congress. I remember that two years ago when visiting the FIDE congress in Krakow, we have had a few drinks in a very nice bar with Mariusz and Piotr, and I remember telling them that Krakow would be a perfect host for the ICCF Congress. I would like to thank the organizing committee -- especially Tomasz Stefaniak, the President of the Polish CC Federation, Mariusz Wojnar, the Congress point person and Delegate for Poland, and Barbara Juskiewicz, the Congress Event Organiser for the wonderful work that she has done in organizing this Congress and I am sure that you will all enjoy this week in Poland. I would also like to welcome some "good old friends" of ICCF who I have not seen at Congress for about a decade and those who are attending their first Congress: it is a unique opportunity to meet friends, to share our common passion for Correspondence Chess and work for the future of ICCF.

During this week, we will have another unique opportunity to congratulate two new world champions, Fabio Finocchiaro (ITA), the 25th World Champion, and Ron Langeveld (NED), the 26th World Champion, who will join the four other World Champions who are in this room for the traditional picture of the World Champions, one of the great moment of every ICCF Congress.

This year ICCF suffered the loss of Georgy Borisenko, International Grand Master, twice champion of the USSR and gold medal of the ICCF Olympiads. I would also remember Witold Bielecki who many in this room had the chance to meet during the many congresses he attended. May I ask you to stand for a moment, in silence, in respect to these CC friends and other players and officials who passed away in the last year.

One Minute of Silence

This year, we have received many important proposals dealing with some of the key features of the ICCF rules: time control, leaves, special leaves, nodes and postal play, scoring system, chess960 ratings, code of conduct, etc. This means a lot of work and of course different and opposite views on how the future of ICCF shall be. It can be an historical Congress and a major millstone in the ICCF history if some of the “revolutionary” proposals are voted during this week. However, we should not be afraid from these changes, moving from postal play to e-mail and then from e-mail to server during the last two decades have been **the revolution** in correspondence chess. However, most of our rules (I have already mentioned time control, leaves, and special leaves amongst others) are the same as during the good old days of postal play! Little has been done to adapt them to the Internet ages and it will be your task this week to make them enter in the 21st century. I would like to quote Fred Smith, a former CEO of FedEx:

Vision and action can change the world.
Vision without action is just a dream.
Action without vision is just an activity

We need vision and action!

The 42nd ICCF Congress, Krakow 2013, is duly open ☺

May I now ask you all to stand for the playing of the ICCF Anthem.

The ICCF Anthem was played and was especially well received as the composer, GM Dmitry Lybin (BLR) was in the audience.

President's Opening Remarks

Due to previous commitments or health issues, the following ICCF Officials were unable to attend and expressed their apologies for not being present:

- World Tournament Director, Frank Geider (FRA);
- Zone 2 Director, Carlos Cranbourne (ARG);
- Title Tournament Commissioner, Gian-Maria Tani (ITA);
- Direct Entry Commissioner, Ian M. Pheby (ENG);
- Webmaster, Gino Figlio (PER)

International Correspondence Chess Federation

Bertl von Massow Awards and Other Awards

The ICCF President outlined the background and criteria which applied for Bertl von Massow awards: - “Medals in Gold and Silver were awarded respectively for 15 and 10 years of faithful service to ICCF, as the Delegate of a National organisation, as Member of the Executive Board, Management Committee or Commissions, for Zonal organisations or as a Tournament Director, or as Team Captain of a winning or highly placed team in an Olympiad or Continental (Zonal) Team Tournament”.

The President [Eric Ruch](#) announced the names of officials that the ICCF Executive Board had agreed to receive Bertl von Massow awards in 2013. Each recipient (or their respective delegate) came forward to receive medals and certificates, with the acclamation of Congress.

Gold Medal

Recipient	Year	Accepted by
Jean-Pierre Dondelinger (BEL)	2013	Marco Caressa (ITA)
Leonardo Madonia (ITA)	2013	Giovanni Mastrojeni (ITA)
Hirokaz Onoda (JPN)	2013	Jason Bokar (USA)
Marijonas Ročius (LTU)	2013	Self
Dr. Guy José Bendaña Guerrero (NCA)	2013	Self

Silver Medal

Recipient	Year	Accepted by
Márcio Barbosa de Oliveira (BRA)	2013	Nobody
Mgr. Stanislav Škerlík (SVK)	2013	Dr. Ján Helbich (SVK)
Dr. Jason Bokar (USA)	2013	Self

A list of all Bertl von Massow medal winners may be found on the webserver:

- ICCF Titles
- Show Players with Titles (Pull-down Menu)

Tournament Medals and Certificates

World Championship 23 Final

An engraved plate was presented to the winner of the WC 23 Final, Ulrich Stephan (GER)

Silver	Thomas Winckelmann	GER
Bronze	David A. van der Hoeven (NED)	NED

World Championship 25 Final

An engraved plate was presented to the winner of the WC 25 Final, Fabio Finocchiaro (ITA)

Silver	Richard V. M. Hall	ENG
Bronze	Elio Vassia	ITA

World Championship 26 Final

The winner of the WC 26 Final, Ron A. H. Langeveld (NED) was acknowledged. Medal and certificate were presented to Ron.

Silver	Florin Șerban	ROU
Bronze	Rafael Leitão	BRA

World Cup XII (Postal)

Gold	Matthias Gleichmann *	GER
Silver	Wolfgang Beykirch	GER
Bronze	Edgar Achilles	GER

11th Africa-Asia Championship Final

Gold	Ugur Tugsavul	TUR
Silver	TBD	
Bronze	TBD	

Champions League IV

Gold	Presented in 2012
Silver	Trojanische Schachautomaten
Bronze	Brevnov Knights

Champions League IV

Gold	Team	1	Rolf Scherer	SUI
	Underdogs I	2	Alexander Schramm	GER
	(GER)	3	Ralf Müller	GER
		4	Peter Daus	GER
Silver	Trojanische Schachautomaten	1	Arno Nickel	GER
	GER	2.	Gerhard Müller	GER
		3.	Tobias Habermehl	GER
		4.	Ralf-Axel Simon	GER
Bronze	Brevnov Knights	1.	Michal Tocháček	CZE
		2.	Kamil Stalmach	CZE
		3.	Petr Makovský	CZE
		4.	Pavel Makovský	CZE

ICCF Officials Diamond Jubilee Tournaments (In Memory of George Stibal)

“A” Tournament is still undecided

B			
	Gold	Aivars Kažoks	LAT
	Silver	Jörg Kracht	GER
	Bronze	Hans-Jürgen Isigkeit	GER
C			
	Gold	Ulrich Baumgartner	SUI
	Silver	Jean-Christophe Chazalotte	FRA
	Bronze	Jaromír Canibal	CZE
D			
	Gold	James Henri	HKG
	Silver	José Manuel Maldonado Pacheco	ESP
	Bronze	Neil Limbert	ENG

Approval of 2012 Congress Minutes

The Proposal to approve the 2012 Congress Minutes was made to Congress.

Proposal 1 - Vote to Approve 2012 Congress Minutes

For	40
Against	0
ABS	0

Proposal 1
APPROVED

The Congress Minutes of 2012 were approved and signed by ICCF President, Eric Ruch (FRA) and ICCF General Secretary, Michael Millstone (USA).

International Correspondence Chess Federation

BFCC Proposal to Modify ICCF Statute 13

BFCC Proposal - ICCF Statute 13 to be modified from

ICCF members are national correspondence chess organisations who are the authorities on national correspondence chess activities in their own countries, and must be full members of FIDE. Only one federation per country is allowed.

to

ICCF members are national correspondence chess organisations who are the authorities on national correspondence chess activities in their own countries. Only one federation per country is allowed.

This proposal removes the requirement for ICCF federations only to represent countries that are also represented in FIDE.

The reason for making this proposal is that last year, in South Africa, it was decided that the correspondence chess federation of Cape Verde would be invited to apply for membership of ICCF. This statute must be amended before their membership can be accepted. Cape Verde has a very active and enthusiastic group of players and their membership could only be of benefit to ICCF and correspondence chess generally; BFCC does not see why the ICCF statutes should be linked to FIDE at the expense of a potentially valuable member federation.

In the 1986 ICCF Congress Minutes, the Liaison Officer to FIDE reported that, “the relationship with FIDE had not improved since last Congress. Unfortunately, FIDE took no opportunity to show any affinity to correspondence chess. So long as this situation continues, it must be considered that the participation of ICCF in FIDE is only a historical matter.”

26-years later, at the FIDE General Assembly in Istanbul, Turkey, in October 2012, in response to a question about whether FIDE would consider ratings for Chess 960, the FIDE Deputy President, Mr. Georgious Makropoulos mentioned that was discussed previously in the Executive Board and Chess 960 is considered “a variation of chess ... much like correspondence chess” and will not be recognized in FIDE as a game of real skill”.

Several discussions ensued about the dilemma of recognizing various countries (example of England, Scotland, and Wales were used), but no solutions were presented.

A question was raised about any problem with recognition of ICCF titles by FIDE. Our president confirmed that ICCF titles are sent to FIDE yearly after Congress and are published by FIDE.

➤

Proposal 2 - Vote to Approve Modifications to ICCF Statute 13

For	38
Against	2 (POL, BLR)
ABS	0

Proposal 2
APPROVED

International Correspondence Chess Federation

New Membership Application - Venezuela

A new membership application was submitted by Venezuela. The Executive Board recommended approval.

Proposal 3 - Vote to Approve Application of Venezuela

For	40
Against	0
ABS	0

Proposal 3
APPROVED

New Membership Application – Cape Verde

Because the proposal to modify Statute 13 was approved, this allowed the consideration of the application to allow Cape Verde to become a full ICCF Member Federation.

A new membership application was submitted by Cape Verde. The Executive Board recommended approval.

Proposal 4 - Vote to Approve Application of Cape Verde

For	38
Against	2 (POL, BLR)
ABS	0

Proposal 4
APPROVED

Note – at this point of Congress, Venezuela and Cape Verde are now full members of ICCF. Both potential delegates submitted conditional proxy nomination (based on their acceptance of Congress). Austin Lockwood of Wales now holds proxies for both new Member Federations and the number of eligible MF votes has been changed from 40 to 42.

Executive Board Changes

Elections were called first in the 3-month period before the Congress. Applications were only received after the election period was open.

An application was received for the position of Marketing Director (MD). Because the application was received within 3-months of Congress, the vote would be held in Congress.

Delegates were informed of an open period for nominations and after the period was closed, one nominee application package, Andrew Dearnley (ENG), was distributed to all officials and delegates.

In Congress, a request was made of all delegates if any wished to have a closed election (with ballots). As nobody objected, the election for Andrew Dearnley for the Executive Board position of Marketing Director was made by a show of hands.

Proposal 5 - Vote to Approve Andrew Dearnley as the ICCF Marketing Director

For	42
Against	0
ABS	0

Proposal 5
APPROVED

Membership Matters

Michael Millstone - General Secretary

Dismissals and Suspensions

ICCF General Secretary, Michael Millstone (USA) reported the following Member Federations were suspended in 2012 for non-payment of dues:

- None

Also reported were outstanding balances from 2011 from the following two MFs:

- Chile
- Slovenia

New Membership Matters

Please see page 32 of these minutes for Congress decisions on Venezuela and Cape Verde.

International Correspondence Chess Federation

Financial Report & Accounts to 31.12.2012

George Pyrich – Finance Director

Dear Friends and Delegates,

Firstly, I should like to express my delight at being able to join you all again at Congress after an enforced absence of two years!

ICCF Financial Accounts 2012

Delegates are requested to note the audited Financial Accounts for 2012 contained within the document “ICCF Accounts 2012” distributed separately. Delegates are also requested to note the surplus for the year of 22,486.86 EUR resulting in an increase in the Accumulated Fund to 288,134.01 EUR. Delegates are respectfully requested to approve these Accounts.

Delegates will note that the surplus recorded during 2012, whilst higher than that recorded for 2011 (8,909.19 EUR), is considerably reduced from those in 2009 (36,825.81 EUR) and 2010 (33,245.94 EUR). Whilst Income received during 2012 rose by some 6.3% over the previous year, Expenditure over the same period fell by some 10.9%.

Whilst ICCF has recorded a more modest surplus during the year than in 2009 and 2010, its Accumulated Funds continue to increase to record levels. The increased surplus in 2012 in comparison to 2011 (and reduction in Expenditure in 2012) can largely be attributed to the “one-off” provision in respect of prize money in on-going ICCF events (World Cups & Webserver Opens) in the Profit and Loss Account for 2011. Other significant features of the ICCF Accounts for 2012 are the increase of some 70% to the amount of Rebates to National Federations in respect of fees for Direct entries following implementation of the agreement made at the 2012 Congress to increase such Rebates from 30% to 50% of the Direct entry fee paid to players and the almost unique situation whereby new Olympiad, Champions League and Webserver Open events were started in 2012 and thereby Total Income increased despite the absence of a new World Cup event.

It should be noted that this increase in Income during 2012 was achieved despite small falls in the overall numbers of entries to individual events received during 2012 from 2011 for both Postal and Server events as shown in Appendices A & B. Additionally Appendix C provides comparisons in respect both entries and fees income for both individual and team server events between 2009 & 2010 and 2011 and 2012. The comparison is significant as the last reduction to ICCF Fees approved at the 2010 Congress was effective from 1 January 2011 and thereby provides some measurement of the effects this reduction – entries rose sharply in 2011 but fell slightly in 2012 whilst overall fees income rose by 3%. Additionally the 2-year average provides a more accurate measure of performance as several significant events are held during alternate years.

ICCF Fees

As ICCF continues to make substantial surpluses each year and its Accumulated Funds increase accordingly, it is felt that it would be prudent now to introduce measures, which may at least reduce this trend. Consequently, it is now proposed that ICCF entry fees to Individual and Team events be reduced on average by some 20% effective from 1 January 2014. Details of the proposed revised fees are listed within Appendix D. Delegates should note the consequent reductions to Direct Entry fees and the Rebates in respect of Direct Entries credited to National Federations if these proposed reductions to ICCF fees are approved by the Congress.

However, delegates should also note that it is proposed to increase the fee in respect of International Open tournaments organised by Member Federations from the current 2.50 EUR per player to 5.00 EUR per player, in line with the proposed new reduced fee for ICCF's own Webserver Open events. ICCF is now mindful that Member Federations have in the past been required to pay only 2.50 EUR in respect of each player but have required entrants to pay as much as 12 EUR or more. It should also be noted that, as in Webserver Open events, successful players reaching the Final of such events might play 30 or more games.

Whilst the last reduction to entry fees in 2010 resulted in a 23% increase in entry numbers during the following year, I consider it to be unlikely that a similar such increase will occur during 2014.

Cash Prizes in World Cup & Webserver Open Events

Also mindful of the situation whereby ICCF funds have increased considerably during recent years, the Executive Board now wishes to propose substantial increases to the Prize Funds for World Cup and Webserver Open tournaments. It is also proposed to introduce similar levels of Prizes to the Veterans World Cup events from 2014 (Veterans World Cup 7).

These proposals may be summarised as follows:

- a) That Prize Funds from 2014 in respect of World Cup and Webserver Open tournaments be increased from the current 2,000 EUR to 6,000 EUR. Prizes will be provided for the Preliminary, Semi-Final and Final stages of these events. The allocation of these Prizes will be decided at the discretion of the Executive Board and not all such Prizes may be paid in cash – for example, Prizes for the Preliminary stages may be awarded in the form of books or magazine subscriptions.
- b) Similarly, from 2014 Prize Funds of 6,000 EUR will be available in new Veterans World Cup events.
- c) Additionally the Executive board wishes to propose that Prize Funds of 2,000 EUR be made available for the current Webserver Open events (3, 4, & 5). Delegates may note that when these events commenced it was announced only that Prize Funds would be decided by the Executive Board later.

ICCF Statutes

Delegates are reminded of the revisions to the ICCF Statutes approved at the 2012 Congress, specifically paragraphs 1, 2, 3, & 4 of Article 6 reproduced here:

- 1) Members of ICCF contribute to the material life of the organization by paying membership fees which are set annually by the Congress. This membership fee is comprised of a fixed part based on the number of players belonging to the member federation and a second part corresponding to the number and nature of the chess games played by the players belonging to each member federation.*
- 2) The first part of the membership fee is calculated per 100 players belonging to the national federation, giving rise, for each portion thereof, to a contribution in an amount set by the Congress.*
- 3) The second part of the membership fee is a contribution levied against a rate for each tournament organized by ICCF multiplied by the number of players from the member federations who participated in each of these tournaments.*
- 4) ICCF does not require that this rate effectively match the amount of the playing fees that the federations may require from their members to participate in ICCF tournaments and as such does not interfere in the economic and financial management of member federations.*

These revisions to the ICCF Statutes were designed specifically in order to meet possible Statutory Obligations by ICCF to the French and Swiss authorities following the Registration of ICCF as a specific legal body in 2012 in these countries. Under the Statutory Obligations ICCF may be required to provide Statutory Returns, which distinguish between and provide specific information with regard to Income received from Members (as described in paragraphs 2 & 3) and Income received from non-Members (Direct Entry).

As a consequence of these requirements ICCF may in future find it to be necessary to engage the professional services of lawyers and tax consultants and provision for possible expenses arising from this is now included within ICCF's Financial Plan.

As a consequence of this possible requirement, the presentation of the Annual ICCF Statement of Account provided each year to Member National Federations will now require to be amended from 2013 (to be distributed early 2014) (see Appendix E) in order to meet these requirements.

Congress Allowances paid to ICCF Officials attending Congress

These Allowances have not been reviewed since the 2010 congress from which time international air fares have increased substantially. It is now proposed that these Allowances in respect of travel be increased with effect 1 January 2014 from the current 5-euro cents per kilometre in respect of travel within the same Continent to 6-euro cents and from 6-euro cents to 7-euro cents in respect of Inter-Continental travel.

“Free Entries” at Discretion of Zone Directors

Several years ago the Congress approved a scheme whereby each of the 4 Zone Directors were granted discretion to submit up to 20 entries annually to ICCF events on behalf of players from their Zones “free of charge” in order to promote increased activity.

According to my records, there has been a very poor response to this scheme – thus far, only 1 such entry has been submitted (in 2013). In view of this situation, Congress may now wish to consider the termination of this scheme.

ICCF Fees per Annual Statement of Accounts

As a condition of ICCF membership all Member Federations are obliged to arrange prompt payment of the membership fees and tournament charges imposed as per the Annual Statement of Accounts. I am pleased to report to Congress that recently there has been a considerable improvement in the situation with regard to late payment of ICCF Fees and that all fees due for 2011 have been paid (although a few Federations were late in making payment) and that to date (9 June) only 7 Federations have failed to arrange payment of fees for 2012. Reminders were issued to all these and several responded that payment would soon be made. Consequently, the ICCF General Secretary will not now be required to impose any sanctions in terms of withdrawal of voting rights and tournament entry entitlements.

George Pyrich
ICCF Finance Director

All Congress Officials and Delegates expressed their warm appreciation for the excellent job George has done throughout the year as our Finance Director.

Finance Director Discussion and Voting

FD Report – Section 2 – ICCF New Tournament Fees

Proposal 6 - Vote to Approve new ICCF Tournaments Fees as presented in Appendix D, Effective 01/14.

Proposal 6 - Vote to Approve new ICCF Tournaments Fees

For	41
Against	0
ABS	(1) LAT

Proposal 6

APPROVED

Please see Appendix I for the new Tournament Fee structure

FD Report – Section 3 – Cash Prizes in World Cup & Webserver Open Events

Proposal 7 - Vote to Approve Increase in Higher Prize Levels as outlined in Section 3 of the FD report with the following provisions: (a) prize money is shared among players with equal points and (b) concerning the award of medals, the appropriate tiebreak rule applies.

Proposal 7 – Increased Cash Prizes

For	42
Against	0
ABS	0

Proposal 7

APPROVED

FD Report – Section 4 – Statutes

- Clarification – Membership fees are reported by Member Federations and should only consist of active members.
- Finance Director will publish Member Federation Membership Fees.

Please see Appendix H for the revised Membership Fees regulation.

FD Report – Section 5 – Congress Allowances Increases

Proposal 8 - Vote to Approve new ICCF Congress Official Allowances to 7 Euro cents for all distances.

Proposal 8 – Increase of ICCF Congress Allowance

For	42
Against	0
ABS	0

Proposal 8

APPROVED

Appendix G contains the modified regulations.

FD Report – Section 6 – Free Entries for Zonal Directors

This proposal was withdrawn.

International Correspondence Chess Federation

Auditor's Report

Josef Mrkvička – ICCF Auditor

Introduction

I, Josef Mrkvička, ICCF Auditor have audited the financial statements of the International Correspondence Chess Federation (thereinafter "ICCF"), which comprise the Balance Sheet as at 31 December 2012, and the Profit & Loss Statement for the year then ended. These financial statements form part of the Finance Director's Report to this Congress.

ICCF Executive Board's Responsibility for the Financial Statements

The ICCF Executive Board, in particular the ICCF Finance Director George Pyrich, is responsible for the preparation and true and fair view of these financial statements. This responsibility includes designing, implementing and maintaining internal control relevant to the preparation and fair presentation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error; selecting and applying appropriate accounting policies, and making accounting estimates that are reasonable in the circumstances.

Auditor's Responsibility

My responsibility is to express an opinion on these financial statements based upon my audit. I have conducted my audit in accordance with the International Standards on Auditing, where appropriated and/or applicable. Those standards require that I comply with ethical requirements and plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance whether the financial statements are free from material misstatement.

An audit involves performing procedures to obtain audit evidence about the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. The procedures selected depend on the auditor's judgment. An audit also includes evaluating the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of accounting estimates made by the ICCF Finance Director, as well as evaluating the overall presentation of the financial statements.

I set the level of materiality at EUR 17.00, which is the usual limit from which receipts are required for a cost reimbursement.

Audit Procedures Performed

I performed the following audit procedures:

- I checked if all ledger accounts had been opened by correct opening balances, equalling to closing balances as at 31st December 2011.
- I checked the formal correctness of all book entries made on various ledger accounts during the year 2012.
- I checked if the closing balances of ledger accounts as at 31st December 2012 had been allocated correctly to particular items of the Balance Sheet and the Profit & Loss Statement.
- I compared the issued NF's Statements of Accounts for the year 2012 with the respective book entries.
- In a detailed way, I analysed the accounts receivables and accounts payables as at 31st December 2012.
- I checked the vouchers and bank statements provided by the Finance Director and compared them with the respective book entries in the Day Book.

The discovered discrepancies were submitted to the Finance Director, together with my proposals how these should be rectified. I am pleased to report that all my proposals were welcomed and accepted by the Finance Director, and that appropriate adjustments were made in the final version of the Financial Statements.

Material Findings

- Just as in my Auditor's Report for the year 2010, I recommended general reductions to ICCF's annual surpluses and the utilization of the funds accumulated from previous years for the benefit of ICCF players. This target was achieved for the year 2011 mainly due to the introduction of provision in respect of future money prizes amounting to € 16 949.78. However for the year 2012 ICCF has yet again produced a quite substantial surplus on this occasion amounting to € 22 406.86.
- During 2012, ICCF was registered as a non-profit organization with its seat in Lausanne, Switzerland. Consequently, the annual surpluses should more or less conform to this non-profit status. On the other hand, it is not in principle forbidden that non-profit organizations should create surpluses. In particular, Swiss (or French) legislation provides that non-profit organizations may include commercial turnover within their incomes but only within a maximum limit and that they must avoid to be seen competing directly against commercial companies that offer the same service.
- It is my opinion that ICCF should utilise these surpluses for the benefit of their shareholders and/or customers – in our case, of the Member Federations and their players. However, this could be hardly proven if the resources on ICCF bank accounts continue to increase – by € 27 400.00 during the year 2012 and whilst at the same time the total expenditure actually reduced by € 8 000.00.
- Since 1 January 2012, ICCF has implemented revised Statutes, which introduce new definitions of ICCF resources within Articles 6 and 7. I found that the NF's Statements issued for the year 2012 were not yet in compliance with the definitions stated in the abovementioned articles of the Statutes.
- Over the last few years, Member Federations have overall arranged payment of fees due to ICCF more promptly than previously and I am pleased to report that this trend continued during 2012. The ICCF Finance Director has imposed an interest surcharge for late payments only once during this recent period as all other Member Federations have met their obligations timely.
- At the ICCF Congress in Pretoria Algerian Federation was expelled from ICCF following persistent non-payment of fees accumulating a total debt amounting to € 266.04. The Finance Director does not envisage any realistic prospect that this debt may be collected in future. In the Financial Statements for the year 2012 a 100 per cent, allowance for this bad debt was created and I recommend that this debt should be written off in the financial year 2013.
- Again, there was a positive development in the market value of the ICCF investments which increased during the year by € 1 642.67. Despite this increase in value and as in the past years I still do not recommend that any new investments be made in bonds denominated in €.
- As I have stressed above, ICCF's cash position remains strong and sound.

Recommendations and Proposals

- Effective 1.1.2013, the ICCF Finance Director should amend the annual Member Federations Statement of Accounts by introducing a new template, which would comply with the definitions stated in the Articles 6 and 7 of the Statutes.
- In their financial planning for the future years, the ICCF Executive Board should consider the adoption of new schemes in order to use up and thereby reduce the accumulated funds. There are more possibilities available which may be considered – another review of tournament fees, a reduction or even discontinuation of membership fees, money prizes in selected tournaments, a reduction or even discontinuation of fees charged to Member Federations who organize regional team tournaments like Mare Nostrum, Danube Cups, and Slav Cups etc. Of course, this is not the final list of such options!
- On the other hand, ICCF should anticipate considerably higher expenditure with regard to congress allowances payable to its officials in respect of the 2014 Congress in view of the venue Sydney, Australia. I therefore recommend that care be taken to include this condition when compiling and analysing the Financial Plan for 2014.
- Other than this I should only like to add that **ICCF's finances continue to enjoy a healthy condition** and that I do not foresee at this time any possibility of a substantial financial deficit for the year 2013 and subsequent years.

Conclusions – Auditor's Opinion

I believe that the audit evidence I have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for my audit opinion.

Opinion

In my opinion, the financial statements give a true and fair view of assets, liabilities and accumulated fund of ICCF as of 31 December 2012, and of costs and earnings for the year then ended.

Finally, I should like to express my appreciation of the dedicated and good work of the Finance Director, George Pyrich, during the whole year 2012 and also to express my thanks to him for his perfect co-operation during the course of this audit.

AMICI SUMUS!

Date of preparation:

20th May 2013

Name and address of the Auditor:

Josef Mrkvička
Houškova 32
326 00 Plzeň, Czech Republic

Auditor's signature:



All Congress Officials and Delegates expressed their warm appreciation for the excellent job Josef has done throughout the year as our ICCF Auditor.

Appendices:

Financial statements of ICCF as of December 31, 2012 (Balance Sheet, Profit & Loss Account) – **attached to the Finance Director's Report**

Proposal 9 - Vote to Approve the Finance Director Report, Auditors Report, and Financial Accounts

Proposal 9 – Approve FD and Auditors Reports and Financial Accounts

For	42
Against	0
ABS	0

Proposal 9
APPROVED

International Correspondence Chess Federation

Financial Plan

The updated financial plan was introduced by President Eric Ruch & Finance Director George Pyrich. Of note and discussion were:

- A slightly higher allowance projected for officials attending the 2014 Congress in Sydney due to higher travel costs.
- Increases in cash prizes as discussed and voted in the FD report are reflected.
- With the election of a Marketing Director, a budget has been added.
- An allowance for various professional services has been budgeted moving forward.

Proposal 10 - Vote to Approve the Financial Plan as Presented

Proposal 10 – Approve the Financial Plan

For	42
Against	0
ABS	0

Proposal 10
APPROVED

(Note: Because of the sensitive nature of the financial plan, it will not be included in the Congress minutes).

Financial Regulations

Several changes were required to the Financial Regulations to address the Congress decisions this year. Please see Appendix F for the revised copy of the Financial Regulations, effective 1.1.2014.

A minor clarification to the regulations was proposed concerning ICCF providing contributions to Member Federations hosting a Congress. The key change was that instead of a blanket 5.000 Euro payment; the change is now to allow *up to* a 5.000 Euro payment, subject to verifiable expenses and receipts.

The Proposal wording may be found in Appendix J.

Proposal 11 - Vote to Approve the Changes to the Financial Regulations as identified in Appendixes F, G, H, I, and J

Proposal 11 – Changes to Financial Regulations

For	42
Against	0
ABS	0

Proposal 11
APPROVED

Direct Entry Report

Dear Chess friends,

Introduction

I would like to apologise for not being able to present this report in person. As you may know, I have a total fear of flying, and I am thus unable to attend Congress unless it is held within mainland United Kingdom. I did have the pleasure of meeting many of you at the Leeds Congress in 2009, which I attended.

Andrew Dearnley (ENG) has kindly agreed to present this report on my behalf.

I am pleased to submit my second report as Direct Entry Commissioner to the 2013 ICCF Congress regarding the Direct Entry Programme. The period of this report will be from the programme start on 5th April 2006 through to 30th April 2013.

Direct Entry Programme

The Direct Entry Programme enables players to register for ICCF events subject to holding the appropriate qualifications for that event by making a payment through PayPal. Unfortunately, some countries are not part of the Direct Entry Programme. I sincerely hope that they join as soon as possible.

The Programme benefits from the automation of the process for entries on the webserver. This process is being continually reviewed to seek possible improvements, and I extend my thanks to all those involved in ensuring this system works so efficiently.

I am pleased to report that the Direct Entry Programme has received its 7,000th eligible entry in March 2013. Since its introduction in 2006, the programme has received an average of about 84 entries per month.

Information about the Direct Entry Programme

From January to December 2012, 1260 entries for ICCF tournaments were registered, that is 3.44 entries per day, representing a decrease of about 8% compared with 2011 (1368 entries, 3.75 per day). From January to April 2013, 474 entries were registered, that is 3.95 entries per day.

Entry to European Zone and NAPZ Zone Individual Master Class, Higher Class, and Open Class (Webserver) events. The data from these events are contained within their respective Promotion Tournament.

Appendix K contains details of the entries to the varied tournaments available by Direct Entry, and the level of activity in each tournament.

Direct Entry 5th Webserver Anniversary Tournament

To celebrate the fifth anniversary of the Direct Entry Programme, a tournament was organized by Jean-Christophe Chazalatte (FRA). The current situation is that 7 semi-finals are taking place for the right to play in the Final. Each semi-final is a Category IV event. The semi-finals will be held from 1st October 2012 to 31st March 2014. I wish to thank Jean-Christophe Chazalatte (FRA) for his continued organization of this successful event.

As everyone will recall, each winner of a Preliminary Group is entitled to enter one tournament of his/her choice free of charge providing the eligibility requirements be met. To date, some 29 players have taken up their free entry. The list of players yet to take up their free entry is given in **Appendix L**. Should those appearing in this list wish to take up their free entry, they must submit their entry to the Direct Entry Commissioner at de@iccf.com by no later than **31st July 2013** giving their name, their ICCF number, the name of the DE5A preliminary group they won, and the tournament they wish to enter.

Delegates are kindly requested to remind those players within their Federation of their option for free entries.

Zone 3 – North America / Pacific

During the course of the period of this report and following discussions with our friends in this Zone, the Direct Entry Programme has been extended to NAPZ Individual Open Class, Higher Class, and Master Class (Webserver) events. My thanks to Dr. Jason Bokar (USA) and Glen D. Shields (USA) for their work with me on this matter.

Appreciation

I wish to thank Andrew Dearnley (ENG) for kindly agreeing to present this report to Congress on my behalf.

It has been and continues to be an honour to serve the ICCF as Direct Entry Commissioner, and I hope to continue to serve the ICCF for many years as your Direct Entry Commissioner.

Ian M Pheby
Direct Entry Commissioner

All Congress Officials and Delegates expressed their warm appreciation for the excellent job Ian has done throughout the year as our Direct Entry Commissioner.

Qualifications Commissioner

Introduction

I am happy to present my fourth Report as Qualifications Commissioner to ICCF Congress. My main tasks since the 2012 Congress have been to oversee the introduction of various server improvements detailed in Section 2 below. This has involved a tremendous amount of additional work but I believe it is worthwhile.

In my normal day-to-day role as QC, there have been **167** Title tournaments started since September 15, 2012; an average of **one new Title Tournament every 1.6 days**. This compares to one new Title tournament every 2.3 days for 2011-12. So the ever-increasing trend of more & more Title tournaments continues. For further details, see Section 10 of this report.

Since the 2012 Congress, I have checked, verified and awarded **76** new Titles to players (GM, SIM, IM, LGM, LM, IA); an average of one new Title every 3.4 days. This compares to the 136 new Titles confirmed at the 2012 Congress at an average of one every 3.3 days.

In addition, there is another **30** Tournament Medals & Certificates to be awarded – see Section 2.

Once again, there are no Special Applications due to the Overscore Rule.

Server Improvements

Since the 2012 Congress, there have been a number of changes made to the Server affecting the role of QC. I am very happy with these changes made although it is extra work! I would like to draw Congress attention to-

Player Details – Norms Tab

I hope that most delegates and players are now familiar with the Norms tab. If you go to “Player Details” of any individual player, and press the “Norms” tab, it will show all the Title Norms obtained by that player since 1990. When the Norms tab was first introduced in 2012, it just showed all Norms obtained since 2004 when the webserver began. Therefore, I was confident the Norms were correct. Now, thanks to the work of Gerhard Binder, Martin Bennedik & Austin Lockwood, all the Rating lists & crosstables going back to 1990 have been added to the Server (under “Tables & Results” where the first drop down box shows all the **Archive** tournaments added). Whilst this is excellent for information purposes, it has introduced some inconsistencies.

1. The Server calculates all the Categories automatically for every crosstable of a Title tournament. Therefore, the Server has now calculated the Categories of all the Archive crosstables added to the Server. Unfortunately, some of these Categories are incorrect. The problem is that the Title regulations have changed over time and, where a player had no rating, the Server has applied “2200” (or something similar) which affects the Category calculation.

I have received some e-mails from players pointing out errors & I have amended the crosstables. I am gradually working through all the old crosstables (many hundreds) but it is impossible for me to pick up all the inaccuracies. Ratings Commissioner Gerhard Binder has told me there are probably many such cases. Therefore, I ask all federation delegates to bear this problem in mind & contact me if they spot any mistakes.

2. Also, when the Archive was downloaded, Martin Bennedik highlighted over 350 events where Categories had not been automatically calculated when perhaps they should be. There are varieties of reasons for this (for example, old double-round robin events or not enough players with a fixed rating). Unfortunately, the only remedy is to work through these events (I have a long list!) & rectify them one by one.

Also, the 2012 Congress gave permission for the QC to have the facility to manually amend Norms in some rare situations. Unfortunately, this facility is not yet available but Austin Lockwood assures me it is on his list of jobs to be done!

Player Details – Achievements Tab

Since the 2012 Congress, the “Achievements” tab has been introduced. Now, this shows all Titles awarded to that player & the year they were awarded. Because of adding the old Rating Lists, there are some inaccuracies, which now appear. These concerns the “Year” the Title was awarded.

1. The Server picks up this information automatically from the first Rating List, which shows that the player concerned now has a Title. Because we now have four Rating Lists a year, and I award Titles immediately without waiting for Congress, all the “Year” awarded dates in recent years are correct. However, before we had four Rating lists a year, we had two lists a year. In addition, before that, we had only one list a year. For this reason, the Server was usually displaying the Year Awarded as the year after the Title was officially given. For example, if a player was awarded a Title in 1995, it is possible that the Year displayed under “Achievements” is 1996 because that was the first Rating List, which shows this information.

Working with Martin Bennedik & Austin Lockwood, they have programmed the Server so that, when there was only one Rating list per year, the Year Awarded is displayed is “X minus one”. However, it was impossible to programme the software to exactly accurate on every occasion. Therefore, I ask delegates to be aware of this situation. If a player or delegate spots a mistake, please contact me, and I will correct it.

2. Also, because the earliest Rating List is 1990, all Titles awarded before this date showed as awarded in 1990 or 1991! So, if a player earned a GM Title in 1974, it did show as 1990 or 1991. I have therefore worked through the Title Lists, player by player, to amend the record to show the correct date. I have so far **amended 489 individual player records**. If a player or delegate finds a mistake, please let me know and I will correct it.

These corrections are important. Now, all the Titleholders are kept in manual lists updated by the QC every year after Congress. See “About ICCF” – “ICCF Titles” where the various Title lists are displayed as PDF. Because these lists are manually maintained, and handed down from QC to QC over the years, errors have crept in. My hope is, in the non-too-distant future, to have all this information held under the “Achievements tab” (which could be selectively searched) so that the manual records can be dispensed with.

3. It is also intended that the “Achievements” tab will also be used to record other achievements. **ICCF Officials (position held and dates)** and recognising **Tournament victories** (so, when a player finishes first in any tournament, or first, second or third in important tournaments such as the World Championship Final) are both improvements for the future. **Bertl Von Massow award winners** can now be displayed but I have to enter this information manually. According to the 2012 Congress Minutes (where all Bertl von Massow Award Winners were listed), there have been **293 awards** issued up to 2012. I have started to enter these awards under the Player names but I have not yet finished.

4. The “Year Awarded” was not displayed alongside the achievement of “International Arbiter” Title. This is simply because the Rating List does not show this information. Therefore, I have manually inserted the “Year Awarded” alongside every IA who has a webserver ID- approximately **220 records**. Please contact me if I have missed this information from any IA or if I have made a mistake in input.

5. For an unexplained reason, all the SIM titles awarded in 1999 (the first year that such titles were awarded) did not display under achievements. Therefore, once again, I have had to insert these records manually (**75 records**). Please be aware of advise me of any omissions or mistakes.

Event List – Edit Event (or when creating a new Tournament)

One of the improvements this year has been to add the “**Certificates**” tab to the options under Edit Event. This allows **Tournament Organisers** to have **the option** of awarding ICCF Certificates to the players who finish first, second or third. The production of these Certificates relies on two things:-

1. The Tournament Organiser remembering to go into the Certificates tab & amend the drop down box from “No Certificates” to “Certificates 1” when they create the event. Then there is a box underneath allowing them to state the number of places to be issued with Certificates. This number defaults to “3” but it can be 1, 2, or 3.
2. The Tournament Director sending the e-mail to the players when the tournament has finished. The Certificates are PDF attachments to these e-mails giving the player the option to print off the Certificate.

The design of the Certificate is similar to the Certificates issued for Titles in order to maintain a theme. The Server automatically populates the Certificates with all the necessary information (Player Name, Position finished, Name of Tournament etc) so there is nothing for the TD to do other than send the e-mail.

We urge all Tournament Organisers to make use of this facility! Now it is not available for Team Tournaments (more technical work required here) and the wording of the Certificates may not be appropriate for National Events.

Although these Server changes had introduced additional work to the QC, I believe that the information they provide is important & worth the effort.

All Congress Officials and Delegates expressed their warm appreciation for the excellent job Neil has done throughout the year as our Qualifications Commissioner.

