

Ordinary XXth I.B.C.A. Congress at the Royal Meridien Hotel Chennai (India) Minutes

Due to many requests of the players who wanted to go on the excursion the Ordinary IBCA Congress is held August 16th and August 17th .2012

1. Welcome and roll call (registration of delegates)

At 9:40 h the delegates are welcomed by President Ludwig Beutelhoff.

He starts the roll call. Present are the delegates of:

Argentina (Daniel Morelli)
Bulgaria (Kevork Kalozcomolgom)
Columbia (Saolo Torres Rengifo)
France (Olivier Deville)
Germany (Volkmar Luecke)
Greece (Nikos Kalesis)
India (Charudatta Jadhav)
Iran (Afshin Tehrani, Ali Akbar Hodhodt)
Macedonia proxy to Greece
Kasakhstan
The Netherlands (Sergio Harnandan)
Romania (Teodor Lapadatu)
Russia (Alexej Salnikov)
Serbia (Sretko Avram)
South Africa (Clyde Leonard, Melvil Valesi)
Spain (Hose Luis Fernandez)
Sweden (Hakan Thomsson)
Turkey (Fatma Jilmaz)
Ukraine (Oleksii Zhiltsov)
Uk (Stephen Hilton)
Venezuela (Carlos Acevedo Sanchez).

22 delegates are present.

Ludwig Beutelhoff announces that the Congress will be in English in order to save time. He reminds the delegates of the Congress of Taragona, when the election was held in 4 languages and thus the election itself took 105 minutes. On the board there are: 1st Vice President Mr. Charudatta Jadhav from India, General Secretary Mr. Stephen Hilton (United Kingdom), Nikos Kales (Greece), Clyde Leonard (South Africa). The president excuses 2nd Vice President Teresa Debowska who could not come.

2. Reports

a) IBCA President Ludwig Beutelhoff

Despite of the financial problems IBCA are facing, because there are no sponsors the IBCA calendar could be fulfilled. The following tournaments were held:

2009 Junior tournament (Sweden)

2009 Women Championship (Poland)

The World Cup was a problem in 2009. It had been awarded to Azerbaijan by the Congress, because the delegate of Azerbaijan promised that everything should be free. Then the organisers from Azerbaijan asked 1000 dollars. This was unacceptable for IBCA. So the board decided to give it to Turkey. The Turkish organisation finally wanted 100 Dollars per day. This was also unacceptable. IBCA was grateful when Romania offered to take the World Cup in April 2010. In 2010 volcano Eja Flatja Yokutl broke out and there were no flight connections for five days. Germany and Great Britain could not come. Nevertheless the World Cup was plaid successfully.

In 2010 the individual tournament for blind and visually impaired chess players took place in Belgrade and it attracted the biggest number of chess players.

In 2011 there were two tournaments in Rhodes (Greece): The Youth Championship and the European Individual Championship. The Greeks are experts in organizing tournaments by now.

In 2012 the IBCA president and his wife were invited to the First Individual Championship of South America. It took place in St. Lous (Argentina). An IBCA meeting was held and IBCA was reinstalled. A committee was formed and the South American countries elected Daniel Morelli as their President.

The President informs about some changes as far as FIDE is concerned. In the Congress in Hanty Mansyisk in 2010 the Fide commission for disabled seized to exist. FIDE adviser Thomas Luther has to create special projects for the disabled. Money does not come automatically. The three world associations work together as far as free places for the chess Olympiad are concerned. The three organisations want to be independent, but FIDE may want them to unite.

The President talks about chess clocks. Dr. Jordan produced a supplement called chess voice. This clock was used in Hanty Mansyisk in the Chess Olympiad for the first time. It was hard work to get the clock accepted because of a contract to D.G. T. At first the chief arbiter did not allow to use the clock in the first and second round. In the third round the blind players could use the clock after getting written permission by Mr. Vasse from D.G.T.

There is a new Spanish clock available. The producer sent three clocks to Chennai and every team gets one clock for free.

Finally L. Beutelhoff thanks his wife for her voluntary work.

b) 1st Vice President Mr. Charudatta Jadhav

1st Vice President Mr Charudatta Jadhav reports about what he calls “The First 10 Year Indian Plan” (1998 – 2008). In every Indian state they have a blind chess organisation. All in all there are about 6000 players.

