



AD AUGUSTA
PER ANGSTA

INTERNATIONAL COMMITTEE OF SILENT CHESS

WELTAUSSCHUSS FÜR GEHÖRLOSENSCHACH - COMITÉ INTERNATIONAL DES ÉCHECS SILENCIEUX

Founded on 14.08.1949

MINUTES of the 29th I.C.S.C. CONGRESS held at the SAS Radisson Hotel, St Gallen, Switzerland on Sunday 27th July 2008, commencing at 09.00 hours.

Present were the following:

I.C.S.C. Presidium:

President	Michele Visco	(Italy)
Vice-President	Bruno Nuesch	(Switzerland)
Secretary-General	Phillip Gardner	(England)
Board Members	Laszlo Lukacsovics	(Hungary)
	Yuri Sobolev	(Russia)
Treasurer	Michael Freund	(England)

I.C.S.C. Honorary Presidents / Honorary Members

Honorary President	Gabor Vida	(Hungary)
Honorary President	Gerrit Westerveld	(Netherlands)
Honorary Member	Rudi van Perlstein	(Netherlands)

Society of Friends of I.C.S.C.

Honorary Secretary:	Gerrit Westerveld	(Netherlands)
Member:	Michele Visco	(Italy)

Archives Commission:

Member:	Jaroslav Schmid	(Czech Republic)
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I.C.S.C. Country-Members:

AZERBAIJAN	(AZE)	Akif Gadjev
BULGARIA	(BUL)	Vasil Panev
CROATIA	(CRO)	Darko Svec, Tvrtko Golemovic
CZECH REPUBLIC	(CZE)	Jaroslav Schmid
ENGLAND	(ENG)	Ilan Dwek
GERMANY	(GER)	Holger Mende, Helmut Heins,
HUNGARY	(HUN)	Tamas Fenyves
ITALY	(ITA)	Rosino Vizzaccaro, Olga Nazarova
KAZAKHSTAN	(KAZ)	Burul Begakhmet, Gennadiy Pushkarev
LITHUANIA	(LTU)	Egle Marcinkeviciene
NETHERLANDS	(NED)	Hans Johannesen
POLAND	(POL)	Krzysztof Michalczuk, Krzysztof Checiak
PORTUGAL	(POR)	Joao Alberto Ferreira
ROMANIA	(ROU)	Dumitru Dumitru
RUSSIA	(RUS)	Olga Kozyreva, Alexander Beliakov
SCOTLAND	(SCO)	John Christie
SLOVAKIA	(SVK)	Ladislav Svicka

SWITZERLAND	(SUI)	Gregor Maier, Samuel Aebersold
UKRAINE	(UKR)	Yuriy Zuev, Semen Ozerov
UZBEKISTAN	(UZB)	Dilbar Karimova
WALES	(WAL)	David Guy

Adherent I.C.S.C. Country-Members:

INDIA	(IND)	Deepak Khanolkar
MOLDOVA	(MDA)	Veaceslav Petelca, Alexei Ciuprun
SERBIA	(SBR)	Milrorad Nikolic

Country-Members - Observers

CROATIA	(CRO)	Goran Cehic
GERMANY	(GER)	Horst-Peter Scheffel
ITALY	(ITA)	Angelo Baiocco
SPAIN	(ESP)	Moreno Guillermo
UKRAINE	(UKR)	Anastasiia Zuieva (Interpreter)

Congress Minute Taker: Ilan Dwek (England)

01. I.C.S.C. PRESIDENT'S OPENING ADDRESS (09.04 hours)

The ICSC President, Michele Visco, declared the 29th ICSC Congress open at 09.00 hours with a warm welcome to all those present at the Congress. The member-countries were introduced in alphabetic order, and also the ICSC Honorary Presidents and ICSC Honorary Member.

He briefly reported that the ICSC's formation in 1949 had begun with only four countries: Denmark, Finland, Netherlands and Norway. 59 years on, the involvement of the member-countries through the involvement of computer technology (i.e. electronic mails), has put the ICSC into a healthy position.