International Correspondence Chess Federation

Grandmaster (GM) Titles awarded since the 2012 Congress

Applications under Rule 10.4 (c) - Medals/Certificates to be presented to:-

CZE	130794	Jiří Dufek	GM
ESP	160468	Ángel-Jerónimo Manso Gil	GM
GER	84838	Klaus Keuter	GM
SWE	450320	Arne Bjühr	GM

SIM Titles awarded since the 2012 Congress

Applications under Rule 10.5 (a) - Medals/Certificates to be presented to:-

AUT	19094	Manuel Mendl	SIM
CAN	90617	Dan Rotaru	SIM
CZE	131211	Luboš Přivozník	SIM
DEN	150967	Ejvind Jensen	SIM
ESP	160689	Alvaro Benlloch Guirau	SIM
ESP	160825	Jesús Punzón Moraleda	SIM
FRA	180860	Mikael Pellen	SIM
FRA	180552	François Sage	SIM
GER	82599	Hans Tauber	SIM
POL	421250	Dr. Jarosław Sawiniec	SIM
POL	421411	Fabian Stanach	SIM
ROU	440425	Sorin-Marius Ciucurel	SIM
RUS	141801	Viktor Viktorovich Balabanov	SIM
RUS	141829	Sergey Vladimirovich Nefedov	SIM
RUS	141958	Albert Ilievich Serazeev	SIM
SLO	480205	Dr. Borko Bošković	SIM
SLO	540225	Milan Horvat	SIM
USA	514295	Dr. Carl L. Siefring	SIM

IM Titles awarded since the 2012 Congress

Applications under Rule 10.6 (d) - Medals/Certificates to be presented to:-

AUS	30417	John Paul Fenwick	IM
AUT	10365	Gerhard Walter	IM
BUL	50258	Krasimir Bochev	IM
CAN	90172	Alan Fichaud	IM
CZE	131211	Luboš Přivozník	IM
ECU	700098	Carlos Paredes	IM
ESP	160262	Juan Peñafiel López	IM
FRA	181158	David Roubaud	IM
FRA	180552	François Sage	IM
GER	85238	Michael Böken	IM
GER	80682	Klaus Funke	IM
GER	85696	Manfred Lennartz	IM
GER	85854	Adrian Schilcher	IM
GER	85709	Carsten Schweer	IM
GRE	220159	Frits Bleker	IM
IRL	260207	Jonathan O'Connor	IM
ISL	300204	Daði Örn Jónsson	IM
ISR	270247	Shimon Yalov	IM
ITA	241166	Augusto Walter Ciciotti	IM
NED	370601	Richard M. Van Tienhoven	IM
NOR	369015	Reidar Gramstad	IM
POL	421411	Fabian Stanach	IM
POL	421428	Robert Szymański	IM
POR	390269	Carlos Salvador Marques	IM
ROU	440505	Marius Vălutanu	IM
RUS	141716	Vladimir Ivanovich Demakov	IM
RUS	141829	Sergey Vladimirovich Nefedov	IM
RUS	141853	Ruslan Aslanovich Tleptsok	IM
SLO	480147	Stanko Kovač	IM
SUI	100361	Stephan Fessler	IM
SUI	100129	Gilles Terreaux	IM
SWE	451123	Bo Bengtsson	IM
UKR	940836	Valery Petrovich Nemchenko	IM
UKR	511731	Yuri Yaroshenko	IM
USA	84497	Wieland Belka	IM
USA	510859	Wesley C. Green	IM
USA	514859	Kenneth Holroyd	IM

LGM Titles awarded since the 2012 Congress

Applications under Rule 10.7 (c)- Medals/Certificates to be presented to:-

FRA	181193	Melissa Broudin	LGM
RUS	141864	Larisa Vasilievna Morokova	LGM

LIM Titles awarded since the 2012 Congress

Applications under Rule 10.8 (c) - Medals/Certificates to be presented to:-

ENG	212018	Toni Halliwell	LIM
ESP	160808	Francisca Pino Muñoz	LIM
FRA	181193	Melissa Broudin	LIM
GER	85939	Kirstin Achatz	LIM
GER	85446	Silvia Kamp	LIM
GER	85784	Sabine Willert-Betker	LIM
LTU	920322	Jelizaveta Potapova	LIM
RUS	141878	Svetlana Vladimirovna Lobanova	LIM
RUS	141960	Oksana Nikolaevna Zhak	LIM
RSA	550129	Samantha Tavinski	LIM
SVK	950312	Slavomíra Hulecová	LIM
UKR	940652	Alla Pavlivna Saenko	LIM

IA Titles awarded since the 2012 Congress

Applications under Rule 10.9 – Medals/Certificates to be presented to:-

ESP	160230	Antonio Sánchez Ródenas	Yes
SLO	480084	Dr. Danilo Korže	Yes
UKR	940642	Nikolay Andriuschenko	Yes

International Title Tournaments started 16 September 2012 to 4 June 2013

All tournaments are webserver unless stated.

Category	Tournament
14	World Championship 28 Final Jaroslav Hybl Memorial A (CZE) Olympiad 18 Final Board 1 Olympiad 18 Final Board 2
13	70 Years of CC in Bulgaria (BUL) 75 Years of CC in Portugal - A (POR) Olympiad 18 Final Board 3 45 Years Slovak CCA Gold (SVK)
12	Champions League V, Division A, Board 1 Olympiad 18 Final Board 4
11	Olympiad 18 Final Board 5 Olympiad 20 Preliminaries, Section 1, Board 1 Olympiad 20 Preliminaries, Section 3, Board 1 RCCA Gold 2012 (RUS)
10	Champions League V, Division A, Board 2 Champions League V, Division A, Board 3 Olympiad 18 Final Board 6 Olympiad 20 Preliminaries, Section 2, Board 1 Olympiad 20 Preliminaries, Section 4, Board 1 Olympiad 20 Preliminaries, Section 5, Board 1 WS/GMN/036 WS/GMN/037 WS/GMN/038 45 Years Slovak CCA Silver (SVK) 7th Interzonal Team Tournament Board 1 CADAP XXIII Final BFCC Golden Jubilee A (ENG)
9	Champions League V, Division B1, Board 1 Champions League V, Division B2, Board 1 Champions League V, Division B3, Board 1 Olympiad 20 Preliminaries, Section 3, Board 2 Olympiad 20 Preliminaries, Section 5, Board 2 Slav Cup IV - Board 1 Ramón Crusi Memorial-A (ESP)
8	Champions League V, Division A, Board 4

Champions League V, Division B4, Board 1
 Champions League V, Division B4, Board 2
 Olympiad 20 Preliminaries, Section 1, Board 2
 Olympiad 20 Preliminaries, Section 2, Board 2
 Olympiad 20 Preliminaries, Section 2, Board 3
 Olympiad 20 Preliminaries, Section 4, Board 2
 RCCA Silver 2012 (RUS)
 Borisenko Memorial (RUS)
 World Championship 37 Semi-Final 01
 World Championship 37 Semi-Final 02
 World Championship 37 Semi-Final 03
 World Championship 37 Semi-Final 04
 World Championship 37 Semi-Final 05
 World Championship 37 Semi-Final 06
 World Championship 37 Semi-Final 07
 World Championship 37 Semi-Final 08
 World Championship 37 Semi-Final 09
 World Championship 37 Semi-Final 10
 World Championship 37 Semi-Final 11

- 7
- Champions League V, Division B1, Board 2
 Champions League V, Division B2, Board 2
 Champions League V, Division B3, Board 2
 Jaroslav Hybl Memorial B - Vltava Group (CZE)
 Jaroslav Hybl Memorial B - Labe Group (CZE)
 75 Years of CC in Portugal - B (POR)
 BFCC - 50 B (ENG)
 Olympiad 20 Preliminaries, Section 1, Board 3
 Olympiad 20 Preliminaries, Section 3, Board 3
 Olympiad 20 Preliminaries, Section 3, Board 4
 Olympiad 20 Preliminaries, Section 4, Board 3
 Olympiad 20 Preliminaries, Section 5, Board 3
 Slav Cup IV - Board 2
 7th Interzonal Team Tournament Board 2
 7th Interzonal Team Tournament Board 3
 Ramón Crusi Memorial-B (ESP)

- 6
- Champions League V, Division B2, Board 3
 Champions League V, Division B4, Board 3
 Olympiad 20 Preliminaries, Section 1, Board 4
 Olympiad 20 Preliminaries, Section 2, Board 4
 Olympiad 20 Preliminaries, Section 4, Board 4
 Olympiad 20 Preliminaries, Section 5, Board 4
 World Cup XVI Final, Postal
 Slav Cup IV - Board 3
 2nd Veterans World Cup Final

- 5 Champions League V, Division B1, Board 3
 Champions League V, Division B3, Board 3
 Olympiad 20 Preliminaries, Section 1, Board 5
 Olympiad 20 Preliminaries, Section 2, Board 5
 Olympiad 20 Preliminaries, Section 4, Board 5
 Olympiad 20 Preliminaries, Section 5, Board 5
 RCCA Bronze 2012 (RUS)
 RCCA Emerald 2013 (RUS)
 Slav Cup IV - Board 4
 7th Interzonal Team Tournament Board 4
 Theophil Demetrescu Memorial (ROU)
- 4 Champions League V, Division B1, Board 4
 Champions League V, Division B2, Board 4
 Champions League V, Division B3, Board 4
 WS/MN/90
 WS/MN/91
 Olympiad 20 Preliminaries, Section 3, Board 5
 WS/MN/92
 WS/MN/93
 7th Interzonal Team Tournament Board 5
 WS/MN/94
 WS/MN/95
 WS/MN/96
 WS/MN/97
- 3 Champions League V, Division C4, Board 1
 Champions League V, Division C5, Board 1
 Champions League V, Division C6, Board 1
 Champions League V, Division C7, Board 1
 Champions League V, Division C8, Board 1
 Champions League V, Division C10, Board 1
 Champions League V, Division C11, Board 1
 BECC - 50 C (ENG)
 Olympiad 20 Preliminaries, Section 1, Board 6
 Olympiad 20 Preliminaries, Section 3, Board 6
 Olympiad 20 Preliminaries, Section 4, Board 6
 12th AfroAsia Zonal Champs Final
 Slav Cup IV - Board 5
 7th Interzonal Team Tournament Board 6
 World Championship 37 Preliminary 01
 World Championship 37 Preliminary 02
 World Championship 37 Preliminary 03
 World Championship 37 Preliminary 04
 World Championship 37 Preliminary 05
 World Championship 37 Preliminary 06
 World Championship 37 Preliminary 07

World Championship 37 Preliminary 08
 World Championship 37 Preliminary 09
 World Championship 37 Preliminary 10
 World Championship 37 Preliminary 11
 World Championship 37 Preliminary 12
 World Championship 37 Preliminary 13
 World Championship 37 Preliminary 14
 World Championship 37 Preliminary 15
 World Championship 37 Preliminary 16
 World Championship 37 Preliminary 17
 Veterans World Cup 4 - Semifinal Group 01
 Veterans World Cup 4 - Semifinal Group 02
 Veterans World Cup 4 - Semifinal Group 03
 Veterans World Cup 4 - Semifinal Group 04
 Veterans World Cup 4 - Semifinal Group 05
 Veterans World Cup 4 - Semifinal Group 06
 Veterans World Cup 4 - Semifinal Group 07

- 2 Champions League V, Division B4, Board 4
 Champions League V, Division C2, Board 1
 Champions League V, Division C3, Board 1
 Champions League V, Division C3, Board 2
 Champions League V, Division C8, Board 2
 Olympiad 20 Preliminaries, Section 2, Board 6
 Olympiad 20 Preliminaries, Section 5, Board 6

- 1 Champions League V, Division C1, Board 1
 Champions League V, Division C1, Board 2
 Champions League V, Division C2, Board 2
 Champions League V, Division C4, Board 2
 Champions League V, Division C5, Board 2
 Champions League V, Division C6, Board 2
 Champions League V, Division C7, Board 2
 Champions League V, Division C10, Board 2
 Champions League V, Division C12, Board 1
 Slav Cup IV - Board 6
 7th Interzonal Team Tournament Board 7

0 Category tournaments where Ladies
 are playing & Ladies Norms available

- 0 Champions League V, Division C4, Board 3
 Champions League V, Division C4, Board 4
 Champions League V, Division C6, Board 3
 Champions League V, Division C9, Board 2
 Champions League V, Division C10, Board 3
 Champions League V, Division C12, Board 3
 14th AfroAsian Champs Semi-Final Group B

14th AfroAsian Champs Semi-Final Group D

Grandmaster Norms per Player (Column 1 is Number of GM Norms)

According to my records, this is the current all-time GM Norm list for players who have already been awarded the Grandmaster Title, **and have achieved a minimum of 5 GM Norms**. If anyone becomes aware that a GM Norm is missing from this list, please advise me as soon as possible.

Please note:-

- **GM Norms obtained by players who have not yet qualified for the GM Title are NOT on this list.**
- **Players with less than 5 GM Norms are not on this list** (otherwise it would be much longer!).

An **All-Time GM Norm list** is maintained on the ICCF webserver and can be found under “About ICCF” – “ICCF Titles” – “All-Time GM Norm List”. I only update this list for the Server once every few months but anyone can ask me for a copy of an up to date list at any time. Of course, all GM Norms can also be found under the Player Details of every individual player and it is my hope that, in future, it will become unnecessary to maintain this list manually due to the availability of searching Player Details via the Norms tab & putting players in order.

Please see **Appendix M** for the complete list.

Qualifications Commissioner – Supplementary Report

Further to my original Report issued on June 4th, 17 additional Title applications have now been received, and the Ladies Olympiad IX Final Results have been announced. These are listed below.

Grandmaster (GM) Titles awarded June 4, 2012 to July 7, 2013

Applications under Rule 10.4 (c) - Medals/Certificates to be presented to:-

POL	420957	Rafael Pierzak	GM
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Senior International Master (SIM) Titles awarded June 4, 2012 to July 7, 2013

Applications under Rule 10.5a Medals/Certificates to be presented to:-

FRA	181158	David Roubaud	SIM
RUS	141957	Sergey Aleksandrovich Evtushenko	SIM
SUI	100377	Toni Riedener	SIM

International Master (IM) Titles awarded June 4, 2012 to July 7, 2013

Applications under Rule 10.6 (d) - Medals/Certificates to be presented to:-

BEL	40261	Dirk Ghysens	IM
BUL	50366	Borislav Emilov Kalchev	IM
ESP	160602	Jose Eduardo Da-Riva Alonso	IM
FIN	460965	Olli Ylönen	IM
FRA	181193	Melissa Broudin	IM
GER	85905	Heiko Neß	IM
ITA	240971	Piero Alderisio	IM
RUS	141662	Aleksey Anatolievich Fetisov	IM
RUS	141908	Vladimir Nikolaevich Manaenkov	IM
RUS	141816	Denis Vladimirovich Zuev	IM

Lady Grandmaster (LGM) Titles awarded June 4, 2012 to July 7, 2013

Applications under Rule 10.7 (c)- Medals/Certificates to be presented to:-

GER	85784	Sabine Willert-Betker	LGM
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Lady International Master (LIM) Titles awarded June 4, 2012 to July 7, 2013

Applications under 10.8c - Medals/Certificates to be presented to:-

ARG	21065	Marianella Zuccotti	LIM
RUS	141811	Maria Aleksandrovna Sukhareva	LIM

Ladies Olympiad IX

Gold	RUSSIA	
	1	Olga Mikhailovna Sukhareva RUS
	2	Larisa Vasilievna Morokova RUS
	3	Oksana Nikolaevna Zhak RUS
	4	Svetlana Vladimirovna Lobanova RUS
	TC	Andrey Nikolaevich Pavlikov RUS
Silver	LITHUANIA	
	1	Vineta Kveinys LTU
	2	Jelizaveta Potapova LTU
	3	Jurgita Dambrauskaitè LTU
	4	Vilma Dambrauskaitè LTU
	TC	Virginijus A. Dambrauskas LTU
Bronze	GERMANY	
	1	Constanze Jaeckel GER
	2	Silvia Kamp GER
	3	Svetlana Kloster GER
	4	Kirstin Achatz GER
	TC	Elke Schludecker GER

Services Director – Webserver, Website, and Internet Matters

Dear Friends,

Once again, I thank all members of the ICCF Services Committee for their help and support since we last met in Pretoria, South Africa in 2012. I am particularly grateful to those who have assisted in translating the server, to those who have contributed to testing new server features, operated the Help Desk and other essential tasks, and for the constructive support of all ICCF officials who have advised on server development for their particular areas of responsibility. I am also grateful to our contractor, Martin Bennedik, who continues to offer ICCF an exceptionally high standard of service year after year and to the ICCF President and Executive Board for their full backing and support.

I do believe that our server 'product' is of a very high quality and I am proud to be managing this project, however I can also see many areas for improvement; areas which I hope to address over the coming year.

A Services Committee meeting was conducted on Saturday with a review, presentation, and analysis of the Phase 11 plan. Congress approved the phase 11 plan and proposed budget as part of the Financial Plan review.

Server Updates

Features Completed in 2012/13 (Phase 10)

A detailed list of Phase 10 server updates is shown in Appendix A, highlights include:

- Further refinements of the Content Management System, which allows us to use the server as a fully featured website for ICCF, including a global search facility and the ability to present web pages in multiple languages.
- Support for events with multiple groups (not yet deployed).
- Improvements to the drawing screen, allowing Tournament Organisers to specify start order.
- Continued progress in globalising the server interface, including translations in German, Spanish, French, and Russian; with translations in Polish, Czech, and Japanese under development.
- Improvements to the email Marketing tool, these emails are now attractively formatted.
- Recognition of title norms on the player's profile page, and downloadable certificates available.
- An enhanced helpdesk (more details below).
- Improvements to the conditional move interface.
- A link to Twitter, allowing players to check status updates when the server is unavailable.

Please note that the information in Appendix A is current as of 4th June 2013, however work continues through the year and it is likely that tasks that are more outstanding will have been completed by the start of Congress. It should also be noted that Congress was held later than usual in 2013.

Features Planned for 2013/14 (Phase 11)

The Phase 11 plan will be finalised during the Services Committee meeting immediately prior to Congress and will be presented to Congress with this report.

Source Code Review

Although we receive an excellent service from our contractor, Martin Bennedik, he does not represent a company that employs several developers. Valid concerns have been raised in the past about the future of the ICCF server project should Martin become unavailable for future work.

It was decided in Pretoria last year to commission a review of the server source code by an independent developer to evaluate the viability of transferring the project to a new developer. I am very pleased to report that this review was carried out by Wolfram Bernhardt of Germany, who confirmed that Martin's work is of an outstanding quality and that we should have no concerns about transferring this to another developer should this ever become necessary. In Wolfram's words:

"The answer to the question, whether the ICCF website project could be continued by another developer – in case Martin wins the lottery and retires – is a clear and loud: Yes! I wouldn't expect any serious problems for an average senior developer who is experienced in the field of ASP.NET. The code is absolutely readable and understandable; the documentation is way beyond what you would usually expect. Of course a new developer always needs time to ramp up and climb into code he didn't write himself. But in this code and the documents provided he can find all the help he needs."

Project Management

In previous years, we have used a rather clumsy system of recording planned development tasks using a Word document maintained by Martin Bennedik. Whilst this approach has worked, it has become difficult to monitor progress without having regular updates from Martin.

For Phase 11 we will move to using a project tracking tool (Microsoft's Team Foundation Server), which will allow the Services Director and other EB members to track progress and produce reports in real time, and which is fully integrated with Martin's development environment and source code management.

Testing

Testing remains a constraint to our ability to add new features to the ICCF Webserver.

Before we are able to release new features, we need to test comprehensively these for any potential problems, and for usability, on our test server. I am grateful to all ICCF officers, who are always willing to pilot new features which fall under their specific area of responsibility; however we do need to improve in this area, and some features have been delayed (for example the multi-group event feature) because we have not been able to comprehensively test and because of the implication of possible bugs in critical systems like tournament management, etc.

Testing requires a meticulous approach and fine attention to detail; previously we have made an open call to members of the Services Committee whenever a new feature has been released to the test area, however this has often resulted in incomplete or haphazard testing.

I therefore intend to implement a dedicated testing team. Michal Volf CZE has very kindly offered to take on this task under my supervision, Michal has made an excellent contribution to testing already, and I am very pleased that he is willing to lead the testing team.

Nevertheless, although I believe that a dedicated team led by Michal would be a great improvement over the current situation; there are situations where access to a professional testing service, for particularly critical or complicated systems would be an advantage over a volunteer tester such as Michal or me.

I ask Congress therefore, for a contingency budget of *up to* €1,000 for external professional testing to be used where it is not practical or feasible to test features within the Services Committee.

Helpdesk

The helpdesk continues to be maintained by Markus Hömske FRA.

At Congress in Pretoria, a budget was allocated for a managed commercial helpdesk system. Several systems were evaluated, however none were identified which met the particular needs of ICCF. The problem was that the ICCF helpdesk is more of a ‘clearing house’ – support requests are often forwarded to Tournament Directors or National Delegates, and in the past only about 30% of messages have been related to technical problems and answered directly. The commercial systems evaluated made the assumption that all enquiries would be answered directly by support staff, which were required to have accounts on the system. As the cost of each of the systems evaluated was directly related to the number of registered user accounts required, it would have been prohibitive to purchase accounts for all TDs and NDs involved in ICCF.

An alternative solution was implemented on the server.

When a player follows the link to the helpdesk, he now sees a link to contact his National Delegate, he also sees a list of the events he is currently playing in; clicking these links allows him to send a message to the TD for that event (or his TC for team events). This means that messages are now sent directly to the most appropriate person, rather than being redirected through the Help Desk.

Below these links is a diagnostic section, which automatically detects the most common computer issues previously diagnosed by the Help Desk (Browser compatibility, JavaScript enabled, and Cookies enabled). This empowers more technically aware players to fix problems without the need to seek help.

Finally, there is a list of frequently asked questions (which will eventually be presented in the player’s own language) and solutions, which the player must read before contacting the Help Desk.

Before this system was implemented, the Help Desk commonly received ten to fifteen emails a week; this has been successful in reducing the number of support requests to four or five emails a week.

Security

Generally, security is good and meets industry standards, however some minor issues have been identified and will be addressed; it would not be appropriate to give full details in this document. The possibility of using an external service for email delivery will be explored; this will allow us to eliminate some of the risks associated with running a mail server locally.

Disaster Recovery

There have been a small number of minor interruptions to the webserver over the past year; these have generally been satisfactorily resolved by our hosting providers within the time specified by our Service Level Agreement with them; however, this does highlight the reality that 100% availability

is not possible. Currently ICCF make no guarantee to players about server availability, however this raises three issues:

- The resources required to maintain a system increase exponentially as the expected ‘up-time’ increases. We cannot design a robust disaster recovery policy without some specification; for example, we do not need to provide multiple redundant servers in geographically dispersed data centres if a period of several hours downtime is acceptable.
- Currently tournament directors may allocate additional time to players following a period of server unavailability; however, there are not yet any guidelines for players or Tournament Directors regarding the length of time the server must be unavailable for before this time is added.
- It is possible that a player will lose a game on time during a period of unavailability, as we do not specify availability, a player losing on time might appeal after just a few minutes of downtime.

The server is a correspondence chess server, not a medical life support system, and we measure time in whole days; although inconvenient, a period of up to eight hours unavailability would not be disastrous for most players. Additionally defining a maximum acceptable downtime of eight hours would allow us to design a robust and cost effective disaster recovery policy without having any unrealistic or unachievable expectations.

It is proposed, therefore that ICCF, in partnership with our external contractor and hosting providers, will *endeavour* to keep downtime to a minimum, but will *guarantee* that there will be no more than three periods of unavailability exceeding one hour in a seven day period, and no periods of unavailability exceeding eight hours. ICCF will also *guarantee* that no more than one hour of data will be lost in the case of a catastrophic server failure.

The implication of this guarantee is that players cannot expect time to be added, or defaults reversed, because of server unavailability or data loss *within the guarantee*. Appeals or claims in the event of server unavailability or data loss *exceeding the guarantee* (to be confirmed by the Services Director, or deputy) should be viewed as being valid.

If this proposal is accepted by Congress, we will design our redundancy, offsite backup, and data recovery strategy accordingly.

Documentation

The current state of server documentation, for Players, Tournament Directors, and Tournament Organisers, is inadequate. Some of the older documentation has been removed because it was out of date and misleading, however we have not yet replaced this.

We now have an excellent content management system, which allows content to be displayed to players in multiple languages. I will make it a high priority to improve this situation over the coming year; volunteers who are able to write clear and concise instructions for server users (which can include ‘screen-shots’, etc.) would be warmly welcomed, and are invited to contact me directly.

Document Archive

The ICCF server is a dynamic database driven application, which does not lend itself to the storage of large quantities of documents.

A secure hosting service, provided by Amazon S3, has been established. Currently this is used primarily by the Game Archivist for storage of PGN files; however, this can also be used for storage of archived documents, such as Congress reports and minutes.

Documents stored on this system can be made publicly downloadable from links placed on the server, or they can be kept private to particular users and/or groups.

Video Meetings

A number of online video meetings have been held by members of the Services Committee. The technology required for fully interactive real time video meetings, where debate or high-level discussion is required is not yet widely available at the consumer level, however for brief meetings, or for meetings with a specific and focused remit, we have found consumer technology such as Skype or Google Hangouts to be effective and low cost.

The Services Committee can advise other ICCF groups or commissions on the use of this technology.

Webmaster's Report

After the merging of websites the work has focused on updating content, news items, and translations. The webserver core is currently available in the following languages: English, German, Spanish, French, and Russian. Some content areas are still displayed mostly in English and Spanish.

Large documents needed to be hosted elsewhere due to security reasons. These files are now hosted in an Amazon S3 Cloud repository.

Nations & Zones pages have been updated to include content kindly provided by Mariusz Wojnar and Gino Figlio PER

Proposals for 2013/14

1. The Phase Eleven plan (to be finalised at the Services Committee meeting in Kraków and presented to Congress) is accepted, and a suitable budget is allocated.
2. A provisional budget of up to €1,000 is made available to the Services Director to employ a professional testing service, in cases where it is impractical or unfeasible to test server features within the volunteer Services Committee.
3. ICCF will guarantee that from 1st January 2014, there will be no more than three periods of server unavailability of an hour or more in a seven-day period, and there will be no periods of server unavailability of eight hours or more. ICCF will also guarantee that no more than one hour of data will be lost in the event of catastrophic server failure. Players should plan their games accordingly as claims or appeals will only be considered if server unavailability *exceeds* the guarantee (to be confirmed by the Services Director or Deputy).

Diolch yn fawr iawn,

Austin Lockwood WLS, Cyfarwyddwr Gwasanaethau ICCF, Mehefin 2013

All Congress Officials and Delegates expressed their warm appreciation for the excellent job Austin has done throughout the year as our Services Director.

Proposal 12 – Vote to Approve the Provision Allowance of 1.000 Euro for Provisional Testing services, if needed

Proposal 12 – Allowance for Provisional Testing Allowance

For	42
Against	0
ABS	0

Proposal 12
APPROVED

Proposal 13 - Vote to Approve the Service Level Agreement as outline in the “Disaster Recovery” section of the Services Director Report

Proposal 13 – Approve Service Level Agreement

For	42
Against	0
ABS	0

Proposal 13
APPROVED

International Correspondence Chess Federation

Archivist Report

Utrecht, June 2nd 2013

Last year my report ended with a few plans:

Plans for the year until the next congress in 2013 in order of priority provided there is available time to get to the end of the list:

Continue monthly updates of standard CC archives and Chess 960 archives upon completion of enough games (1.000 for example);

- Migrate the old archives to the new section at <http://www.iccf-webchess.com/>
- Update and standardize (naming) the World Championship archive with emphasis on completeness;
- Process the backlog in older email- and postal archives;
- Provide email- and postal archives with standardized player and tournament names.

The first and the third points have been executed according to plan. The remaining plans still have to be executed. Given limited time resources and time required to standardize the old email and postal archives I intend to provide one big email archive based on earlier uploads before congress 2013 and a postal archive when I can find the time. Standardization will be kept to a minimum for this 'first' instalment, giving priority to availability instead of completeness and accuracy.

In addition to the plans above and in accordance with congress 2012 decision, the archives are now only available for download to ICCF members with a login account on the server.

A mayor refresh of the server archives has been made available on the 1st of June. In addition to the updates, little over 2.000 games have been posted that were missing in the archives due to a bug in the extraction procedure. Thanks go out to Martin Bennedik for quickly fixing this issue.

For future uploads I intend to propose an addition to the current export facility. The main point for such an enhancement would be facilitating exports based on availability date instead of end date of a game. Currently games that have ended in a specific month are excluded from the archive for that month when the tournament has set this visibility restriction. Upon completion of the tournament such games should be included in the monthly upload even though the games have ended in an earlier month. This enhancement would eliminate the need for a period refresh of the main archives.

Ron Langeveld
ICCF Archivist

All Congress Officials and Delegates expressed their warm appreciation for the excellent job Ron has done throughout the year as our ICCF Archivist.

World Tournament Director

Dear Delegates, Officials, and Friends of ICCF,

To my great regret, health problems prevent me from being amongst you at this Congress in Krakow. In my absence, the ICCF President, Eric Ruch, will represent me.

This report includes the following:

1. Introduction
2. Tournaments Proposals (Appendix I)
3. Calendar of Events (Appendix II)

Introduction

The growth of the number of events played on the ICCF server continued this year.

Tournaments proposals

Calendar of Events

I wish to thank all the people who have helped me in my WTD duties. I should like to list all their names but to do so would result in a never-ending list and also risk missing out someone.

Amici Sumus

Frank Geider
ICCF World Tournament Director

Tournament Proposals

Many acceptable proposals for invitational individual and team tournaments have been received by the World Tournaments Director and the following have been confirmed:

Please, don't forget that according ICCF Tournament Rules (Appendix III – 3) applications for invitation tournaments should be submitted at least 6 months before the intended start date of the tournament and all approvals granted will lapse if a tournament has not been started within 6 months of the approved start date. In such a situation, a renewed approval application is required and invitations should not be issued until renewed approval has been granted.

It is necessary in order that tournaments may be held under the authority of ICCF and included in the ICCF Rating and Title systems.

Marian Vinchev Memorial (BUL)

ICCF Webserver,

15 players,

Cat. XI-XII,

Start date: October 2013,

Invitational tournament in memory of Marian Vinchev, Bulgarian chess player.

Lyuben Fotev Memorial (BUL)

ICCF Webserver,

15 players,

Cat. VII-VIII,

Start date: October 2013,

Invitational tournament in memory of Lyuben Fotev, Bulgarian chess player and organizer.

Rudolf Šveček Memorial (CZE)

ICCF Webserver,

Invitational tournament,

ICCF standard rules for webserver play,

Main organizer: Josef Mrkvicka

Rudolf Šveček Memorial-A

Cat. X-XII,

17 players (max. 7 CZE players, min. 10 foreign players),

Start date: 1.DEC.2013,

Start fee: none,

Prize money: to be decided.

Rudolf Šveček Memorial-B (Group Sázava)

Cat. VI-VII,

17 players (max. 7 CZE players, min. 10 foreign players),

Start date: 1.DEC.2013,

Start fee: none,

Prize money: none.

Rudolf Šveček Memorial-C (Group Otava)

Cat. IV-V,

17 players (max. 7 CZE players, min. 10 foreign players),

Start date: 1.DEC.2013,

Start fee: none,
Prize money: none,
(*Sázava and Otava are names of the Czech rivers.*).

Rudolf Ševeček (1938-2012)



GM Rudolf Ševeček was one of the best Czech correspondence chess players, the Honorary Member of the Czech CCA and the President of the Czech CCA in the years 1995-2004. He was awarded the IM title in 1969, the SIM title in 1999 and the GM title in 2000. He played in the Finals of the 6th World Correspondence Championship (1968-1971) and of the 16th World Correspondence Championship (1999-2002).

Especially, those players are invited into the Memorial tournaments who knew Rudolf personally, or who played him in any tournament.

BFCC GOLDEN JUBILEE A (ENG)

Soon approved event in Pretoria Congress 2012 postponed

ICCF Webserver,
Invitational tournament,
Cat. X- XIII,
15 players,
Start date: Spring 2013,
TD IA Andrew Dearnley

Hawley Memorial (ENG)

Invitational tournament,
ICCF Webserver,
Cat. III or IV,
13 players,
Start date: 1st December 2013,
TD IA Neil Limbert

Ramón Crusí Memorial (ESP)

ICCF Webserver,
Invitational tournament

Section A

Cat. IX,
15 players
Start date: June 2013,
TO: Adrián de Blois

Section B

Cat. VII,

15 players,

Start date: June 2013,

TO: Adrián de Blois

Memorial Zinser (FRA)

ICCF Webserver,

Invitational tournament

Memorial Zinser A

Cat IX - XI

13 players (4-5 French players)

Start date: April 2014

Memorial Zinser B

Cat V - VI

13 players (4-5 French players)

Start date: April 2014

Carl Carls Memorial A (GER / ENG)*Soon approved event in Pretoria Congress 2012 (extend the number of participants from 13 to 15)*

ICCF Webserver,

Invitational tournament,

15 players, (it is intended to include 2 English players, 6 German players, 7 from other federations)

Cat. X,

Start date: 11 September 2013.

Carl Carls Memorial B (GER / ENG)*Soon approved event in Pretoria Congress 2012 (extend the number of participants from 13 to 15)*

ICCF Webserver,

Invitational tournament,

15 players, (it is intended to include 4 English players, 4 German players, 7 from other federations)

Cat. VI,

Start date: 11 September 2013.

Chessfriends Rochade 5171 25th anniversary invitational team tournament (GER)

ICCF Webserver,

Invitational tournament,

11 teams at 10 boards,

10 games per player (players at the same board play each other),

Start date: 1st September 2014,

TD: Hans-Jürgen Isigkeit, Uwe Staroske

Germany Grandmasters 03 (GER)

ICCF Webserver,

Invitational tournament,

Cat. XI –XII,

15 players,

Start date: Spring 2014

Germany Masters 03 (GER)

ICCF Webserver,
 Invitational tournament (7 Germany, 8 other NF),
 Cat. VII – IX,
 15 players,
 Start date: Spring 2014

BdF Diamant 5 (GER)

ICCF Webserver,
 Invitational tournament for Ladies (5 Germany and 10 other NF),
 Cat. X (Ladies),
 15 players,
 Start date: Spring 2014

BdF Smaragd 5 (GER)

ICCF Webserver,
 Invitational tournament for Ladies (5 Germany and 10 other NF),
 15 players,
 Start date: Spring 2014

Emilis Šlekys Memorial (LTU)

ICCF Webserver,
 15 players,
 Cat. XI.,
 Start date: April/May, 2013.
 1st place prize: 300 EUR.
 Invitational tournament in memory of Emilis Šlekys (1951-2012), Lithuanian chess master, organizer, and coach.

Emilis Šlekys was a Lithuanian chess master, Lithuanian chess champion (1985), ICCF International Master, honoured Lithuanian chess coach, coach (from 1975), and Director (from 1987) of Vilnius chess - checkers school. Emilis Šlekys together with his teammates in Lithuanian team won silver medal in XII ICCF Olympiad (<http://tables.iccf.com/world/olymp/ol-xii-finalB5.html>). Emilis Šlekys was awarded the gold medal „For contribution to Lithuanian sport“ in 2011 in Department of Physical Education and Sports under the Government of the Republic of Lithuania.

Dick van Geet Memorial (NED)

ICCF Webserver,
 Invitational tournament,
 ICCF standard rules for webserver play (10 moves/50 days)
 Start date: November/December 2014

Dick van Geet Memorial-A

Cat. VII,

15-17 players,

Players who wish to participate in the A tournament must have a minimum ELO rating of 2401 (last rating list),

Prices:

1st Place €500,-

2nd Place €400,-

3rd Place €300,-

Dick van Geet Memorial-B

Cat. V,

15-17 players,

Players who wish to participate in the B tournament must have a minimum ELO rating of 2351 (last rating list),

Prices:

1st Place €400,-

2nd Place €300,-

3rd Place €200,-

Dick van Geet Memorial-C

Cat. I

15-17 players.

Players who wish to participate in the C tournament must have a minimum ELO rating of 2251 (last rating list).

Prices:

1st Place €300,-

2nd Place €200,-

3rd Place €100,-

First Pan-American Individual Championship (PER)

The Peruvian federation is organizing the First Pan-American Individual Championship.

Tournament in 3 stages: Preliminaries, Semifinals, and Finals.

Only players from countries in the continental America will be allowed to participate.

ICCF Webserver

Start date: July.2013

Preliminaries:

7 players / Group

Registration: via NF and directly to the organizer via PayPal, multiple entries allowed

Cost of preliminaries (NF entry): 9 US\$ or 6.7€

Time control 10/50 - Live display with 5-move delay - Conditionals allowed - No tie-break

Semifinals:

will start as soon as qualifiers are determined

Players rated 2200 or higher may register to semifinals directly

Players registering directly to semifinals will pay 18 US\$ or 13.4€

Time control 10/50 - Live display with 5-move delay - Conditionals allowed - ICCF tie-break rules

Final:

will start as soon as qualifiers from the semifinals are determined

Prize fund for the Final: 1200 US\$ or 900€, winner takes all

Time control 10/50 - Live display with 5-move delay - Conditionals allowed - ICCF tiebreak rules

Theophil Demetriescu Memorial (ROU)

ICCF webserver,

Invitational tournament,

13-15 players

Cat. V-VI,

Start date: May 2013

Theophil Demetriescu was Romanian native chess player living in Berlin who took part in the tournaments organised by “Deutschen Wochenschach”. In the 1920s and 1930s, Theophil Demetriescu took part in more IFSB tournaments representing Germany. Later we find him as member of the Romanian OTB team, participant in the “unofficial Olympiad” from Munich 1936. He was a piano player in Berlin Philharmonic Orchestra too.

Borisenko Memorial (RUS)

ICCF webserver,

Invitational tournament,

Cat. VIII,

17 players,

Start date: 01 February 2013.

Grigory Borisenko (1922-2012) – grandmaster ICCF, twice champion of the USSR by correspondence chess.

RCCA-Emerald 2013 (RUS)

ICCF webserver,

Invitational tournament,

Cat. V,

17 players,

Start date: 15 January 2013

RCCA-Gold 2013 (RUS)

ICCF webserver,

Invitational tournament,

Cat. X+,

13-15 players,

Start date: IV quarter 2013.

RCCA-Silver 2013 (RUS)

ICCF webserver
Invitational tournament
Cat. VII+
13-17 players
Start date: IV quarter 2013

RCCA-Bronze 2013 (RUS)

ICCF webserver
Invitational tournament
Cat. IV+
13-17 players
Start date: IV quarter 2013.

US 2013 Invitational (ICCF-US)

ICCF webserver,
Invitational tournament

Section A

15 Players,
Cat. IX,
Prizes USD 800, 300, 100,

Section B

15 players,
Cat. V,
Prizes USD 200, 100,
Start Date: August 2013
Sponsoring ICCF-US,
TO: Dennis Doren (510567)

Belarus - Blue Lakes-2 (BLR)

Webserver
15-17 players
Cat I - III
Start date December 2013
Invitational tournament

Palciauskus Invitational (ICCF-US 2014)

ICCF webserver
 Invitational tournament

Section A

13-17 Players,
 Cat. IX+
 Prizes USD 800, 300, 100

Section B

13-17 players,
 Cat. V+
 Start Date: 3rd Quarter 2014
 Sponsoring ICCF-US
 TO: Glen Shields (511806)

Section C

13-17 players,
 Cat. III+
 Start Date: 3rd Quarter 2014

Sponsoring ICCF-US
 TO: Glen Shields (511806)

Berliner Invitational (ICCF-US 2013)

ICCF webserver,
 Invitational tournament

Section A

15 Players,
 Cat. IX
 Prizes USD 800, 300, 100

Section B

15 players,
 Cat. V
 Prizes USD 200, 100,
 Start Date: August 2013

Sponsoring ICCF-US,
 TO: Dennis Doren (510567)

It was noted that the webserver will be celebrating its 10th anniversary on 15 July 2014 and it would be good to host an invitation tournament in honour of this significant event. Any interested persons with ideas are invited to contact the World Tournament Director with ideas and proposals.

All Congress Officials and Delegates expressed their warm appreciation for the excellent job Frank has done throughout the year as our World Tournament Director.

Proposal 14 - Vote to Approve the World Tournament Director Report and All Proposed Tournaments as Listed

Proposal 14 – Approve WTD Report and Proposed Tournaments

For	42
Against	0
ABS	0

Proposal 14
APPROVED

International Correspondence Chess Federation

Title Tournament Commissioner

World Championships

1.1 WCCC Finals

The Final of the 25th WCCC ended on 18/04/2013. The 35th World Champion is Fabio Finocchiaro (ITA); Richard Hall (ENG) was the runner-up, and Elio Vassia (ITA) got the third place.

There are still 3 running games in the Final of the 26th WCCC. The winner, Ron Langeveld (NED) is already known.

There are 7 running games in the Final of the 27th WCCC, with many players fighting for the first place.

Finally, the Final of the 28th WCCC is regularly starting on 10/06/2013, with 17 very strong players (the category of the Final is 14).

1.2 WCCC Candidates' Tournaments

The Sections of the 30th, the 31st, and the 32nd WCCC (started in 2010, 2011, and 2012) are going on regularly.

The 2013 Sections (33rd WCCC) are planned to start on 20/09/2013.

1.3 WCCC Semifinals

The Sections of the 34th, the 35th, and the 36th WCCC (started in 2010, 2011, and 2012) are going on regularly.

The 2013 Sections (37th WCCC) are regularly starting on 20/06/2013 (11 Sections with 143 players).

1.4 WCCC Preliminaries

There are no more running games in the Sections of the 34th WCCC (and previous).

The Sections of the 35th and 36th WCCC (started in 2011 and 2012) are going on regularly.

The 2013 Sections (37th WCCC) were started on 20/03/2013 (17 Sections with 187 players).

Ladies' World Championships

2.1 LWCCC Finals

There are still 9 running games in the Final of the 9th LWCCC.