There is a selection cycle. In the end they have 14 players left. They play 18 to 19 tournaments per year. In 2007 there were only 7 rated players, now they have 51 rated players. Then he talks about his further plans. He announces that he wants to set up an audible library in the internet with free access to every player. Mr. Jadhav informs the congress about three meetings he had with Vasse resulting into the production of a completely new speaking chess clock. He announces that India will support other Asian countries. He mentions that he is proud of being a member of chess for the blind and especially IBCA board, He points out that there is a documentation about the work the Indians have done so far. This documentation was also sent to FIDE.

c) Secretary General Mr Stephen Hilten

Nikos Kalesis reads out Mr Hilton’s report. The report reads as follows:

“Let me start by saying that it has been an honour and privilege to have served as the Secretary General of the IBCA. I have had great help in my work for the organisation from everyone on the board, particularly the President and his wife.

I attended the 2009 World Junior Championships in Sweden as the representative of the IBCA. I also attended a number of events along with President and have attended all the board meetings that have taken place at these tournaments.

I did set up an IBCA page on facebook which has proved popular with chess players. It has enabled the IBCA to reach out to countries that we have never had in the past, particularly many countries in Asia, which can only be good for us.

I have also helped federations whenever it was possible for me to do so. Any enquiry I received was replied to within 24 hours and with one or two exceptions, I managed to achieve this.

Tournaments.

I have received the following bids from Federations.

2013 World Cup Spain

2014 World Individual Greece & France

2015 European Individual Championship, Serbia.

2016 15th IBCA Olympiad Macedonia

There are still tournaments for the juniors and for women that need a federation to host them.

Best Wishes

Stephen Hilton
Secretary General
IBCA”

He asks the member countries to let him know about any change of their email addresses so that they can get informed about IBCA matters in time.

d) Financial Report Mr Nikos Kalesis

The treasurer Mr Nikos Kalesis reads out his financial report covering the years 2009 – 2012. He mentions that the only income IBCA have is their membership fee of 150 Euros per year. The member countries having the Euro pay by bank transfer, and so do some eastern countries. Many member countries, however, prefer to pay cash mostly in the years with team competitions and Olympiads. Some have to pay for more than one year, but they all pay.

e) South Africa Mr Clyde Lenord

There are 7 countries that play Braille chess. South Africa, however, is the only country that play competitive chess. The countries are very poor. Many people are blind or disabled due landmines. Namibia has started to join the FIDE program “chess in schools”. They were successful in joining the South African chess community. They even won an award there. He is very keen on expanding Braille chess and tries to get 4 countries playing competitive chess. If he is successful a Braille chess team will be allowed to take part in the South African Championship for sighted chess players.

f) South America President Mr Daniel Morelli

Mr. Morelli reports that 50 players among them 11 FIDE rated players took part in the 1st Individual South American Championship. He says that chess is taught to every child in school and there is a special program for the blind and visually disabled. He mentions that his committee will do everything to promote chess for the blind and visually impaired.

4. Discussion

The following items are mentioned:

In the years of the FIDE Olympiad there should be no IBCA Olympiad as the Paraolympics demand too much money and the organisation of the IBCA Olympiad may be too difficult. The IBCA Olympiad needs carefully planning in advance. A vivid discussion about the chess rules for visually impaired and blind players is raised due to the increasing number of visually impaired chess players. In former tournaments there were more blind players. Some delegates feel that blind players are of a disadvantage. They are in favour of a differentiation between blind and partially sighted players and suggest tournaments being rated accordingly. The President says this is a serious and complicated matter which needs to be looked into it more carefully. He suggests a commission consisting of Stephen Hilton (chairman), Olexii Zsilsov (delegate from Ukraine) and Saulo Torres (delegate from Columbia). Mr Charudatta suggests the committee should propose their suggestions till February 2013. Thus the committee is formed and the delegates agree unanimously..

The President encourages the delegates to hand in their proposals. They will be dealt with in the morning of the following day.

Columbia invites all the players to come to the next Panamerican Championship.

4. Discharge of the board

President Ludwig Beutelhoff asks every delegate, if he votes for discharging of the board. They all agree. The board is unanimously discharged. The President thanks the delegates.

5. Elections

To be able to carry out the elections a chairman has to be found. Hawken Tomsson from Sweden is suggested and accepts.

The members of the IBCA board are unanimously elected. All accept and thank the delegates. The new board consist of:

IBCA President Mr. Ludwig Beutelhoff (Germany, blind)

1st Vice President Mr. Charudatta Jadhav (India, blind)

2ⁿ Vice President Mr. Nikos Kalesis (Greece, sighted)

Secretary General Mr. Stephen Hilton. (United Kingdom, visually impaired)

Treasurer Mr. Sergio Harnandan (visually impaired). Mr. Harnandan is 27 years old and application engineer by profession.

Complimentary members:

Mr. Clyde Leonard for Africa (blind)

Mr. Daniel Morelli for America (blind)

The first part of the IBCA Congress is finished. 12:20 h

August 17th, 2012, Congress continued:

The second part of the IBCA is started at 9:20 h with a Roll call: Poland, Denmark, Venezuela are missing.