The President then asked for a minute's silence to remember the following people who have recently passed away:

Bulgaria:	Mr. Stamen Stamenov	(16.06.2007 – 63 years)
	Mr. Tsvetan Peshev	(02.06.2008 – 72 years)
Germany:	Mr. Heinz Meurer	(18.05.2008 – 79 years)
Italy:	Mr. Rocco Di Gruccio	(19.04.2008 – 47 years)
Netherlands:	Mr. Berend Klaasen	(??..10.2005 – 82 years)
Romania:	Mr. Iosif Cosma	(10.12.2007 – 53 years)
Spain:	Mr. Francisco Lon Amores	(??..09.2005 – 75 years)
U.S.A.:	Mr. Russell Chauvenet	(24.06.2003 – 82 years)

01.1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

A written apology for absence came from the ICSC Honorary President, Mr. Anthony Boyce (England) who wished the ICSC 29th Congress every success.

(The ICSC Vice-President, Bruno Nuesch, arrived on the scene at 9.07 hours)

02. WELCOME SPEECH BY THE S.S.V.H. PRESIDENT (09.16 hours)

The President of the S.S.V.H., Mr. Bruno Nuesch, expressed his great delight of seeing all at the 29th ICSC Congress, and thanked the ICSC for their support and hard work.

03. ANNOUNCEMENT OF THE I.C.S.C. SUB-COMMITTEES (09.17 hour)

03.1 VOTING COMMITTEE

The following delegates were appointed to sanction the voting powers of the delegates:

Darko Svec	Croatia	(Chief)
Dilbar Karimova	Uzbekistan	
Semen Ozerov	Ukraine	

03.2 FINANCE COMMITTEE

The following delegates were appointed to audit the ICSC financial papers:

Joao Alberto Ferreira	Portugal	(Chief)
Samuel Aebersold	Switzerland	

03.3 FINANCE COMMITTEE

The following delegate was appointed for the role of ICSC Congress Minute-taker:

Ilan Dwek	England
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04. CONFIRMATION OF THE I.C.S.C. DELEGATES VOTING POWERS (09.19 hours)

Darko Svec declared the confirmed number of official votes, the breakdown being:

ICSC Delegates	(21 countries x 2 votes):	42 Votes
ICSC Board	(5 members x 1 vote):	5 Votes

Total voting count: 47

He reported that some member-countries had failed to comply with the requirements of submitting an official authority form (i.e. no member-country stamp),

05. ADMISSION OF NATIONAL ASSOCIATIONS / FEDERATIONS (09.29 Hours)

Three applications for affiliation to the ICSC were submitted by the following countries: India, Moldova and Serbia.

INDIA: Mr. Deepak Khanolkar stressed he had been invited to represent India as a delegate for the senior officials could not attend in person. He was very pleased to attend the 29th ICSC Congress and be a part of the I.C.S.C.

It was voted unanimously (47-0) that India would now be accepted as an official member-country of the ICSC.

MOLDOVA: Mr. Veaceslav Petelca expressed his delight to be present at the 29th ICSC Congress and join in the chess activities at elite level.

It was voted unanimously (47-0) that Moldova would now be accepted as an official member-country of the ICSC.

SERBIA: The ICSC President reminded all that Mr. Milorad Nikolic used to represent Yugoslavia which has been disbanded as an ICSC country-member.

Nikolic joked that whilst Serbia is classified as a new country, he himself is old. He then summed up his many years of ICSC involvement, and is keen to continue his passion by putting Serbia into the spotlight.

It was voted unanimously (47-0) that Serbia would now be accepted as an official member-country of the ICSC.

The ICSC President declared that the ICSC now has 33 countries, and the three new joining member-countries would be awarded two votes each giving a total number of 53 votes at the ICSC Congress.

The following three countries were granted adherent members of the ICSC: Canada, Israel and Spain.

Israel are currently in negotiations with the ICSC regarding full ICSC membership whilst Spain, with Mr. Moreno Guillermo present, is attempting to set up an independent chess federation. Canada had pulled out of the 11th hour due to a sudden illness of its participant.

06. CONFIRMATION OF THE 28TH CONGRESS MINUTES (09.37 hours)

The ICSC Secretary thanked Messrs. Anthony Boyce, Ilan Dwek and Alasdair MacLeod for their proof-reading of the 28th ICSC Congress Minutes, they had done a magnificent effort. However, a mistake had been spotted:

10.1 (Page 5): "TEAM" should read "INDIVIDUAL" (Bad Malente 2004). This has been changed accordingly.