2.2 LWCCC Semifinals

All the Semifinals of the 10th LWCCC have finally ended.

Olympiads

3.1 CC Olympiads Finals

The Final of the 16th Olympiad (postal) is still ongoing. There are still 36 running games.

The Final of the 18th Olympiad (webserver) was regularly started on 10/12/2012 with 13 teams.

3.2 CC Olympiads Preliminaries

The Semifinals of the 19th Olympiad (postal) are still ongoing.

The Semifinals of the 20th Olympiad (webserver) were regularly started on 10/12/2012 with 46 teams in 5 Sections.

Ladies' Olympiads

The 9th LCC Olympiad, started on 10/10/2011, is regularly going on.

Grand Master Norm Tournaments

Only 4 GMN Sections were started in 2012 (in 2011 the GMN Sections were 7).

2 GMN Sections have been started in the first 5 months of 2013.

All sections are played on ICCF webserver.

Unfortunately, the waiting time is very high.

Master Norm Tournaments

6.1 MN Tournaments by post

The 2012 ICCF Congress decided to dismiss postal MN Sections.

It was not possible to organize a last postal MN Section with the very few players in the waiting list.

6.2 MN Tournaments by webserver

14 MN Sections were started in 2012 (in 2011 the MN Sections were 13).

6 MN Sections have been started in the first 5 months of 2013.

The waiting time is quite low.

Next Norm Tournaments to be Started

8.1 WCCC Final

The Final of the 29th WCCC is planned to start on the first semester of 2015.

8.2 WCCC Candidates' Tournaments

The Candidates' Tournaments of the 34th WCCC are planned to start on September 2014.

8.3 WCCC Semifinals

The Semifinals of the 38th WCCC are planned to start on June 2014.

8.4 WCCC Preliminaries

The Preliminaries of the 38th WCCC are planned to start on March 2014.

8.5 Ladies' World Championships

The Final of the 10th LWCCC was planned for the second quarter of 2013, but there were too many running games in the Final of the 9th LWCCC and in Semifinal 4 of the 10th LWCCC. So, the start has been postponed to the fourth quarter of 2013.

The Semifinals of the 11th LWCCC were planned for the second quarter of 2013, too. They will start together with the Final of the 10th LWCCC, i.e. in the fourth quarter of 2013.

8.6 Olympiads

The Semifinals of the 21st Olympiad, played by post, are planned to start on the third quarter of 2013, unless the Congress decides otherwise.

8.7 Ladies' Olympiads

The 10th LCC Olympiad is planned to start on March 2014.

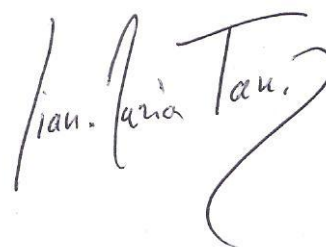
Thanks

At the end of my report, I would like to thanks all the friends who help me in this important and difficult work. I am receiving an enormous support from “my” Deputy, Neil Limbert, who will also deputy me at 2013 ICCF Congress.

I receive a much help from the Direct Entry Commissioner, Ian M. Pheby, too: many thanks, Ian! In addition, finally yet importantly, I want to thank all the Tournament Directors: without their daily work, it would not be possible for our players to enjoy their favourite hobby!

Note: Congress delegates have asked if Gian-Maria could publish the list of eligible candidates at least 2 months in advance of the WCCC start dates.

Amici sumus!

A handwritten signature in black ink, which appears to read "Ian Maria Tan". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, sweeping flourish at the end.

All Congress Officials and Delegates expressed their warm appreciation for the excellent job Gian-Maria has done throughout the year as our Title Tournament Commissioner.

Postal Tournament Commissioner

Year 2012

The number of postal correspondence players is always very low, but 2012 was a good year for Promotional Postal Tournaments.

In 2012, I started 22 sections (5 WT/M, 5 WT/H, and 12 WT/O) with a total of 98 players, while in 2011 the players were 82: this means an increase of 19.51% of the players.

There was a large increase of players in WT/O (+ 33.3%) and a smaller increase in WT/M (+ 7.1%) and WT/H (+10%).

Countries and Zones

The players of 2012 postal world tournaments came from 16 different countries (while in 2011 the number of countries was 18).

As usual, most of the players were from Europe (74.49%); the other ones come from NAPZ (25.51%). Unfortunately, we had no players from Latin/America and Africa/Asia.

The most players came from Germany (40); the second and the third most players came from the USA (16) and France (7), while in 2011 the third country was Italy.

ICCF Diamond Jubilee Postal World Cup 19

The Preliminaries of this important tournament started on 31/10/2011 are going on regularly. Approximately 78% of the games have already ended.

The Preliminary Groups will finish on 01/09/2013. Any unfinished games that will decide promotional positions will be adjudicated.

The Final is expected to start on 01/01/2014 at the latest.

Tournament Directors

As usual, many thanks to “my” Tournament Directors (Rubens Battistini, Bjørn Brobakken and Thed Klauner for the Promotional Tournaments; Rubens Battistini, Bjørn Brobakken, Markus Hömske, Joop Jansen, Thed Klauner, Leo Lahdenmäki, Ian M. Pheby and Laurent Tinture for the Diamond Jubilee) for their excellent work!

All Congress Officials and Delegates expressed their warm appreciation for the excellent job Gian-Maria has done throughout the year as our Postal Tournament Commissioner.

Non Title Tournament Commissioner

After a frenetic first year as NTTC, when many tournaments started in succession, it became somewhat quieter after the start of Champions League 5. So far in 2013, we have seen some tournaments reach their next stage or finish, but before reporting on these, I will outline the two main NTT events that will take place before the end of this year.

ICCF Veterans World Cup 6

Entries are being accepted from the end of April 2013 to the deadline date of 1st August 2013, giving players plenty of time to enter and plan their playing schedules. The preliminary stage will start on 1st September 2013, mirroring previous editions. Regular entry updates are being posted on the ICCF webserver and kindly provided by the organisers, BDF (Germany) whom I would like to thank for their meticulous organisation of this and VWC 5 last year. The ICCF direct mail system has been used to inform players of this tournament and we are looking forward to gaining another record entry!

BDF (Germany) have agreed to organise Veterans World Cup 7 in 2014. Many thanks!

ICCF 20th World Cup

The Russian Federation (RCCA) will organise this event. It was agreed that it would start in the last quarter of 2013 to avoid a clash with the RCCA 20th anniversary open that started in April 2013. Thanks to Sergey Grodzensky and his team for volunteering to run this important event.

Now to outline some events that started since the last congress or has progressed/will progress soon:

ICCF Diamond Jubilee World Cup 18

The preliminary stages are to be concluded and any adjudication will take place in June to enable the semi-finals to start on 30th August 2013. Thanks to our congress host, Mariusz Wojnar and the Polish Federation for their excellent organisation of this edition!

2nd Veterans World Cup Final (In Memoriam of Gerhard Radosztics (AUT))

Thanks to Scotland this final started in February with the following players reaching the final; SM Juan Andres Enriecci (ARG), IM Vladimir Sergeev (RUS), IM Vytautas Sutkus (LTU), Lawrence Coplin (USA), IM Manfred Dorer (GER), Dennis Michael (USA), Peter Dessaulles (USA), IM Jaromir Canibal (CZE), Bernd Laube (GER), Gordon R. Evans † (ENG) IM Hans-Georg Koch (GER), Mihail Balutescu (AUS) and Karel Glaser (CZE)

2nd Chess 960 World Cup

Twelve sections of six players started the 2nd 960 World cup in March 2013. This was a slightly disappointing entry given that the 1st edition had seventeen sections of seven players. As there is a good prize fund and entry to a WCCC Candidates section, this will be a tournament that might benefit once ICCF rate these games. Thanks to Leonardo Madonia (ITA) for his dedication and organisation of the 960 events and to our President, Eric Ruch for promoting the event.

Finished Tournaments

ICCF George Stibal Diamond Jubilee Officials' Tournaments 'B', 'C' and 'D'

The medal places are now known for these special officials' tournaments. I would like to thank all the players taking part and for the good spirit in which the games have been played. This spirit was a good tribute to the memory of George Stibal (Australia)

Fittingly, it looks as though the top places and medals for the 'A' tournament will now be presented at the 2014 ICCF Sydney congress, as players continue to fight for the medal places.

Congratulations to;

'B' Tournament;

1 st place	SIM Aivars Kažoks (LAT)
2 nd place	IM Jörg Kracht (GER)
3 rd place	SIM Hans-Jürgen Isigkeit (GER)

'C' Tournament

1 st place	IM Ulrich Baumgartner (SUI)
2 nd place	Jean-Christophe Chazalotte (FRA)
3 rd place	IM Jaromír Canibal (CZE)

'D' Tournament

1 st place	IM James Henri (HKG)
2 nd place	José Manuel Maldonado Pacheco (ESP)
3 rd place	Neil Limbert (ENG)

ICCF World Cup XII Postal Final

The Final of the ICCF World Cup XII Postal has finished. The tournament was organised and administrated by the Czech CC Association to whom I give thanks.

The preliminaries of this World Cup started on 1st September, 2000 with 627 players in 57 postal sections. This tournament was played for almost 13 years!

Congratulations to the medallists;

1 st place	SIM Matthias Gleichmann (GER)
2 nd place	SIM Wolfgang Beykirch (GER)
3 rd place	SIM Edgar Achilles (GER)

Ongoing Tournaments

ICCF Promotion Tournaments

These tournaments continue to run very smoothly under the leadership of Guido Bresadola, who I would like to thank for his tireless work in maintaining and organising them. Guido has kindly supplied the following entry figures for comparison:

**ICCF entries received until
31st May 2013**

Year	Number
2007	879
2008	1548
2009	1568
2010	1576
2011	1573
2012	1598
2013	779 (*)

Year	Class O	Class H	Class M
2007	330	213	336
2008	563	343	642
2009	565	394	609
2010	604	325	647
2011	604	366	603
2012	647	358	593
2013	355 (*)	176 (*)	248 (*)

(*) 2013 only from 01.01.2013 to 31.05.2013

Champions League

There have only been a few problems in the current cycle. My suggestions for the next season are;

- Potentially running a continuous entry section 'D' for lower rated or new teams.

Season 5 saw a record entry for new teams. Some very strong teams had to be paired with much lower 'average rated' teams in section 'C' This was frustrating for the new teams and their players who wished to play in more balanced groups.

- Direct entries to be submitted on a generic team entry form on the server. This form would be completed by the team captain, giving the DE Commissioner the information he needs and therefore streamlining the entry process. I have suggested this possibility to the services committee.
- More flexibility for players to change teams within their own club/team in a new season. Champions League paragraphs 2.4 and 2.7 also need to be re-visited and clarified, so that Team captains can understand the rules when changing their players.
- Marketing. Having a regular sponsor. Finding a volunteer to innovate the Champions League news within the 'calendar of events'
- Reviewing the number of teams relegated from division, 'A' which is very high at present.

I would like to thank all tournament organisers and tournament directors for their continuous work in keeping the non-title tournaments running smoothly and successfully. Thanks to Gino Figlio for updating information on the website, keeping Federations and their players informed.

All Congress Officials and Delegates expressed their warm appreciation for the excellent job Andrew Dearnley has done throughout the year as our Non Title Tournament Commissioner.

Thematic Tournament Office

Dear Chess Friends,

In 2012, more than 200 players participated in thematic tournaments. The interest of ICCF players in thematic tournaments continues to be very high, so I will again propose 12 themes (5 by post and 7 on the server) for 2014. Obviously, entries to the series of themes will continue to be always available.

Unfortunately only five Chess 960 tournaments started, with 25 players, from January 2012. Now, players are interested only in tournaments with good prizes and because of this, the other tournaments have fewer entries. The Congress could consider the idea of suspending the entry fee for a period of time or to give a small money prize for every tournament, in order to induce more interest.

The 2nd Chess 960 World Cup saw the participation of 72 players of which there were 13 titled players. The next stage will see 24 semi-finalists fight to qualify for a Final round containing nine players played on a double round robin basis. At the beginning of 2014 will start the final round of the Diamond Jubilee 1st Chess 960 World Cup and in March will start the 3rd Chess 960 World Cup.

As usual, I ask all National Federations to publish the information about the themes for 2014 and Chess 960 events on their websites and magazines.

Amici sumus

The TT Office
Leonardo Madonia

See Appendix O for 2014 Webserver and Postal Themes

Playing Rules Commission

Since last Congress, George Pyrich has asked to step down from the Commission. George is heartily thanked for all his dedicated work for the Commission during a long time of service. Uwe Staroske from Germany is very welcome as a new member of the PRC. With his experience, he will contribute in many topics.

This year we had many tasks to discuss and less time than normally. Some did come again, like the mandatory if-move that was handled at last year's Congress in Pretoria. We would like to ask Congress to consider a possibility to keep a decision for some years before the same topic comes up again, unless of course something crucial has changed meanwhile. Please note that I have taken the liberty to edit the proposals slightly without changing anything in the content.

International Correspondence Chess Federation

Proposal – DMD Defence

In another attempt to do something about the Dead Man's Defence, a rule change proposal is below, for consideration by the ICCF Playing Rules Committee.

Submitted by Corky Schakel, ICCF-US NF Rep

A claim for a win based on a table base forced mate may be submitted to the TD when the following conditions have been met:

- a) The opponent has not moved for 15 days.
- b) There are six or less pawns and pieces on the board.
- c) The forced mate is ten or less moves.

The TD can verify the forced mate or use the adjudication procedure, and score the result when the forced mate is confirmed.

PRC Discussion

The PRC is of course concerned about the more spread use of DMD, but it is a general view that such behaviour should be taken care of in the Code of Conduct. By restricting it in the rules, this will also cause well behaving players to be "penalized" even if they play without using DMD. Therefore, this is not supported to be in the playing rules.

Congress Discussion

Per discussed the concept of DMD and stated the PRC position and recommendation. Additional discussions from the Congress floor included comments from: Corky, Uwe, Per, Brian, Martin, Mariusz, Richard, Giovanni, Austin, Ron, and Eric.

The following provision was added to the Code of Conduct:

(d) Extremely slow play in a clearly lost position is not proper behaviour in CC play, and is subject to a warning from the TD, and will result in disciplinary action if it continues or is repeated in other games.

Please see voting for inclusion of this provision in the Code of Conduct section.

Proposal – ICCF Server Outage

Sometimes the ICCF server is down. This occurs very seldom, but this causes trouble for the players: The situation is unexpected and you have no idea how long it will take.

On the other hand, it is unreasonable to expect that a player has to wait the whole night or the whole day until the server is working again. This may cause problems, if you are about to leave to go to work or on your holidays without internet. A player cannot even take holidays, as the server does not work.

I would like to find a solution, which makes life a bit easier for the players.

At the beginning of each tournament, the email address of the TD is listed in the starting documents. Players are asked to note this address.

If the server is down for more than 3 hours (another period is also okay), a player may send a mail to the TD stating that the server is down for at least 3 hours he/she wishes to make a move in a certain game. The player has to repeat the opponent's last move, his own move and the date and time of the mail. This mail is binding in any case.

The TD is going to make this move as soon as the server is working again, backdated to the point in time of the player's mail. If a player sends a mail after less than 3 hours of server outage, the TD has to reject the mail.

This is just a first rough suggestion, for sure, the idea needs to be reflected upon, and the English needs some polish.

Nevertheless, I would be happy, if we could discuss it within the commission.

All the best

Uwe Staroske

PRC Discussion

Even though the issue attracts attention, a substantial majority of the PRC said that it was not felt necessary at the time. Of course, if it turns out to become a big problem with outage the issue could be reconsidered.

Congress Discussion

Per discussed the concept of DMD and stated the PRC position and recommendation. Additional discussions from the Congress floor included comments from: Per, Uwe, Andrew, Eric, Mariusz, Martin, and Josef.

Proposal 15 - to authorize e-mail to substitute for valid moves if the ICCF webserver is out for a specified period.

Proposal 15 – authorize e-mail for moves when webserver is done

Voting:

Yes: (7) HUN, GER, AUT, NOR, NED, SVK, SLO

No: (34)

ABS: (1) CRO

Proposal Defeated

While the Proposal did not carry, the Services Director provided a view of the webserver service availability (also in the SD report), whereby:

It is proposed, therefore that ICCF, in partnership with our external contractor and hosting providers, will *endeavour* to keep downtime to a minimum, but will *guarantee* that there will be no more than three periods of unavailability exceeding one hour in a seven day period, and no periods of unavailability exceeding eight hours. ICCF will also *guarantee* that no more than one hour of data will be lost in the case of a catastrophic server failure.

The implication of this guarantee is that players cannot expect time to be added, or defaults reversed, because of server unavailability or data loss *within the guarantee*. Appeals or claims in the event of server unavailability or data loss *exceeding the guarantee* (to be confirmed by the Services Director, or deputy) should be viewed as being valid.

With agreement from Congress, the Services Director team will design a redundancy, offsite backup, and data recovery strategy accordingly.

Proposal – 3 Point Rule

On behalf of ASIGC I am writing about the object is the 3 points rule. Two years ago, after the President's suggestion, the working group about draws presented to the Congress the proposal of 3p. After a long discussion, it was not accepted, for a few of votes. Now the situation is highly changed:

- the 3 p. rule became 'normal' for FIDE: they use it in a lot of tournaments, also with the biggest players of the world;
- the 'draw situation' in ICCF tournaments now is terrible. Unacceptable.

Some examples:

- b1) Games finished in ICCF web server, full year 2012: 27.380.
- 45% are draw; - considering players 2500+, 80% are draw!!
- b2) 7° EU Team Final ,840 games played:
1/2 74,40% (625)
1-0 19,40% (163)
0-1 6,19% (52)
- 8° EU Team Final (only 3 years after), 445 games finished:
1/2 89,44% (398)
1-0 8,31% (37)
0-1 2,25% (10)

In 3 years, the situation changed from 74% to 89%! If we do not do anything, correspondence chess (and ICCF) will die. Therefore, we propose the rule 3/1/0.

Ciao,

AMICI SUMUS
Gianni Mastrojeni

PRC Discussion

The issue is interesting and gets well-deserved attention. Some issues to be solved would be how to calculate norms and rating, even though one suggestion is that there is no change to the current system and two "scores" will be maintained so that wins will still be 1p for rating and norms requirements. The majority of the PRC is not ready to accept this proposal as it is – some accept to see it in tested in a couple of events and evaluate it before ICCF shall consider this proposal in over all events. A couple of members wish to have it now in all events. As pointed out in the proposal, we are ending up in so many draws that we could agree upon that the CC, as we know it, may be facing the biggest crisis. In addition, it would be evaluated by tests, if this would make players be willing to risk more to gain more. The PRC recommends testing this concept in *strong* tournaments.

Congress Discussion

As in previous years, this topic generated much debate. While the consensus was that testing should occur, there may be significant costs involved in programming, so we will need to delay for a year to evaluate costs and provide detailed requirements.

Contributing to the Congress discussions were: Per, Neil, Ron, Eric, Mariusz, Marjan, Giovanni, Uwe, Josef, Gerhard, Raymond, and Corky.

Proposal 16 - Vote to implement the 3-point rule as proposed by the Italian Federation

Proposal 16 – Implement the 3-Point Rule

Yes: (7) ITA, ROM, USA, NZL, FRA, ECU, ISR

No: (33)

Abs: (2) LUX, CRO

Proposal Defeated

International Correspondence Chess Federation

Proposal – Server Time Controls Redefined

It is proposed that from 1st January 2014, ICCF server time controls are defined by the following:

- Initial time
- Increment
- Increment frequency

Rationale: Under current ICCF time controls, the initial time is always equivalent to the increment, and the increment frequency is always ten; for example, 10/50 has an initial time of fifty days with an increment of fifty days applied after each ten moves. By allowing tournament organisers to specify initial allocation independently of increment, we create more flexibility; for example, where a tournament has a fixed end date, we can make the length of games more predictable by allocating most of the time at the start of the event and keeping the increment low.

These parameters also allow tournament organisers to specify Fischer time controls, by applying a much smaller increment after every move instead of after every ten moves. It is suggested that the time control and leave allocation be reviewed for all ICCF events, we do not make any specific recommendations in this proposal.

Technical Implementation: The ICCF server already has the flexibility to specify alternative increment frequency. It would be necessary to allow initial time and increment independently, and this would require some programming time.

PRC Discussion

This issue has been discussed before by the PRC. It is not suitable with incremental time limits for postal chess so it could only be considered for server chess. However, the PRC members' majority voted against the proposal. It is not making such a big difference to the system today.

Congress Discussion

The PRC Chair discussed the proposal further and one additional clarification was added to the proposal prior to voting. In order to incorporate this proposal and still ensure the minimum time standards are met for a rated tournament, an equivalent way of assessing time controls (for rating purposes) was specified as 150 days for 50 moves. This specification can be applied to any tournament with different initial times, increments, or increment frequencies.

Proposal - Vote to implement the new server time control options with the newly specified minimum time control for rating purposes

Proposal 17 – New server time control options with minimum time control

Yes: (33)

No: (1) CZE

ABS: (8) RSA, ITA, ROM, FIN, EST, RUS, CRO, CAN

Proposal Approved

Proposal – Different Leave Rules

It is proposed that leave for ICCF events is taken either

- Per tournament, for events with a fixed end date, or
- Per tournament year, for events with no fixed end date

Rationale: The current system of leave being taken per calendar means that a disproportionate amount of leave is allocated depending on the start or end date of a tournament; for example players in an event which starts in December can take an entire month's leave before the end of January and start playing with effectively no leave used. Making leave dependent on the start date of a tournament rather than the calendar would remove this problem.

Technical Implementation: Some programming time would be required to implement this change on the server.

PRC Discussion

This is also a discussion we have had in the past. The PRC voted against this as it would be very difficult for players to take leave in a period of the calendar year. One year you have your vacation in October and next in August. If the tournament started in September, you will not be able to have vacation at both times. The PRC is in favour of the present leave rules and is against this proposal, same suggestion as last time.

Congress Discussion

The following delegates contributed to the discussion prior to voting: Per, Eric, Austin

Proposal Voting

Proposal 18 - Vote to implement leave per tournament start date versus calendar year

Yes: (11) WLS, VEN, GPV, LUX, NED, AUS, HKG, USA, CAN, POL, BEL

No: (23)

ABS: (8) RSA, CRO

Proposal failed

Proposal – TD Recording of ETL

Here is a proposal for the Playing Rules Committee to review for consideration at the next Congress. There is currently inconsistency among TDs about when to use the Default loss, and this would make it clear. Exceeding time limit can happen to responsible players, but ETL is not an acceptable way for a CC game to end, and these changes to the rules should reduce this. Of course, a player can appeal a suspension if there are extenuating circumstances.

Best wishes! Corky Schakel, ICCF-US NF Rep

Failure to Reply

- a. The ICCF Web server system will automatically generate an Email reminder when a player has not made a move for 14 days and another, after 28 days. A final Email reminder will also be automatically generated after 35 days of silence by a player.
- b. When a player is sent a final reminder after 35 days of response time, he/she must either move or report to the Tournament Director and to his/her opponent, the intention to continue the game, within 5 days of that reminder. If a player does not move or otherwise report his/her intention to continue, during the 40 days of response time for the same move, the game may (*will*) be scored as lost (*a default loss*) by the Tournament Director. *A subsequent default loss will result in a suspension.*
- b. TEAM: When a player is sent a final reminder after 35 days of response time, he/ she must either move or report to the Tournament Director, via the Team Captain, and to his/her opponent, the intention to continue the game, within 5 days of that reminder. If a player does not move or otherwise report his/her intention to continue, during the 40 days of response time for the same move, the game may (*will*) be scored as lost (*a default loss*) by the Tournament Director. *A subsequent default loss will result in a suspension.*

PRC Discussion

The PRC disagrees on this one. If someone oversteps the 40 days, and that do happen by mistake, immediately he is suspended in all his games not only in the playing event but also in all other events he is playing in. Such withdrawals will ruin many tournaments and will cause a lot of distress. We do wish players to complete an event and not find reasons to suspend players. Punishment is not nice to use but the punishment should be in comparison to the offence committed.

Congress Discussion

The following delegates contributed to the discussion prior to voting: Per, Corky, Raymond, Brian, Andrew, Eric, and Uwe.

Proposal 19 - Vote to score ETL as default losses and a subsequent default loss may result in suspension.

Proposal 19 – Score ETL as Default

Yes: (0)
No: (41)
ABS: (0)
NP: (1) NCA

Proposal failed

International Correspondence Chess Federation

Proposal – Consistent Rules Concerning Conditionals

The server has the capability conditional moves, and they are used at least in Friendly Matches, maybe other events, I am not sure. I do not bother with conditionals, but the rules should be consistent with both server capabilities and actual practice. If the rules are not to be changed then the capability to specify conditionals should be removed.

Best wishes! Corky Schakel, ICCF-US NF Rep

Conditional continuation

Conditional moves are not allowed in webserver games, except for Friendly Matches.

Austin Lockwood/Delegate

Conditionals are always allowed in all webserver games

PRC Discussion

The PRC discussed this issue last year. As the If-moves are hidden, they can be used tactically. Moreover, I refer to the Congress decision of last year not to have conditionals mandatory. The guidelines give any organiser the option to use conditionals, if it is written in the start letter. Therefore, the proposed change only to have friendly matches is already there and no limit to it as above is needed. Champions League and Seniors World Cup are other examples of where if-moves are mandatory.

Congress Discussion

The following delegates contributed to the discussion prior to voting: Per, Mariusz, George, Corky, Josef, Ron, Uwe, and Marijonas.

Proposal - Vote to approve the remove of conditional options from all tournaments.

Proposal 20 – Vote to remove conditionals from all tournaments.

Yes: (2) ITA, ROM

No: (36)

ABS: (4) SWE, ISL, AUS, HKG

Proposal failed

Proposal – Inclusion of Tablebases (TB) in Game Results

FIDE changed the 50-move rule to 75 moves in 1989, but changed it back later. Therefore, this subject does come up as times change, and even FIDE has changed the rule. Moreover, speaking of time, clocks were first used in 1883, more about times change! Still, my point is that ICCF is not FIDE, and if we can allow computers, we can decide to allow TB claims. Of course, some will oppose, and some will favour. I would like to see a poll taken via our website, with three options: no TB win claims, claims allowed for forced mate in 10 or less, and accept all TB win claims (this would require a change in the 50-move rule).

Congress has the final say on rules changes, but having input from the players could decide how some vote. If a game enters a table base position, either player may ask the TD to set the result according to the table base.

PRC Discussion

We had this proposal also in Turkey 2010. The PRC was divided in 2 camps and we had to agree upon that some like this idea and other do not like this - to put it mildly. No recommendation from PRC was possible. Congress did vote against the removal of the 50 moves rule and the use of a TB to decide the game.

Personally, I am against removing the 50 moves rules. It is a part of FIDE Basic Laws of Chess and change the definition of draw. In addition, the present Nalimov TB covers up to 6 pieces and removing the 50 moves rule also will take effect from 7 pieces or more. The famous KQN versus KRBN that wins in 517 moves may occur, or maybe KQB versus KRBN if there is no 50 moves rule, then I would certainly try to find a win, And it will last 10 years at least to decide.

The Nalimov TB does have a flaw related to the 50 moves rule:

Imagine the following situation - you have a forced TB mate in 54 moves without capture. Therefore, the TB says win but the FIDE Rules says draw because of 50 moves rule. However, the TB does not show you that in move 47, there is an alternative to capture a pawn and the new mate will take 32 moves from that position, in total 79 moves in a forced mate. However, as the other one is shorter it will not be given by the TB! Nevertheless, the 79 moves is a correct win, by the laws of FIDE as 50 moves is set aside by the capture!!

There is a legal win, but the Nalimov TB "overlooks" it. The Nalimov TB is wrong in this sense. In my mind, TB + no 50 moves will solve some problems, but the main thing is the DMD and as I said before this belongs to the Code of Conduct.

For the amendment, I would like to comment, which TB shall be allowed. Nalimov's TB can be considered valid with the above exception. Then there are others like FinalGen that claims to solve any position where each side have a King plus one of QRBN and any number of pawns. So far no proof has been presented that it is accurate!? Then we have other TB for special positions like the 517 mate mentioned above. The TD will have to verify through the TB in a case where A claims it is draw as Nalimov's shows it takes 54 moves to mate and thus it is draw due to the Basic Laws of chess, then TD has to put down a tremendous check through all possible positions to find if this is true or if it exists a winning way for B!?

Therefore, I believe this is not an option. There are too many TB's around and the 50 moves rule makes them not 100% reliable. Of course, if we adopt TB outcome decisions, we have to take away

the 50 moves rule. In the normal case, the players do accept the verdict of a TB but in very few cases, they continue the play.

Proposal 21 – to adopt the use of Tablebases and suspend the 50-move rule

Yes: (23) WLS, FRA, ISR, ECD, ENG, DEN, RSA, ITA, ROM, LIT, LAT, SVK, FIN, EST, UKR, CZE, CRO, HKG, CAN, USA, NZL, POL, BLR

No: (11) HUN, GER, AUT, SUI, LUX, SWE, ISL, NOR, NED, SLO, AUS

ABS: (3) VEN, CPV, ARG

NP: (5) IRE, ESP, SCO, NCA, RUS

Proposal Approved

It might be appropriate to reiterate that with 14 Member Federations choosing not to be represented at Congress (25%), plus 3 abstentions (5%) and 5 voting delegates cards not present at the time of the vote (9%), -- 39% of eligible Congress Member Federations did not have a vote in this proposal.

The technical details of implementation will be worked out by the Service Committee under the oversight of the EB and the PRC will contribute to ensure the solution is captured correctly in the playing rules.

Proposal – Traditional Time Control Rules

[Note – based on proposals and decisions by Congress, this proposal was withdrawn, but the proposal and discussion is included for historical purposes]

Effective, January 1, 2014, all ICCF tournaments starting will fall under the Traditional Time Control rules.

Discussion

With so many variables, tournaments are becoming increasingly more difficult to manage. Tournament organizers, especially in multi-round tournaments are finding it more difficult to start and manage subsequent rounds. Some players take normal leave; other do not. Some players avail themselves of Special Leave provisions, some up to 60-days per year, thus requiring additional unplanned delays and pushing out end dates. Some tournaments that need to end on time or by a specified date are forced to result in adjudications, costly in terms of time (and money) for tournament officials and players. With increased unknowns, players are finding it increasingly difficult to plan their tournament load properly.

Definition

Traditional time control rules simply mean that at the start of the tournament, each player is given one block of time in days. At the start of the tournament, each player's time block with decrement when that player is on the clock. The game ends upon (a) checkmate, (b) stalemate, (c) three-fold repetition, (d) When table base clearly indicates a win, and (e) when the player's flag has dropped.

Benefits

* All time control management is shifted 100% to the player. At the start of the tournament, everybody (TOs, TDs, and players) all know the exact date and time the tournament will end. This has far-reaching implications, especially for critical tournaments that must start on the date indicated. CL is a perfect example that has had to be shifted numerous times because position deciding games have not been finished. This upsets the Tournament Calendar, planning for officials, and many players schedules.

* Adjudications are eliminated. All games will be decided by one of the five methods described in the definition.

* Normal leave is eliminated. Leave or time off will be managed from the block of time allotted to the player.

* Special leave is eliminated. Leave or time off will be managed from the block of time allotted to the player. Just as in the real world, life is sometimes overcome by circumstances. The Office of Special Leave will be disbanded and all players will play on equal terms. This closely parallels an OTB event. If you are too ill to play, you do not play.

* Claims to take more than 40 days for a move will be eliminated as well as the 40-day move altogether. A player can use all, some, or none of his or her block time in any manner, he or she sees fit. In a 100 day per player tournament, a player may choose not to make a move for the first 99-days. No problem, the only determinant is the remaining time on the clock.

Possible Objections, Concerns, or Cons

* The model does not fit postal players well. Perhaps a separate set of time control rules needs to be created for postal players.

* ICCF needs to acknowledge that table bases are validated and should be used for stop a game and set the result. This could be implemented by the server and possible that the server will recognize a table base win and set the result, notify the players and officials, all without intervention by anybody.

* The 50-move rule needs to be evaluated in light of this proposal. Suggestion would be to drop the rule completely -- a win is a win.

* The time granularity will be moved from days to hours (really, minutes and seconds). The false day gained by moving with 3 minutes remaining in the 24-hour period will be eliminated. Some reviewers have observed that in a hypothetical situation, if a player had 15 days remaining and a forced move in 60-moves, his opponent could play moves in just an hour or two. If 4 hours delay per move was the average, the winning player could conceivably lose. The counter-argument would be (a) institution of conditionals would eliminate any time concerns and (b) if and when the game enters a table base win; the server would recognize it and declare the win immediately.

PRC Discussion

This proposal would be revolution to the mindset on how we play CC. The PRC sees the benefits for the organiser and how much it will simplify that task. However, from a players view this is not desirable. One of our members even claimed that if this were going to be the way to calculate time, then he would surely leave ICCF. It was not considered favourable by the PRC. Leaves and Special Leaves are important. The cycle of an event for several years makes it different from OTB play. We are not present during the game. The PRC recommendation is not to accept this proposal.

Tournament Rules Commission

The members of the Commission are:

Duncan Chambers (ENG) (Chairman), Gerhard Binder (GER), Sergey Grodzensky (RUS), Leonardo Madonia (ITA), Ralph Marconi (CAN), Gian-Maria Tani (ITA), Per Söderberg (SWE), Marco Caressa (ITA), Andrew Dearnley (ENG)

And as General Secretary and President:
Michael Millstone (USA) and Eric Ruch (FRA).

George Pyrich (SCO) resigned from the Commission during the year. I would like to thank him for his valuable contribution to our work.

Leo Lahdenmäki (FIN) has also expressed a wish to retire from the Commission. He has suggested GM Pertti Lehtikainen to replace him. I thank Leo for his contribution.

Marco Caressa (ITA) remains nominally a member but had been inactive. I hope that suggestions for new members will be available for approval by Congress delegates.

As Chairman, I am grateful to all the members for their hard work and constructive contributions. I apologise for the fact that I am unable to attend the Congress this year. The issues we have worked on since the last Congress are discussed below.

Editorial Changes to Tournament Rules

A number of minor changes were suggested following review and production of the 2012 Congress Minutes. The comments are attached as **Appendix P**. A version of the Tournament Rules with the resulting amendments incorporated is attached as **Appendix Q**. A 'tracked changes' version is available on request.

We ask the Congress to approve these amendments.

Seeding of Start Lists

We discussed a proposal submitted by Corky Schakel (USA) for seeding of start lists. Proposed changes to the existing rule 7 are highlighted. A summary of comments on this proposal is attached as Appendix 3. The Tournament Rules Commission does not support this proposal.

7. Tie Breaking and Seeding

7.1 Tie-breaking is used in all tournaments organised by ICCF, unless the tournament announcement specifically states that ties will not be broken. The following will apply for two or more players, or two or more teams, with the same number of points:

7.2 Individual tournaments:

- (a) number of wins by each tied player in the tournament,
- (b) points evaluation by the Sonneborn-Berger-System,
- (c) results of the tied players against each other.

7.3 Team Tournaments:

- (a) tie breaking based on team results (2 additional points for a won match, 1 additional point for a drawn match),
- (b) the results of the tied teams against each other.
- (c) better individual result on bd.1 (following bd.2, 3 etc.)

7.4 If necessary, the organiser of the tournament is entitled to set up further tie-breaking procedures. These procedures must be indicated in the start list at the latest.

7.5 If players or teams are still tied after all relevant tie-breaking procedures have been used, the players or teams will be considered equal.

7.6 Start lists for all ICCF tournaments will be seeded with the highest rated player in position (1) in each section, lowest rated in last position, other positions in order of rating. Seed position will be randomized for players of equal rating. Provisional ratings will be ordered by rating number, provisional status not affecting seed order.

Proposal 22 – Modify the seeding and start lists

For	2 (USA, NZL)
Against	28
ABS	9 (FRA, ISR, ECU, NOR, NED, FIN, EST, AUS, HKG)
Not Present	3 (RSA, NCA, UKR)

Proposal 22
DEFEATED

Use of ‘Nodes’ in Webserver Tournaments

Proposal made by the FCCF (Finnish Correspondence Chess Federation) to the Tournament Rules Commission of ICCF.

FCCF makes a proposal to abandon the nodes principle in the World Champion Finals and Candidates’ Tournaments. In practice, this also means that at least the following paragraph have to be changed: **Tournament Rules 1.0.3:**

The Preliminaries, Semi-Finals, and Candidates' Tournaments comprise separate sections played normally by post and by webserver. The qualifications reached in postal tournaments can be used in webserver tournaments. Participation of players in webserver tournaments using 'nodes' is allowed in the Candidates' Tournaments and Final only.

The proposal is to change to:

The Preliminaries, Semi-Finals, and Candidates' Tournaments comprise separate sections played normally by post and by webserver. The qualifications reached in postal tournaments can be used in webserver tournaments.

Comment on the FCCF Proposal

This proposal led to extensive debate, much of which is contained in the 'Congress Proposals' document circulated by ICCF General Secretary Michael Millstone. The majority of Commission members who expressed an opinion agreed with the proposal to abolish 'nodes' although the Rules Commissioner, Per Söderberg, argued strongly that the facility for 'postal players' to use a 'node' should be retained.

The ICCF President, Eric Ruch, asked the Commission to focus on the following questions:

- 1) Is the current node system fair? (i.e., does it provide equal chances to everyone to win the WCCT or final regardless the way of transmission of the moves?)
- 2) If not, is there a better node system in order to accommodate all players in a single final?
- 3) If yes to 1) or 2), what are the prerequisite for a player to be accepted for playing using a node?

The Commission was unable to reach a unanimous view on these questions because the answers depend on whether one thinks that 'nodes' should be abolished or not. Furthermore, many members did not express an opinion. I have therefore included all responses to Eric's questions below:

1. Ralph Marconi

I must confess to being a bit puzzled myself now, from what I'm learning from the information Dean and Pertti have presented. To me though, the fact still remains whether or not using a *node* gives one a competitive advantage over other players in a server (default) event, and not only in the ICCF World Championship, but in potentially all ICCF events. I believe Pertti is stating that it does. But is there ironclad proof of this, other than what he has presented? If so, then I think we (ICCF Congress) must therefore question their use at all. Then the whole issue of restricting their use with some definition and criteria (written into the Rules) is irrelevant. I think. Now of course to make matters more complicated there is also the issue of a *perceived* advantage by other players.

Of course the other question, remains, as Per brings up what about those players who for whatever reason do not wish to use the server to make their moves and play only by postal and who qualify or have qualified to play in the WCCC Candidates and Final, presumably the only ICCF events we are talking about for the moment. Question though: But how many players are we actually talking about that fall in this category? I am not sure if this is relevant or not. Just curious.

At this point, I'm afraid I can only sympathize with a qualified player who has **no other means period** to play other than by postal. In my opinion, the node option perhaps may be permitted, **but** we would still have the question regarding this competitive advantage, whether real or perceived to deal with.

2. Gerhard Binder

To Eric's questions:

I think the current node-system is not unfair if it is not abused. It could be improved by a clear definition of whom it can be used and a better choice of the node. He should be in the same country, maybe the same town to shorten the delay of postal delivery to one or two days. The calculations with 11 days (Moscow – Finland) are tendentious and unrealistic.

The only precedent (Finocchiaro) does not help in this discussion because there was NO advantage. Analysing the time stamps of his games clearly shows this. It is only curious because it was mostly played by „Email“ – an unnecessary complication compared with server play.

3. Duncan Chambers

1) Is the current node system fair? (i.e., does it provide equal chances to everyone to win the WC CT to final regardless the way of transmission of the moves?)

Clearly, the fairest system is one where everybody uses the same method of transmission. Allowing some players to use nodes probably introduces an element of unfairness but we do not have enough experience to judge how significant it is. This is especially true if we have different types of node as mentioned in the original FCCF proposal. Leaving aside the real unfairness there is also an element of perceived unfairness as Ralph and others have pointed out.

There may also be practical issues which tend towards unfairness (more reflection time for the 'node' player), e.g. ? lost? letters, leave allowances for the node as well as the player etc. These could create many headaches for the TD and tournament organiser. I for one would not like to be TD of such a tournament.

2) If not, is there a better node system in order to accommodate all players in a single final?

If we are talking about players who genuinely cannot use the webserver (no computer, not even access via an internet café or public library), I cannot think of one. If the real issue is that players accustomed to postal play dislike the variable and generally faster tempo of server play, then it might in principle be possible to program some sort of delay into the server (or simply increase the time allocation). Such an option would also have obvious disadvantages and in the interests of fairness should be available to all players.