6. Nomination of new I.B.C.A. arbiters

The following arbiters are appointed by the IBCA Congress:

Carina Koch (South Africa)

Fatma Yilmaz (Turkey)

Efi Andrikopoulou (Greece)

Mario Zilli (Argentina)

Milrad Knezevic (Serbia)

Drago Knezevic (Serbia)

Gerard de Lange (The Netherlands)

Peter Katenic (Serbia)

Anant Ram (India)

Mr. M. Manjunath (India)

7. Chess calendar (2013-2016)

The delegates unanimously agree on the IBCA calendar which you will find below.

1. World Cup 2013: There is a bid from Spain. They suggest it should be played with 10 teams. Place: Saragossa. Transport is guaranteed from Barcelona or Madrid. The tournament should last 11 days, 9 rounds, one free day. 600 Euros per person. June 1- 12. Free day June 7th. Bulletin in ink and Braille or on computer stick. The President thanks for the more the sufficient information.

Spain is awarded the World Cup in 2013..

2. 2014: The Individual World Championship is given to Greece. Korfu in Mid September is envisaged.

3. 2015: The European Individual championship is given to France (Lyon).

4. 2016: The Olympiad is given to Macedonia (FYROM). It will take place in Ohrid.

5. The next Panamerican tournament is given to Columbia. Columbia wants the winner to be FM. The President suggests to clear the details with the American committee. . Everybody is invited.

6. Junior World Championship: The President asks Serbia to send their plans for this tournament till Nov. 2012.

7. 2013 Women World Championship: is given to Serbia..

8. 2015 Junior World Championship: Ludwig Beutelhoff explains that the conditions in Argentina are excellent. Argentina is awarded with the tournament.

The President congratulates the Congress on having successfully set up the IBCA calendar for the period 2013 – 2016. He hopes to see the chess players, coaches and guides in these places.

The delegate from Iran announces the Asian Championships in the next winter.

8. Proposals

Proposal Nr. 1 from Ukraine.

Ukraine agrees not read Vasins paper as it was distributed.

Proposal Nr. 2 from Ukraine. Shifting the IBCA Olympiad to 2017

Ukraine proposes to shift the IBCA Olympiad to 2017 to avoid a clash with the Paraolympics. The proposal is unanimously approved.

Proposal Nr. 3 from Russia and Romania Team World Cup

Russia and Romania propose to change the name “World Cup” to “Team World Championship” The delegates unanimously agree.

Proposal Nr 4 from Argentine FM title for every continental IBCA champion

Argentine proposes to give the FM title to all continental champions. They argue it is fair to treat all champions from all continents in an equal way. The President is in favour of the proposal, utters his doubts, because at the moment the champions of Asia and America are not so highly rated. FIDE might be reluctant to award the FM title to a person that has less ELO. Ludwig Beutelhoff suggests to ask for a CM title. This proposal would make it easier for Fide to agree. Delegates agree.

Proposal Nr 5 from Romania team World championship with 16 teams

Romania proposes to play the team world championship with 16 teams instead of 10 to give more teams the chance to take part.

A discussion about the different systems starts. Some countries want a competition among strong countries only, therefore they would vote for 10 countries, others want to give more countries a chance to play. President Ludwig Beutelhoff suggests to find a solution for the future. He recommends that the delegates of the Congress should decide on this important matter. It should not be left to the organiser. The delegates vote for 16 teams and the President asks the organiser Spain to let IBCA know as soon as possible if they would do it under these circumstances.

Proposal Nr. 6 from IBCA board. Proposals cost money

Proposals for tournaments are no longer free of charge. Every country that makes a proposal for a tournament has to deposit 100 Euros and 50 Euros for an arbiter. The money has to be paid in advance and will not be refunded. The delegates unanimously agree.

Proposal Nr. 7 from Germany adapted chess boards

Germany proposes every IBCA chess player has to play with an adapted chess board. Spain suggests to differentiate. In FIDE tournaments like the Olympiad they should be obliged to play on two boards. This is unanimously agreed. In IBCA tournaments two players can use one adapted chess board if they both agree. This is agreed by 18:5.

Proposal Nr. 8 website

Several delegates demand an upto date website to improve communication. Chris Ross is suggested to set up the IBCA website. This is unanimously agreed.

Different matters

Olivier Deville announces a skype tournament which will be organised by him. The President informs the delegates that he collected money privately for India (1500 Euros) and hands it over to Mr Charudatta. He will use it for his audible library.

End 11:20 h

Christine Beutelhoff
Minutes

Ludwig Beutelhoff
President IBCA