The Minutes of the 28th ICSC Congress held at Nyiregyhaza, Hungary 2006, were accepted by all with a 53-0 voting majority..

07. I.C.S.C. BOARD REPORTS 2006-2007 (09.41 hours)

07.1 ICSC BOARD REPORT 2006

The 2006 ICSC Board Report was accepted with a 53-0 vote.

07.2 ICSC BOARD REPORT 2007

There were no issues raised, and the 2007 ICSC Board Report was accepted with a 53-0 vote.

08. FINANCIAL REPORTS OF THE I.C.S.C. (09.44 hours)

08.1 FINANCE COMMITTEE

The Finance Committee congratulated the ICSC Treasurer for his spotless work in compiling the ICSC Accounts. After conducting some careful audit on the Accounts for both years, no mistakes were found at all.

08.2 STATEMENT OF ACCOUNTS 2006

The ICSC Treasurer presented a brief report of the 2006 Accounts stating that the overall income had been good in spite of a few debtor countries. Expenditure, he added, was anticipated as per the FIDE Olympiads but the year had resulted in a profit of 719 Euros. There were no issues raised, and the 2006 Statement of Accounts was accepted with a 53-0 vote.

08.3 STATEMENT OF ACCOUNTS 2007

The ICSC Treasurer reported a healthy surplus of 2,009 Euros. Poland queried on the outstanding debtors from several countries which presented a concern on the increase from the previous year. The ICSC Treasurer responded that he had recovered some of the debts hence reducing the debtors' amounts.

There were no further issues raised, and the 2007 Statement of Accounts was accepted with a 53-0 vote.

(There was a 19-minute interval at 09.59 hours for refreshments – the Congress resumed at 10.17 hours)

09. REPORTS OF I.C.S.C. EVENTS 2006-2007 (09.55 hours)

09.1 15TH ICSC WORLD TEAM CHAMPIONSHIPS, NYIREGYHAZA 2006 (10.22 hours)

Fenyves (HUN) submitted extracts of the report (see Appendix C). Lukacsovics (ICSC) reported on the collection for a new ICSC flag to replace the worn one and after a long search with Konkoly, they found one in Budapest, and the new symbol was the globe and chess board in white background with the letters ICSC super-imposed. The money raised was 310 Euros with Lukacsovics and Konkoly making a small contribution themselves to balance the purchase. They also bought a table pennant as a gift to ICSC.

Both Konkoly and Lukacsovics were thanked for their efforts and personal donations.

Westerveld (ICSC Honorary President) in his old capacity as ICSC Secretary used to work with Oskar Punchke recalled the first ICSC flag, a very heavy one. The second one had been damaged by winds in Scotland '92, and the third one was declared missing in Lithuania 2002 whilst the fourth one was in tatters hence the new fifth flag.

Nikolic (SBR) expressed concern that the ICSC Flag should have a blue background.

Zuev (UKR) mentioned that the meals provided in Nyiregyhaza were both without bread and drink. Lukacsovics (ICSC) responded that it was the same for all but in some cases, the water was free,

Svicka (SVK) complained that he was unhappy with the camp-bed he had to sleep in at his hotel, in spite of making full payment. Lukacsovics apologized for this but reminded that several countries had missed deadlines for booking (with two countries pulling out). Several hotels were fully booked due to a festival going on at the same time, and as a compromise, the camp bed was offered as an alternative.

Hungary's report was ACCEPTED by all with a unanimous 53-0 vote.

09.2 18TH E.C. CLUB TEAM CHAMPIONSHIPS, PRIMORSKO 2007 (10.29 hours)

Panev (BUL) submitted his report (See Appendix C). No queries were made except for a small one by Zuev (UKR) commenting on the provision of meals. Bulgaria's report was ACCEPTED by all with a unanimous 53-0 vote.

10. I.C.S.C. REPORTS (10:53 hours)

10.1 ARCHIVES COMMISSION REPORT (10.25 hours)

Jaroslav Schmid (CZE) reported that he had been collecting 7,000 games from 1955, and presumed that 30% of the games were “missing” due to lost records.