3) If yes to 1) or 2), what are the prerequisite for a player to be accepted for playing using a node?

I would suggest qualified via postal tournaments; never played by webserver; provides written confirmation of no internet access or another valid reason for being unable to play by server.

4. Per Söderberg

The node system is as fair as it gets in my opinion. You can never find a completely fair system. Even with the current rules on the server. Some has better programmes, computers, and connections. Some are retired others just had a newborn etc.

We did look at playing 90 days for 10 moves, as Lehtikainen mention, when we looked into finding a solution, however the same problem arises some players are happy with 50/10 and would not accept playing with that reflection time. Just imagine what 90/10 would do for DMD! I also investigated the possibility to let the move stew for say 3-5 days without being made open to the receiver, he couldn't see it. Again, the server players refused to play under such circumstances and then Congress 2008 did find nodes the best option.

I did actually play on the webserver already in 2005 when it was new and I wanted to try it out. However, after testing it I still felt that for me the preference is postal. The cost is much less for me than other people spends on tobacco products every day. I spend maybe a euro a day on postage but get full value for the money! The feeling I have is that it should be enough with having a postal qualification to be allowed to use a node. You can try server and still prefer post.

5. George Pyrich

1. On the whole, YES. However, goodwill and patience is required by both players. Also we have to accept that server players who perceive this arrangement as being either impractical or unfair must be respected and we must accept any refusal to play under such conditions (as we did with Ron Langeveld).

I do not see leave as a problem – on the server one player could take his 30 days followed by the other – the result would be the as with the postal player and his node – 2 months without any play. However, lost cards could be a problem. To be fair, we have the recent example of Finnochario and I do not know of any serious problems or complaints.

Like you, I would not like to be a TD in such an event and I would not volunteer to serve as a node.

2. Unfortunately NO. I am sure that we are all intelligent people but thus far, none of us has been able to suggest anything else even remotely plausible. I mentioned earlier possibly using texts via cell phones as an alternative to post but we would surely have no right to insist upon such a condition.

3. I fully agree with your conclusion.

I hope that these arguments will assist the Congress by informing the debate on this proposal.

Duncan Chambers

Congress Discussions Continued

Ron Langeveld (NED) suggested a proposal to the TTC to poll players and assess if perhaps every third final if they would be happy to return if the time controls were changed to perhaps 10/80 or 10/90?

Another question was raised as to whether this would apply to only the WCCC – final or include the Preliminaries/Semi Finals, and Candidates. As the proposal was not submitted in time for consideration for this Congress, this will be tabled and reassessed if Ron wishes to bring a new proposal to the 2014 Congress for consideration.

Report of the Working Group „Structure for World Championships“

The Congress in Pretoria proposed to review the structure for ICCF World Championships as decided in 2009 in Leeds – especially to consider two aspects:

- **60%-rule for remaining in the same stage to be replaced by place 3 and 4**
- **Start a final only every two years**

Remaining in the Same Stage

This point does not affect the figures from 2009. In the decided structure is always assumed that two players will get 60%. So the 60% can easily be replaced by **place 3 and 4 or at least 60%**. It is not very likely but it may happen that also place 5 scores 60%. To be consistent with the past the „or at least 60%“ phrase is necessary.

This affects tournament rules 1.1.1 (c) and (g); 1.2.1 (c), (e) and (f); 1.3.1 (b); 1.5.1 (b). The special situation of the candidates in 2010 and 2011 with only one qualifier for the final is not expected to happen again. Nevertheless, it should be covered by a written regulation, especially the right of the runner-up to remain in the same stage if he does not qualify for the final. This should not affect the right of place 3 and 4.

Furthermore editorial adaption's on the rules 1.1.1 (b-f), 1.2.1 (c) and (f), 1.3.1.(b), 1.4.1 (a), 1.5.1 (a) and (b) are necessary. Rule 1.0.7 lays down clearly the validation of any qualification. Therefore the phrase „the previous or running“ is sometimes a contradiction and should be replaced by „one of the previous or running“.

Final every two Years

The second point – final every two years – of course has significant impact on the whole structure, e.g. for the number of candidates per year.

The attached Excel file shows:

- the currently valid structure (2009)
- the history 2009 – 2013 for CT, SF and PR
- the updated („small“) chart, based on 17 players in the final and 13 players in the other stages with two qualifications for promotion per group
- the chart „large“ based on 17 players in all stages (the existing rules allow the TTC to setup groups with 15 or 17 players if appropriate).

Studying these figures (history and capacity) shows, that there is currently no danger for organizing finals every two years. The „small“ capacity is surely sufficient for PR and SF. Only in the CT, the group-size has maybe to be extended to 15. The big numbers in 2010 and 2011 were exceptions, caused by the decision to force all historic qualifiers to use their rights in these two years. Currently we have no significant queue for CT. An alternative to have three groups of 15 or 17 players is the possibility to have 4 groups every two years using the „EB disposition“ for two additional promotion places (XXL).

Recent comments of the TTC Gian-Maria Tani:

I received 143 entries for 2013 SF, the same as in 2012. So, 11 sections with 13 players each. I can't do any prevision about expected entries for 2013 CT. Entries come to me after the announcement. Anyway, I suppose the number of 2013 entries will be not very different from 2012. So, my opinion is that it is not necessary to change the qualification rules (for the moment!).

Remark of Eric Ruch:

Concerning the final every two years, we are already there. The next final will start on 10/06/13 two years after the start of the previous final.

I am wondering if the current rules (4 CT sections per year) should be modified.

Some players defer the final, some are no more playing (no answer received),

Therefore, the working group does not recommend changing the rules now. The situation shall be observed and reconsidered again after two years. It is more likely that we will have less than 17 (interested) qualifiers for a final instead of too many.

Please see Appendix U for Charts and Statistics to Support this Recommendation

Proposal 23 – Vote to Approval the working Group Recommend Changing the Criteria for Remaining in the Same WCCC section as proposed.

Proposal 23 - Approval the WCCC Working Group Recommendations

For	38
Against	0
ABS	(2) AUS, NZL
Not Present	(2) RSA, UKR

Proposal 23 - ACCEPTED

Because there was discussion about modifying time controls, a review of the 30/10 minimum time control rating provisions was examined. Based on the incorporation of the modified time controls rules incorporating intervals, the proposal evaluated was to change the minimum 30/10 time controls for rated games to at least 150 days for 51st move. No change was proposed for players who prefer to play via postal. Postal tournaments shall remain at 10/20.

Proposal 24 – Vote to Change the 30/10 minimum rating for rated games to 150 days by the 51st move for rated games.

Proposal 24 – Vote to change the minimum time definition for rated games

For	39
Against	0
ABS	(1) NCA
Not Present	(2) RSA, UKR

Proposal 24 - ACCEPTED

Special Leave

Discussion and Proposal by General Secretary to Eliminate Special Leave

For many years, I have declared that the ICCF Special Leave rules are vague, ambiguous, subject to misunderstanding, misuse, abuse, and frequently confuse players and tournament officials. We have also reached the point where the requirement for special leave is vastly different from the ICCF player who chooses a postal method of play versus the webserver.

Despite attempts to eliminate special leave altogether, a compromise was reached several years ago to form the Office of Special Leave (OSL). While the creation and implementation of the OSL has made great strides towards consistent application of the special leave rules, the numbers and rates of intended misuse continue. This year, there are several proposals to eliminate special leave through a variety of measures and those will be addressed in due course at the appropriate spot in Congress.

Since the formation of the Office of Special Leave in the summer of 2011, the Office has adjudicated 511 separate applications for ICCF Special Leave.

Some of the more interesting application requests:

- 1 month – holiday
- 5-weeks - Уезжаю на дачу
- 2-weeks - Pilgerfahrt nach Israel
- 2-weeks - My computer was lost in the accident two days ago.
- 2-weeks - Работы много, не успеваю.
- 20-days - The reason is the failure of my HD. My Mac is in reparation.
- 30-days - I would like to ask you to approve me a special leave because I'll move my work for a month.
- 2-weeks - high blood pressure
- 2-weeks - Hi, I will be vacationing in Europe for a week and a half and needs the relaxation and be stress free.
- 2-weeks - I am to Florida Vacations
- 30-days - Other side I need in normal live in this summer.
- 2-months - May I ask this leave due to a small baby?
- 6-weeks - I wish to request Special Leave because my internet is out of order due to a problem on my line
- 3-months - I will be working overseas in Frankfurt Germany in November and December, so it will be very difficult for me to continue my games effectively.

I also receive many requests for special leave to be only applied to particular tournaments (one of the initial observations of special leave abuse) and the expectation, that despite being a volunteer, I should be waiting by my computer to process your application that you have known about for 3 months, but starts tomorrow.

Should Congress vote to continue Special Leave, I highly recommend the wording be carefully examined and clarified. Words such as “overseas” “urgent”, “unexpected events” are subject to too many interpretations and should be clarified. I would also suggest that because of the divergence between players who wish to play via postal methods and the webserver, it is time to consider developing two sets of criteria – one for each type. Last, because of the time required to consider, often seek clarification, and implement each Special Leave request, if Special Leave remains an ICCF option, I must respectfully step down from the Office of Special Leave and offer this position to another volunteer with time and ambition to administer the duties of this position.

Sincerely,

Michael Millstone, PhD
 ICCF General Secretary
 ICCF Office of Special Leave

Present Special Leave Rules

Special leave is intended to be used primarily for unexpected events such as serious illnesses, natural disasters, and urgent overseas business postings. Recognizing the value of other chess activities special leave may be granted for attendance at ICCF Congress or OTB tournaments away from a player's home. Events planned such as moving house, vacation, or work, are not valid reasons for special leave. Computer failure is NOT an acceptable reason for requesting a special leave.

Retroactive special leave is only ever to be given when the player is unable to contact the TD or another player by some means, usually because of sudden hospitalization.

Special Leave Proposal

ICCF Congress -2012

Special Leave Implementation

ICCF Special Leave Principle

If a player claims special leave and the special leave is approved, the “exceptional” circumstances must be so severe that the player cannot play any correspondence chess.

In other words, a player informs the TD that he or she is unable to play any CC during the requested period.

Problems

- Privacy concerns – some reasons were highly personal (medical) issues, yet the player often had to provide details to many TDs and officials.
- Inconsistency in the application of the reasons for granting ICCF Special Leave. Interpretation of the Special Leave rules was highly irregular among different TDs.
- Lack of oversight. Many instances were discovered where some players would claim Special Leave in some tournaments while continuing to play in others. While not the fault of the TDs, this *abuse* nonetheless belied the spirit of Special Leave in which a player is unable to play in any tournaments.

2011 Solution (Last Congress)

The ICCF Office of Special Leave (OSL) was formed to deal exclusively with requests for Special Leave with the following exceptions:

Special Leave will apply to ALL active ICCF tournaments in which you are participating, with the following exceptions: (a) Friendly tournaments (country to country), (b) National Federation only tournaments, (c) Thematic, and (d) Unrated tournaments. For these tournaments only, the player (or representative) will need to request Special Leave from the Tournament Director (or through the Team Captain in team events).

Present ICCF Provisions

Special leave is intended to be used primarily for unexpected events such as serious illnesses, natural disasters, and urgent overseas business postings. Recognizing the value of other chess

activities special leave may be granted for attendance at ICCF Congress or OTB tournaments away from a player's home. Events planned such as moving house or work, are not valid reasons for special leave. Computer failure is NOT an acceptable reason for requesting a special leave.

Issues

Having processed all the special leave requests for the past year, and respectful of players privacy, the following is a summary (aggregation) of some of the issues in the interpretation and application of the above special leave rule.

From 15/05/2011 to 30/09/2012, approximately 350 requests for special leave were submitted for consideration.

1. The rules as written are extremely ambiguous, open to many interpretations, and still subject to abuse by more resourceful players. For example, what does the “unexpected” in events mean? At some point, everything is unexpected, be it an illness, natural disaster, or overseas posting. Another question is what constitutes “serious”? Given the global nature of work and availability of the Internet, there should be no reason why working away from home, much less “overseas” is a liability or should be considered “serious”. Whether I am working out of my home for 10-hours per day or on a business trip overseas, I still have the same time to devote to chess. A hypothetical example will show how the “overseas” element is a relic of a past era. I could conceivably travel from Alaska to Florida, over 6,000 km for business and not be eligible for Special Leave because the trip is in the same country and does not cross a sea, while someone living on the eastern border of France and travels 5 KMs to Germany and qualifies for Special Leave as the rule is written. The terms “overseas” and “urgent” have no place in the rules. Technically, any business reason is urgent (especially if one wants to keep his or her job!
2. The divergence between webserver chess and postal chess players causes more problems with administering Special Leave fairly. Often, a postal player requests special leave, not because they cannot play chess, but they are away from home and receipt of the moves. The fact that 99%+ of postal players could probably arrange for moves to be transmitted via e-mail (if not already in place), or have someone collect the mail and transmit the moves (e-mail or phone) has not been accounted for in the rules.
3. For the informed and very well informed player, it is quite easy to take 90-days of leave every year (that is 25% of the entire chess year). 30-days of normal leave and 60-days of Special Leave. A simple, “I will be in the hospital and recovering – need 60-days of Special Leave” falls within the rules.
4. The 2012 Olympics concluded in London recently. A bevy of athletics trained years to participate, only to fall to injury before or during the Olympics. In every case, a request to delay the Olympics to allow the athlete to recover was denied. The point is that life continues, and chess is just one *hobby* that fills out time. Everybody is different and everybody makes choices as to how much time, energy, and processing power to devote to the game of chess. Why should players who travel frequently be allowed more time over someone who prefers to stay local? If you are playing over-the-board and feel ill or injure yourself, you stop playing and lose. The solution is to put the tools in the players’ hands, even the playing field, and admit that circumstances will happen.

ICCF 2012 Proposal

This proposal is in two parts and ideally, both parts should be accepted together for maximum benefit.

1. Effective immediately, all new requests for Special Leave will be discontinued and the Office of Special Leave disbanded.
2. Effective immediately, unless otherwise specified by the Tournament Organizer, each player shall receive 45-days of “normal” leave to use, manage, and allocate as he or she sees fit.
3. This 45-days shall be allocated as follows:
 - On the start date of the tournament, each player will have ~~48~~45-days of leave credited to their specific tournament bank.
 - Each month, players will be allocated an extra 4 days of leave in each tournament as long as the tournament is active.

Note: this eliminates the calendar based leave system, which has always been disproportionate, especially when a tournament player starting in January receives the same amount of leave as one who starts in December.

A hypothetical example might be valuable here. Assume a tournament starts November 1, 2012:

Present situation:

Player has 90 of leave available at the end of 2012 (30 regular and 60 special).

Player has 90 days of leave at the end of 2013 (30 regular and 60 special).

In 14 months, player has up to **180** days of leave available.

Proposed:

Player has 45 days of leave at start of tournament (any purpose)

Player earns 8 days of leave for November and December (any purpose)

Player has 53 days of leave at the end of 2012 (any purpose)

Player earns 12*4 (48) days of leave for 2013 (any purpose)

Player has **101** days of leave at the end of 2013 (any purpose)

In Practice

Eliminating special leave is not a radical proposal. Several extremely strong chess countries (Example: The Czech Republic and France) have eliminated special leave for their national tournaments or have never even offered the option for Special Leave with little affect on players or tournaments.

In the example of the Czech Republic, for national postal tournaments, the “Special Leave” option as such did not exist. The only one exception were cases when a player fell seriously ill and had no chance (e.g., because of a sudden hospital admission) to inform the TD and take the **regular** leave. In this case, the TD had authority to allow him the regular leave retroactively, and **after the regular leave had elapsed**, to allow him a maximum of 15 days of additional (not special) leave. In any case, it was not allowed to use up these additional days before the regular leave (in that time, 30 days for a **complete tournament** – not for a calendar year!) had been completely taken.

On 01.07.2010, when the Czech CCA adopted the ICCF rating system and discontinued the national one, even this single exception was discontinued too. On the other side, now the 30 days of regular leave apply for a calendar year, like in the ICCF playing rules.

In the national tournaments played on the ICCF webserver, a special leave has never been applied. The feedback of Czech players has always been entirely positive and no objections have been submitted. On the contrary, some Czech players pointed out cases when the special leave rule was abused in the ICCF tournaments.

The example for the French Federation is even easier. They have never had Special Leave and all reports indicate their national tournaments work just fine with no complaints.

Respectfully submitted,

Michael Millstone, PhD
 ICCF General Secretary
 ICCF Office of Special Leave
PJBoogie@yahoo.com

Discussion – perhaps one of the most divisive topics discussed at Congress, there were clearly proponents for eliminating special leave as well as those that wanted it maintained.

Proposal 25 – Vote to eliminate Special Leave from all tournaments starting on or after 01.01.2014 and change the normal vacation default from 30-days per calendar year to 45-days. Special leave will remain an option for all tournaments started prior to 01.01.2014. Technical details will be worked out by the Services Director, EB, and Playing Rules Committee.

WC Ron Langeveld raised an interesting proposal for discussion. While his proposal provoked some positive interest and good discussion, it was submitted too late for consideration this year, but Ron indicated he would refine and submit a full proposal in time for consideration at the 2014 Congress.

The basic idea of the proposal is that each player gets a special credit leave of x-number of days for a period of several years. For example, 90 days for 5 years. There is no need to supply a reason when submitting leave from this credit and from the start of the first leave, the period of 5 years (expiration) also starts. If a player uses all 90 days in its first year and at the end of the 5-year period unexpectedly needs to be hospitalized for 2 weeks that player will have to accept that there are only regular leave days to submit, if these have not been consumed yet. When these five years have passed a fresh credit of 90 days is added. The 90-day credit is therefore intended in case of emergency and it is expected that players will keep it in reserve instead of using it as regular leave. It may be used as such, but then that is their own choice and a risk consciously taken. I estimate this alternate special credit leave will have less impact on tournament duration and cycles than the current extension of regular leave to 45 calendar days, which is bound to be used by players that would not have submitted special leave otherwise.

Proposal 25 – Eliminate Special Leave

For	(20) VEN, CPV, FRA, ISR, ECU, GER, AUT, LTU, NED, SLO, SVK, CZE, CRO, AUS, HKG, CAN, USA, NZL, POL, BLR
Against	(13) WLS, ENG, DEN, ARG, ITA, ROU, SUI, SWE, ISL, NOR, LAT, FIN, EST
ABS	(2) LUX, RUS
Not Present	(7) IRL, ESP, SCO, RSA, HUN, NCA, UKR

Proposal 25
ACCEPTED

International Correspondence Chess Federation

Rating Commissioner

Dear Friends,

Since last year's Congress, two rating lists were published, on time and including the usual pdf-file. Currently I am working on the list 2013/3, which will be published on June 15 and will be valid from 1 of July, exactly 25 years after the first officially published rating list. In the meantime, 48 lists appeared a successful story. Nowadays the Server performs nearly all necessary work and, compared with the first 15 years, the task of Ratings Commissioner has become rather easy. However, as always, there are a few things, which require my attention:

Start ratings for CC-Olympiads

The start ratings for unrated players in the CC-Olympiads are too low, currently 2200. It is not a big problem; see the recent semifinals:

In CCO20, we have only 2 unrated players, the average rating of the other 276 players are 2401.

In CCO19 (postal), we had no unrated players, the rating average was 2364.

In CCO18 were 4 unrated players, the average rating was 2434.

In CCO17 were 19 unrated players, the average rating was 2416.

In the finals 17 and 18 are no unrated players, the average is 2545 resp. 2537.

Looking on these figures, I would like to propose:

Change rating rule 11 for Olympiad finals from 2200 to 2500 (like WC-CAN) and for Olympiad preliminaries from 2200 to 2400 like (WC-SF).

Proposal 24 – Change Rating Rule 11 for Olympiad finals to Change the Provisional ratings from 2200 to 2500 and Preliminaries from 2200 to 2400.

Proposal 26 – Change Olympiad Provision Ratings

For	36
Against	0
ABS	(1)*CAN
Not Present	(5) UKR, RSA, NCA, SLO, HUN

Proposal 26
ACCEPTED

FIDE ratings

FIDE nowadays publishes new ratings every month. This leads sometimes to uncertainty which value should be used as start rating for unrated players with FIDE ratings. Often the valid rating for the time of tournament start is not yet known when the start lists are produced. To clarify the situation I would like to propose:

For taking start ratings, ICCF considers only those FIDE lists, which are valid starting with the same time as ICCF rating lists do, means 1.1., 1.4., 1.7. and. 1.10. of every year.

Proposal 27 – For taking start ratings ICCF considers only those FIDE lists, which are valid starting with the same time as ICCF rating lists do, means 1.1., 1.4., 1.7. and. 1.10. of every year.

Proposal 27 – change FIDE rating list used for start rating

For	38
Against	0
ABS	0
Not Present	(4) RSA, UKR, NCA, HUN

Proposal 27
ACCEPTED

Special Rating System for Chess960

The Congress in Pretoria decided to set up a Working Group for the preparation of a special rating system for Chess960. Unfortunately, due to lack of time, I could not yet make much progress in this matter. I would like to propose that the Working Group members meet in Krakow to discuss further actions, especially the server-software requirements.

Some reflections and analyses were done in the meantime:

- following the same rules as the standard ratings
- following the same schedule as the standard ratings (four calculations per year)
- using the standard ratings as start ratings for the Chess960-rating-calculation – as long as a player has not finished 12 games in 960-tournaments
- rating evaluation only for double-rounded tournaments
- we have today 1057 games finished on the webserver, results from 43 tournaments and 144 players.
- I have found a volunteer who is able and willing to create a first unofficial list based on these results.

Unclear so far:

- can we find national tournaments to have more games to initialize
- can results of the finished or running tournaments used for the start of the ratingsystem (the tournaments were announced „unrated“).
- Should the unofficially calculated ratings be used as start ratings for the first „rated“ 960-event.
- Server-Software requirements

Of course, this requires some additions to the calculation software and to other features (showing or export rating list, crosstables, edit account, creating events, ...).

- Can these actions be finished until the end of the year – maybe.
- Addition to Tournament Rules

The 3rd 960-Worldcup will start in the first quarter of 2014. It can be announced as “960-rated”. The first official calculation could be done in June 2014 (list 2014/3).

I hope that the members of the Working group can meet this week for a discussion of the open questions and ASAP start the work.

Proposal 28 – To adopt the principle that a Chess 960 rating system be established.

Proposal 28 – establish a Chess 960 Rating System

For	35
Against	(3) LUX, NED, SLO
ABS	0
Not Present	(4) RSA, UKR, NCA, HUN

Proposal 28
ACCEPTED

The working group will be composed of:

- Gerhard Binder (Chair)
- Martin Bennedik (Technical advisor)
- Mariusz Wojnar
- Austin Lockwood

Transfer of Old Tournaments from Eloquary to the Webserver

Concerned tournaments: 7.873

First batch: 763

Second batch 347

This completes the title tournaments (hopefully). A few team tournaments have missing boards.

Next batch 2.943 ICCF tournaments (promotion and Cup preliminaries)

Forth batch 1.489 Zonal tournaments (not TT)

and then 259 Open international (mostly preliminaries, not TT)

and then 1.523 National tournaments (not TT)

and remaining 549 Friendly matches

The main problems:

The first rating list was valid from 01/07/1988. Tournaments, which started before, have no start ratings and no possibility to calculate a category. They must show like unrated events – without any fictive rating value.

The rating lists from 1988, 1989, and 1990 are not available in electronic format. We are using instead the values from 1991. Categories calculated with these values are wrong and have to be adjusted manually.

TO, Shortname and Header are not available and have to be added before transfer. Older TDs are not known as TD to the webserver. The colour distribution of the games is not known. Sometimes ICCF-IDs cannot be found in former rating lists, due to data corrections in the meantime.

Team-names are missing in Olympiads, Champions League, ...

Player Signup

Current procedure

ND confirms

RC checks and confirms Password to player
 RC deletes Message to ND
 no information to player

ND confirms and sends a password to player

Player may register now (for a tournament ?)
 RC checks and confirms
 RC deletes Message to ND
 no information to player

ND rejects

Mail to RC
 Mail to player ?
 RC checks and deletes no information to player
 RC confirms anyway Password to player
 Message to ND

ND sets pending

ND confirms or rejects later - see above
 After 28 days, ND gets a reminder
 ND confirms or rejects now - see above
 After 6 days, RC deletes Message to ND
 no information to player

ND doesn't anything

After 7 days RC checks and confirms Password to player
 Message to ND
 After 7 days RC checks and deletes Message to ND
 no information to player

Principle: If ND has confirmed and RC deletes then ND gets a message.

If ND has rejected and RC confirms anyway then ND gets a message

If ND set pending without further action and RC confirms or deletes after 34 days then ND gets a message

If ND doesn't anything and RC confirms after 7 days then ND gets a message

Problems: Some NDs reject due to wrong reasons:

- Not a member of our federation
- May only participate by DE
- We have to pay too much membership fee

Other Problems:

- Name and forename in wrong order
- Whole name in capitals
- Name and/or forename starting without capital

ND means: National Delegate or Zonal Director

Arbitration Committee

I am pleased to report that the services of the Committee have not been needed since the last Congress. I have however continued to give informal advice and assistance from time to time. The Committee (current members myself, Alan Borwell (SCO), Georg Walker (SUI), Ragnar Wikman (FIN) and Fritz Baumbach (GER) remain, ready, willing and able to deal with all referrals during the coming year.

Richard Hall

International Correspondence Chess Federation

Appeals Committee (Playing Rules)

Last year I started my report with these three paragraphs:

"Because of the very nature of server play it is obvious that most of the appeals related to server games are based upon trivial misunderstandings of the rules, and such appeals are customarily dealt with directly by the Chairman, according to §3 of our working procedure. (This was quoted in its entirety in our report for the 2004 Congress). Only a few server appeals had to be dealt with using the reviewing procedure, and not even one needed the attendance of a full plenary session.

Still there are quite a few emails directed to Appeals, which clearly belong to the TD level. In most cases, this is not a deliberate attempt to bypass the TD, it is simply unfamiliarity with the terminology, sometimes combined with unfamiliarity with computers, and with the English language.

Consequently, the task of the Chairman could be made much easier (though of course cases like this can be solved in a matter of minutes) if the national federations were to explain the difference between TD and Appeals (and how to make the proper contacts via the server!) to their players, for example on their own websites."

Obviously, this has not triggered much (if any?) response in the national federations, because I still get the silliest messages to the appeals address. Therefore, this year I will present you with a "top ten" list of these messages in the hope that at least some federations will react to the plain absurdity of the situation and publish guidelines for their players.

Here comes my "top ten" from last year (names and other identifications have of course been removed):

10. Subject: claim win

<http://www.iccf-webchess.com/MakeAMove.aspx?id=xxxxxx>

9. Subject: Moving

Why I can't make any move? I see that I still have time but when I open the game window, I can't play why?

8. Subject: (104) Connection reset by peer

(104) Connection reset by peer. I was getting the above error message for 2 days and just got it fixed. I am requesting a 24-hour reset, Thanks

7. Date: 25 Apr 2013 18:40:01 +0200

Subject: Time

Dear Chessfriend not answer me since the day 02/04/2013

6. Subject: stopped

I need know for what time the game is stopped.

5. Subject: *** Spam *** cannot move

I cannot make any moves

4. Subject: cant play on the servor cant play

3. Dear Sir

I would like to report the following: It is my turn to play but I can't plug my move in the applet, Best regards

Subject: Applet bug [same guy, three weeks apart!]

Dear sir, I have a bug in my applet that is not allowing me to introduce my move

2. Subject: [email address]

1.e4 e5

And (uncontested!) number one:

Subject: Time

Player overstepped time limit. TD added time to Board Member. Appeal with national representative. [Player could have checked opponent's time count by analysing the time stamps and easily verified that no overstepping had taken place!]

As you can see, in most cases the "appellant" doesn't even quote game and tournament! As an aside, once I have responded with my standard message, only about 1 in 10 write back with an apology...

Apart from these absurdities, our workload has been light the past year.

The current member list is given in the Appendix. No changes have occurred during the year.

Finally, I wish to express my sincere thanks to all members of the Commission for your valuable input during the past year, especially to "my right hand" Leo Lahdenmäki, who has to bear the main burden in all cases needing review.

Amici sumus

Ragnar Wikman

Appeals Committee (Other Rules)

It is my pleasure to tell you that I can yet again repeat previous reports: the Committee has done no work since the last Congress. A small number of issues have arisen during the course of the year; many lay outside our terms of reference, while the remainder did not result in a formal appeal.

I have recently notified the ICCF President that I shall retire from this Committee with effect from the close of the 2013 Congress. The remaining members of the Committee have all indicated that they are willing to continue for a further year if that is the wish of Congress. To remind you, they are Artis Gaujens (LAT), Ing. Pablo Salcedo Mederos (CUB), Alok Saxena (IND), and Corky Schakel (USA).

Corky Schakel had expressed an interest in assuming the chair role of this committee and was confirmed by unanimous agreement of the EB.

The entire Congress would like to thank Alan Rawlings for his many years of service to ICCF and the Appeals Committee (Other Rules) and we wish Corky well in his new role.

Code of Conduct Guidelines

The Code of Conduct Guidelines was reviewed during the year by the EB and the following revised code was presented to Congress:

Key – yellow indicates an addition; green indicates a deletion

Introduction and General Principles

ICCF, as the world authority for all forms of correspondence chess, has clearly defined Principles and Aims, which are described in its Statutes. These include the important concept that “ICCF ... supports and promotes close international co-operation between chess players, enthusiasts, and FIDE, thereby aiming to enhance contact and friendly harmony amongst the peoples on the world”

In 1984, ICCF adopted the motto “Amici Sumus” (we are friends) and this is the underlying philosophy in setting behavioural standards for players, officials and member federations. This should prevail in all communications between players in a game of CC, between players and tournament directors, officials of ICCF and international contacts of member federations. Sending an abusive, obscene, or objectionable communication is not acceptable, in any circumstances.

These guidelines are to clarify the kind of behaviour that is expected, and include disciplinary and appeals procedures for dealing with instances where the principles and philosophy may not be evident in practice.

2. Guidelines for Players/Team Captains

Whether it is in games with playing partners or with tournament directors (TD), players are expected to be friendly in all communications, bearing in mind that we are playing a game; TDs are all volunteers and are trying to promote international bonds of friendship and sportsmanship.

It is recommended that friendly messages are exchanged with playing partners at the start of a game/tournament and that such friendly exchanges continue throughout, until conclusion. Being generous in defeat and modest in victory are commendable virtues.

It is expected that players will decide the moves for themselves. It is unacceptable behaviour to have someone else play your games, (i.e., playing “mirror games” is not acceptable).

(d) Extremely slow play in a clearly lost position is not proper behaviour in CC play, and is subject to a warning from the TD, and will result in disciplinary action if it continues or is repeated in other games.

The whole ICCF ratings and titles system relies on the assumption that games are played by the players named in the starting lists (or approved substitutes).

Players should observe the Playing and Tournament Rules carefully and should take care to write or communicate their moves clearly, to avoid ambiguity. Each move must be accompanied with the necessary information concerning time utilisation and each player is responsible for ensuring the normal continuity of the game. Care should be taken to observe rules concerning repetition, advance notification of leave, time exceeding claims, etc.

Any disputes or claims by a player must, in the first instance, be communicated to the official TD of the tournament (except in team events, where the team captain (TC) should be the point of contact). The facts must be clearly reported and a player should avoid creating any unnecessary antagonism towards a partner, even when disputes occur. Abusive remarks have no place in ICCF philosophy.

Wherever possible, players should try amicably to resolve any problem quickly with a playing partner, before referring the matter to the TD (or TC).

A Team Captain is responsible for notifying his players, opponent Team Captains, and the Tournament Director when he goes on leave or is otherwise unable to represent his players.

A player or an entire team can lose its games if a Team Captain is unable to meet his responsibilities, especially in the reporting of time complaints.

A Tournament Director may request a federation to replace its Team Captain due to inappropriate behaviour or inability to perform his responsibilities.

Players should read the sections in these guidelines, which cover the responsibilities of other officials, the handling of disciplinary matters (and penalties that may be imposed) and the procedures to be followed concerning appeals.

3. Guidelines for Tournament Offices/Organisers and Tournament Directors

All ICCF tournaments and ICCF approved tournaments should be organised according to ICCF principles, philosophy, and rules, including related guidelines.

It should always be remembered that “players are our customers” and it is the duty to offer a good quality, fair and prompt service to players and to other officials who are also providing tournament services to players, e.g., ratings, qualifications, etc.

—Tournament Offices/Organisers and Tournament Directors must ensure an efficient and timely service to the ICCF webmaster and games archivists when reporting results and provision of completed games scores, as defined by ICCF and its senior officials.

Although TDs are expected to exercise their initiative in resolving problems, they should observe all rules and guidelines carefully and seek experienced advice if they are unsure about the best way to handle a problem. It is far easier to deal with consequent problems, if a decision has been well thought through before action is taken, rather than trying to sort out a problem resulting from a hasty or ill-considered decision, after it has been made and communicated to players, etc.

4. Guidelines for Member Federations

ICCF is composed of Member Federations and; therefore, any criticism of ICCF is criticism of member federations and their delegates. We all have a collective responsibility for ensuring the high reputation and authority of ICCF and its constituent member federations is not undermined.

Of course, there are occasions, especially with more difficult or controversial issues where a decision is reached by the ICCF Congress (the voting members) which does not match the view of an individual or his/her national federation. In such an event, the correct approach is for that delegate/member federation request that the matter should be discussed again by Congress.

ICCF is a democratic organisation and major issues are decided by Congress by the proper voting of members (ICCF officers do **not** have any voting rights) and; therefore, decisions of Congress should be accepted and respected by all of its member federations, acting in a responsible manner.

5. Disciplinary Procedures (and Penalties)

Every effort should be made to avoid disputes and the initiation of these procedures but, where unavoidable, they should be carefully followed by all ICCF officials, Zonal Offices, and member federations when dealing with international CC matters.

Types of disciplinary action available are as follows:

- (i) Formal Written Warning – for breaches in behaviour incompatible with ICCF statutes, principles, or rules. Continuing or repeated misbehaviour will result in (ii) being implemented
- (ii) Disciplinary Action with Penalty/Sanctions – for serious or recurring breaches in behaviour incompatible with ICCF statutes, principles, and/or rules. Immediate penalties/sanctions should be imposed, the degree of which should be related to the severity of the misdemeanour.

The following scale of penalties/sanctions should be used:

- (a) A serious behavioural issue, e.g. silent/unacceptable withdrawal from a tournament, unacceptable, or abusive behaviour to players/officials/ICCF as a first offence – ban from all international CC tournaments and activities for a period of 2 years, from the date of decision.
- (b) A repeated serious behavioural issue, e.g., repeated silent/unacceptable withdrawal from a tournament, repeated abusive behaviour to players/officials/ICCF – ban from all international CC tournaments and activities for a period of 5 years, from the date of the latest decision.
- (c) Outrageous behaviour or further repeated behavioural issue, e.g., theft, belligerent action towards ICCF or any of its officers, assault, etc. – ban from all international CC tournaments and activities for life duration. Appeal for remission of sentence is available after 10 years.

When dealing with disciplinary matters and considering penalties/sanctions, care should be taken to ensure consistency and those penalties are commensurate with the “crime” committed.

In all cases of disciplinary action, an individual has a basic right to express his/her case, with reasoning, before a decision is taken by an official/tournament director or tournament office, etc.

When disciplinary action is taken, the reason must be given in writing (with a copy to the member federation), by the official responsible and any sanction or penalty imposed must be clearly stated, along with the appropriate appeals procedure, which is available, should the recipient be unwilling to accept the decision.

ICCF will maintain a database of all cases that have been the subject of disciplinary action or application of sanctions, and all appeals thereon. An ICCF officer will be given this responsibility.

6. Extent of Application of these Guidelines

All international tournaments organised or approved by ICCF are subject to these guidelines, including the disciplinary and appeals procedures. Applications from ICCF Zonal TOs and member federations for approval of tournaments will imply their acceptance that these guidelines and procedures will apply to such tournaments, without exception.

However, it is important to recognise that these arrangements are intended for “international” CC matters and are not either “in place of” or related to any sanctions applied by member federations for disciplinary issues concerning domestic tournaments, national membership or their other rules.

The above guidelines are provided to give a clear framework for the behaviour of players, officials, member federations, and ICCF generally. The “Amici Sumus” philosophy should permeate throughout ICCF and the activities of all players and officials.

They have been adopted by the ICCF Congress (Ostrava 2003) but may be refined and developed by the Executive Board, with changes ratified (or otherwise) by the next ICCF Congress to be held, before becoming operational from the next 1st January, following such ratification.

Proposal 29 – To adopt the revised Code of Conduct as written

For	(36)
Against	(0)
ABS	(2) CZE, CRO
Not Present	(4) NOR, NCA, RUS, LTU

Proposal 29
ACCEPTED

A proposal by the delegate from the United States was presented to include in the revised Code of Conduct the wording that chess engines shall be allowed in ICCF play.

Proposal 30 – To Modify the Code of Conduct that Chess Engines Shall be Allowed

For	(7) SLO, CZE, CRO, AUS, HKG, POL, BLR
Against	(31)
ABS	(1) CAN
Not Present	(3) LTU, NCA, UKR

Proposal 30 – Rejected

Clarification – chess engines have always been allowed in ICCF and continue to be allowed. The proposal voted upon was to add a section to the Code of Conduct that chess engines are allowed. Congress felt that this clarification was unnecessary.

Congress Discussion – the delegate from Poland offered, “It is expected that players will decide the moves for themselves. However, the use of any notes (from previous or current games), sources of information (like chess books, chess databases, etc.) or advice (from chess engine) is allowed for cc players! It is unacceptable behaviour to have someone else play your games (for instance playing “mirror games” is not acceptable). The whole ICCF ratings and titles system relies on the assumption that games are played by the players named in the starting lists (or approved substitutes).”

A proposal by the delegate from the United States was presented as follows: for Olympiad Finals teams who qualify from Prelims and earn medals in the Finals, medals shall be awarded to all team members including those on the Prelim team.

Proposal 31 – To Award Medals For Olympiad Team Members, Including Preliminary Players

For	(38)
Against	(2) LUX, SLO
ABS	(2) SWE, NED
Not Present	(0)

Proposal 31 – Accepted, with the provision that this proposal is not applicable to existing Olympiad tournaments, but only in effect for new tournaments starting.

Zone 1 Report - Europe

Sergey Grodzensky (RUS), Deputy Zonal Director

European Team Championships

The Final of the 8th E.T.C. Final began on 01.02.2012 with 13 teams. (TD Klauner, Thed - LUX). More than 85% are finished now. Leading teams are Sweden, Slovakia, Russia, Italy, and Switzerland.

The Semi-finals of the 9th E.T.C. began on 15.07.2011 with 34 teams divided in 3 preliminary groups (TD Karel Glaser - CZE).

The Final of the 9th E.T.C. will start in the 4th quarter 2013.

According to the decision, which was adopted at the European National Delegates' meeting at ICCF Congress 2012, I have recently announced Semifinals of the 10th European Team Championship to be started in August 2013. However, I have received several requests to postpone the beginning of the Semifinals. We are concerned to have as many teams to play the European Team Championship as possible. I accept National Delegates' proposal. My current proposal is to start the Semifinals in the 4th Quarter of 2013. (Start date – 15 November 2013). Entries must be sent no later than on 1 October.

European Individual Championships

Now, there remain just 2 ongoing games in the Final of 67th E.I.C., which started on 01.07.2011 with 15 players (4 GM, 6 SIM, and 3 IM). (TD Valery Myakutin - RUS). The results of these games will define the champion and the prizewinners. There are 4 candidates to take prizes, they are Carlos Cruzado (ESP), Dr. Fred Kunzelmann (GER), Jan Rogos (SVK), Bojan Fajs (SLO).

7 groups of the Semifinals of the 69th E.I.C., which started on 01.06.2012 (on ICCF webserver) are still ongoing. (EU/C69/sf01 – TD Marco Caressa - ITA, EU/C69/sf02-07 - TD Valery Myakutin – RUS).

A working group gathered up at the European National Delegates' meeting at ICCF Congress 2012 in Pretoria has prepared proposed rules for new European Championship Structure. The proposed rules had been sent to all National Delegates beforehand. At the meeting it is expected the rules to be discussed. This new Structure is intended to replace European Open, Higher, and Master Class events to differentiate from ICCF World events.

Additionally, we have to make a decision on start dates of the Final of the 68th E.I.C. and the Semifinals of the 70th E.I.C. My current proposal is to start the Final of the 68th E.I.C. in the 4th Quarter of 2013. (Start date – 1 November 2013) and to start the Semifinals of the 70th E.I.C. in the 1st Quarter of 2014.

Gerhard Radosztics Memorial

The Final began on 15.09.2012 with 7 teams. (TD Ian M. Pheby – ENG). The tournament is played by postal mail. There are 35%-finished games, approximately.

Thor Løvholt Memorial

The Semi-finals of this web-server European national team tournament for medium-rated players finished on 31.12.2012.

29 National Federations entered this competition; the team of Russia consisted of women only. The T.D's are Ian M. Pheby (ENG), Andrew Dearnley (ENG) and Karel Glaser (CZE). The final started on 09.03.2013 with 11 teams. The team of Russia consists of women only again. TD Andrew Dearnley (ENG). Many thanks to Neil Limbert (ENG) who perfectly organized the tournament.

The meeting 2012 decided to organize the second edition of Thor Løvholt Memorial. The Semifinals will start in September 2013.

Witold Bielecki Memorial

This European national team tournament is the second edition of a team event for players with low ELO (with average rating no higher than 2000) began on 25.01.2012 with 22 teams divided in 3 preliminary groups (TD Mariusz Wojnar – POL). Play in all groups is very close to completion, there are only few running games (2, 3, and 1 respectively). All qualifiers to the final are already known. The final will start as soon as possible.

European Postal Cup

92 players from 15 countries entered this postal tournament.

23 teams of 4 players each started to play on 15.07.2011 in 3 Preliminary Groups. (T.D.: M. Hömske -FRA). More than 75% games are already finished.

Baltic Sea Cup

We intend to renew a good tradition of organizing a Baltic Sea Team Tournament. The 9th tournament is to be organized by Germany. The tournament will be played on the ICCF web server. The Tournament Organizer is Hans-Jürgen Isigkeit. The start date is March 1, 2014. The number of teams is expected to be 13.

Chess 960 Team Cup for Europe

Chess 960 becomes more and more popular. Due to the fact, we propose to organize a Chess 960 team tournament for European countries. We suggest there will be 4 players in each team. As usually for chess 960, an event is played in double round-robin system.

Promotional Tournaments

The European Tournament Director L. Madonia (ITA) informs us that in 2012 he started 9 postal groups (3 "M", 2 "H" and 4 "O"). In 2012, the E.T.O. started 40 promotional webserver tournaments (11 "M", 13 "H", and 16 "O").

7th Interzonal Team Tournament

ICCF-Europa entered four teams in this important tournament, which started on

27.01.2013. The 32 European players came from 30 different countries. The European Team Captains are Andrey Pavlikov (RUS), Gianni Mastrojeni (ITA), Artis Gaujens (LAT), Andrei Yermenko (UKR).

I am ready to complete four teams from Europe according to the principle: 32 players from 32 different countries. It is also possible to complete five teams to invite players from all European countries. However, I believe we should set a lower rating level. In my opinion, it will attract more strong players. Say, players from Europe and North America must be rated 2300 and higher; players from South America must be rated 2200 and higher; players from Asia/Africa must be rated 2000 and higher.

Friendly match “One country vs. Rest of Europe”

As it was agreed, such a match “One country vs. Rest of Europe” would be organized annually. Match “Ukraine vs. Rest of Europe” started on 19.12.2011 on 66 boards. Ukraine has won the match, current score is 74,5 : 54,5 (3 games are running).

Match “Russia vs. Rest of Europe” started on 15.12.2012 on 100 boards. Russia leads, current core is 48 : 35.

This year we are going to organize a match «Germany vs. Rest of Europe”. The match is to be started in December 2013. TD Carlos Cranbourne (ARG).

The next year we are going to organize a match “Italy vs. Rest of Europe” and I hope we are going to organize a match “Czech Republic vs. Rest of Europe” in December 2015.

Financial Matters

The Finance Director, George Pyrich, oversaw the 2012 Accounts, which has been checked by the Auditor, Josef Mrkvicka. It shows the economic situation of ICCF-Europa to be, in my opinion, satisfactory. Zone 1 Meeting decided to allocate 750 Euros in assistance to organizers of the ICCF Congress 2013.

Concerning Zonal Director, I offer to give Marco some time to solve his personal problems and before he will arrange them, I am ready to fulfil the duties of the Zonal director. Only if Marco himself decides to retire it will be necessary to hold the elections of a new Zonal Director and to start the procedure according to the ICCF rules.

Finally, I would like to thank all the friends who actively worked in European Zone Executive Board.

Thank you all.

Sergéy Grodzensky

Deputy Zonal Director for Europe

Zone 2 Report – Latin America

During this period, the actions taken by CADAP have been performed by the following people:

- Carlos Leon Cranbourne Argentina Zonal Director & CADAP President
- Márcio Barbosa de Oliveira Brazil CADAP Deputy Zonal Director
- Pedro Federico Hegoburu Argentina CADAP Zonal Tournaments Director
- Juan Carlos Perez Rodriguez Argentina CADAP Zonal Tournaments Director
- Armando Alexis Pérez Pérez Cuba CADAP Zonal Tournaments Director

CADAP XXIII Zonal Final

As always, organised by CADAP, the 23rd Zonal Championship, in its final stage is gathering the best active Chess Players from Latin America, Argentina, Brazil, Chile, Cuba, and Guatemala. This strong ICCF category 10 event including 2 GM, 3 SIM and 5 IM, is under the command of Pedro Hegoburu as Tournament Director.

<http://www.iccf-webchess.com/EventCrossTable.aspx?id=37334>

This time I would like to send special recognition to Pedro Federico Hegoburu for his continuous task done for more than 15 years (since 1997) of faithful service to ICCF.

Pan-American Absolute Individual Championship 2013

Thanks to the huge effort received from Gino Figlio, on behalf of the Peruvian federation, ICCF will have the 2013 Continental tournament in 3 stages: Preliminaries, Semi-finals, and Finals.

All players from countries in the Americas (CADAP & NAPZ) will be allowed to participate.
Start date: 28 July 2013

CADAP Calendar Events

Latin American Tournaments current Tournaments 2013

- CADAP 23 Zonal Final
- CADAP 22 Zonal Final
- CADAP 2011 Zonal Semi-final
- CADAP Candidates 2011
- 10 Pan-American Team Championship

Programmed Latin American Tournaments for the next year 2014

- Latin American CADAP 24 Zonal Tournament (Final Section)
Start date December 2014
- Latin American CADAP Zonal Tournaments (Preliminary Sections)
Start date July 2014
- Latin American CADAP Zonal Tournaments (Semi-final Sections)
Start date September 2014
- Latin American 2014 Master Norm Tournament
Start date between July & November 2014

As final comments, I am very sorry to inform you all that for personal reasons, this year I will not be able to attend this ICCF Congress. I wish you all the best and success in this wonderful event and hope to meet you again soon.

Best regards,

Carlos Leon Cranbourne

International Correspondence Chess Federation

Zone 3 Report – North America / Pacific

Dear Colleagues,

It is my pleasure to report the activities of the North Atlantic Pacific Zone (NAPZ) since the 2012 congress held in Pretoria – South Africa.

Updates to the Zonal Leadership and Structure

In early 2013, we have added a new volunteer to our structure. Glen Shields has accepted the post of NAPZ Tournament Organizer. His help and leadership have been critical (and most welcome) in getting new events started in NAPZ, as will be discussed below.

Country Reports

USA National Federation Report:

The ICCF-US Board has made exceptional contributions this year. Treasurer Tom Biedermann has taken on the added responsibility of processing all entries along with monthly financial reports. Webmaster Dan Perry maintains an active website of ICCF-US activities, and an entry fee page. Friendly Match Organizer Dennis Doren has started eight matches this year, details below. Bob Rizzo continues his role of communicating announcements about new titles. Emeritus members Kristo Miettinen and Franklin Campbell continue their roles as valued advisors, consultants, and TDs.

Eight Friendly Matches have started this year: Russia 81 boards, Australia/New Zealand 55, Cape Verde 15, Panama 12, Czech Republic 56, Portugal 27, The Netherlands 64 Norway 22. Dennis Doren has put out three first class Friendly Match newsletters.

ICCF-US members are in several ICCF positions. Glen Shields has volunteered to TO for NAPZ events, which have recently resumed after a long absence. Dr. Jason Bokar is NAPZ Director, and Dr. Michael Millstone is ICCF General Secretary. Dr. Carl Siefing, Tom Biedermann, and Tony Kain have volunteered to TD, and have been accepted into the TD mentoring program.

USCCC19 Final is nearing completion. USCCC20 Semis started October 1, 2012. Wolff Morrow volunteered to TO for USCCC events.

ICCF-US teams are competing in Olympiad 18 Final, Olympiad 19, Olympiad 16 Final, and the 10th Pan-American Team Championship.

ICCF-US started our first ever invitational last year, the Walter Muir Memorial with 8 GMs of 15 players in Section A Category 13, and 15 players in Section B Category 7. As it nears conclusion we are planning a second one, Dennis Doren to TO.

In the last eight months, we have received 240 new player applications, 140 new members confirmed. For 2012, ICCF-US accounted for 325 Direct Entries. CCLA events accounted for 730 games on the ICCF server and USCF another 538.

Corky Schakel, USA NF Representative

Canadian (CCCA) National Federation Report:

CCCA has currently 125 members. The following is a brief snapshot of some of our member's successes:

SIM Fabian Stanach won the CCCA-90 Invitational (2011-2013), an event that celebrated the 90th Anniversary of the founding of the CCCA. This event was played on the ICCF webserver. The current CCCA Champion is Paul Morley of Ottawa, Ontario. He has clinched KE-68 (ICCF Webserver hosted), the 2012 Canadian CC Champion.

SIM Dan Rotaru currently representing Canada in the 32nd WCCC Candidates (Section: WCCC32CT03)

Al Fichaud of Montréal, Québec Newest titled player for Canada, earning the IM title this year, and will be officially awarded the title at this year's Congress in Krakow, Poland.

In addition, CCCA has been quite active in organizing ICCF events:

CCCA (Canada) Co-organizer of the Walter Muir Memorial (official start date: 2/15/2012) CCCA will be organizing the upcoming 12th NAICCC/NAPZ Invitational Championship. 17 players will be in the field; Category VI. TD: IA, Ralph Marconi. 1st & 2nd place finishes advancing to the WCCC Semi-finals. The official Start Date is 1 July 2013, and this event will be played on the ICCF webserver.

Canada started two team friendlies in 2013: Against Italy 35 boards and against The Netherlands 50 boards.

Canada has teams competing in the 19th CC Olympiad Prelims, and 10th PanAm/TT.

Ralph Marconi, CCCA representative

Hong Kong National Federation Report:

We have just finished our 13th national championships to celebrate our club's 10th anniversary, the winner is Allan Johnston. The next championships are going to be organized to start in the autumn of this year.

The Hong Kong Team is now playing in the Olympiad and few friendly matches against Norway, Spain, and Romania. In addition, some players are competing in some individual tournaments and some finished with excellent results, for example, IM James Henri won in the George Stibal ICCF Officials Diamond Jubilee and Daniel Lam won in a webserver Open.

The Correspondence Chess League of Australia (CCLA)

The Correspondence Chess League of Australia (CCLA) is a body in transition. Today it has fewer than three hundred members. One-third play by postal mail, one-third play by webserver and one third are inactive. We have started to promote ourselves better with a new logo and more advertising. We are gaining new (younger) members from the OTB chess community.

We are changing our events and rules to adapt to the modern world of internet chess. We have an updated website at **www.ccla.net.au** and our quarterly magazine, Australian Correspondence Chess Quarterly, is now available in electronic form as well as paper.

Our players are competing in all ICCF events, including the newly reinstated NAPZ events. We continue to play regular Friendly Matches (often-joint teams with New Zealand) and all potential opponents are welcomed. We have just started matches against Brazil, Netherlands, and Italy. Further matches against Poland and Argentina are planned.

Preparations for the 2014 ICCF Congress in Sydney (to celebrate 85 years of CCLA) continue. The venue is booked and the Congress website will be up in a few months' time. *We have arranged for the Aussie dollar to weaken to make the 2014 Congress more affordable to all our ICCF visitors!*

Brian Jones, CCLA NF Representative

NAPZ Class Events and Closing Remarks

As was promised at the congress in South Africa, NAPZ has made big strides to increase participation in Class events. We have been successful so far in starting 11 new events (3 Master Class, 2 Higher Class, and 6 Open Class). The breakdown per participating country is shown below:

Entries by National Federation as of June 2013 - NAPZ Class Events								
	AUS	CAN	HKG	JPN	MEX	NZL	TRI	USA
Master	4	0	1	1	1	2	0	12
Higher	1	3	1	0	0	0	0	9
Open	3	1	0	0	1	2	1	34
Total	8	4	2	1	2	4	1	55
% of Total	10.4	5.2	2.6	1.3	2.6	5.2	1.3	71.4

While we are very happy to have so many events starting (and using Direct Entry), there is still work to be done – we hope to raise the interest even further. We have discussed a possible team event within the zone, and will report about this new possibility at a future date. However, I would like to thank specifically **Glen Shields** for all his work that he has done to get these events started. Without his help and determination, we would be much further behind. Likewise we received a lot of help and guidance from our ICCF counterparts- particularly Austin Lockwood (help with web related work), and Ian M. Pheby for all the Direct Entry guidance!

I would also like to thank the National Federation representatives who have given a lot of useful advice and have helped greatly in formulating a plan forward for NAPZ. Likewise, I would like to thank Ralph Marconi for his efforts in getting the 2013 NAICCC/NAPZ Championship organized. We hope to start that event in the near future.

Dr. Jason Bokar

Zone 4 Report – Africa / Asia

The Zonal Team

The Zonal team consists of the following officials:

- Zonal Director (ZD): SIM Everdinand Knol of South Africa.
- Deputy Zonal Director (DZD) and Tournament Organiser (TO): Iain Smuts of South Africa (IA)
- Web Master (WM): SIM Giorgio Ruggeri Laderchi of Italy (IA).
- Tournament Director (TD): GM Mark Noble of New Zealand.

Tournaments

The following tournaments were started during the past year:

The TO for all these events is Iain Smuts (IA):

On 1 December 2012:

- The 12th Africa/Asia Zonal Championship Final – TD Iain Smuts (IA).

On 5 December 2012:

- The 14th Africa/Asia Zonal Championship Semi Final Sections A to D – TD Iain Smuts (IA).

On 31 March 2013:

- The 16th Africa/Asia Zonal Championship Preliminary Sections A to C – TD GM Mark Noble.
- The 16th Africa/Asia Zonal Championship Preliminary Sections D to F – TD SIM Everdinand Knol.
- The 16th Africa/Asia Zonal Championship Preliminary Sections G to I – TD Iain Smuts (IA).

The following tournaments are still in progress:

The TO for all these events is Iain Smuts (IA):

- The 11th Africa/Asia Zonal Championship Final – TD Iain Smuts (IA).
- The 13th Africa/Asia Zonal Championship Semi Final Sections A and D – TD SIM Everdinand Knol.
- The 13th Africa/Asia Zonal Championship Semi Final Section C – TD Iain Smuts (IA).
- The 15th Africa/Asia Zonal Championship Preliminary Sections C and E – TD GM Mark Noble.
- The 15th Africa/Asia Zonal Championship Preliminary Sections G and J – TD SIM Everdinand Knol.
- The 15th Africa/Asia Zonal Championship Preliminary Section O – TD Iain Smuts (IA).

The following tournaments have been completed during this year:

The TO for all these events is Iain Smuts (IA):

- The 13th Africa/Asia Zonal Championship Semi Final Section B – TD Iain Smuts (IA).
- The 14th Africa/Asia Zonal Championship Preliminary Section D – TD GM Mark Noble.

- The 14th Africa/Asia Zonal Championship Preliminary Sections I and K – TD SIM Everdinand Knol.
- The 14th Africa/Asia Zonal Championship Preliminary Section P – TD Iain Smuts (IA).
- The 15th Africa/Asia Zonal Championship Preliminary Sections A, B and D – TD GM Mark Noble.
- The 15th Africa/Asia Zonal Championship Preliminary Sections F, H and I – TD SIM Everdinand Knol.
- The 15th Africa/Asia Zonal Championship Preliminary Sections K, L, M and N – TD Iain Smuts (IA).

This zone intends to start the following tournaments during the coming year – the format will depend on the amount of entries received. The start dates will depend on the completion of previous cycles:

- The 6th Africa Continental Championship.
- The 6th Asia Continental Championship.

The interest in the two above-mentioned continental championships is not very encouraging and the matter will receive attention.

- The 13th Africa/Asia Zonal Championship Final.
- The 15th Africa/Asia Zonal Championship Semi Final.
- The 17th Africa/Asia Zonal Championship Preliminary.

*Our zone is currently participating in the 7th Interzonal Team Tournament (IZTT)
The teams consist of the following players:*

Africa Asia A – Team Captain (TC) Wajdi Chouari of Tunisia:

- Board 1 – SIM Vladislav Nasybullin of Kazakhstan
- Board 2 – Pervez Godrez Mandviwala of India
- Board 3 – Kerim Yazgeldiev of Turkmenistan
- Board 4 – Prabhanandan Krishnamurthy of India
- Board 5 – LIM Natalia Litvinenko of Kazakhstan
- Board 6 – Daniel Lopes of Cape Verde
- Board 7 – Loyd Wellen of South Africa
- Board 8 – Antonio Monteiro of Cape Verde

Africa Asia B – TC Francisco Carapinha of Cape Verde:

- Board 1 – GM John A Barlow of South Africa
- Board 2 – Michael Glathaar of South Africa
- Board 3 – Slim Mootamri of Tunisia
- Board 4 – Ahmet Odeev of Turkmenistan
- Board 5 – Gendengyn Altanoch of Mongolia
- Board 6 – Kristina Odeeva of Turkmenistan
- Board 7 – Antunio Barbosa of Cape Verde
- Board 8 – Carlos Mões Joaquim of Cape Verde

Africa Asia C – TC Alok Saxena of India:

- Board 1 – Wajdi Chouari of Tunisia
- Board 2 – Aguinaldo Vera-Cruz Jr of Cape Verde
- Board 3 – Francisco Carapinha of Capa Verde
- Board 4 – Rakesh Kumar Chauhan of India
- Board 5 – Brahim Fekih of Tunisia
- Board 6 – Wayne Jordaan of South Africa
- Board 7 – Larisa Odeeva of Turkmenistan
- Board 8 – Emmanuel Quanzaah of Ghana

Achievements

Players from our zone accomplished the following achievements during the past year:

- PB Dhanish of India qualified for the SIM title and his medal and certificate were awarded during the 2012 congress in Pretoria.
- Ben Bester of South Africa qualified for the IM title and his medal and certificate were awarded during the 2012 congress in Pretoria.
- Samantha Tavinski of South Africa qualified for the LIM title and her medal and certificate were awarded during this congress.

Appreciations

In conclusion, I thank all the people mentioned in this report as well as everybody else that assisted with the administration and development of CC in our zone. A special word of thanks goes to Iain Smuts for his outstanding work as the Zonal TO for the past 7 years and to SIM Giorgio Ruggeri Laderchi our webmaster and also to Marco Caressa the ZD of Europe for allowing us the beneficiary use of their website.

SIM Everdinand Knol
Zonal Director for Africa/Asia

Interzonal Team Tournaments

It is my privilege to report on the Interzonal Team Tournaments (IZTT) since the Congress of 2012 held in Pretoria – South Africa.

Background

The IZTT, inaugurated by our former president Med Samraoui of Algeria, are held every two years as a team championship among the different geographical zones of ICCF, and normally start during the month of December of each evenly numbered calendar year. Each team consists of eight players playing a double round robin event against at least four opponents. This makes it possible to qualify for title norms as at least eight games are being played. The purpose of these events is to play in the spirit of "amici sumus" (we are friends) and to give players in remote and less developed regions more exposure to competitive correspondence chess.

Completed Tournaments

1st Interzonal Team Tournament – Start Date: 1 September 2000

Tournament Organiser

Med Samraoui of Algeria (IA)

Tournament Director

IM Carlos Flores Gutiérrez of Spain (IA)

The event was started with five teams making it four opponents and eight games per participant.

1	Europe A	35½ out of 64
2	Africa/Asia	35
3	Europe B	33
4	Latin America	29½
5	North America/Pacific	27

2nd Interzonal Team Tournament – Start Date: 15 September 2002

Tournament Organiser

IM Med Samraoui of Algeria (IA)

Tournament Director

SIM Carlos Flores Gutiérrez of Spain (IA)

1	Europe A	44½ out of 64
2	North America/Pacific	34
3	Africa/Asia	31
4	Europe B	30
5	Latin America	20½

3rd Interzonal Team Tournament – Start Date: 15 December 2004

Tournament Organiser

SIM Med Samraoui of Algeria (IA)

Tournament Director

SIM Carlos Flores Gutiérrez of Spain (IA)

The event was enlarged to six teams with five opponents and ten games per participant.

1	North America/Pacific	45½ out of 80
2	Europe A	43½
3	Europe B	42½
4	Africa/Asia	37
5	Latin America	36½
6	Europe C	35

4th Interzonal Team Tournament – Start Date: 15 December 2006

Tournament Organiser
SIM Everdinand Knol of South Africa

Tournament Director
SIM Carlos Flores Gutiérrez of Spain (IA)

1	Europe A	49 out of 80
2	Europe C	46½
3	North America/Pacific	44
4	Europe B	42
5	Latin America	31
6	Africa/Asia	27½

5th Interzonal Team Tournament – Start Date: 27 December 2008

Tournament Organiser
SIM Everdinand Knol of South Africa

Tournament Director
SIM Carlos Flores Gutiérrez of Spain (IA)

1	Europe C	48 out of 80
2	Europe A	46½
3	Latin America	41
4	North America/Pacific	38
5	Europe B	34
6	Africa/Asia	32½

Results of Ongoing Tournaments

6th Interzonal Team Tournament – Start Date: 27 December 2010

Tournament Organiser
SIM Everdinand Knol of South Africa

Tournament Director
SIM Carlos Flores Gutiérrez of Spain (IA)

One game is still in progress. The results so far are:

1	Europe A	51½
2	Europe B	46
3	North America/Pacific	42
4	Europe C	35½
5	Africa/Asia	32½
6	Latin America	31½

7th Interzonal Team Tournament – Start Date: 28 January 2013

Tournament Organiser
SIM Everdinand Knol of South Africa

Tournament Director
Iain Smuts of South Africa (IA)

The event was now expanded to ten teams playing a single round robin format. This gives players the opportunity of meeting more opponents (from five to nine) without increasing the number of games (ten to nine). The feedback that I got from players is that they prefer the single game version with more opponents.

277 games are still in progress. The results so far are:

1	North America/Pacific A	12
2	Europe B	10½
3	Europe A	10½
4	North America/Pacific B	10½
5	Europe C	10
6	Africa/Asia B	6½
7	Europe D	6½
8	Latin America	6
9	Africa/Asia A	6
10	Africa/Asia C	4½

The Way Forward

The 8th Interzonal Team Tournament is planned for next year. Entries will be invited by midyear and must be submitted by the end of November. The tournament will start during December 2014.

To expand interzonal activities the following concepts could be considered:

Team events:

- Increasing the number of players in each team to 10.
- Increasing the numbers of teams to 13 – norms achieved would then be based on 12 games and would equate to half a title requirement. The feedback that I got from players is that they prefer the single game version with more opponents.
- Friendly matches between two or three zones could also be considered.

Individual events:

- Stage an event every odd numbered year for individuals (as opposed to the team events that start every even numbered year). These could be structured as follows:
 - A set number of players from each zone are entered.
 - These are divided into groups playing for norms and to qualify for a final that will produce an interzonal champion or tournament winner.
 - In order to concentrate on development a maximum playing strength in terms of rating points can be stipulated.
- Small round robin events for individuals with 2 to 4 players from each zone can be held for development and maybe even norm purposes.

Anything can be considered providing it is on a zonal basis. The concept of making title norms available and giving players a wider scope of opportunities should be adhered to. The free entry facility should be continued to assist those who are less fortunate.

SIM Everdinand Knol
Zonal Director for Africa/Asia

International Correspondence Chess Federation

Internal Matters

Voting Procedures and Elections

As agreed to in principle in the 2012 Congress in South Africa and put into practice during the 2013 Congress in Krakow, the following revisions (changes identified in red) to the ICCF Voting Regulations and Electoral Procedures, will be effective from 1.1.2014.

1. General Provisions

1.1 Each voting member has one vote. A simple majority vote is required to decide any resolution unless it is defined or agreed otherwise (e.g., 2/3 majority, unanimous)

1.11 A Member Federation applying for membership may *provisionally* register as a voting member with the ICCF General Secretary at least 6-weeks before the start date of the Congress or assign a provisional proxy at least 2-weeks before the start of Congress. No Member Federation may hold proxy for another Member Federation at the Congress in which they were elected as a member.

1.2 Voting normally is by show of hands but a secret ballot will be held if this is requested by more than two thirds of **voting Delegates**.

1.3 For the purposes of voting, the following definitions will be used:

- Abstention - The phrase “abstention vote” is an oxymoron, an abstention being a refusal to vote. To abstain means to refrain from voting and therefore, there can be no such thing as an “abstention vote.” In the usual situation, where either a majority vote or a two-thirds vote is required, abstentions have absolutely no effect on the outcome of the vote since what is required is either a majority or two thirds of the votes cast.
- Majority - The word “majority” in this context means, simply, *more than half*. Example: 43 voting delegates. Voting was 17 FOR, 16 AGAINST, and 10 ABSTENTIONS. To calculate, 33 votes were cast; therefore, 17 votes are required to pass – motion passed.
- Two-Thirds Vote and Rounding - The requirement of a two-thirds vote means *more than two-thirds*. Consequently, exactly two-thirds will not suffice. Example: 43 voting delegates. Voting was 22 FOR, 11 AGAINST, and 10 ABSTENTIONS. To calculate, 33 votes were cast and 23 votes were needed to achieve more than two-thirds – motion denied.

Congress participants not counted as voting Delegates:

- Delegates who are not present at Congress and have not sent their vote in written form to the General Secretary.
- Delegates not represented by a proxy.
- Delegates present at Congress but not voting (either absent or abstention).

1.4 Elections of persons will be exclusively by secret ballot. Where an e-mail ballot is necessary, the voting procedure will be according to agreed established practice and will be announced by the Executive Board.

1.5 In the event of equal votes on any matter other than for the election of persons, the President will have a casting vote. In the event of a tie in an election of persons, a further ballot will be arranged after which, if still producing an equal result, the President will have a casting vote.

1.6 Voting members and proxy's eligibility are defined in the ICCF Statutes, article 28.

1.7 All Delegates, Honorary Presidents, and Honorary Members must register as voting members with the ICCF General Secretary at least **6-weeks before the start date of Congress**. No voting member will be accepted after this deadline.

1.8 The ICCF General Secretary will distribute to the Member Federation Delegates the list of voting members attending Congress, **4-weeks before the start date of the Congress**.

1.9. Member Federations wishing to assign a proxy must send their written declaration to the ICCF General Secretary, at least **2-weeks before the start date of Congress**. No new proxy nominations or change in a proxy nomination will be accepted after this deadline.

1.10 The list of voting members and proxy will be distributed by the ICCF General Secretary 1-week before the start date of Congress.

2. Executive Board and Auditor elections – Normal 4-year Election Procedures

2.1 Nominations for the office of:

- President
- General Secretary
- Finance Director
- World Tournament Director
- Marketing Director
- Services Director
- Auditor

must reach the ICCF General Secretary at least 2-months before the opening of Congress where the elections are to take place.

2.2 To be elected, each candidate shall be nominated by his or her Member Federations.

2.3 It is the right of each Member Federation to nominate candidates for any of the above seven positions, providing:

- a) the nominee is a current member of their Federation, and
- b) the nominee has confirmed his / her willingness to be nominated.

2.4. The Member Federation of the candidate shall send the letter of nomination to the ICCF General Secretary by e-mail, with a copy to the ICCF Auditor. The ICCF General Secretary shall confirm receipt of this letter by e-mail, with a copy to the ICCF Auditor.

Each nomination shall include a written declaration from the candidate indicating his/her willingness to be nominated, along with a personal statement (if wished) giving information in support of his/her candidature.

2.5 When all nominations have been received, the information shall be issued by the ICCF General Secretary to all Member Federations at least 1-month before the start of Congress where the elections take place, to enable them to consider all the candidates and decide upon voting preferences, prior to the respective ICCF Congress.

3. Electoral Procedures

3.1 Marked ballot papers shall be prepared for elections, with names of the candidate(s) nominated for each office. Ballot papers shall be distributed to all voting members by the ICCF General Secretary at Congress, before the respective elections.

3.2 It is allowed that the same candidate can run for more than one position in the Executive Board.

3.3 If the same person puts his / her candidacy for more than one office in the Executive Board, the order of elections shall be:

- President
- General Secretary
- Finance Director
- World Tournament Director
- Marketing Director
- Services Director
- Auditor

As soon as a candidate is elected to one office, his/her candidacy for other office(s) becomes cancelled.

3.4 To secure a fair and impartial electoral process, three scrutineers, a chair and two members, shall be appointed for elections. Normally the ICCF Auditor (as chair) and two nonvoting ICCF Honorary Members shall act as these scrutineers.

No scrutineer can be, at the same time, a candidate for an office in the Executive Board or Auditor.

3.5 Completed ballot papers will be returned to the scrutineers, for secret scrutiny and declaration of the result announced by the ICCF Auditor.

Should the ICCF Auditor not be present at Congress or unable to act as scrutineer (see section 3.4), then an ICCF Honorary President will act on his behalf as chair. In his absence or if he is unable to act as scrutineer, the Executive Board will propose other present and respectable person who will be approved by vote of Congress.

Should only one or no Honorary Member is present at the Congress, the Executive Board will propose other suitable person(s) who will be approved by Congress.

3.6 If three or more persons are nominated for the same offices or office, any candidate who receives more than 50% of the votes cast, is elected on the first ballot.

Thereafter, the candidate receiving most votes on the second ballot is elected. In case of a tie, a new ballot is held between the candidates who tied, as described in 1.5.

3.7 Delegates not present at Congress may send their votes by e-mail to the ICCF Auditor with copy to the ICCF General Secretary.

3.8. If no nomination is received from the Member Federations for any Executive Board or Auditor position, the Executive Board will be empowered to appoint an Official.

4. Zonal Directors Elections

The election of Zonal Directors is arranged within each Zone, normally, immediately following the respective Congress. Procedures for Zonal Director elections shall be agreed within each Zone, with advice available from the ICCF President and/or General Secretary, as required.

5. Executive Board Elections – Midterm Vacancy Election Procedures

5.1 Where a vacancy occurs in the Executive Board during the normal 4-year cycle, then a midterm election will be arranged by e-mail with Member Federations, to be completed within 3-months, with the exception that where a vacancy occurs within 3-months of the start date of a Congress, when the election procedure will be according to normal procedure and the election will take place at the Congress.

5.2 For midterm elections to be completed within 3-months nominations should be required within 2-months of the date of the notice to Member Federations and 2-weeks should be allowed for registering of votes for each ballot.

5.3 For midterm elections, nominations should be made according to paragraphs 2.2 to 2.4.

5.4 The voting procedures for midterm elections will be arranged to ensure validation of voting eligibility and secrecy of voting. **Elections will be scrutinised by the ICCF Auditor.**

5.5. If no nomination is received from the Member Federations for any Executive Board or Auditor position, the Executive Board will be empowered to appoint an Official.

6. Final Provisions

6.1 Personal statements of candidates shall not be published in commercial magazines / internet sites, etc. until after they have all been circulated by the ICCF General Secretary to the official delegates of Member Federations. These statements will also be published on a special election page on www.iccf.com.

6.2 Election campaigning/soliciting for votes, etc. shall not take place until after the complete list of candidates, accompanied by their personal statements, has been officially released by the ICCF General Secretary, as indicated in 2.5.

Congress Preparation

2014 – Congress for 2014 will be held in Sydney, Australia from 11-18 October 2014. The Congress will be sponsored by the Correspondence Chess League of Australia (CCLA) under the direction of the Australian Delegate, Mr. Brian Jones and celebrating the 85th anniversary of the CCLA and in honour of the first World Champion, CJS Purdy (AUS).

The Congress Timetable is:

Saturday	October 11	Arrival Executive Board and Committee Members
Sunday	October 12	Arrival Delegates. 6p.m. Welcome Drinks
Monday	October 13	Congress Day 1. 7 p.m. Opening Banquet
Tuesday	October 14	Congress Day 2. 7 p.m. Blitz Tournament
Wednesday	October 15	Congress Day 3. 7 p.m. Chess Match
Thursday	October 16	Excursion to Sydney Opera House and Harbour Bridge
Friday	October 17	Free Day. 7 p.m. ICCF Closing Banquet
Saturday	October 18	Departure

Accommodations and Congress meeting will take place at the Parkroyal Hotel, 30 Phillip Street, Parramatta NSW 2150, Australia

Excursions are planned throughout the week.

The following Members Federations has expressed interest only in the future Congresses; however, it should be noted that only official Proposals to host a Congress provided to the General Secretary and President prior to the 2014 Congress will be considered and voted upon.

2014 – Bulgaria

2015 – (Europe – EB Voting Year)

2016 – Norway

2017 – Italy

Timeline to the 2014 Congress in Sydney

Given that the ICCF 2014 Congress (Sydney) will start on October 10, 2014, here are the deadlines agreed to by Congress:

June 1, 2014 – All Proposals to be considered for the 2014 Congress must be submitted to the appropriate committee/commission for deliberation. Any proposal submitted after this date may not be considered for voting.

September 1, 2014 - Official reports due to GS

September 1, 2014 - Delegate and substitute delegate declarations due

September 1, 2014 - All Proposals will be locked and a Proposal cover sheet provided to all delegates to offer time for questions, clarifications, and discussion with players and/or proxies.

September 15, 2014 - Proxy selections due. No proxy changes will be accepted after this date.

September 15, 2014 - Deadline for medal/certificates responsible official to be identified. Any Federations not represented by a delegate, substitute delegate, proxy holder, or Zonal Director will be notified that the medals/certificates for their players will not be shipped to Congress and they may retrieve them at the next year's Congress.

October 10, 2014 - ICCF 2013 Congress starts

International Correspondence Chess Federation

Commissions and Committees

All ICCF Committees and Commissions Members were reviewed. The present membership along with any changes from 2013 Congress is identified below. Deletions are identified by a ~~strikeout~~ and additions by **yellow** highlight.

Playing Rules Commission

Per Söderberg (SWE), (Chair), Leo Lahdenmäki (FIN), Nikolay Poleshchuk (RUS), Ragnar Wikman (FIN), Ralph Marconi (CAN), Duncan Chambers (ENG), ~~George Pyrich (SCO)~~, Kenneth Reinhart (USA), Kristo Miettinen (USA), Dr. Uwe Staroske (GER), **Wim H. van Vugt (NED)**

Tournament Rules Commission

Duncan Chambers (ENG) (Chair), Gerhard Binder (GER), Sergey Grodzensky (RUS), Leonardo Madonia (ITA), Ralph Marconi (CAN), ~~George Pyrich (SCO)~~, Gian-Maria Tani (ITA), ~~Leo Lahdenmäki (FIN)~~, Per Söderberg (SWE), Marco Caressa (ITA), ~~Andrew Dearnley (ENG)~~, **Gianni Mastrojeni (ITA)**, **Markus Hömske (FRA)**

Rating Rules Commission

Gerhard Binder (GER), (Chair), George Pyrich (SCO), Jo Wharrier (ENG), Ragnar Wikman (FIN), Valery Myakutin (RUS), Mariusz Wojnar (POL)

Note: The ICCF President and the General Secretary are ex-officio Members of the above Commissions

Marketing Committee

Andrew Dearnley (ENG) (Chair)

Arbiters Committee (ACO)

Dmitry Lybin (BLR) (Chair), ~~Alan P. Borwell (SCO)~~, George Pyrich (SCO), Frank Geider (FRA), Per Söderberg (SWE), Neil Limbert (ENG), Marco Caressa (ITA), ~~Andrew Dearnley (ENG)~~, **Markus Hömske (FRA)**

Historical Research Committee (HRC)

~~Iván Bottlik (HUN), (Chair), Tim Harding (IRL), Eric Ruch (FRA), Sergey Grodzensky (RUS), Ken MacDonald (CAN)~~ **Committee Disbanded**

Services Committee (SC)

- Chair: Austin Lockwood (WLS) (ICCF Services Director)
- **Ex officio:** Jason Bokar (USA) (Deputy Services Director), Eric Ruch (FRA) (ICCF President), Michael Millstone (USA) (ICCF General Secretary). Other ICCF officers to be co-opted on an ad-hoc basis for consultation where appropriate.
- **Commissioners:** Gerhard Binder (GER) (Ratings Commissioner), ~~Neil Limbert (ENG)~~, **Mariusz Wojnar (POL) (Qualifications Commissioner)**, Gino Figlio (PER) (Webmaster).
- **Testing Team:** Michal Volf (CZE) (team lead), Austin Lockwood (WLS), Mariusz Wojnar (POL). All ICCF officials are expected to contribute to testing updates, which fall under their specific area of responsibility.

- **Translation Team:** Austin Lockwood (WLS) (team lead), Eric Ruch (FRA), Gino Figlio (PER), Mariusz Wojnar (POL) (core team only listed here; other translators may be co-opted for specific tasks and languages).
- **Content and Documentation Team:** Andrew Dearnley (ENG) (Marketing Director, team lead), Gino Figlio (PER) (Webmaster), Eric Ruch (FRA), Austin Lockwood (WLS), Arjen Oudheusden (NED).
- **Accessibility Team:** Austin Lockwood (WLS) (team lead), Peter Maylott (AUS).
- **Helpdesk Team:** Jason Bokar (USA) (Helpdesk manager/team lead), Ian M. Pheby (ENG).