The ICSC Secretary applauded Schmid’s gigantic efforts and stressed that certain ICSC chess memorabilia were scattered all over the world e.g. Amsterdam, Enschede (Westerveld’s), and they would pop up from time to time. And he joked about unearthing the missing ICSC flag in Lithuania in 10 year’s time. He had done some research on American Deaf Chess and the chess material has been of enormous value. They would eventually be stored in the ICSC Archives in Doncaster after some cataloging by the ICSC Archivist, Mr. Anthony Boyce.

10.2 SOCIETY OF FRIENDS OF I.C.S.C. (10.32 hours)

The ICSC Treasurer reported that the Society of Friends of the ICSC had started 10 years ago, and the funds were then little but has grown in great strides.

Gerrit Westerveld (NED) briefly reported of his great communication with the ICSC Treasurer and acknowledged his good efforts.

The ICSC Society of Friends Accounts for both 2006 and 2007 were accepted with a 53-0 vote.

10.3 I.C.S.C. WEBSITE (10.37 hours)

The ICSC Webmaster reported on the 34,000 hits on the ICSC Website which was originally set up in Italy in 2000. He then spoke of the current website structure and the links relating to the news, results, pictures and also the important hyperlink to the Russian version.

The ICSC President indicated the need to strengthen the ICSC website as recommended by the website expert, Luciano Baiocco (Italy) for the ICSC Archives Commission. And in this respect, a small fee of approximately 30 Euros annually would be advisable.

(The Congress took a short break at 10.40 hours, resumed at 11.17 hours)

11. PRESENTATION OF AWARDS FOR I.C.S.C. MEDAL HONOURS (11.17 hours)

The ICSC President handed out Diplomas and honours to the following:

Bronze Medal:	Jaroslav Korenkiewicz	(Sweden)
	Darko Svec	(Croatia)
	Rosino Vizzaccaro	(Italy)
Silver Medal:	Jaroslav Schmid	(Czech Republic)
Gold Medal:	Hans Johannesen	(Netherlands)

The ICSC Gold medal winner, Hans Johannesen, gave a brief speech detailing his first visit in Stockholm, 1988, and his involvement with Anthony Boyce in the early 1990’s. He wished the ICSC all the best for the future especially with promoting the juniors and the new countries, and concluded that he would be willing to help out at any time in the future, if needed.

(The Congress took a lunch break at 12.00 hours, resumed at 14.00 hours)

12. PROPOSALS AND MOTIONS (13.50 hours)

(See Appendix B for motions.)

12.1 **Motion 1 (RUSSIA)**. Olga Kozyreva stressed the need of enforcing the sign-language rule for all participants in the ICSC Statutes. The ICSC Secretary indicated that this would not be possible but hinted the idea of seminars to introduce basic International Sign Language to those in need to learn. Dumitru (ROU) gave a brief explanation of “finding his way around this via the Romanian Deaf Chess Association”. Panev (BUL) reminded that players should be welcome to participate as long as audiograms are approved therefore there was no need to remove those “suspect” players especially those wearing cochlear implants (expected to increase in the future) who are deaf with hearing aids off. Oresov (UKR) reminded that Article § [???] in the proposal was incorrect (out of sync). ICSC responded that they had been aware of it. Pursharev (KAZ) expressed concern of the “hearing” players to the exclusion of the genuine signing deaf. Svicka (SVK) queried the accepted level of blindness of the Deaf-Blind players for he had observed that quite a few Deaf-Blind players were quite independent (i.e. without the use of an assistant). Lukacsovics (ICSC) reminded that the norm was that the ICSC Presidium and ICSC Congress Delegates must be able to sign. Gardner warned of a dearth of fully deaf people and preferred to welcome the “hard of hearing” chess players but would welcome an arrangement for them to learn some sign language. He then suggested Russia to withdraw their proposal. Kozyreva disagreed, quoting examples of the deaf making efforts to “speak” to hearing chess players in hearing chess competitions hence the “hob” should make efforts to carry out the same. Nikolic (SBR) gave an example of Todorovic who had to go to an independent audiologist to confirm his eligibility to participate and felt that his inability to sign was not important. Ferreira (POR) gave reasons for recent profiligation of oral deaf due to deaf schools closing down all over the world. He felt that the “new deaf” should be penalized for their inability to sign. Petelca (MDA) informed all of the new audiogram method using electrodes on the head to catch out the cheats who have ticked original audiograms to achieve the 55 DB level.

The ICSC President stepped in, calling time for a vote. This proposal was REJECTED (9 for, 33 against, 11 abstained).