Appeals Committee (Playing Rules)

Ragnar Wikman (FIN) (Chair), Leo Lahdenmäki (FIN) (Secretary), José Amorim Neto (BRA), Ian Brooks (ENG), Marco Caressa (ITA), Carlos Flores Gutiérrez (ESP), Cecilio Hernáez Fernández (ESP), Ralph Marconi (CAN), Wes Underwood (USA)

Appeals Committee (Other ICCF Rules)

~~Alan Rawlings (ENG)~~ **Leonard (Corky) Schakel (USA), (Chair)**, Artis Gaujens (LAT), Pablo Salcedo Mederos (CUB), Alok Saxena (IND), ~~Corky Schakel (USA)~~

Arbitration Committee

Richard V.M. Hall (ENG) (Chair), Alan P. Borwell (SCO), Ragnar Wikman (FIN), Georg Walker (SUI), Fritz Baumbach (GER)

Disciplinary Committee

Frank Geider (FRA) (Chair), Marco Caressa (ITA), Juan Alberto Martello (ARG), Andrey Nikolaevich Pavlikov (RUS), Leonard (Corky) Schakel (USA), ~~Ian E. Smuts (RSA)~~, **Dinand Knol (RSA)**

Internal Bylaws Working Group

Eric Ruch (FRA) (Chair), ~~Jean-Christophe Chazalotte (FRA) (Vice Chair)~~, **Committee Disbanded**

World Championship Working Group

(as discussed in the Tournament Rules Commission)

~~Gerhard Binder (GER) – Chair~~

~~Dr. Uwe Stroske (GER)~~

~~Willem Oudheusden (NED)~~

~~Josef Mirkvička (CZE)~~

~~Eric Ruch (FRA)~~ **Committee Disbanded**

Chess 960 Ratings Working Group

(work to be done in the Ratings Commission)

Gerhard Binder (GER) – Chair

Mariusz Wojnar (POL)

Austin Lockwood (WLS) (Technical questions only)

Martin Bennedik (Technical questions only)

Appendixes

International Correspondence Chess Federation

Appendix A: Summary of Postal Entries

	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012
	Annual Totals				
World Ch.Final			1		
World Ch. Cand.					
World Ch. SF.			13		
World Ch. Prelim.					
World - Master	35	57	45	29	30
World - Higher	28	28	13	18	20
World - Open	42	58	36	36	48
Olympiads				24	
World Cup				99	
Thematics	58	46	50	43	30
MN Events	13	13	14		
	176	202	172	249	128

International Correspondence Chess Federation

Appendix B: Summary of Server Entries

	2009			2010			2011			2012		
	NF	DE	Total	NF	DE	Total	NF	DE	Total	NF	DE	Total
World Ch. Final	17	0	17	33	0	33	28	0	28			0
World Ch. Cand.	49	3	52	119	4	123	78	0	78	48	0	48
World Ch. SF.	90	1	91	154	2	156	201	5	206	136	7	143
World Ch. Prelim.	135	8	143	149	7	156	201	10	211	199	26	225
World - Master	576	63	639	504	80	584	514	132	646	435	149	584
World - Higher	227	157	384	228	96	324	240	110	350	242	129	371
World - Open	272	282	554	275	303	578	275	327	602	309	329	638
Olympiads										46		46
World Cup	608	94	702	0	0	0	621	227	848			0
Thematics	106	15	121	131	51	182	139	40	179	109	70	179
Master Norm	149	20	169	136	19	155	150	34	184	123	60	183
GM Norm	57	8	65	51	8	59	65	25	90	34	18	52
Ch. League		195	195							179	46	225
Vets. WC	244	29	273	319	44	363	347	56	403	378	90	468
Junior WC	26	7	33	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
WS Open	0	0	0	448	129	577	0	0	0	423	215	638
DE5A							0	360	360			0
Chess 960							80	23	103	6	14	20
	2,556	882	3,438	2,547	743	3,290	2,939	1,349	4,288	2,667	1,153	3,820

Appendix C: Comparison 2009/2010 against 2011/2012

<u>Entries</u>	2009			2010			2011			2012		
	NF	DE	Total	NF	DE	Total	NF	DE	Total	NF	DE	Total
World Ch. Final	17	0	17	33	0	33	28	0	28	0	0	0
World Ch. Cand.	49	3	52	119	4	123	78	0	78	48	0	48
World Ch. SF.	90	1	91	154	2	156	201	5	206	136	7	143
World Ch. Prelim.	135	8	143	149	7	156	201	10	211	199	26	225
World - Master	576	63	639	504	80	584	514	132	646	435	149	584
World - Higher	227	157	384	228	96	324	240	110	350	242	129	371
World - Open	272	282	554	275	303	578	275	327	602	309	329	638
Olympiads	45	0	45							46	0	46
World Cup	608	94	702	0	0	0	621	227	848	0	0	0
Thematics	106	15	121	131	51	182	139	40	179	109	70	179
Master Norm	149	20	169	136	19	155	150	34	184	125	60	183
GM Norm	57	8	65	51	8	59	65	25	90	34	18	52
Ch. League					195	195				46	179	225
Vets. WC	244	29	273	319	44	363	347	56	403	378	90	468
Junior WC	26	7	33	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
WS Open	0	0	0	448	129	577	0	0	0	423	215	638
DE5A							0	360	360			0
Chess 960							80	23	103	6	14	20
	2,601	687	3,288	2,547	938	3,485	2,939	1,349	4,288	2,534	1,286	3,820

Variance

6%

23%

11%

2 Year

Ave.

3,387

4,054

Variance

20%

Fees

2009

2010

2011

2012

World Ch.

0 €

0 €

0 €

0 €

Final				
World Ch. Cand.	613 €	1,348 €	735 €	465 €
World Ch. SF.	2,871 €	5,901 €	4,216 €	3,889 €
World Ch. Prelim.	5,077 €	5,708 €	6,482 €	7,362 €
World - Master	6,398 €	6,592 €	6,738 €	6,171 €
World - Higher	6,812 €	7,142 €	5,982 €	6,699 €
World - Open				
Olympiads	5,289 €	0 €	0 €	4,692 €
World Cup	10,118 €	0 €	12,673 €	0 €
Thematics	1,631 €	2,381 €	2,616 €	2,058 €
Master Norm	5,113 €	5,503 €	5,164 €	4,944 €
GM Norm	2,606 €	2,781 €	2,824 €	1,371 €
Ch. League	10,865 €	0 €	0 €	10,035 €
Vets. WC	3,838 €	5,694 €	5,140 €	6,069 €
Junior WC	350 €	0 €	18 €	14 €
WS Open	0 €	4,430 €	0 €	4,701 €
DE5A			3,485 €	0 €
Chess 960			975 €	262 €
	61,581 €	47,480 €	57,048 €	58,732 €
DE Rebates	-6,385 €	-3,601 €	-4,929 €	-8,383 €
	55,196 €	43,879 €	52,119 €	50,349 €

Variance**-26%****19%****-4%****2 Year Ave.****49,538 €****51,234 €****Variance****3%**

Appendix D: Proposed Amendments to ICCF Fees Effective 1 January 2014

Event Type	<u>2013 Current</u>		<u>2014 Proposed</u>		<u>% Change</u>	<u>2013 Rebate to NF's</u>	<u>2014 Rebate to NF's</u>
	<u>Fee</u>	<u>DE</u>	<u>Fee</u>	<u>DE</u>			
Olympiad Team Preliminaries (per player)	17.00	25.50	15.00	22.50	12%	12.75	11.25
Champions League (per team and cycle) (DE only)	40.00	60.00	30.00	45.00	25%	30.00	22.50
World Individual Candidates (as first stage entry)	20.00	30.00	15.00	22.50	25%	15.00	11.25
World Individual Semifinals and Preliminaries	30.00	45.00	25.00	37.50	17%	22.50	18.75
World Individual Ladies Semi-final	15.00	22.50	12.00	18.00	20%	11.25	9.00
World Individual Tourneys 7-player	5.00	7.50	4.00	6.00	20%	3.75	3.00
World Individual Tourneys 11-player	9.00	13.50	7.00	10.50	22%	6.75	5.25
World Cup	12.00	18.00	10.00	15.00	17%	9.00	7.50
Thematic Tourneys	9.00	13.50	7.00	10.50	22%	6.75	5.25
Master Norm Tourneys	25.00	37.50	20.00	30.00	20%	18.75	15.00
Grand Master Norm Tourneys	30.00	45.00	25.00	37.50	17%	22.50	18.75
Veterans Cup	12.00	18.00	10.00	15.00	17%	9.00	7.50
Webserver Open	7.00	10.50	5.00	7.50	29%	5.25	3.75
Invitation Tourneys Category I-III (per game)	1.50		1.25		17%		
Invitation Tourneys Category IV-VI (per game)	3.00		2.50		17%		
Invitation Tourneys Category VII-XIII (per game)	3.50		3.00		14%		
Invitation Tourneys Category XIV+ (per game)	4.00		3.50		13%		
Invitation Team Tourneys (per player)	2.50		2.00		20%		
International Open Tourneys (per entry)	2.50		5.00		-100%		
Zonal Events (per game)	0.60		0.50		17%		
National Federation events (per game)	0.60		0.50		17%		

Appendix E: Revised Template – ICCF Statement of Account



The International Correspondence Chess Federation

Statement of Account 2013

Country:		Date:	
-----------------	--	--------------	--

Date	Description	Entries	Fee	Amount	Balance
31/12/2012	Balance forward				0.00
	Payments made during 2013			0.00	0.00
1. Membership Fees					
31/12/2013	Annual membership (per 100) - 2014	0	37.50	0.00	0.00
	National Federation Entries:				
30/11/2013	World individual 7 player	0	5.00	0.00	0.00
30/11/2013	World individual 11 player	0	7.00	0.00	0.00
30/11/2013	World individual preliminary	0	25.00	0.00	0.00
30/11/2013	World individual semi-final	0	25.00	0.00	0.00
30/11/2013	World individual candidates	0	15.00	0.00	0.00
30/11/2013	World individual final	0	0.00		0.00
30/11/2013	Ladies World individual final	0	0.00		0.00
30/11/2013	Ladies World individual semi-final	0	12.00	0.00	0.00
30/11/2013	ICCF Champions League	0	30.00	0.00	0.00
30/11/2013	Olympiad Preliminary	0	102.00	0.00	0.00
30/11/2013	Grand Master Norm	0	25.00	0.00	0.00
30/11/2013	Master Norm	0	20.00	0.00	0.00
30/11/2013	Thematic	0	7.00	0.00	0.00
30/11/2013	ICCF Webserver Open	0	5.00	0.00	0.00
30/11/2013	ICCF World Cup	0	10.00	0.00	0.00
30/11/2013	ICCF Veterans World Cup	0	10.00	0.00	0.00
30/11/2013	Chess 960	0	7.00	0.00	0.00
	Tournaments:				
31/12/2013	Invitation Tmts. Cat.I-III (per game)	0	1.50	0.00	0.00
31/12/2013	Invitation Tmts. Cat.IV-VI (per game)	0	2.50	0.00	0.00
31/12/2013	Invitation Tmts. Cat.VII-XIII (per game)	0	3.00	0.00	0.00
31/12/2013	Invitation Tmts. Cat.XIV+ (per game)	0	3.50	0.00	0.00
31/12/2013	Invitation Team Tmts. (per player)	0	2.00	0.00	0.00
31/12/2013	International Open Tmts. (per entry)	0	5.00	0.00	0.00
31/12/2013	National Server Games	0	0.50	0.00	0.00
31/12/2013	Discount on National Server Games	105	-0.50	-52.50	-52.50
31/12/2013	Other items:			0.00	-52.50
	Sub-Total MEMBERSHIP FEES				-52.50
2. Income Non-Members (per Federation)					

	Entry Fees paid by Direct Entries:				
30/11/2013	World individual 7 player	0	7.50	0.00	0.00
30/11/2013	World individual 11 player	0	10.50	0.00	0.00
30/11/2013	World individual preliminary	0	37.50	0.00	0.00
30/11/2013	World individual semi-final	0	37.50	0.00	0.00
30/11/2013	World individual candidates	0	22.50	0.00	0.00
30/11/2013	World individual final	0	0.00	0.00	0.00
30/11/2013	Ladies World individual semi-final	0	18.00	0.00	0.00
30/11/2013	Grand Master Norm	0	37.50	0.00	0.00
30/11/2013	Master Norm	0	30.00	0.00	0.00
30/11/2013	Thematic	0	10.50	0.00	0.00
30/11/2013	ICCF Webserver Open	0	7.50	0.00	0.00
30/11/2013	ICCF World Cup	0	15.00	0.00	0.00
30/11/2013	ICCF Veterans World Cup	0	15.00	0.00	0.00
30/11/2013	ICCF Champions League	0	30.00	0.00	0.00
30/11/2013	Chess 960	0	10.50	0.00	0.00
Sub-Total - Direct Entry Fees					0.00
	Rebates for Direct Entries:				
30/11/2013	World individual 7 player	0	-3.75	0.00	0.00
30/11/2013	World individual 11 player	0	-5.25	0.00	0.00
30/11/2013	World individual preliminary	0	-18.75	0.00	0.00
30/11/2013	World individual semi-final	0	-18.75	0.00	0.00
30/11/2013	World individual candidates	0	-11.25	0.00	0.00
30/11/2013	World individual final	0	0.00	0.00	0.00
30/11/2013	Ladies World individual semi-final	0	-9.00	0.00	0.00
30/11/2013	Grand Master Norm	0	-18.75	0.00	0.00
30/11/2013	Master Norm	0	-15.00	0.00	0.00
30/11/2013	Thematic	0	-5.25	0.00	0.00
30/11/2013	ICCF Webserver Open	0	-3.75	0.00	0.00
30/11/2013	ICCF World Cup	0	-7.50	0.00	0.00
30/11/2013	ICCF Veterans World Cup	0	-7.50	0.00	0.00
30/11/2013	ICCF Champions League	0	-22.50	0.00	0.00
30/11/2013	Chess 960	0	-5.25	0.00	0.00
Sub-Total - Direct Entry Rebates					0.00
<u>Sub-Total - DIRECT ENTRIES</u>					0.00
31/12/2013 TOTAL FEES 2013					0.00
31/12/2012 Add: Amount due from 2012					0.00
Amount now payable (EUR):				€ 0.00	

Appendix F: Revised Financial Regulations

ICCF Financial Regulations (effective from 1.1.2014)

1. Introduction

1.1 The International Correspondence Chess Federation (ICCF) is a non-profit federation which organises a purely recreational sports activity.

1.2 The financial year of ICCF commences on 1st January and ends on 31st December of each year.

1.3 The financial affairs of ICCF are managed by the Finance Director, elected by the ICCF Congress, who shall maintain the accounts and financial records of ICCF.

1.4 The financial affairs and transactions of ICCF are handled on the basis of the Euro monetary system. All ICCF bank accounts and investment accounts must at all times be held in the name of the ICCF.

1.5. The financial management must be conducted on the basis of a financial plan set up by the Finance Director and approved by the ICCF Congress.

1.6 The Finance Director shall submit annually to the ICCF Executive Board and the ICCF Congress the Balance Sheet and Income and Expenditure Accounts, accompanied by any necessary documentation as required together with the Audit Report prepared by an Auditor, elected by the ICCF Congress, who should be a registered Accountant.

1.7 After examination and approval of the documentation listed within 1.6, the ICCF Congress will discharge the Finance Director of his obligations for the financial year in question.

1.8 All expenses of ICCF should be paid by bank cheques or bank transfer.

1.9 The Finance Director shall make available to the Auditor any documents requested in relation to ICCF's financial management together with any explanation that may be required.

2. Costs

2.1 Out of pocket expenses incurred by members of the ICCF Executive Board during the discharge of their duties and necessary to their functions and also by other ICCF officials appointed to conduct ICCF's activities may be reimbursed by the Finance Director subject to the submission of a suitable Claim for Expenses supported by appropriate documentation.

2.2 Allowances may be paid to members of the ICCF Executive Board and to other ICCF officials deemed appropriate by the ICCF Congress in order to assist attendance at the ICCF Congress and at Meetings of the ICCF Executive Board. Details of the allowances payable to members of the ICCF Executive Board and other ICCF deemed appropriate are contained within Appendix A.

3. Revenues

3.1 The revenues of ICCF accrue from:

- a. Membership fees paid by national member federations based on the number of players belonging to the national member federation
- b. Membership fees paid by national member federations for participation in ICCF competitions and also fees paid by individuals who may or may not be registered members of a member federation for participation in ICCF competitions by means of the ICCF Direct Entry System.
- c. Other contributions.

4. Membership Fees

4.1 In order that ICCF may recover its running costs, National Member Federations are required to pay an annual membership fee, as detailed in Appendix B.

4.2 In order that ICCF may recover its running costs and also the costs of its Rating System and its Chess Server, the participation fees in respect of the numerous competitions are as listed in Appendix C.

4.3 Payment of these fees and contributions will be requested annually from national member federations by the Finance Director not later than the end of February each year in respect of all events commenced during the previous year. National member federations are required to arrange payment in full to ICCF of any membership and other fees not later than 2 months after notification by the Finance Director. Failure by

national member federations to provide such payment timeously may result in the imposition of a surcharge of 2% of the amount due each calendar month. Prolonged failure by national member federations to meet such financial obligations to ICCF may result in exclusion from ICCF's activities and ultimately suspension from membership of ICCF.

4.4 Individual players may at any time submit requests directly to participate in ICCF individual tournaments held on the ICCF server (Direct Entries) but shall be required to contribute a fee 50% more than that listed in the schedule of events. The Finance Director will be required to credit the individual player's national member federation (if any) 50% of the total amount received by ICCF in respect of such entries. Details of these Direct Entry fees and credits are contained within Appendix D.

4.5 No payments will be required to ICCF from national member federations in respect of the presentation of titles and other awards to individuals and national member federations.

5. ICCF Congresses

5.1 The respective financial responsibilities of ICCF and organising host member federations are detailed within Appendix M of the Minute of the ICCF Congress, Järvenpää, Finland, 2011. Details of payments by ICCF to organising host member federations are contained within Appendix E.

International Correspondence Chess Federation

Appendix G: Revised Congress Allowances Regulations

(Approved by ICCF Congress, Järvenpää, Finland, 2011)

5 Euro cents per kilometre travelled reimbursed to recipients travelling within their own continent and 6 Euro cents per kilometre reimbursed to recipients travelling out with their own continent.

In addition, accommodation costs at the standard daily bed and breakfast rate at the hotel meeting venue of the ICCF Congress (or meeting place of the ICCF Executive Board) may be reimbursed for a maximum of 7 days to members of the ICCF Executive Board and to other ICCF officials deemed appropriate by the ICCF Congress. Reimbursement of accommodation costs may be extended to a maximum of 9 days in respect of the President and the General Secretary in order to facilitate any preparation in respect of the Congress.

Those members of the ICCF Executive Board and other designated Officials eligible to receive payments of Congress Allowances are: President, General Secretary, Finance Director, World Tournament Director, Services Director, Zonal Directors (4), Ratings Commissioner, Rules Commissioner, Qualifications Commissioner, Direct Entry Commissioner, Webmaster, Title Tournaments Commissioner & Non-Title Tournaments Commissioner.

International Correspondence Chess Federation

Appendix H: Revised Membership Fees Regulation

(Approved by ICCF Congress, Antalya, Turkey, 2010)

National Member Federations are required to pay 40 Euros annually for every 100 registered members of that Federation. New National Member Federations shall be required to pay only 15 Euros for every 100 registered members of that Federation for the first three years of ICCF membership.

Amend to:

*National Member Federations are required to pay **37.50 Euros** annually for every 100 registered members of that Federation. New National Member Federations shall be required to pay only 15 Euros for every 100 registered members of that Federation for the first three years of ICCF membership.*

Proposal

*Federations applying for membership of ICCF as returning members should be considered as being 'new' if they meet **two** or more of the following criteria:*

Proposal

- *The country has not been a member in ICCF for at least 5 years,*
- *The officers of the new federation do not include any of the previous officers,*
- *The federation has a new (not a revised) constitution in place.*

*Federations returning to ICCF membership under these definitions cannot be held responsible **for any debts** incurred to ICCF by the previous federation, which represented the same country and also should be permitted to benefit from the discounted ICCF membership rates applicable to new federations.*

All federations applying for ICCF membership will be required to specify whether they wish to be considered as being either a new or returning federation on the ICCF Membership Application Form providing evidence for either as appropriate.

Appendix I: New ICCF Tournament Fee Structure

(Approved by ICCF Congress, Antalya, Turkey, 2010)

World Team Championship (Olympiad): 17 Euros for each team member

Champions League team event: 40 **30** Euros for each team

World Championship Candidates (as 1st stage of entry): 20 **15** Euros per section

World Championship Preliminaries & Semi-finals: 30 **25** Euros per section

Ladies World Championship Semi-finals: 15 **12** Euros per section

World Individual events (7 player sections): 5 Euros per section

World Individual events (11 player sections): 9 **7** Euros per section

World Cup events (including Veterans, Junior & Chess960 events): 12 **10** Euros per section

Thematic Opening events: 9 **7** Euros per section

Master Norm events: 25 **20** Euros per section

Grand Master Norm events: 30 **25** Euros per section

Webserver Open events: 7 **5** Euros per section

Invitation Tournaments (Categories I-III): 1.50 Euros per game

Invitation Tournaments (Categories IV-VI): 3.00 **2.50** Euros per game

Invitation Tournaments (Categories VII-XIII): 3.50 **3.00** Euros per game

Invitation Tournaments (Categories XIV +): 4.00 **3.50** Euros per game

Invitation Team events: 2.50 **2.00** Euros per player

International Open events: 2.50 **5.00** Euros per player

In addition to the events listed, organisers of other Zonal and national member federation events are required to contribute 0.60 **0.50** Euros per game towards the costs of the ICCF Rating System although national member federations may have up to 105 games each year free of charge.

Appendix J: Contributions from ICCF to Congress Organisers

(Approved by ICCF Congress, Järvenpää, Finland, 2011)

ICCF will contribute 5,000 Euros to national member federations who host its annual Congress regardless of whether the Congress is considered a “full scope Congress” or a “reduced scope Congress”.

Amend to:

Subject to the submission of satisfactory documentation, ICCF will contribute up to 5,000 Euros to national member federations who host its annual Congress regardless of whether the Congress is considered a “full scope Congress” or a “reduced scope Congress”.

International Correspondence Chess Federation

Appendix K: Direct Entries Details

	2006*	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013**
DE Applications	393	728	821	1038	1070	1368	1260	474
Average Applications per day	1.46	1.99	2.25	2.84	2.93	3.75	3.44	3.95

World Championships								
WCCC - Preliminaries	3	6	23	10	3	10	33	17
WCCC - Semifinals	1	2	5	2	1	5	7	7
WCCC - Candidates	1	6	10	6	1	0	0	0
LWCCC - Semifinals						1	0	0
World Cups								
World Cups	47	NR	NR	95	NR	224	1	21
Veterans World Cups	NR	NR	NR	28	47	56	85	2
Junior World Cup	NR	NR	6	NR	NR	1	1	0
European Championships								
EIC - Semifinals	NR	NR	NR	NR	NR	NR	5	0
Norm Tournaments								
Grandmaster Norm	3	6	8	9	19	30	13	9
Master Norm	8	16	22	18	25	39	53	25
Champions League								
Champions League	NR	103	NR	166	NR	0	47	0
Promotion Tournaments								
Open Class	174	324	313	292	338	302	395	198
Higher Class	39	56	88	153	93	116	158	85
Master Class	45	66	63	63	89	137	173	88
Thematics								
Thematics	11	30	14	22	47	73	59	20
Jubilee Tournaments								
NR	NR	NR	NR	NR	NR	23	0	0
Direct Entry Events								
DE5A	NR	NR	NR	NR	139	350	0	0
Money Prize Tournaments								
Money Prize Tournaments	NR	113	169	131	102	NR	NR	NR
Fast Money Prize	NR	NR	NR	25	34	NR	NR	NR
Rapid Tournaments								
Rapid Tournaments	NR	NR	4	10	NR	NR	NR	NR
Blitz Tournaments								
Blitz Tournaments	NR	NR	7	8	NR	NR	NR	NR
Open Tournaments								
Webchess Open	61	NR	89	NR	132	0	216	0
Chess 960	NR	NR	NR	NR	NR	1	14	2

* From 05/04/2006 to 31/12/2006

** From 01/01/2013 to 30/04/2013

Appendix L: DE5A Preliminary Group Winners Still to use their Free Entries

NAME	ICCF NUMBER	COUNTRY	EVENT WON
Westera, Bert	371050	NED	DE5A/pr03
Kain, Anthony	514323	USA	DE5A/pr05
Schroeder, Marc J. P. G.	370376	NED	DE5A/pr07
Nalbantoglu, Murat	490440	TUR	DE5A/pr08
Gerhards, Guntis	910130	LAT	DE5A/pr08
Sawicki, Wieslaw	421473	POL	DE5A/pr09
Smerdon, Andrew	211324	ENG	DE5A/pr10
Ferreira, João Manuel Guerreiro	390128	POR	DE5A/pr11
Veček, Marjan	480040	SLO	DE5A/pr12
Merot, Jean-Pierre	181030	FRA	DE5A/pr12
Willow, Dr. Max	30455	AUS	DE5A/pr13
Laffranchise, Lionel	189135	FRA	DE5A/pr14
Pessoa, Francisco Azevedo	390491	POR	DE5A/pr14
Zemlyanov, Sergey Mikhailovich	141802	RUS	DE5A/pr15
Raijmaekers, René C. H.	370177	NED	DE5A/pr20
Nizky, Roman Yakovlevich	141698	RUS	DE5A/pr22
Bürger, Arsène	570056	LUX	DE5A/pr23
Zemlyanov, Sergey Mikhailovich	141802	RUS	DE5A/pr24
Zemlyanov, Sergey Mikhailovich	141802	RUS	DE5A/pr25
Zemlyanov, Sergey Mikhailovich	141802	RUS	DE5A/pr26
Kažoks, Aivars	910052	LAT	DE5A/pr27
Smythe, Antonio	90648	CAN	DE5A/pr27
Eldridge, Mark	211299	ENG	DE5A/pr28
Scherbakov, Yury Aleksandrovich	142079	RUS	DE5A/pr29
Goebel, Kenneth	514116	USA	DE5A/pr30
Proskuryakov, Mikhail Petrovich	141842	RUS	DE5A/pr31
Trofimov, Vladimir Markovich	141185	RUS	DE5A/pr32
Pessoa, Francisco Azevedo	390491	POR	DE5A/pr35
Chamaev, Aleksandr Viktorovich	141997	RUS	DE5A/pr39
Broudin, Melissa	181193	FRA	DE5A/pr41
De la Peña Balbuena, Isaías	161062	ESP	DE5A/pr43
Groot, Peter J. A.	370584	NED	DE5A/pr44
Ottesen, Søren Rud	159028	DEN	DE5A/pr44
Savchur, Fedir	940018	UKR	DE5A/pr45
Williams, Thomas	514277	USA	DE5A/pr47
Johnston, Allan	780012	HKG	DE5A/pr48
Eldridge, Mark	211299	ENG	DE5A/pr48
Andriuschenko, Nikolay	940642	UKR	DE5A/pr49
Mišlin, Roger	100433	SUI	DE5A/pr50
Larsen, Søren M.	150643	DEN	DE5A/pr51
Tanis, C. Kees	370639	NED	DE5A/pr53
Petrov, Ivan Valerievich	142087	RUS	DE5A/pr54
Kaloumenos, Michalis	220178	GRE	DE5A/pr56

NAME	ICCF NUMBER	COUNTRY	EVENT WON
Nigiel, Piotr	421485	POL	DE5A/pr56
Raijmaekers, Cees H. W.	370273	NED	DE5A/pr57
Balutescu, Mihail Goanga	30513	AUS	DE5A/pr59

Eilmes, Don P.	510463	USA	DE5A/pr60
Khokhlov, Igor	940343	UKR	DE5A/pr61
Brewer, Shaun	211765	ENG	DE5A/pr62
Gorokhovsky, Boris	940325	UKR	DE5A/pr64
Kumar, Pavan Tumuluri	280138	IND	DE5A/pr65
Degtyarev, Anatoly Aleksandrovich	142063	RUS	DE5A/pr66
Sadler, Craig	90585	CAN	DE5A/pr67
Kažoks, Aivars	910052	LAT	DE5A/pr68
Horvat, Milan	540225	SLO	DE5A/pr69

International Correspondence Chess Federation

Appendix M: Grandmaster Norms by Player

As of 4/06/2013

No .	ICCFN R	Name (FED - GM year)	Tournament
13	80754	Soltau, Achim (GER 1993)	Africa Asia Challenger - Group A
			Chessfriends Rochade 5171 - 15 Years Bd.1
			FAX-Tournament 1994, group A
			Hermann Heemsoth Memorial
			Mostert Memorial, Team Match
			NBC 25 Years
			Pappier Memorial CAPA (A)
			World Championship 16 Final
			World Championship 17 3/4-Final 1
			World Championship 18 Final
			World Championship 20 3/4-Final 3 email
			World Championship 20 Final
			World Championship 21 3/4-Final 1 email
13	110025	Toro Solís de Ovando, Guillermo F. (CHI 1999)	30 Years A.P.A. Magazine Tournament "A"
			30. Aniversario del CXEB - Grupo A
			Africa Asia Challenger - Group A
			Amici sumus Tournament CAPA/LADAC (A)
			Bartolomé Marcussi Memorial Tournament
			CADAP Championship 12 Final
			CADAP Championship 17 Final
			CADAP Championship 18 Final
			Carlos Ros Miró Memorial - World
			Chessfriends Rochade 5171 - 15 Years Bd.1
			Jerzy Krzyszton Memorial
			Simon Webb Memorial
			Torneo XXX Aniversario LIPEAP group A
12	279003	Dothan, Yoav (ISR 2004)	10 Years Russian CCA, group B
			Altshuler Memorial
			European TC VI, Final Bd.2
			European TC VI, semifinal 3 Bd.2
			European TC VII, semifinal 1 Bd.1
			Fin-Jub 40 post
			Jänisch Memorial
			Luciano Cámara Memorial A
			8th European Team Championship, SF3, Bd 1
			Ragozin Memorial
			AEAC 5 Years - Alhambra

			Murakhvery Memorial
12	370241	Oosterom, Joop J. van (NED 1993)	11. Olympiad Final Bd.2
			15. Olympiad Final Bd.1
			15. Olympiad section 1 Bd.2
			ICCF 50 years - Jubilee Elite GM-Tourn.
			Korning Memorial
			Millennium Email Chess Tournament
			Mostert Memorial, Team Match
			NBC 25 Years
			NSPF 50 years
			World Championship 15 Final
			World Championship 18 Final
			World Championship 21 Final
11	360368	Boger, Raymond (NOR 2003)	15. Olympiad section 2 Bd.3
			Alfonsino Lannaioli Memorial
			Cecil Purdy Jubilee - Section A
			EU/FSM/65-07
			European TC VI, semifinal 1 Bd.5
			Interzonal Team Tournament 2002 Bd.6
			Martin Christoffel Memorial section Blue
			NPSF 60 Years GM Jubilee Tournament
			Simon Webb Memorial
			Hermann Heemsoth Memorial
11	20034	Morgado, Juan Sebastián (ARG 1983)	ICCF Olympiad 17 Final board 1
			1. Email-Olympiad section 1 Bd.3
			13. Olympiad section 2 Bd.1
			Alfredo Lewkowitz Memorial - Group B
			Bartis Memorial 2 A
			CAPA 10 Years Jubilee
			Chigorin Memorial
			CNEC 15 Years
			Estrin Memorial
			Hans-Werner-von-Massow Gedenkturnier
			World Championship 10 Final
11	80716	Nimtz, Dr. Manfred (GER 1998)	World Championship 14 Final
			12. Olympiad Final Bd.2
			Alfonsino Lannaioli Memorial
			European TC IV, Final Bd.1
			European TC VI, Final Bd.1
			John C. Cleeve Memorial
			Szachy Chess Cup
			World Championship 18 Final

			World Championship 19 3/4-Final 5
			World Championship 20 3/4-Final 6 email
			World Championship 21 Final
			European TC VII, Final Board 1
11	84813	Wunderlich, Dr. Hans-Dieter (GER 2006)	17. Olympiad section 2 Bd.1
			Alfonsino Lannaioli Memorial
			European TC VI, Final Bd.4
			Grand Master Norm postal 3
			World Champ. 22 Candidates Tournament 3
			World Championship 24 Semifinal 10
			17 Olympiad Final Bd 5
			World Championship 24 Final
			50 Israeli Championship Jubilee
			Ragozin Memorial
			RCCA Diamond 2010
10	70305	João, Nêvio (BRA 2005)	13. Olympiad Final Bd.2
			Adler Memorial Tournament
			Antonio Roura Memorial A
			CADAP Championship 12 Final
			Chessfriends Rochade 5171 - 15 Years Bd.2
			Linskens Memorial A
			World Champ. 22 Candidates Tournament 3
			World Championship 26 Semifinal 7
			CADAP XX Zonal Final
			Romanian 85 Years - A
10	81204	Moll, Reinhard (GER 2009)	Email Grandmaster Norm Section 017
			World Champ. 30 Candidates Tournament 10
			World Champ. 27 Candidates Tournament 5
			World Cup XI Final
			CS University Craiova -10 Yrs Ann.
			World Cup XII Final
			BdF Gold 2008
			World Cup XIII Final
			10 Yrs Schachschule Pirs in Germany Gruppe A
			World Championship 27 Final
10	81282	Nickel, Arno (GER 2001)	EU/FSM/63-6
			Jänisch Memorial
			Simon Webb Memorial
			TCCMB 5 Years Anniversary A
			World Championship 21 3/4-Final 2 email
			World Championship 21 Final
			Champions League 2007 A Bd.1

			Olympiad 17 Final Board 3
			WCCC30CT03
			Paul Keres 95 Yrs Memorial
10	82194	Rittner, Horst Robert (GER 1961)	3. Olympiad Final
			A.S.I.G.C. 2000, Group A
			Alfredo Lewkowitz Memorial - Group B
			Australia 50
			BdF 25
			Blass Memorial
			Perfors
			Ragosin
			Volmac
			World Championship 6 Final
9	150006	Bang, Erik (DEN 1979)	8. Olympiad Final
			9. Olympiad Final
			Axelson Memorial
			Bertl-von-Massow-Gedenkturnier
			Canada 60
			Hans-Werner-von-Massow Gedenkturnier
			NSPF 50 years
			World Championship 13 Final
			World Championship 16 Final
9	940817	Papenin, Nikolai (UKR 2011)	Olympiad 18 Preliminary S01 Bd2
			Efim Bogolyubov Memorial A
			WS/GMN/019
			Alpert Memorial
			Olympiad 17 Final Board 5
			José Antonio Barrios Memorial - A
			CS UNIVERSITY CRAIOVA -10 yrs Anniversary
			World Championship 30 Candidates 5
			RCCA Diamond 2010
9	140130	Pinkovetsky, Semen Uscherovich (RUS 2003)	15. Olympiad Final Bd.1
			Aleksei Mikhailov Memorial
			EU/FSM/63 Email Final
			EU/FSM/64-6
			Gipslis Memorial
			Interzonal Team Tournament 2004 Bd.1
			World Champ. 22 Candidates Tournament 2
			World Champ. 22 Candidates Tournament 3
			World Championship 27 Final
9	370249	Timmerman, Gert Jan (NED 1986)	40 Jahre BDF
			Fin-Jub 30 GM-1

			Hans-Werner-von-Massow Gedenkturnier
			ICCF 50 years - World Champion Jubilee
			Millennium Email Chess Tournament
			NBC 25 Years
			NSPF 50 years
			Volmac
			World Championship 15 Final
9	81348	Voss, Maximilian (GER 2003)	10 Years Russian CCA, group A
			15. Olympiad section 2 Bd.1
			European TC V, Final Bd.7
			Martin Christoffel Memorial section Red
			World Championship 19 Final
			World Championship 20 3/4-Final 1 email
			Hermann Heemsoth Memorial
			Olympiad 17 Final Board 1
			José Antonio Barrios Memorial - A
8	81532	Baumbach, Dr. Fritz (GER 1973)	10. Olympiad Final Bd.2
			13. Olympiad Final Bd.1
			ICCF 50 years - World Champion Jubilee
			Lenin
			Mostert Memorial, Team Match
			World Championship 11 Final
			World Championship 13 Final
			World Championship 9 Final
8	720001	Blanco Gramajo, César Augusto (GUA 2003)	CADAP Championship 13 Final
			CADAP Championship 14 Final
			CADAP Championship 15 Email Final
			CADAP Championship 16 Email Final
			Najdorf Memorial A
			World Champ. 24 Candidates Tournament 1
			World Champ. 25 Candidates Tournament 2
			Olympiad 18 Prelim Section 3, board 1
8	81177	Elwert, Hans-Marcus (GER 1996)	15. Olympiad Final Bd.1
			Bartis Memorial 2 A
			ICCF 50 years - Jubilee Elite GM-Tourn.
			Korning Memorial
			Millennium Email Chess Tournament
			NSPF 50 years
			World Championship 18 Final
			World Championship 19 3/4-Final 1
8	210178	Webb, Simon (+) (ENG 1983)	11. Olympiad Final Bd.1
			40 Jahre BDF

			BPCF 20
			European TC V, Final Bd.1
			Hans-Werner-von-Massow Gedenkturnier
			Scottish Centenary
			World Championship 14 Final
			Zagorovsky Memorial
7	400062	Acevedo Villalba, Angel (PER 2005)	30. Aniversario del CXEB - Grupo A
			CADAP Championship 13 Final
			Dr. Heinz-Wilhelm Dünhaupt Memorial
			Torneo XXX Aniversario LIPEAP group A
			CADAP Championship 19 Final
			CADAP 40 Years A
			10. Panamerican Team Championship board 1
7	130853	Chytilek, Roman (CZE 2004)	13. Olympiad Final Bd.1
			Carlos Máximo Portela Memorial A
			EU/FSM/63-3
			Frantisek Batík Memorial
			Itzhak Veinger Memorial section A
			Simon Webb Memorial
			Hermann Heemsoth Memorial
7	140915	Dronov, Aleksandr Surenovich (RUS 2005)	13. Olympiad Final Bd.1
			13. Olympiad section 4 Bd.1
			17. Olympiad section 1 Bd.1
			I. Kopylov Memorial
			World Championship 22 Final
			World Champ. 26 Candidates Tournament 4
			Olympiad 17 Final Board 1
7	210773	Hall, Richard V. M. (ENG 2002)	100 Years Danish Chess Federation A
			30 Years A.P.A. Magazine Tournament "A"
			European TC VI, semifinal 2 Bd.1
			Reg Gillman Memorial group A
			World Champ. 22 Candidates Tournament 1
			Hermann Heemsoth Memorial
			World Championship 25 Final
7	160789	Lafarga Santorromán, David (ESP 2008)	17. Olympiad section 4 Bd.1
			AEAC 5 Years - Alhambra
			Dr. Maia Vinagre Memorial (Gold)
			European TC VI, Final Bd.5
			Yury Sakharov Memorial A
			17 Olympiad Final Board 1
			José Antonio Barrios Memorial - A
7	169064	Martín Clemente, Joel (ESP 2008)	World Champ. 26 Candidates Tournament 2

			World Champ. 27 Candidates Tournament 1
			World Championship 28 Semifinal 11
			WS/GMN/001
			WS/GMN/002
			AEAC 5 Years - Alhambra
			World Championship 23 Final
7	451006	Persson, Conny (SWE 2004)	15. Olympiad section 2 Bd.1
			17. Olympiad section 4 Bd.2
			Frank Parr Memorial
			Simon Webb Memorial
			World Championship 21 3/4-Final 5 postal
			World Championship 24 Semifinal 13
			8th European Team Championship, SF2, Bd 1
7	370367	Plomp, Michiel P. (NED 2000)	100 Years Danish Chess Federation A
			30 Years A.P.A. Magazine Tournament "A"
			Bohatirchuk-110 Memorial
			Korning Memorial
			Mostert Memorial, Team Match
			Olympiad 13 Prelim, Section 4, Board 2
			Simon Webb Memorial
7	130787	Tocháček, Ing. Michal (CZE 2004)	1. Email-Olympiad Final Bd.2
			Alfonsino Lannaioli Memorial
			European TC VI, Final Bd.2
			European TC VI, semifinal 2 Bd.1
			Martin Christoffel Memorial section Gold
			World Championship 19 3/4-Final 3
			WS/GMN/016
6	80888	Busemann, Dr. Stephan (GER 1996)	1. Email-Olympiad section 4 Bd.2
			100 Years Danish Chess Federation A
			SSKK-Bulletinen 40 Years
			World Championship 20 3/4-Final 1 email
			World Championship 21 Final
			Hermann Heemsoth Memorial
6	211303	Coleman, Peter L. (ENG 2004)	1. Email-Olympiad section 3 Bd.2
			10 Years Russian CCA, group A
			Champions League 2004 A Group 1 Bd.1
			Frank Parr Memorial
			ICCF 50 years - Organizer Jubilee GM-A
			Simon Webb Memorial
6	360341	Haugen, Arild (NOR 2006)	15. Olympiad section 2 Bd.1
			European TC VI, Final Bd.2
			European TC VI, semifinal 1 Bd.1

			John Jordan Memorial, postal section
			World Championship 25 Semifinal 1
			Olympiad 17 Final Board 2
6	80939	Hertel, Peter (GER 1999)	1. Email-Olympiad Final Bd.1
			BDF-50 Invitation Tournament
			World Championship 20 3/4-Final 2 email
			Olympiad 17 Final
			José Antonio Barrios Memorial - A
			Hermann Heemsoth Memorial
6	370921	Hoeven, David A. van der (NED 2004)	30 Years A.P.A. Magazine Tournament "B"
			European TC VII, semifinal 1 Bd.2
			Itzhak Veinger Memorial section A
			World Champ. 24 Candidates Tournament 2
			World Championship 23 Final
			José Antonio Barrios Memorial - A
6	930148	Kukk, Raul (EST 2006)	15. Olympiad Final Bd.1
			15. Olympiad section 5 Bd.3
			Champions League 2004 A Group 2 Bd.1
			Interzonal Team Tournament 2002 Bd.3
			World Champ. 23 Candidates Tournament 1
			Olympiad 17 Final
6	370930	Langeveld, Ron A. H. (NED 2006)	Alvise Zichichi Memorial
			European TC VII, semifinal 1 Bd.1
			Mostert Memorial, Team Match
			World Champ. 25 Candidates Tournament 1
			Hermann Heemsoth Memorial
			World Championship 26 Final
6	180109	Lecroq, Michel (FRA 1998)	13. Olympiad section 4 Bd.1
			25 Years of Mate Postal - Group A
			European TC VI, semifinal 3 Bd.6
			World Championship 14 Final
			World Championship 28 Candidates 01
			World Championship 27 Final
6	390086	Neto, Horácio (POR 2007)	15. Olympiad Final Bd.2
			15. Olympiad section 5 Bd.1
			World Champ. 23 Candidates Tournament 2
			Richard Brix Memorial
			WCCC30CT09
			Champions League 2010 B Group 1 board 1
6	80924	Neumann, Joachim (GER 2001)	12. Olympiad Final Bd.1
			15. Olympiad Final Bd.2
			30 Years A.P.A. Magazine Tournament "A"

			Frantisek Batfk Memorial
			World Championship 17 Final
			Hermann Heemsoth Memorial
6	49050	Pauwels, Christophe (BEL 2009)	Champions League 2004 B Group 2 Bd.1
			Email Grandmaster Norm Section 003
			EU/FSM/65 Server Final
			Interzonal Team Tournament 2004 Bd.2
			Sergey Korolev Memorial
			50th Israeli Championship- Jubilee
6	241018	Riccio, Eros (ITA 2010)	Champions League 2007 A Group 1 Bd.1
			Mare Nostrum Team Tournament III Bd.1
			7th European Team Chp Final, Board 1
			Olympiad 17 Final, Board 1
			RCCA-Diamond 2010
			Umansky Memorial
6	140015	Sanakoev, Grigory Konstantinovich (RUS 1984)	Aljechin Memorial
			CAPA 10 Years Jubilee
			Hans-Werner-von-Massow Gedenkturnier
			Serbia 30
			World Championship 10 Final
			World Championship 12 Final
6	141241	Turkov, Vladimir Sergeevich (RUS 2005)	10 Years Russian CCA, group B
			Altshuler Memorial
			Email Grandmaster Norm Section 004
			World Championship 28 Candidates 03
			World Champ. 26 Candidates Tournament 4
			WCCC31CT04
6	20377	Walsh, Héctor (ARG 2006)	17. Olympiad section 5 Bd.1
			CADAP Championship 15 Email Final
			CADAP Championship 18 Final
			Carlos Ros Miró Memorial - World
			World Championship 21 Final
			CADAP 40 Years A
6	88667	Winckelmann, Thomas (GER 2004)	Dr. Heinz-Wilhelm Dünhaupt Memorial
			World Champ. 22 Candidates Tournament 2
			World Championship 23 Final
			World Championship 25 Semifinal 15
			Romanian Chess Federation 85 Years A
			CS UNIVERSITY CRAIOVA -10 Yrs Ann.
5	83967	Broß, Horst (GER 2005)	1. Email-Olympiad Final Bd.5
			100 Years Danish Chess Federation A
			World Championship 20 3/4-Final 4 email

			World Championship 20 Final
			WCCC27CT04
5	480101	Brunšek, Iztok (SLO 2010)	CADAP 40 Years A
			Email/GMN/012
			Slav Cup Tournament Bd.1
			World Championship 25 Final
			Umansky Memorial
5	240645	Cesetti, Claudio (ITA 2010)	WS/GMN/006
			European Team Championship 7 Final, Board 2
			Olympiad 17 Final Board 4
			25 years Swiss CC A
			Argentina Bicentennial "A"
5	150021	Ekebjærg, Ove (DEN 1987)	Chigorin Memorial
			Julius Nielsen Memorial
			NBC 25 Years
			NPSF 40 Years
			World Championship 14 Final
5	240090	Finocchiaro, Fabio (ITA 1999)	A.S.I.G.C. 2000, Group A
			World Championship 15 Final
			World Championship 21 3/4-Final 4 postal
			World Championship 25 Candidates 4
			World Championship 25 Final
5	40199	Geenen, Marc (BEL 2000)	Bozidar Kazic Memorial
			Martin Christoffel Memorial section Gold
			Reg Gillman Memorial group A
			Secchi Vigneau Memorial
			World Champ. 24 Candidates Tournament 1
5	240384	Giuliani, Sante (ITA 2005)	15. Olympiad section 1 Bd.1
			Alvise Zichichi Memorial
			Email Grandmaster Norm Section 004
			World Champ. 26 Candidates Tournament 1
			World Championship 25 Final
5	140138	Khasin, Abram Iosifovich (RUS 1972)	Bartis Memorial 2 A
			FINJUB 20
			Heitmann Gedenkturnier
			Lenin
			O'Kelly Memorial group GM
5	81027	Kribben, Dr. Matthias (GER 2009)	13. Olympiad Final Bd.6
			European TC VI, Final Bd.11
			Chessfriends Rochade 5171 - 15 Years Bd.3
			World Champ. 27 Candidates Tournament 4
			Hermann Heemsoth Memorial

5	950028	Lanc, Ing. Alois (SVK 1995)	Africa Asia Challenger - Group A
			BDF-50 Invitation Tournament
			European TC V, Final Bd.2
			Fin-Jub 30 GM-2
			World Championship 21 Final
5	940345	Lepikhov, Aleksey Georgievich (UKR 2002)	Itzhak Veinger Memorial section A
			Jerzy Krzysztan Memorial
			Szachy Chess Cup
			World Championship 19 Final
			World Championship 20 3/4-Final 4 email
5	900070	Ljubičić, Leonardo (CRO 2011)	WS/GMN/013
			Interzonal 2008 Bd3
			WCCC28CT06
			WCCC28CT07
			Romanian Chess Federation 85 Yrs A
5	580117	Ohtake, Sakae (JPN 2007)	10 Years Russian CCA, group A
			15. Olympiad section 3 Bd.1
			5. Pacific Area Team Tournament Bd.1
			I. Kopylov Memorial
			Interzonal Team Tournament 2006 Bd.2
5	930017	Õim, Tõnu (EST 1981)	Axelsson Memorial
			ICCF 50 years - World Champion Jubilee
			Keres
			World Championship 14 Final
			World Championship 9 Final
5	450393	Olofson, Dan (SWE 2000)	2. Nordic Club Team Championship Bd.1
			Adler Memorial Tournament
			SSKK 60 Years
			World Championship 28 Candidates 01
			Chessfriends Rochade 5171 - 20 years board 1
5	910070	Rause, Olita (LAT 1999)	Bartolomé Marcussi Memorial Tournament
			Bozidar Kazic Memorial
			CAPA 10 Years Jubilee
			ICCF 50 years - Jubilee Elite GM-Tourn.
			SSKK 60 Years
5	140765	Raykin, Leonid Gershevich (RUS 2005)	13. Olympiad Final Bd.3
			Dubinin Memorial
			Gipslis Memorial
			TCCMB 5 Years Anniversary A
			Yashelin Memorial
5	85084	Serafim, Jannis (GRE 2007)	Email Grandmaster Norm Section 010
			European TC VII, semifinal 2 Bd.1

			Lev Abramov Memorial
			World Champ. 24 Candidates Tournament 2
			World Championship 26 Semifinal 14
5	82274	Schröder, Frank (GER 2008)	European TC VI, Final Bd.7
			ICCF-Cup X, Finale
			World Champ. 26 Candidates Tournament 1
			World Championship 24 Semifinal 04
			World Championship 25 Final
5	440534	Șerban, Florin (ROM 2010)	Interzonal 2008, Bd 1
			European TC VII, semifinal 3 Bd.1
			World Champ. 26 Candidates Tournament 5
			Olympiad 17 Final, board 2
			World Championship 26 Final
5	390308	Soberano, Joaquim Pedro (POR 2005)	10 Years Russian CCA, group A
			15. Olympiad Final Bd.1
			Interzonal Team Tournament 2000 Bd.4
			Interzonal Team Tournament 2002 Bd.1
			Hermann Heemsoth Memorial
5	910006	Strautins, Vilnis (LAT 2009)	13. Olympiad Final Bd.2
			15. Olympiad section 4 Bd.3
			Sergey Korolev Memorial
			Andrej Šuštaršic Memorial
			9th European Team Chp - Semifinal 3 board 1
5	930006	Tiits, Tõnu (EST 2009)	17. Olympiad section 5 Bd.1
			8. Baltic Sea Team Tournament Bd.1
			Interzonal Team Tournament 2004 Bd.4
			Ragozin Memorial
			WCCC30CT10
5	249221	Vassia, Elio (ITA 2005)	Alvise Zichichi Memorial
			Coppa Latina Europa-America 4 Bd.5
			Email Grandmaster Norm Section 005
			World Champ. 25 Candidates Tournament 3
			World Championship 25 Final
5	570045	Weber, Jean-Marie (LUX 2004)	13. Olympiad Final Bd.2
			CADAP Championship 13 Final
			Esteban Canal Memorial A
			European TC VI, semifinal 3 Bd.2
			Torneo XXX Aniversario LIPEAP group A
5	141647	Zhak, Boris Mikhailovich (RUS 2010)	Vladimir Simagin Memorial
			David Godoy Memorial
			RCCA Gold 2008
			Janis Vitomskis Memorial

			RCCA-Diamond 2010
5	510238	Zilberberg, Alik Samulovich (USA 1994)	1. Email-Olympiad Final Bd.1
			11. Olympiad Final Bd.1
			World Championship 13 Final
			World Championship 19 3/4-Final 5
			World Championship 20 Final

International Correspondence Chess Federation

Appendix N: Complete Phase 10 Tasks

Documentation

- Search help/static content – *Deployed*

Globalisation

- Notes to cross tables have to support Unicode, and for messages exchanged by players – *Deployed*
- Globalise system messages improvements – *Deployed*
- Globalise event news (tournaments started and finished) – *Tested*
- Globalise table headers (Globalize headers which are not abbreviations, leave abbreviations, add explanations to abbreviations, globalize explanations) – *Deployed*
- Forbid non-Latin characters in player names – *Deployed*

Multi group events and related features

- Drawing screen when starting a tournament: Randomize order, order by rating, or manually change the start list order – *Deployed*

Better device support

- Touch screen support for drag and drop – *Deployed and updated for IE 10*

Ratings

- Import historical events from Eloquery – *Deployed*
- Attach rating reports to rating screen – *Deployed*
- Rating page design change – *Deployed*

Title tournaments and norms

- Add notification of cancelled games in title tournaments to QC – *Deployed*
- Change of title requirements and norm requirements in the past (change norm requirements for SIM title post 213) – *Deployed*

Marketing tasks

- Extend cross tables with remaining information from old TD reports – *Deployed*
- Formatted text and attachments for mailings – *Deployed*
- Recognition of achievements on player details (e.g. title, medals) – *partially deployed, not yet deployed tournaments won*
- Send a PDF certificate of achievement to tournament winners, – *partially deployed, not yet globalised or available for team events*

Proposed improvements for players

- Store previous draw offers in move list (e.g. when switching to time stamps) – *Deployed*
- Add resignations and draw acceptance to game log – *Deployed*
- List of all completed games of the player as PGN download – *Deployed*
- Game list: link on event name to go to cross table – *Deployed*
- On the game screen and board cross table, add link to team cross table in the bread crumbs – *Deployed*
- Move links to previous and next board below the cross table – *Deployed*
- List of games is now sortable and improved – *Deployed*
- List of games now visible to everyone and applies viewing rule – *Deployed*

- The wording of "Email AC" on the game page menu changed to "Email for Appeals" – *Deployed*
- Diagnostics page and FAQ for help desk contact – *Deployed*

Proposed improvements for TOs and TDs

- To avoid cases where the board event has a different name than the parent event:
 - Not allow to change the name of a board event – *Deployed*
 - Not allow to change the name of a parent event without applying changes to the boards – *Deployed*
 - Also for short name – *Deployed*
- The leave rule "StandardSlo" should cause a warning or an error when used in unrated events, and a rated tournament without SLO should also cause a warning – *Deployed*
- Do not send a message that a player used more than 40 days, if the player has claimed an extension already – *Deployed*
- Observer role – *Deployed*

Other features

- Trusted users should see the account creator and creation date (if available) on player details – *Deployed*
- Display status of player on unconfirmed accounts list (Unconfirmed, offline, new, registered) – *Deployed*
- When the RC confirms an account in status unconfirmed or offline, automatically send a starter password – *Deployed*
- Allow to easily move a number of selected events to another header – *Deployed*
- Add warning when importing NF membership data that existing data will be lost – user has to confirm import – *Deployed*
- Games archive is available only to registered players – *Deployed*
- After four weeks on the pending list, an email reminder is sent to the ND or ZD, at this stage the status is changed to "Pending, Reminder Sent" and the RC may delete the account – *Deployed*
- Don't allow player to register for an event until they are confirmed – *Deployed*
- Add registrations to player details visible to DE and TO – *Deployed*
- After 40 calendar days, without taking into account leave, have passed after an ETL without a claim, send a reminder to the TD – *Deployed*
- Conditional string submitted and committed by a player should be visible for him – *Deployed*
- If an account is deleted or confirmed by the RC, a notification is sent to the account creator – *Deployed*

Appendix O: Webserver and Postal Thematic Themes

WEBSERVER THEMATIC TOURNAMENTS 2014

<i>Theme N°</i>	<i>Entries not later than...</i>	<i>Start date</i>
1	1.01.2014	15.01.2014
2	15.02.2014	1.03.2014
3	1.04.2014	15.04.2014
4	15.05.2014	1.06.2014
5	1.09.2014	15.09.2014
6	15.10.2014	1.11.2014
7	1.12.2014	15.12.2014

Themes:

1	Fegatello Variation, C 57	1. 5254 5755 2. 7163 2836 3. 6134 7866 4. 6375 4745 5. 5445 6645 6. 7567 5867 7. 4163 6756 8. 2133
2	Queen's Gambit Accepted, Wiacek Variation, D20	1. 4244 4745 2. 3234 4534 3. 5254 5755 4. 7163 5544 5. 6134 6824 6. 5161
3	Nimzowitsch Defence, B00	1. 5254 2836
4	Keres Defence, D06	1. 4244 4745 2. 3234 3865 3. 7163 5756
5	Ruy Lopez - Bird Variation, C61	1. 5254 5755 2. 7163 2836 3. 6125 3644
6	Lisitsin Opening, A04	1. 7163 6765 2. 5254 6554 3. 6375 4745
7	Sicilian Defence, Grand Prix Attack, B21	1. 5254 3735 2. 6264

POSTAL THEMATIC TOURNAMENTS 2014

<i>Theme N°</i>	<i>Entries not later than...</i>	<i>Start date</i>
<i>1</i>	<i>15.01.2014</i>	<i>1.02.2014</i>
<i>2</i>	<i>1.03.2014</i>	<i>15.03.2014</i>
<i>3</i>	<i>15.04.2014</i>	<i>1.05.2014</i>
<i>4</i>	<i>15.09.2014</i>	<i>1.10.2014</i>
<i>5</i>	<i>15.11.2014</i>	<i>1.12.2014</i>

Themes:

- | | | |
|---|---|--|
| 1 | Sokolsky, A00 | 1. 2224 |
| 2 | Marshall Attack, C89 | 1. 5254 5755 2. 7163 2836 3. 6125 1716 4. 2514 7866
5. 5171 6857 6. 6151 2725 7. 1423 5878 8. 3233 4745 |
| 3 | Sicilian Defence - Morra Gambit, B21 | 1. 5254 3735 2. 4244 3544 3. 3233 4433 4. 2133 |
| 4 | King's Indian - Saemisch Variation, E80 | 1. 4244 7866 2. 3234 7776 3. 2133 6877 4. 5254 4746
5. 6263 |
| 5 | Slav Noteboom System, D31 | 1. 4244 4745 2. 3234 5756 3. 2133 3736 4. 7163 4534 |

Appendix P – Tournament Rules Minor Changes to 2012 Congress Minutes

Comments from ICCF President, Eric Ruch:

1.0.1 The ICCF Title Tournaments comprise:

- (a) World Correspondence Chess Championships (Individual)
- (b) Ladies World Correspondence Chess Championships (Individual)
- (c) Correspondence Chess Olympiads (World Championships for National Teams)
- (d) Ladies Correspondence Chess Olympiads (World Championships for Ladies National Teams)
- (e) Grandmaster Norm and Master Norm Tournaments.

All entries for the Title Tournaments must be processed via the Member Federations. Direct entries are allowed only in exceptional cases and the Title Tournaments Commissioner will individually consider these.

DE should be allowed and in fact are allowed!

1.4.1 The following will be entitled to enter the Final:

- (a) the first, second and third placed players from the previous Final
- (b) the first and second placed players from the Candidates' Tournaments.

In some cases we have only one sure place for the Final if the number of CT exceeds 4

1.7.1 The Correspondence Chess Olympiads will be played separately as team tournaments and may be played by post, Email or webserver. Normally, the Correspondence Chess Olympiads played by post will be played in a three-year cycle, and the Correspondence Chess Olympiads played by Email or webserver will be played in a two-year cycle.

Email should be deleted.

1.7.6 The first three teams of a final will qualify for the next final round. The qualifications from Email tournaments and from webserver tournaments are interchangeable.

Email should be deleted.

1.8.1 The Ladies' Correspondence Chess Olympiads shall be played as team tournaments normally played by post, by Email or by webserver. The way of transmission of moves will be decided in the announcement. Normally, the Ladies' Correspondence Chess Olympiads will be played in a four-yearly cycle.

Why a 4 year cycle?

6.2 International correspondence chess tournaments by national correspondence chess organisations require the approval of the ICCF Executive Board before their announcement. Invitations to individual players for such authorised tournaments should be made with the permission of the national correspondence chess organisation of which the player in question is a member.

EB shall be replaced by the WTD. I think that this section should be the right placeholder for the Invitation Tournament Guidelines. In the appendix I consider it to be guidelines only (ie. Non mandatory) but I would like to have a formal approval by Congress in Poland and include it in the main body of the TR.

The jurisdiction to deal with appeals concerning violations of this rule is designated to the Appeals Commission (Other ICCF Rules).

This is the last sentence of the section 12 and of the rules but I think it should be in a separation section to make it clear that this applies to all the TR and not only to section 12.

International Correspondence Chess Federation

Comments from 2012 Congress Minutes

23	15	TR ¹	Tournament rules update 10.0.3, page10 <i>The principle of “overscore” (used in the following sub-sections of Rule 8)</i> ... (... sub-sections of Rule 10)	Yes	Editorial change
24	15	TR ²	Tournament rules update 10.4, page10 <i>"A Grandmaster title based upon results under (c) will not be awarded unless at least 5 out of 24 games must be against players who have been grandmasters or players with a fixed rating of at least 2600."</i> Since we are talking about required number of games, it may happen that in 2 different events few games are against the same player, or event is double round robin. So it should be read: At least 5 of the 24 games must be against players who are already GM's or who have fixed ratings of at least 2600. and placed under (c).	Yes	Editorial adjustment in the spirit of rules with additional comment that all titles previously awarded will not be revised.
25	15	TR ³	Tournament rules update 10.7.(a), page10 <i>" those players who gain places 1-3 in the World Ladies' Championship "</i> At the end of sentence word " final " is missing.	Yes	Editorial change
26	15	TR ⁴	Tournament rules update Appendix, <i>International Correspondence Chess Title Regulations</i> , pages 19 and 21 Duplication in table description A, B, C, D, E ...	Yes	Editorial change

¹ Tournament rules (valid from 01.01.2012)² Tournament rules (valid from 01.01.2012)³ Tournament rules (valid from 01.01.2012)⁴ Tournament rules (valid from 01.01.2012)

Appendix Q – Tournament Rules with Proposed Amendments

Tournament Rules (effective from 1.1.2013)

0. Overview
1. Title Tournaments
2. Promotion Tournaments
3. World Cup Tournaments
4. Norm Tournaments
5. Champions' League
6. Special Tournaments
7. Tie Breaking
8. Withdrawal & Substitutions
9. Rating numbers
10. Titles
11. Rules for International Team Tournaments
12. Players' Eligibility

Appendix I: The working Rules of the Rating System

Appendix II: International Chess Title Regulations

Appendix III: Invitation Tournaments

0. Overview

0.1 The correspondence chess tournaments of the ICCF are divided into:

- (a) Title Tournaments
- (b) Promotion Tournaments,
- (c) Cup Tournaments,
- (d) Special Tournaments.

0.2 Normally, the entry fee for each tournament will be decided by Congress. Entry to a tournament will be accepted only if it is accompanied by payment of the entry fee to the collection agency designated by the ICCF.

0.3 Unless explicitly stated otherwise each player plays one game simultaneously against each of the other players in the tournament or section; the colour will be decided by lot.

1. Title Tournaments

1.0.1 The ICCF Title Tournaments comprise:

- (a) World Correspondence Chess Championships (Individual)
- (b) Ladies World Correspondence Chess Championships (Individual)
- (c) Correspondence Chess Olympiads (World Championships for National Teams)
- (d) Ladies Correspondence Chess Olympiads (World Championships for Ladies National Teams)
- (e) Grandmaster Norm and Master Norm Tournaments

1.0.2 The World Championships organised by the ICCF comprise Preliminaries, Semi-Finals, Candidates' Tournament and Final.

1.0.3 The Preliminaries, Semi-Finals, and Candidates' Tournaments comprise separate sections played normally by post and by webserver. The qualifications reached in postal tournaments can be used in webserver tournaments. Participation of players in webserver tournaments using 'nodes' is allowed in the Candidates' Tournaments and Final only.

1.0.4 The scheduling of World Championships Finals is the responsibility of the ICCF Title Tournaments Commissioner, in consultation with Executive Board / Congress. Announcements of the Finals will be published at the latest 4 months before they start.

1.0.5 The Preliminaries, Semi-Finals, and Candidates' Tournaments are each started annually on a fixed date. Entries must be sent to the ICCF Title Tournaments Commissioner at the latest at the date shown in the announcement of the Tournament. In cases of emergency, the ICCF Title Tournaments Commissioner is entitled to extend the deadline for entries or to shift forward the start of the Tournament. The division into groups in the Preliminaries, Semi-Finals and Candidates' Tournaments will be done by the ICCF Title Tournaments Commissioner with the aim of producing groups of equal strength. All necessary information with regard to the category of the tournament, title norms and promotional provisions will be given prior to the start of the tournament.

1.0.6 For information purposes only, the ICCF Title Tournaments Commissioner will publish on the ICCF website a regularly updated overview of all players who have achieved the various qualifications ("Table of Qualifiers").

1.0.7 The qualifications for the Preliminaries, Semi-Finals and Candidates' Tournaments reached in accordance with this part of Tournament Rules (paragraphs 1.1 to 1.3) can be used only once, except for the special qualification provisions based on the World Champion titles, ICCF titles or rating points achieved: these can be used only once each calendar year and only at the appropriate level or stage.

From one Preliminary, Semi-Final, Candidates' Tournament, or Final, it is only possible to reach one qualification for a further World Championship stage. Qualifications based on results in tournaments are valid for 3 years from the end of the tournament in which the qualification was obtained. Each additional qualification achieved by a player at the same level will be valid for one additional year (for example, a second qualification will be valid for 4 years from the end of the tournament in which the qualification was obtained). The Ladies Grandmaster and Ladies International Master titles do not entitle their holders to participate in the World Championship Semi-Finals or Candidates' Tournament.

1.0.8 ELO ratings used in these Rules refer to any of those rating lists published in the preceding 12-months.

1.0.9 Ties are broken when considering qualifications for the Preliminaries, Semi-Finals, Candidates' Tournaments, and Finals.

1.0.10 In each calendar year, each member Federation will be allowed to nominate two players for the WCCC Preliminaries or Semi-Finals. Additionally, for Federations declaring 200+ members (according to the membership fee statistics) for the previous year, 1 extra Member Federation Nomination (MFN) will be allowed, for Federations declaring 500+ members 2 extra MFN will be allowed, for 1000+ members 3 extra MFN, for 2000+ members 4 extra MFN and for 5000+ members 5 extra MFN. MFN's shall be allocated to either Preliminaries or Semi-Finals according to their ratings – those with ratings (fixed or unfixed) less than 2400 shall be allocated to Preliminaries whilst those with ratings of 2400 and above shall be allocated to Semi-Finals.

1.0.11 On special and exceptional occasions, the ICCF Executive Board is entitled to announce special tournaments which provide qualifications for the Preliminaries, Semi-Finals, Candidates' Tournaments or Finals. The exact conditions of promotions must be fixed in the announcement of the particular Tournament. Furthermore, the ICCF Executive Board will decide on any application not covered by this regulation.

1.1 Preliminaries of the World Correspondence Chess Championship

1.1.1 The following will reach a full qualification to enter a Preliminary section:

- (a) the participants in one of the previous or running Candidates' Tournaments who have scored at least 40% of the possible points if they have not earned a higher qualification
- (b) the participants in the previous or running Semi-Finals who scored at least 50% of the possible points, if they have not earned a higher qualification
- (c) participants in previous Preliminary sections who scored at least 60% of possible points but did not qualify for a Semi-Final
- (d) winners of ICCF World Tournaments – Master class

- (e) the participants in the previous or running ICCF World Cup Finals who scored at least 50% of the possible points
- (f) the participants in the previous or running acknowledged Zonal Championships of Category IX or higher who scored at least 50% of the possible points
- (g) participants in acknowledged Zonal Championships of Category VIII or below who scored at least 60% of possible points
- (h) those players, who are entered through their own national organisation and at the time of nomination have ratings less than 2400 (fixed or unfixed).
- (i) The holders of the International Master Title with a rating above 2300
- (j) the holders of the Senior International Master Title with a rating above 2250
- (k) the holders of the Grandmaster Title
- (l) Any player with a rating of 2500 and above

1.1.2 The following will reach a half qualification to enter a Preliminary section.

- (a) those players who achieve 2nd place in a Master Class group.

1.1.3 Normally a Preliminary section will consist of 13 participants. The Title Tournaments Commissioner shall have the power to increase the number of players to 15 or 17. Normally a maximum of 30 Preliminary sections will be started each year.

1.2 Semi-Finals of the World Correspondence Chess Championship

1.2.1 The following will be entitled to enter a Semi-Final:

- (a) the participants in one of the previous or running Finals if they have not earned a higher qualification
- (b) the participants in one of the previous or running Candidates' Tournaments who have scored at least 50% of the possible points if they have not earned a higher qualification
- (c) the participants in the previous or running Semi-Finals who scored at least 60% of the possible points but did not qualify for the Candidates' Tournament
- (d) the first and second placed players from a Preliminary section
- (e) the participants in a Final of the ICCF World Cup Tournament who achieved at least 60% of the possible points
- (f) the participants in the previous or running acknowledged Zonal Championships of Category IX or higher who scored at least 60% of the possible points
- (g) the two top finishers from the acknowledged Zonal Championships of the tournament Category VIII or below
- (h) those players, who, at the time of nomination have ratings of 2400 and higher, are entered through their own national organisation
- (i) the holders of the Correspondence Chess International Master title with fixed ratings above 2500
- (j) the holders of the Correspondence Chess Senior International Master title with fixed ratings above 2450
- (k) the holders of the Grandmaster Title with ratings above 2400
- (l) those players who have a fixed rating above 2550.

1.2.2 Normally, a Semi-Final section will consist of 13 participants. The Title Tournament Commissioner shall have the power to increase the number of players to 15 or 17. Normally a maximum of 18 Semi-Final sections will be started each year.

1.3 Candidates' Tournament

1.3.1 The following will be entitled to enter the Candidates' Tournament:

- (a) the participants of one of the previous or running Finals who scored at least 50% of the possible points,
- (b) the participants in the previous or running Candidates' Tournaments who scored at least 60% of the possible points but did not qualify for the Final,
- (c) the first and second placed players in every Semi-Final group
- (d) the first and second placed players in a Final of the ICCF World Cup Tournament
- (e) the first and second placed players from the acknowledged Zonal Championships of Category IX or higher
- (f) all previous World Correspondence Chess Champions
- (g) the holders of the Grandmaster Title with at least 5 Grandmaster norms
- (h) those players who have a fixed rating of 2600 and above.

1.3.2 Normally, the Candidates' Tournament sections will consist of 13 participants. The Title Tournaments Commissioner shall have the power to increase the number of players to 15 or 17. Normally a maximum of 4 Candidates' Tournament sections will be started each year.

1.4 Final of the World Correspondence Chess Championship

1.4.1 The following will be entitled to enter the Final:

- (a) the first, second and third placed players from the previous Final
- (b) the first and second placed players from the Candidates' Tournaments. The Title Tournaments Commissioner shall have the power to vary this rule if, exceptionally, more than 4 Candidates Tournament sections are started in a year. Any such variation shall be included in the tournament announcement.

1.4.2 The Final should normally consist of 17 participants.

1.4.3 The Final qualifications can be deferred only once, except for the former World Champions, who are entitled to enter once in any of the following Finals if they express their interest to participate and request their inclusion one month before the deadline at the latest.

1.4.4 Where vacancies exist for a Final, after all qualifiers wishing to play have been included, then the Executive Board may admit the next qualified players from the previous Final or Candidates, namely those who failed to qualify on the basis of a tie-break. The Executive Board also has the right to grant up to two free places based on extraordinary international performance.

1.5 Semi-Finals of the Ladies World Correspondence Chess World Championship

1.5.1 The following will be entitled to enter a Semi-Final:

- (a) the participants of one of the two previous Finals who have scored at least 30% of the possible points,
- (b) the participants of one of the two previous Semi-Finals who have scored at least 60% of the possible points,
- (c) holders of the title International CC Ladies' Master and lady players who are entered through the individual national CC federations according to a quota set by the ICCF Title Tournaments Commissioner and approved by the ICCF Executive Board,

(d) those lady players whose most recent published rating prior to the tournament start date, corresponds to a minimum established by the ICCF Title Tournaments Commissioner and approved by the ICCF Executive Board.

1.5.2 The assignment to the sections will be decided by the ICCF Title Tournament Commissioner.

1.5.3 Normally, Semi-Final sections will comprise at least 9 players.

1.6 Final of the Ladies World Correspondence Chess World Championship

1.6.1 The Final will have at least 11 players.

1.6.2 The following will be entitled to enter the Final:

- (a) the top three finishers from the previous Final,
- (b) the winners and runners-up in each Semi-Final section

1.6.3 If several players with the right to take part drop out, the ICCF Title Tournaments Commissioner may admit the next qualified players from the previous Final or Semi-Final. The Executive Board also has the right to grant up to two free places based on extraordinary international performance.

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1.7 Correspondence Chess Olympiad (World Championship For National Teams)

1.7.1 The Correspondence Chess Olympiads will be played separately as team tournaments and may be played by post or webserver. Normally, the Correspondence Chess Olympiads played by post will be played in a three year cycle, and the Correspondence Chess Olympiads played by webserver will be played in a two year cycle.

1.7.2 The number of players in a team will be set out in the announcement.

1.7.3 The tournaments will consist of a preliminary round and a final round.

1.7.4 Normally, the final round will not consist of more than 13 teams.

1.7.5 Those ICCF member countries which have met their financial commitments are entitled to take part with one team each. At the discretion of the ICCF Executive Board, combined teams consisting of players from those countries with low levels of correspondence chess activity may be entered.

1.7.6 The first three teams of a final will qualify for the next final round.

1.7.7 The right to be promoted from the preliminaries as well as other details shall be determined by the ICCF Title Tournaments Commissioner and approved by the Executive Board at the start of the tournament.

1.8 Ladies' Correspondence Chess Olympiad (World Championship For Ladies' National Teams)

1.8.1 The Ladies' Correspondence Chess Olympiads shall be played as team tournaments normally played by post or by webserver. The way of transmission of moves will be decided in the announcement. Normally, the Ladies' Correspondence Chess Olympiads will be played in a four-yearly cycle.

1.8.2 The number of players in a team will be set out in the announcement.

1.8.3 The tournaments will consist of a preliminary round and a final round.

1.8.4 Normally, the final round will consist of not more than 11 teams.

1.8.5 Those ICCF member countries which have met their financial commitments are entitled to take part with one team each. At the discretion of the ICCF Executive Board, combined teams consisting of players from those countries with low levels of correspondence chess activity may be entered.

1.8.6 The first four teams of the each final will qualify for the next final round.

1.8.7 The right to be promoted from the preliminaries as well as other details will be determined by the ICCF Title Tournaments Commissioner and approved by the Executive Board at the start of the tournament.

2. Promotion Tournaments

2.1 The promotion tournaments will be played in 3 classes:

- (a) Open class,
- (b) Higher class,
- (c) Master class.

2.2 Master class tournaments will consist of 11 player sections. Higher and Open class shall have 7 players per section. All correspondence chess players are eligible to participate unless they are under suspension from ICCF play. Correspondence chess players from non-ICCF member countries will have to enter via the Direct Entry programme and they are eligible to take part in the World Championship cycle.

2.3 Tie-breaking will be used to determine the winners of promotion tournaments.

2.4 The following players have the right to participate in Open class tournaments:

- (a) a player new to ICCF or without an ICCF rating.
- (b) a player rated below 1900 at the time of application.

2.5 The following players have the right to participate in a Higher-class tournament:

- (a) a player rated 1900 to 2099 at the time of application.
- (b) a player who has won an Open class tournament is entitled to one start in the Higher class, regardless of rating.
- (c) a player without an ICCF rating who is nominated by the National Federation and accompanied by a statement of qualification.

2.6 The following players have the right to participate in a Master class tournament:

- (a) a player rated 2100 or above at the time of application.
- (b) a player who has won a Higher-class tournament is entitled to one start in the Master class, regardless of rating.
- (c) a player without an ICCF rating who is nominated by the National Federation and accompanied by a statement of qualification.

Note: A FIDE rating will be considered as an unfixed ICCF rating, where applicable

3. World Cup Tournaments

3.1 A World Cup tournament will normally be started every second year.

3.2 Each round will be completed in two years.

3.3 Each group will consist of 7-11 players in the preliminary round; 9-13 in the intermediate and 9-15 in the final round. Each player plays one game with every player of his group simultaneously.

3.4 All groups of the preliminary and of the intermediate rounds start on the same day.

3.5 Only the group winner (ties to be decided by points evaluation) will be promoted to the next round. The group winners of the preliminary round and of the intermediate round win a prize. Prizes will be awarded to half the participants in the final round.

3.6 The winner of the final round has the right to take part in the final round of the next correspondence chess World Cup tournament without paying any entry fee. Participants in the final round have the right to take part in the intermediate round of the next correspondence chess World Cup tournament.

3.7 Additionally, participants in a World Cup Final can achieve rights to participate in World Correspondence Chess Championship Semifinals and/or Candidate sections.

4. Norm Tournaments

4.1 ICCF norm tournaments comprise Master Norm tournaments and Grandmaster Norm tournaments. Organisation of these tournaments is the responsibility of the Title Tournament Commissioner. Tournaments may be played by webserver or by post.

4.2 All sections of this tournament type offer title norms, which are specifically stated in the start list of the respective tournament section. Each section consists of 13 players (12 games for each player, 6 white and 6 black).

4.3 Only those players who meet one of the following qualifications have the right to participate in a Master Norm tournament:

Fixed (based on more than 29 games) rating of at least 2300 on the latest ICCF rating list, or
 Unfixed (based on 12-29 games) rating of at least 2350 on the latest ICCF rating list, or
 FIDE rating of at least 2350 on the latest FIDE rating list, or
 Players who achieved places 1-3 in a National CC championship.

4.4 Only those players who meet one of the following qualifications have the right to participate in a Grandmaster Norm tournament:

Fixed (based on more than 29 games) rating of at least 2450 on the latest ICCF rating list, or
 Unfixed (based on 12-29 games) rating of at least 2500 on the latest ICCF rating list, or
 FIDE rating of at least 2500 on the latest FIDE rating list.

4.5 Holders of the ICCF Grandmaster title or players with a fixed rating of 2600 or above on the latest ICCF rating list may participate in Grandmaster Norm Tournaments free of charge. Such entries coming from a player whose country is a member of ICCF shall be confirmed by the Member Federation Delegate. If the player comes from a country, which is not a member of ICCF, he must prove his identity to the satisfaction of the Title Tournament Commissioner

4.6 Players without the qualifications listed in rules 4.3 and 4.4 may be allowed to participate in norm tournaments at the discretion of the Title Tournament Commissioner if their participation does not lower the tournament category.

4.7 A player may only start one webserver norm tournament in each 6-month cycle (January to June and July to December). A player may only start one postal norm tournament in each calendar year.

5. Champions' League

5.1 The Champions' League is a tournament for teams of four players. Players within a team may be of any nationality or mixture of nationalities. Mixed teams of men and women are allowed. Each team must have a designated Team Captain and a name, preferably related to correspondence chess or chess in general.

5.2 Organisation of the Champions' League is the responsibility of the Non-Title Tournaments Commissioner. All sections of the Champions' League are played by webserver. The playing rules in effect are the ICCF Playing Rules for Webserver Team Tournaments except where modified by these Rules.

5.3 The League is played in seasons lasting approximately 2 years, with promotion and relegation at the end of each season. There are three divisions, A, B and C. Division A comprises one group, while divisions B and C have multiple groups. Each player plays one game against each of the other players on the same board in the same group.

5.4 Groups will normally comprise 11 or 13 teams but these numbers may be varied as necessary to accommodate all entered teams. The composition of each division and the numbers of teams to be promoted and relegated will be determined for each season based on the number of entered teams and will be announced as soon as possible after the closing date for entries.

5.5 No player may play for more than one team in a season. Players can transfer from one team to another only at the beginning of each new season.

5.6 New teams can enter the Champions' League at the beginning of any new season. Changes of team name between seasons are allowed.

5.7 A team is allowed to replace players during and between the seasons. The number of replaced players is limited only to the following rule: If all the four players in a team are changed within two seasons, then the team will normally be relegated to a lower division. Exceptions of this rule are possible at the discretion of the Non-Title Tournaments Commissioner.

6. Special Tournaments

6.1 Special tournaments e.g. Memorial tournaments, Thematic tournaments, etc., will be announced separately by the ICCF Executive Board.

6.2 International correspondence chess tournaments by national correspondence chess organisations require the approval of the ICCF Executive Board before their announcement. Invitations to individual players for such authorised tournaments should be made with the permission of the national correspondence chess organisation of which the player in question is a member.

Proposal is to insert here 'the following procedures should be carefully noted and observed:- followed by the guidelines from Appendix 3.

7. Tie Breaking

7.1 Tie-breaking is used in all tournaments organised by ICCF, unless the tournament announcement specifically states that ties will not be broken. The following will apply for two or more players, or two or more teams, with the same number of points:

7.2 Individual tournaments:

- (a) number of wins by each tied player in the tournament,
- (b) points evaluation by the Sonneborn-Berger-System,
- (c) results of the tied players against each other.

7.3 Team Tournaments:

- (a) tie breaking on the basis of team results (2 additional points for a won match, 1 additional point for a drawn match),
- (b) the results of the tied teams against each other.
- (c) better individual result on bd.1 (following bd.2, 3 etc.)

7.4 If necessary, the organiser of the tournament is entitled to set up further tie-breaking procedures. These procedures must be indicated in the start list at the latest.

7.5 If players or teams are still tied after all relevant tie-breaking procedures have been used, the players or teams will be considered equal.

8. Withdrawal & Substitutions

8.1 Players who need to withdraw must forward an application to the Tournament Director giving adequate reasons for the withdrawal. All opponents must be informed of the withdrawal and that the Tournament Director has been notified. A player who withdraws after receiving the start list and before the start date will:

- (a) forfeit any entry fee paid, and
- (b) forfeit qualification rights, if applicable.

However, in team events such changes do count against the number of changes per team which are allowed in 8d of the playing rules concerning teams

8.2 The Tournament Director will accept the following reasons for the withdrawal as adequate:

- (a) Death
- (b) Serious and debilitating illness, which make it impossible for the player to continue play for a period of at least 3 months.
- (c) Circumstances outside the control of the player which make it impossible for him to continue play for a period of at least 3 months (Wars, civil unrest, natural disasters, and other similar circumstances)
- (d) Personal circumstances of the player which make it impossible for him to continue play for a period of at least 3 months. These circumstances may be varied but must be detailed in full at the time of application.

8.3 Approved applications result in the withdrawal of that player from all ICCF-approved events in which they are participating. TD's/TO's will advise the ICCF World Tournament Director, who will maintain a record of all such applications and notify the player's federation and the Ratings Commissioner must also be informed. Players who are subsequently found to have abused the privileges afforded by this Rule will automatically receive a suspension from all ICCF events for a period of 5 years.

Players who are granted an "Accepted Withdrawal" may not enter any ICCF event for at least 6 months afterwards. When submitting applications under paragraph. d) players must provide full details of their games to that point. Whenever possible, such details should also be provided for applications under paragraphs. a) - c).

8.4 If the reason for the withdrawal is considered inadequate and not accepted by the Tournament Director, or a second withdrawal according to paragraph 8.3 occurs within a short time, the case will be forwarded to the respective Tournament Office for review, and consultation with the appropriate national federation. If the withdrawal application is confirmed to be inadequate and not accepted, the player will be given the option to continue the games. A player who nevertheless withdraws is considered as a "Not Accepted Withdrawal" in all ICCF-approved events in which he is participating and may not enter any ICCF events for at least 12 months. Additionally, a bond will be paid on entry to the next tournament to be held by the federation initially collecting the entry. This will be at least double the entry fee and will be refunded if the conduct has been regular at the conclusion of the tournament; otherwise, it will be forfeited and the ICCF will receive an amount equal to its portion of the entry fee. The federation will inform the Tournament Office that the player is playing under a performance bond.