12.2. **Motion 2 (RUSSIA)**. Beliakov (RUS) wanted the FIDE regulations to replace the existing ICSC Statutes on time controls. Ozerov (UKR) explained that it would not be feasible for the Europa Cup Club Team Championships for it would tend to run up to six hours hence leading to difficulties. Therefore it would be ideal to use Russia’s proposal for just the World Individuals and Deaf Olympics. Arnold (GER) explained that there could be two different sets of rules. Lukacsovics (ICSC) reminded all that the FIDE regulations is actually complex – for example, he recently played in a FIDE open event where the rate of play was 90 minutes for all moves plus 30 seconds per move. Therefore it would not be practical for the Europa Cup. Schmid (CZE) reminded all that the Deaf Chess Olympics would now be restricted to 10 days hence some days would have two games in a day. Nikolic (SBR) suggested following the FIDE Regulations for the sake of simplicity. The ICSC Secretary thanked Ozerov for explaining, and suggested that we adhere to the FIDE regulations but for the Europa Cup and World Team Championships we would use some discretion and compromise with the Chief Arbiter’s decision to reduce the time limit.

This proposal was ACCEPTED (53 for, none against).

- 12.3. **Motion 3 (RUSSIA)**. Beliakov (Via Sobolev) explained the principle of correct wording for the title for ease of sponsorship application purposes. He also clarified the proposal to ensure that this was understood by all the delegates. He added that the name change was purely cosmetic. Mende (GER) suggested that the ICSC contact FIDE to discuss implications of all changes and suggested that the motion should be deferred. Ozerov (UKR) pointed out that the word 'club' is not even in the Statutes index list so felt that this was not an issue for discussion.

This proposal was DEFERRED until 2010 but subject to future discussion.

- 12.4. **Motion 4 (RUSSIA)**. Withdrawn.

- 12.5. **Motion 5 (RUSSIA)**. Withdrawn.

- 12.6. **Motion 6 (RUSSIA)**. Beliakov (RUS) gave a brief explanation that whilst the ICSC would appoint five men for four-year terms, he suggested that various sub-committee groups should be set up, with ICSC board members leading two people for up to two years. He also stressed that since the appointment of the people involved would be voluntary, voting would not be necessary. Nikolic (SBR) expressed concern that the sub-committee should be carefully selected on own merits. The ICSC President assured all that should the appointment fail to fulfill his or her duties, he/she would be replaced. Mende (GER) mentioned that there is a current Technical Committee, and they had not done any work at all over the last two years. This proposal, he stressed, would enable the ICSC to change the TC people if need be. And similarly for the Archives, the current people could continue but could change in the future should a committee member resign.

This proposal was ACCEPTED (43 for, 0 no, 10 abstained).

Schmid (CZE) announced his resignation from the Technical Committee.

- 12.7.1 **Motion 7 (ENGLAND)**. Dwek (ENG) gave a brief explanation in saying that there were several frustrated clubs from a few countries that they would never get to participating in the Europa Cup Club Team Championships. Hence this proposal would enable them to feel involved and this would bring a certain attraction to ICSC with new faces. Pushkarev (KAZ) was unhappy for this motion was only confined to the Europa continent. He had wanted Asian club teams to be involved, and it was explained that there should be an Asian Cup of its own. Sobolev (ICSC) explained the proposal in greater detail to add clarification.

This proposal was ACCEPTED (45 for, 0 against, 6 abstained).

Begakhmet (KAZ) queried if Asian club teams could take part in the Open event, and it was agreed that they could. However it was confirmed that this proposal would not apply to the Hamburg 2009 event.

- 12.7. **Motion 8 (ENGLAND)** Dwek (ENG) briefly explained the motion for he had observed, quite a few players still has zero rating even though they had been participating for years! He had discovered that some ICSC events were never FIDE-rated! Sobolev (ICSC) added that over the years, the Arbiters at ICSC events had not sent results to FIDE, and he would attempt to get the 2005 & 2006 ICSC events sent for FIDE Rating. He then requested cooperation from both Slovakia and Hungary on this matter and asked Hamburg to do the same once their Europa Cup event is ratified.

This proposal was ACCEPTED by all (53 votes).