8.5 If a player withdraws "silently", i.e. without informing either his opponents or the Tournament Director, will not earn any title norm or qualification and he may be penalised by being suspended from tournament entry for two years. When he is readmitted to the tournaments, he will pay a bond according to paragraph 6.4. A second silent withdrawal will result in a minimum five-year suspension.

8.6 A player who pays the bond and concludes a tournament in accordance with the rules will be exempt from paying further bonds as long as his tournaments are completed normally.

8.7 The games will be conducted according to the Tournament and Playing Rules of the ICCF plus the following additional rules:

- (a) Exceeding the time limit is valid only if it is confirmed by the Tournament Director (if a player agrees that he has exceeded the first time limit, this takes effect only after confirmation by the Tournament Director),
 - (b) In team tournaments if a player stops play, or if the Tournament Director has awarded the first exceeding of time in postal events and considers that an orderly continuation of play is threatened (e.g. sickness, special leave beyond the prescribed norm, etc.) the Tournament Director can call upon the Team Captain to replace this player within a prescribed time (at most two months),
 - (c) If a player dies, the Tournament Director will decide whether his games will be adjudicated or whether the Team Captain shall name a substitute player,
 - (d) A month after the start, the Team Captain will ensure that all players have begun play. If a player of a team has not begun play against all opponents within two months after the starting date despite written reminders by his opponents, and his Team Captain has not informed the Tournament Director within this time that a substitute player was placed on the board, then the team will lose the game on that board.
 - (e) In instances where a player is substituted, the replacement player may, if none of the games have been completed and also if the average number of moves played in all the games is less than 10, request to be granted "Replacement" status. This may be granted only with the agreement of the Tournament Director and the consent of the Qualifications Commissioner and will entitle the replacement player to have all his/her results rated and also to become eligible to achieve Title norms. In instances where "Replacement" status is granted, the Tournament Category shall be recalculated and Title Norms shall be revised if necessary. If the recalculated Tournament Category is less than that at the start of the event then the Tournament Category (and Title Norms) shall remain unchanged. However, with regard to qualification for the GM Norm, the number of GM's/SIM's listed at the start of the event shall remain unchanged regardless of any change to the Tournament Category.
- In instances where a player is substituted and the replacement player chooses not to seek "Replacement" status and also where it is no longer possible for the replacement player to achieve "Replacement" status, the Tournament Category and Title Norms shall remain unchanged and it shall not be possible for the replacement player to achieve any Title Norms. However, in such instances, the replacement player shall be rated only in those games which end in results favourable to his/her rating. Those results, which are unfavourable to the replacement player's rating, shall be credited to the original player who was replaced.
- (f) The Team Captain may demand all documents from a substituted player. If this is not possible, he has the right to request them (inter alia, the progress of the game) from the opponent team captains. When making such a request, the reason for it must be given.
 - (g) In team tournaments where several teams play over several boards, the allocation of colours will be so arranged that the team which has drawn 1 on board 1 will have white against those teams

which have drawn an even number and a change of colour will always alternate in the direction of board and player.

9. Rating numbers

9.1 It is the sincere wish of the ICCF to award equivalent titles for equivalent achievement. Under the ICCF rating system, each player obtains a rating based upon a method of statistical probability, calculated from tournament results over a period of many years.

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9.2 The tournaments which are taken into the rating system are:

- (a) All ICCF tournaments except thematic tournaments,
- (b) principal zonal tournaments, team championships, master class, higher class and open class promotion tournaments,
- (c) national tournaments, subject to an agreement with the Ratings Commissioner. At least the final of a national championship, team championship or cup final,
- (d) other individual and team tournaments including “Scheveningen” type events, authorized by the ICCF-Congress or Executive Board,
- (e) friendly matches between countries.

Rated tournaments must have a minimum reflection time of 20 days for 10 moves in postal and 30 days for 10 moves in electronic transmission.

Tournaments with postal or email transmission will be evaluated only if they are administrated on the ICCF-Webserver. Responsible for this task are the tournament directors and the delegates of the national federations, respectively.

9.3 Each player who has completed games in the tournaments referred to in § 9.2 obtains a rating. This rating will be published only if the player has completed at least 12 games. A rating based on at least 30 completed games is a “fixed” rating.

9.4 At the beginning of a tournament start ratings are assigned for those players with a published rating in the applicable ratings list. For newer players, FIDE ratings may be used if available, failing which a player would be regarded as having a rating equal to the tournament level. In case of a wrong or obviously inappropriate value, the Ratings Commissioner may adjust such a start rating to a more realistic value, even if the tournament is already ongoing.

When a game is finished, the rating calculation procedure will use a player’s rating from the newest rating list for those players with a published rating; otherwise, the start rating is used. However, if a player’s current rating is lower than his start rating; the new ratings for his opponents are calculated using the player’s start rating.

9.5 A new rating list will be released four times each year. The ratings are valid from January - March, April - June, July - September and October - December, respectively and are based on the results which were reported at least one month before. The lists will be available on the ICCF webserver two weeks before their validity date.

9.6 The rating list shall contain:

- (a) the effective date
- (b) the name and federation of each player with at least 12 rated games,
- (c) the ICCF title held by each player listed,
- (d) the current rating and the number of rated games for each player listed,

9.7 Players who do not qualify for a new rating because they have not finished a game during the evaluation period, remain on the active list because

- (a) they have finished a ratable game during the recent two calendar years, or
- (b) they are participating in at least one running tournament (rated or unrated). Other players retain their most recent published rating, but are no longer shown in the published list. However, the webserver shows all players with their valid rating.

10. Titles

10.0.1 In all ICCF Title tournaments, title norms are established by calculating the average rating of all participants at the start of the event in order to determine category of the event (see ICCF Title Norm Requirements). Title norms may also be available in "Scheveningen" type events where only the average rating of the opposition is used to determine the category of the event.

10.0.2 In all ICCF Title tournaments, each player plays one game simultaneously against each of the other players in the tournament or section. Subject to approval by the ICCF Congress or the WTD, players may be allowed to play two games simultaneously against each of the other players in special promotional events.

10.0.3 The principle of "overscore" (used in the following sub-sections of Rule 10) represents that fact that the player has achieved a higher score than the minimum required for that particular Title Norm and the number of players, in that particular tournament. So he/she could have played extra games, lost them, & would still qualify for a Title based on a higher number of players. For example, a player scores 8 points out of 10 games in a Category 5 tournament for an IM Norm. At Category 5, a score of 8 gives an IM Norm from 12 games. Therefore, this Norm would qualify as 12 games towards the IM Title.

10.1 The ICCF awards the following titles:

- (a) World Correspondence Chess Champion,
- (b) Ladies World Correspondence Chess Champion,
- (c) Correspondence Chess Grandmaster,
- (d) Senior International Correspondence Chess Master,
- (e) International Correspondence Chess Master,
- (f) Correspondence Chess Ladies Grandmaster,
- (g) International Correspondence Chess Ladies' Master,
- (h) International Arbiter of the ICCF,

10.2 The title "Correspondence Chess World Champion" is awarded to the winner of the World Championship Final. Each World Champion should be numbered according to the cycle being played and he/she retains with this title forever.

10.3 The title "Correspondence Chess Ladies' World Champion" is awarded to the winner of the World Correspondence Chess Ladies' Championship Final (Individual). Each Ladies' World Champion should be numbered according to the cycle being played and she retains with this title forever.

10.4 The title "Correspondence Chess Grandmaster" is not limited in time and is awarded to:

- (a) those players who gain places 1-3 in the WC final,
- (b) the player who has the best result on board 1 in the final of the CC Olympiad,
- (c) those players who gain at least two grandmaster results in international title tournaments with a total of at least 24 games, This number of games may be reduced if the player overscores sufficiently to achieve the standard Norm requirements over 24 games
- (d) those players for whom the national federation makes an appropriately qualified application. For this a two-thirds majority vote of a Congress must be obtained.

A Grandmaster title based upon results under (c) will not be awarded unless at least five of the players in the tournament(s) have been grandmasters or players with a fixed rating of at least 2600. However, of this five-player quota a maximum of two may be substituted by two SIM players each.

10.5 The title "Senior International Correspondence Chess Master" is not limited in time and is awarded to:

- (a) those players who achieve at least two senior master results in international title tournaments with a total of at least 24 games. This number of games may be reduced if the player overscores sufficiently to achieve the standard Norm requirements over 24 games. However one or more international master result over a total maximum of 14 games in an event or events which started or were approved prior to the Daytona 2000 Congress, will count towards a Senior International Master title.
- (b) those players for whom the national federation makes an appropriately qualified application. For this, a two-thirds majority vote of a Congress must be obtained.

10.6 The title "International Correspondence Chess Master" is not limited in time and is awarded to:

- (a) those players who qualify for the World Championship Final or gain a master result in a ¾-Final (Candidates' tournament)
- (b) the player who takes first place in the World Correspondence Chess Ladies' Championship,
- (c) the player who takes first place in the ICCF World Cup Tournament Final,
- (d) those players who gain two or more master results in international title tournaments with a total of at least 24 games. This number of games may be reduced if the player overscores sufficiently to achieve the standard Norm requirements over 24 games.
- (e) those players for whom their national federation makes an appropriately qualified application. For this a two-thirds majority vote of the Congress must be obtained.

10.7 The title of "Correspondence Chess Ladies Grandmaster" is not limited in time and is awarded to:

- (a) those players who gain places 1-3 in the World Correspondence Chess Ladies' Championship Final,
- (b) the player who has the best result on board 1 in the Final of the Correspondence Chess Ladies' Olympiad,
- (c) those players who achieve two or more Ladies' Grandmaster Results in international title tournaments with a total of at least 24 games. This number of games may be reduced if the player overscores sufficiently to achieve the standard Norm requirements over 24 games.
- (d) those players for who their national federation makes an appropriately qualified application. For this a two-thirds majority vote of Congress must be obtained.

10.8 The title "Correspondence Chess Ladies Master" in not limited and is awarded to:

- (a) those players in the World Correspondence Chess Ladies' Championship Final who score at least 60% of the possible points,
- (b) those players in the World Correspondence Chess Ladies' Olympiad Final who score at least 60% of the possible points on board 1,
- (c) those players who achieve two or more ladies' master results in international title tournaments with a total of at least 24 games. This number of games may be reduced if the player overscores sufficiently to achieve the standard Norm requirements over 24 games.
- (d) those lady players for whom their national federation makes an appropriately qualified application. For this a two-thirds' majority vote of the Congress must be obtained.

10.9 The title "International Arbiter of the ICCF" is not limited in time and will be awarded based on a combination of quantitative and qualitative criteria. All applications must be submitted to the Arbiter Committee (ACO) together with details of all qualifying tournaments and the name and e-mail address of the TD Mentor. The ACO will check:-

- a) time served and number of games – must be a minimum of 4 years' successful work as Tournament Director of ICCF qualifying tournaments* without a break, supervising a minimum of 1,000 games OR 6 years' work as Tournament Director of ICCF qualifying tournaments* with a break, supervising a minimum of 1,000 games.
- b) quality of TD work (response to problems or queries from players, games archiving, delivery of information for marketing purposes), asking comments of the Mentor TD and other ICCF officers if necessary.

The ACO will then confirm any recommendation for the IA Title to the national CC organisation and the Qualifications Commissioner.

*ICCF qualifying tournaments are Promotion tournaments, Title tournaments, Thematic tournaments, World Cups, Webserver Opens, Champions League and Direct Entry Anniversary Open (national tournaments, friendly international matches and unrated events not listed above shall NOT count towards the IA Title).

10.10 Every titleholder receives a certificate which is awarded by Congress.

10.11 Submissions for the posthumous award of ICCF Titles may only be made not more than 2 years following a nominee's death.

11. Rules for International Team Tournaments

11.1 International team tournaments must be conducted by a Tournament Director.

11.2 Each team must have a team captain.

11.3 The tournament notices should contain:

- (a) the name of the organisation which is promoting the tournament,
- (b) the teams entitled to take part in the tournament and the condition of selection,
- (c) the conditions for conducting the tournament: the maximum number of teams in the preliminary round groups, the semi-finals and finals; regulations for admission to the next higher round,
- (d) the number of boards in each team,
- (e) the number of games to be played at each board,
- (f) the rules for the substitution of players,
- (g) the starting date and the intended concluding date of the tournament,
- (h) the name of the Tournament Director.

11.4 The Tournament Director will maintain contact with the Team Captains. Direct contact with each player is not desirable except when it is unavoidably necessary.

11.5 In the case of disputes the Team Captains should make every effort to come to agreement with each other and only if this fails, to refer the matter to the Tournament Director. However the Tournament Director remains responsible for the conduct and progress of the tournament and may intervene directly if necessary.

12. Players' Eligibility

12.1 A player's Member Federation is normally the federation of his / her country of citizenship or residence.

12.2 When players move country of permanent residence and wish to change federation, they may do this with the mutual consent of the respective federations.

12.3 When the transfer is approved, the new Member Federation shall notify the ICCF Ratings Commissioner. The player's ICCF Identification Number and ratings history stay with the player regardless of the change in Member Federation.

12.4 A player may appeal to the Arbitration Commission (whose decision would be final) if there is an objection to the transfer.

13. Live Display of Games

Provided that it is not stated otherwise in the tournament announcement and/or in the start documents, any player is allowed to publish or submit for publishing on the internet or elsewhere any unfinished games or positions played by him/her under the conditions that:

- all his/her games in the tournament are already different from each other,
- the game (position) is demonstrated with a delay of at least 3 moves,
- the URL of the subject website is given,
- the date of the last update is mentioned,
- his/her opponents involved, officially agree with the live-publishing of their game and declare this to the Tournament Director.

The Tournament Director is not expected to check player's private websites regularly. However, if his/her attention is drawn to a violation of this rule by another person, he shall investigate.

When a player violates this guideline for the first time, then the TD shall not apply any sanctions, but simply order the change of the status of the published game according to this rule.

When a player violates this rule for a second time in the same tournament, the player shall be penalised by 10 extra days added to his time of reflection in all games of the respective tournament.

When a player violates this rule for a third time in the same tournament, the player shall be disqualified from this tournament and all his/her remaining unfinished games shall be scored as losses.

When a player violates this rule repeatedly in various tournaments, the World Tournament Director is authorised to ban this player from ICCF play for 2 years.

14. Appeals

The jurisdiction to deal with appeals concerning these rules is designated to the Appeals Commission (Other ICCF Rules).

Appendix R – The Working Rules of the Rating System

The Working Rules of the Ratings System

General Principles

1. The ICCF rating system is a numerical system in which percentage scores are convertible to rating differences and conversely, rating differences are convertible to scoring probabilities.
2. The basic of the system is the normal probability function of statistical probability theory. For convenience sake, this function has been put into tabular form for the conversions indicated in 1.
3. Table of conversions from percentage P into rating difference Dp:

P	Dp	P	Dp	P	Dp	P	Dp	P	Dp	P	Dp
1.00	677	0.83	273	0.66	117	0.49	- 7	0.32	-133	0.15	- 296
0.99	677	0.82	262	0.65	110	0.48	- 14	0.31	-141	0.14	- 309
0.98	589	0.81	251	0.64	102	0.47	- 21	0.30	- 149	0.13	- 322
0.97	538	0.80	240	0.63	95	0.46	- 29	0.29	- 158	0.12	- 336
0.96	501	0.79	230	0.62	87	0.45	- 36	0.28	- 166	0.11	- 351
0.95	470	0.78	220	0.61	80	0.44	- 43	0.27	- 175	0.10	- 366
0.94	444	0.77	211	0.60	72	0.43	- 50	0.26	- 184	0.09	- 383
0.93	422	0.76	202	0.59	65	0.42	- 57	0.25	- 193	0.08	- 401
0.92	401	0.75	193	0.58	57	0.41	- 65	0.24	- 202	0.07	- 422
0.91	383	0.74	184	0.57	50	0.40	- 72	0.23	- 211	0.06	- 444
0.90	366	0.73	175	0.56	43	0.39	- 80	0.22	- 220	0.05	- 470
0.89	351	0.72	166	0.55	36	0.38	- 87	0.21	- 230	0.04	- 501
0.88	336	0.71	158	0.54	29	0.37	- 95	0.20	- 240	0.03	- 538
0.87	322	0.70	149	0.53	21	0.36	- 102	0.19	- 251	0.02	- 589
0.86	309	0.69	141	0.52	14	0.35	- 110	0.18	- 262	0.01	- 677
0.85	296	0.68	133	0.51	7	0.34	- 117	0.17	- 273	0.00	- 677
0.84	284	0.67	125	0.50	0	0.33	- 125	0.16	- 284		

4. Table of conversion from difference in rating D into scoring probability for the higher (P_h) and the lower (P_l) rated player respectively:

D	P_h	P_l	D	P_h	P_l	D	P_h	P_l	D	P_h	P_l
0 - 3	0.50	0.50	92 - 98	0.63	0.37	198 - 206	0.76	0.24	345 - 357	0.89	0.11
4 - 10	0.51	0.49	99 - 106	0.64	0.36	207 - 215	0.77	0.23	358 - 374	0.90	0.10
11 - 17	0.52	0.48	107 - 113	0.65	0.35	216 - 225	0.78	0.22	375 - 391	0.91	0.09
18 - 25	0.53	0.47	114 - 121	0.66	0.34	226 - 235	0.79	0.21	392 - 411	0.92	0.08
26 - 32	0.54	0.46	122 - 129	0.67	0.33	236 - 245	0.80	0.20	412 - 432	0.93	0.07
33 - 39	0.55	0.45	130 - 137	0.68	0.32	246 - 256	0.81	0.19	433 - 456	0.94	0.06
40 - 46	0.56	0.44	138 - 145	0.69	0.31	257 - 267	0.82	0.18	457 - 484	0.95	0.05
47 - 53	0.57	0.43	146 - 153	0.70	0.30	268 - 278	0.83	0.17	485 - 517	0.96	0.04
54 - 61	0.58	0.42	154 - 162	0.71	0.29	279 - 290	0.84	0.16	518 - 559	0.97	0.03
62 - 68	0.59	0.41	163 - 170	0.72	0.28	291 - 302	0.85	0.15	560 - 619	0.98	0.02
69 - 76	0.60	0.40	171 - 179	0.73	0.27	303 - 315	0.86	0.14	620 - >>	0.99	0.01
77 - 83	0.61	0.39	180 - 188	0.74	0.26	316 - 328	0.87	0.13			
84 - 91	0.62	0.38	189 - 197	0.75	0.25	329 - 344	0.88	0.12			

The Working Formulae

5. For the calculation of a rating of a player who has not yet played 30 games:

$$R_p = R_c + D(p) * F$$

R_p the rating of the player

R_c the average rating of all his opponents, limited to a maximum difference of 350

$D(p)$ the difference in rating based on the percentage score p , obtained from item 3

F the correction factors depending on the percentage score p in the following way:

$$F = -2 * p^2 + 2 * p + 0.5$$

6. The new rating of a player with a fixed rating from the previous period is calculated by:

$$R_n = R_0 + \sum \Delta R$$

R_n the new rating of the player

R_0 the old rating of the player

$\sum \Delta R$ the summation of the rating changes in all his games during the rating period

7. Calculation of a change in rating after a game is made by:

$$\Delta R = k * \Delta W = k * (W - W_e)$$

ΔR the change of the rating for a finished game

W the actual game result (1, 1/2, 0)

W_e the expected result of the game

k the rating point value for a game point (or: the development coefficient)

8. The expected game result W_e is the percentage expectancy, obtained from item 4, based on the difference between the player's rating and the opponent's rating as defined in Tournament Rule 9.4. If this difference is > 350 , it is snipped to this value for the evaluation.

A player without a published ICCF rating at that time will be regarded as having a rating equal to the tournament level (see item 11).

9. The development coefficient k is used as a stabilising factor in the system:

$$k = r * g$$

$$r = \begin{cases} 10 & \text{if } R_0 \geq 2400 \\ 70 - R_0 / 40 & \text{if } 2000 < R_0 < 2400 \\ 20 & \text{if } R_0 \leq 2000 \end{cases}$$

$$g = \begin{cases} 1 & \text{if } g_n \geq 80 \\ 1.4 - g_n / 200 & \text{if } 30 < g_n < 80 \\ 1.25 & \text{if } g_n \leq 30 \end{cases}$$

R_0 the old (that is: the most recently calculated) rating of the player

g_n the total number of rated games played by this player

10. From 2009 onwards the former used significance factor f is no longer valid.

11. Assumed rating for a player without a published rating at the beginning of a tournament:

- 1800 Open class, cup preliminary rounds, and international open preliminary rounds
- 1900 Ladies' WC semifinals, ladies' olympiads
- 2000 Higher class, cup semifinals, international open semifinals
- 2100 Ladies' WC finals, money prize tournament.
- 2200 Master class, cup finals, Olympiads, zonal championship preliminary rounds
Invitation (team) tournaments, international open finals
- 2300 Master norm tournaments
- 2400 WC semifinals, zonal championship semifinals
- 2450 Grandmaster norm tournaments
- 2500 WC candidates, zonal championship finals

For national tournaments the average of the already rated participants is assumed, maximum 2400.

For friendly matches, normally a value of 1800 applies. In special cases Team Captains are allowed to propose other values than 1800 where appropriate. These values have to be confirmed and may be changed by the Ratings Commissioner before a tournament starts.

For new kinds of tournaments, a value shall be fixed with the announcement of the tournament.

Calculation Procedure

12. From 2009 onwards at the beginning of each quarter a new rating list is published. All results, which were reported at least one month before, will be eligible for inclusion on the next list.

13. Valid results from postal and email tournaments must be registered by the tournament directors on the ICCF-Webserver no later than two weeks before the list has to be published.

14. Players without a rating from previous periods get their first rating based on the games finished during the current period, using the formula of item 5.

15. Each player who has a rating based on less than 30 games at the beginning of the rating period receives a new rating based on all his games. This is done with the formula of item 5.

16. For each player whose rating was based on at least 30 games at the beginning of the period the new rating is calculated using the formula of item 6, except for those players who finished more than $800/k$ games in the current period. For those players a new rating is calculated, based on the formula 5 only for their games in that period.

17. The new rating for the next ICCF rating list is rounded to the nearest integer.

18. Rules for the rating of games in team tournaments in which a substitute player takes part:
- a) A game of a substitute player is only counted for his new rating if ΔW is positive for him. Otherwise, the game is counted for the player who has been substituted.
 - b) For the opponent the game is counted as being played against the player (the original or the substitute) with the highest rating.

International Correspondence Chess Federation

Appendix S – ICCF Title Regulations

International Correspondence Chess Title Regulations

1. An international tournament shall have the following requirements:

- a) it must involve the participation of at least 9 players. However, the Title Tournament Commissioner has authority to arrange double-round robin tournaments with less than 9 players (providing each player has a minimum of 8 games),
- b) at least 75% of the participating players shall be rated,
- c) at least 60% of the participating players shall have a fixed rating,
- d) at least three ICCF affiliated federations shall be represented,
- e) not more than two thirds of the participating players shall be members of one and the same ICCF affiliated federation,
- f) play shall conform to ICCF Playing Rules and should, if possible, be conducted by an International Arbiter.

Promotion tournaments, thematic tournaments, and cup preliminaries shall not be deemed title tournaments.

2. Tournaments shall be classified into categories as resulting from the participants' average rating. The average rating shall be the sum total of the individual players' ratings divided by the number of participating players.

- a) To determine the average rating in tournaments, players shall be entered at their current rating. Unrated players shall be considered using the nominal figure of 2200. Inactive players are considered to have their latest published rating.
- b) To determine the average rating in ladies only tournaments, players shall be entered at their current rating. Unrated players shall be considered using the nominal figure of 1900. Inactive players are considered to have their latest published rating.
- c) Rounding of the average ratings shall be made to the nearest whole number. The value of .5 (exactly) shall be rounded up.

d) International title tournament categories shall be defined as follows.

Category	Average rating	For ladies
I	2251 - 2275	1951 - 1975
II	2276 - 2300	1976 - 2000
III	2301 - 2325	2001 - 2025
IV	2326 - 2350	2026 - 2050
V	2351 - 2375	2051 - 2075
VI	2376 - 2400	2076 - 2100
VII	2401 - 2425	2101 - 2125
VIII	2426 - 2450	2126 - 2150
IX	2451 - 2475	2151 - 2175
X	2476 - 2500	2176 - 2200
XI	2501 - 2525	2201 - 2225
XII	2526 - 2550	2226 - 2250
XIII	2551 - 2575	2251 - 2275
XIV	2576 - 2600	2276 - 2300
XV	2601 - 2625	2301 - 2325
XVI	2626 - 2650	2326 - 2350
XVII	2651 - 2675	2351 - 2375
XVIII	2676 - 2700	2376 - 2400

3. The minimum game scores for title results shall be by virtue of the following table of points, where

A = the number of participants,

B = the number of games,

C = the minimum number of players not belonging to one and the same federation,

D = the minimum number of rated players,

E = the minimum number of players having a fixed rating.

The following norm table is based on the ICCF rating system, which is governed by following general principles;

- The ICCF Rating system is a numerical system in which percentage scores are converted to rating differences and conversely, rating differences are convertible to scoring probabilities.
- The basis of the system is the normal probability function of statistical probability theory.

A	B	C	D	E	Title	I	II	III	IV	V	VI	VII	VIII	IX	X	XI	XII	XIII	XIV	XV	XVI	XVII	XVIII
9	8	3	7	6	GM							6½	6	6	5½	5½	5	5	4½	4	4	3½	3½
					SIM				6½	6	6	5½	5½	5	5	4½	4	4	3½	3½	3	3	2½
					IM	6½	6	6	5½	5½	5	5	4½	4	4	3½	3½	3	3	2½	2½	2	2
10	9	4	8	6	GM							7	7	6½	6	6	5½	5½	5	4½	4½	4	4
					SIM				7	7	6½	6	6	5½	5½	5	4½	4½	4	4	3½	3	3
					IM	7	7	6½	6	6	5½	5½	5	4½	4½	4	4	3½	3	3	2½	2½	2
11	10	4	9	7	GM							8	7½	7	7	6½	6	6	5½	5	5	4½	4
					SIM				8	7½	7	7	6½	6	6	5½	5	5	4½	4	4	3½	3
					IM	8	7½	7	7	6½	6	6	5½	5	5	4½	4	4	3½	3	3	2½	2½
12	11	4	9	8	GM							8½	8	8	7½	7	7	6½	6	5½	5½	5	4½
					SIM				8½	8	8	7½	7	7	6½	6	5½	5½	5	4½	4	4	3½
					IM	8½	8	8	7½	7	7	6½	6	5½	5½	5	4½	4	4	3½	3	3	2½
13	12	5	10	8	GM							9½	9	8½	8	8	7½	7	6½	6	6	5½	5
					SIM				9½	9	8½	8	8	7½	7	6½	6	6	5½	5	4½	4	4
					IM	9½	9	8½	8	8	7½	7	6½	6	6	5½	5	4½	4	4	3½	3	3
14	13	5	11	9	GM							10	9½	9½	9	8½	8	7½	7	6½	6½	6	5½
					SIM				10	9½	9½	9	8½	8	7½	7	6½	6½	6	5½	5	4½	4
					IM	10	9½	9½	9	8½	8	7½	7	6½	6½	6	5½	5	4½	4	3½	3½	3
15	14	5	12	9	GM							11	10½	10	9½	9	8½	8	7½	7	7	6	6
					SIM				11	10½	10	9½	9	8½	8	7½	7	7	6	6	5	5	4½
					IM	11	10½	10	9½	9	8½	8	7½	7	7	6	6	5	5	4½	4	3½	3½
16	15	6	12	10	GM							11½	11	10½	10	10	9	8½	8	7½	7	6½	6
					SIM				11½	11	10½	10	10	9	8½	8	7½	7	6½	6	5½	5	4½
					IM	11½	11	10½	10	10	9	8½	8	7½	7	6½	6	5½	5	4½	4½	4	3½
17	16	6	13	11	GM							12½	12	11½	11	10½	10	9½	8½	8	7½	7	6½
					SIM				12½	12	11½	11	10½	10	9½	8½	8	7½	7	6½	6	5½	5
					IM	12½	12	11½	11	10½	10	9½	8½	8	7½	7	6½	6	5½	5	4½	4	3½
18	17	6	14	11	GM							13	12½	12	11½	11	10½	10	9	8½	8	7½	7
					SIM				13	12½	12	11½	11	10½	10	9	8½	8	7½	7	6½	6	5½
					IM	13	12½	12	11½	11	10½	10	9	8½	8	7½	7	6½	6	5½	5	4½	4
19	18	7	15	12	GM							14	13½	13	12½	11½	11	10½	9½	9	8½	8	7½
					SIM				14	13½	13	12½	11½	11	10½	9½	9	8½	8	7½	6½	6	5½
					IM	14	13½	13	12½	11½	11	10½	9½	9	8½	8	7½	6½	6	5½	5	4½	4
20	19	7	15	12	GM							14½	14	13½	13	12½	11½	11	10½	9½	9	8½	8
					SIM				14½	14	13½	13	12½	11½	11	10½	9½	9	8½	8	7	6½	6
					IM	14½	14	13½	13	12½	11½	11	10½	9½	9	8½	8	7	6½	6	5½	5	4½

4. In addition, the following provisions shall apply to the computation of title results:

a) The Qualifications Commissioner shall prepare a statement of norms at the start of a tournament. In this statement, the category and norms are fixed. Category and norms shall be recalculated if a player withdraws and his games are cancelled. However, a title result always remains valid for the number of games and titled players fixed at the start of the tournament.

b) FIDE titles and ratings (in accordance with the current FIDE list at the start of the tournament) for players not rated on the ICCF list shall be considered at the time the statement of norms is prepared. It shall be only in this special case that a player's FIDE rating shall be considered equivalent to an unfixed ICCF rating.

c) Where a tournament fails to comply with the requirements set out under paragraphs 1 b) or 1 c) or where it cannot be classified into any category, it shall be classified as follows:

Category IV:

- Candidates' Tournament
- Correspondence Chess Olympiad Final, boards 1-3,

Category III:

- Correspondence Chess Olympiad Final, boards 4-6,
- Final of a zonal team championship, first half of the boards,

Category II:

- World Championship Semi-final,
- Zonal Championship,
- Preliminary group of the Correspondence Chess Olympiad, boards 1-3,
- Final of a zonal team championship, second half of the boards,
- Preliminary group of a zonal team championship, first half of the boards,

Category I:

-Preliminary groups of the Correspondence Chess Olympiad and Zonal team championships, second half of the boards.

d) International ladies' master results scored in all tournaments shall be recognised.

e) Where one norm is sufficient for more than one title, it can be counted towards each.

5. In exceptional cases, the Presidium (Executive Board) shall decide based on a proposal from the Qualifications Commissioner.

Appendix T – Invitations Tournament

Invitations Tournaments

Background

The 2002 ICCF Congress laid down the guidelines for approval of invitation tournaments. These guidelines have now been updated. The following procedures should be carefully noted and observed:-

1. Arrangements for all ICCF approved international invitation and open tournaments organised by ICCF member federations or ICCF Zonal Directors should be in accordance with the principles and aims defined in the ICCF Statutes.
2. Applications for ICCF recognition of international tournaments must be submitted to the World Tournament Director (WTD) who has delegated authority to approve such tournaments, or give recommendations to Congress. The WTD should report to the next Congress on all approved applications for formal ratification and inclusion in the Minutes. Where, in the opinion of the WTD, there could be a potential problem (for example, involving a breach of these guidelines or another ICCF member federation) he will have the right to refer the application to the next Congress for debate and possible approval. Approvals of applications for multiple tournaments/groups from any federation may be subject to a referral to the Congress if the WTD considers it appropriate.
3. Applications for invitation tournaments should be submitted at least 6 months before the intended start date of the tournament and all approvals granted will lapse if a tournament has not been started within 6 months of the approved start date. In such a situation, a renewed approval application is required and invitations should not be issued until renewed approval has been granted.
4. Applications for open tournaments must be submitted to the ICCF World Tournament Director (WTD) at least four months before it is due to start. It should not be advertised until ICCF approval has been formally confirmed. The WTD will consider the number of similar events that are planned concurrently and any ICCF open tournaments that are due to start, before giving formal ICCF approval.
5. Invitations to international invitation tournaments must be made via the member federations from whom players are being invited. No invitations should be made until after formal approval of the tournament has been received. **No invitations shall be sent directly to the players.**
6. All approved tournaments will be played under ICCF Playing Rules, and the ICCF Appeals Commission will act as Appeal Instance. The Tournament Director shall be selected according to the Arbiter Manual regulations.

7. Bearing in mind that ICCF approved tournaments enjoy an official international status, with title norms (where eligible), ratings and other services provided, a scale of registration and rating fees will apply. These are payable to ICCF, for the year in which tournaments start. The fees are defined in the “ICCF Financial Regulations” document.
8. All approval requests must include details of the prizes offered, and the Source of the prize fund. Where a federation has previously met problems paying prizes promptly, it will be a condition of approval that the entire prize fund be deposited with ICCF prior to the start date. In these circumstances, the deposited monies will be invested securely and any interest accrued will be credited to the national federation, and the ICCF Financial Director will be responsible for the prompt payment of all prizes. All other financial details (appearance fees...) must be included in the request sent to the WTD.
9. Title norms in international invitation and open tournaments need to be formally ratified by the Qualification Commissioner’s report to Congress

International Correspondence Chess Federation

Appendix U – WCCC Working Group Charts and Statistics

History

	History					Capacity		
Year	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	small	large	XXL
CT-entries	52	110	78	48	< 50	39	51	59.5
CT-sections	4	10	6	3	3	3	3	3.5
SF-entries	117	143	169	143	143	169	323	
SF-sections	9	11	13	11	11	13	19	
PR-entries	130	143	210	225	187	260	680	
PR-sections	10	11	14	15	11	20	40	

New Structure - 2009

Structure for future World Championships					
Side entries					Qualification
Former Final	3	⇒	Final	⇐	place 1 - 3
EB disposition	2	⇒	every 1½ year	↓	50%-score to CT
			17 players		others to SF
Former Final	4	⇒		↑	place 1 - 2
Former CT	8	⇒	Candidates (CT)		
				⇐	60%-score
World-Cup (like SF)	1	⇒	4 sections per year		
Zonal Champ. (cat IX)	3	⇒	4 * 13 = 52 players	↓	50%-score to SF
Wildcards (rating/title)	?	⇒			40%-score to PR
- to fill up vacancies					
Former Final	6	⇒		↑	place 1 - 2
Former CT	12	⇒	Semifinal (SF)		
Former SF	36	⇒			
World Cup (60%-score)	1	⇒	max. 18 sections per year	⇐	60%-score
Zonal Champ.	9	⇒	18 * 13 = 234 players		
MFN	50	⇒		↓	50%-score to PR
Wildcards (rating/title)	60	⇒			
- more if less PR sect.					




			30 * 2 = 60		
Former CT	8	⇒		↑	place 1 - 2
Former SF	36	⇒	Preliminary (PR)		
Former PR	60	⇒			
World Cup / Zonal Ch.	16	⇒	max. 30 sections per year	⇐	60%-score
Master Class Winners	60	⇒	30 * 13 = 390 players		
MFN	70	⇒			
Wildcards (rating/title)	140	⇒			
World Cup Final is considered to have the same promotion rules as SF (every 2nd year)					
Zonal Championships with category IX and higher are considered like SF (1½ per year)					
Zonal Championships with category VIII and below are considered like PR (2 per year)					
Assumed values:	total	higher	remaining qualifications		
50%-score (17)	9	-3	6 (from Final 4 per year)		
60%-score (13)	4	-2	2 (in 2008 average: 1)		
50%-score (13)	7	-5	2		
40%-score (13)	9	-7	2		

New Structure – 2013 (Small)

Structure for future World Championships (small)					
Side entries					Qualification
Former Final	3	⇒	Final	⇐	place 1 - 3
EB disposition	2	⇒	every 2 years	⇓	50%-score to CT (6)
			17 players		others to SF (8)
			┌───────────┐		
			└───────────┘		
			6 * 2 = 12		
Former Final	3	⇒		⇑	place 1 - 2
Former CT	6	⇒	Candidates (CT)		
				⇐	place 3 - 4
World-Cup (like SF)	1	⇒	3 sections per year		
Zonal Champ. (cat IX)	3	⇒	3 * 13 = 39 players	⇓	50%-score to SF (3)
Wildcards (rating/title)	?	⇒	┌───────────┐		40%-score to PR (3)
- to fill up vacancies			└───────────┘		
			13 * 2 = 26		
Former Final	4	⇒		⇑	place 1 - 2
Former CT	9	⇒	Semifinal (SF)		
Former SF	26	⇒			
World Cup (place 3-4)	1	⇒	max. 13 sections per year	⇐	place 3 - 4
Zonal Champ.	9	⇒	13 * 13 = 169 players		
MFN	40	⇒		⇓	50%-score to PR (3)
Wildcards (rating/title)	40	⇒	┌───────────┐		
- more if less PR			└───────────┘		

sect.					
			$20 * 2 = 40$		
Former CT	9	⇒		↑	place 1 - 2
Former SF	39	⇒	Preliminary (PR)		
Former PR	40	⇒			
World Cup / Zonal Ch.	16	⇒	max. 20 sections per year	⇐	place 3 - 4
Master Class Winners	60	⇒	$20 * 13 = 260$ players		
MFN	70	⇒			
Wildcards (rating/title)	24	⇒			
World Cup Final is considered to have the same promotion rules as SF (every 2nd year)					
Zonal Championships with category IX and higher are considered like SF (1½ per year)					
Zonal Championships with category VIII and below are considered like PR (2 per year)					
Assumed values:	total	higher	remaining qualifications		
50%-score (17)	9	-3	6 (from Final 3 per year)		
60%-score (13)	4	-2	2 (recently 0 - 1)		
50%-score (13)	7	-4	3		
40%-score (13)	10	-7	3		

New Structure – 2013 (Large)

Structure for future World Championships (large)					
Side entries					Qualification
Former Final	3	⇒	Final	⇐	place 1 - 3
EB disposition or XXL	2	⇒	every 2 years	⇓	50%-score to CT (6)
			17 players		others to SF (8)
					
			$6 * 2 = 12$		
Former Final	3	⇒		⇑	place 1 - 2
Former CT	6	⇒	Candidates (CT)		
				⇐	place 3 - 4
World-Cup (like SF)	1	⇒	3 sections per year		
Zonal Champ. (cat IX)	3	⇒	$3 * 17 = 51$ players	⇓	50%-score to SF (5)
Wildcards (rating/title)	?	⇒			40%-score to PR (4)
- XXL	8.5		$19 * 2 = 38$		
Former Final	4	⇒		⇑	place 1 - 2
Former CT	15	⇒	Semifinal (SF)		
Former SF	38	⇒			
World Cup (place 3-4)	1	⇒	max. 19 sections per year	⇐	place 3 - 4
Zonal Champ.	9	⇒	$19 * 17 = 323$ players		
MFN	70	⇒		⇓	50%-score to PR (5)
Wildcards (rating/title)	106	⇒			
- more if less PR sect.					

			40 * 2 = 80		
Former CT	12	⇒		⇑	
Former SF	95	⇒	Preliminary (PR)		place 1 - 2
Former PR	80	⇒			
World Cup / Zonal Ch.	16	⇒	max. 40 sections per year	⇐	place 3 - 4
Master Class Winners	80	⇒	40 * 17 = 680 players		
MFN	70	⇒			
Wildcards (rating/title)	327	⇒			
World Cup Final is considered to have the same promotion rules as SF (every 2nd year)					
Zonal Championships with category IX and higher are considered like SF (1½ per year)					
Zonal Championships with category VIII and below are considered like PR (2 per year)					
Assumed values:	total	higher	remaining qualifications		
50%-score (final)	9	-3	6 (from Final 3 per year)		
60%-score (13)	4	-2	2 (recently 0 - 1)		
50%-score (13)	7	-4	3		
40%-score (13)	10	-7	3		
50%-score (17)	9	-4	5		
40%-score (17)	13	-9	4		

Maintenance tasks

- Use proper mime type (application/x-chess-pgn) on PGN files – *Deployed*
- Improved error handling when not logged in and access to game denied. After logging in, redirect to game instead of to error page again – *Deployed*
- Status page hosted independently – *Implemented with Twitter*

International Correspondence Chess Federation