12.9 Motion 9 (ICSC)

Freund (ICSC Treasurer) explained that the scheme to introduce a new Tier 'D' would be of great benefit to member-countries with a low GDP capita. Of the existing ICSC member countries, Moldova, Uzbekistan, Bangladesh and Kyrgyzstan would stand to gain from this proposal, whilst the system for the category tiers A, B, C would remain the same.

This proposal was ACCEPTED (52 for, 0 against, 1 abstained).

- 12.10 Motion 10 (ICSC) Sobolev (ICSC) explained the purpose of the Camfrog for economic reasons for it would be much cheaper to have "tele-meetings" fly to other countries for meetings. Ozerov (UKR) suggested not using the word "Camfrog" but just the wording "video communication" due to anticipated advancing technology changes that would eventually render the Camfrog obsolete. Nazarova (ITA) mentioned the pointlessness of this proposal, saying that there would be no need to put this into the ICSC Statutes. Egle Marcinkeviciene (LTU) queried if member-country delegates could access to the ICSC board-members via the web cam for the future to discuss plans, problems, etc. The ICSC explained that this would be early days. Maier (SUI) suggested rewording to "video conferencing". Petelca (MDA) joked that we might be able to transport ourselves to other places within a second (as in Star Trek). Dwek (ENG) queried an upper limit on the purchase of this form of technology. Michalczuk (POL) wanted the Statutes to be rewritten to determine the eligibility of voting in ICSC meetings via the "video conferencing".

This proposal was WITHDRAWN but the ICSC Statutes should include the use of computer technology for ICSC Board members.

12.11 Motion 11 (ICSC)

The ICSC Secretary explained the changes of the ICSC Statutes (highlighted in red) since the 28th Congress and the addition of the Deaf-Blind Regulations. He thanked Ozerov (UKR) for his eagle-eyed observations in spotting a few more alterations, also in addition, to Michalczuk (POL) for his assistance. The ICSC Secretary added that the ICSC Statutes would be continually revised on a two-yearly basis.

This proposal was ACCEPTED (51 – yes, 0 – no, 2 abstained).

12.12 Motion 12 - (KAZAKHSTAN)

Begkhamet (KAZ) wanted future ICSC Individual events to include two players per country (in addition to the ICSC Grandmasters). Dwek (ENG) expressed concern at the possible collusion between the two home players. Mende (GER) wanted to adhere to FIDE rules and requested this motion to be rejected.

This proposal was WITHDRAWN on the advice of the ICSC delegates.

12.13 Motion 13 – (KAZAKHSTAN) (15.57 hours).

The idea of a ICSC Veteran's section to run alongside with the WC Individuals and Open events was deemed to be an excellent idea although no suggestion was made on the age limit. The ICSC would look into this and draw up a reasonable age limit.

This proposal was ACCEPTED (Yes - 47 votes, 6 abstained).

(The Congress took a mid-afternoon break at 16.01 hours, resumed at 16.33 hours)

13. FORTHCOMING I.C.S.C. EVENTS 2008-2010

13.1. 38TH F.I.D.E. CHESS OLYMPIAD, DRESDEN, GERMANY 2008

The ICSC President reported that this event, scheduled for 11th-25th November 2008, would have two ICSC teams of 6 men and 6 women with one official delegate (himself). He then announced the two captains, Goran Cehic (CRO) and Olga Nazarova (ITA). Cehic (CRO) proposed to select the Men's team after completion of the WC Individuals in St Gallen, and hand over the names to the ICSC President. He reported that in the last FIDE Olympiads, the ICSC finished a creditable 75th out of 150 teams. Nazarova (ITA) explained that there were now four Ladies in the team, compared to three in the past, and would have a dilemma in selecting a team based on tactical ability.

13.2. 19th European Club Team Championships, Hamburg 2009

Horst-Peter Scheffel (GER) introduced himself as the MD of Hamburg Deaf Sports Club, and gave an impressive powerpoint presentation of the proposed chess event. He explained that there would be three hotels on offer, ranging from 30 Euros to 50 Euros per night. Helmut Heins (GER) presented a club pennant to the ICSC and handed out package brochures to all delegates. Holger Mende (GER) made a plea to all participating countries to book in good time to avoid potential accommodation problems like Slovakia had experienced in Hungary!

13.3. 16th ICSC Chess Olympiads 2010

Panev (BUL) reported that following Russia's withdrawal, Bulgaria would be happy to offer the hosting the 16th Chess Olympiads at Primorsko (same venue as the 18th Europa Cup). He said that he had happy memories of Varna 1962. Ferreira (POR) said that there would be a strong possibility of Portugal entering into the frame for 2010, depending on the outcome of his meeting with the LPDS officials on August 2nd.

Both countries were asked to write official letters of offering for the 2010 event to the ICSC Secretary within one calendar month, and a decision would be made by the end of October 2010. Should both countries confirm their offering to host, a proxy vote would be carried out by the ICSC Member-countries. The ICSC Secretary stressed that he would circulate via the email and post (to those without email addresses). Gunter Arnold (GER) supported this idea. Nikolic wanted an immediate decision rather than a delay. Panev explained that he has all the mechanism to organize such an event.

Both Panev and Ferreira were thanked for offering their support.

13.4. 20th European Club Team Championships 2011

Ilan Dwek (ENG) suggested the possibility of England coming forward as a candidate and that the likely venue would be Liverpool. He has been in touch with the city and is hoping to get ratification in the autumn. He would then write a letter to the ICSC Secretary.

Milorad Nikolic (SBR) stepped forward offering Belgrade to host the 2011 event.

14. 15th WORLD INDIVIDUAL CHAMPIONSHIPS 2012

Kazakhstan confirmed their interest in hosting the 2012 event in Almaty. Burul Begkhamet (KAZ) explained that Astana, the new capital, would be very expensive to run the event, and suggested hosting it in the former capital where prices would be reasonable and the facilities deemed suitable.

15. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

- 15.1 Honorary President, Gabor Vida, said that he was impressed at the large number of delegates present as he had recalled there used to be just around 16 at the ICSC Congress. He reminded all delegates to work harder to make things easier for ICSC, and not to leave things until the last minute.**
- 15.2 Hans Johannesen (NED) queried whether those presented with the Silver and Gold Medals had received ICSC Bulletins for he had not received any of the recent ones, and nor the ICSC Honorary Member, Ruda Van Perlstein (NED). Vida Gabor insisted that this should have been done, and be remedied as soon as possible.**
- 15.3 Hans Johannesen (NED) was not happy with the numerous proposals presented at this Congress, and suggested that the ICSC Board should make attempts to reduce the number and limit up to a maximum of three or four proposals per member-country.**
- 15.4 Helmut Heins (GER) gave all a goodwill message from the ex ICSC World Champion, Sergei Salov who is recuperating at a hospital. Heins then circulated to all an invitation to his forthcoming 70th birthday tournament in Hamburg in January 2010.**
- 15.5 Olga Kozyreva (RUS) expressed concern on the playing conditions for the deaf-blind participants, the issues being: (i) poor lighting; (ii) lack of suitable clocks (Braille); (iii) the need for larger Scoresheets with bigger fonts; (iv) on toilet breaks, the requesting player should be guided by the assistant of the opposing player.**
- 15.6 Olga Kozyreva (RUS) suggested the introduction of red cards to banish offenders from the audience especially those interfering with disputes that should only be dealt with by the Chief Arbiter.**
- 15.7 Olga Kozyreva (RUS) suggested purchase of an audiogram machine for ICSC purposes (i.e. random checking). She added that no accusations could be made during progress of a game but protests could be submitted outside playing hours.**
- 15.8 Ladislav Svicka (SVK) queried on Kozyreva's toilet issue, especially the sex of the opposing player's guide re. toilet breaks.**
- 15.9 Dilbar Karimova (UZB) queried on the possibility of the Uzbekistan junior player (2004 winner) being promoted to the Men's section in 2012 should he conquer once more this year, and be classified as an additional Uzbekistan participant.**
- 15.10 Dilbar Karimova (UZB) hinted at the possibility of Uzbekistan hosting the 2011 Asian Championships in the Tashkent capital.**
- 15.11 Dilbar Karimova (UZB) presented a gift of appreciation to the WC 2008 Organiser, Gregor Maier for his great effort. As it had turned out, the gift was a typical Uzbekistan costume!**
- 15.12 Gunter Arnold (GER) warned that purchase of an audiogram machine would be too costly. He described the bitter experience of Annagret Mucha being ordered by an ICSC official to attend an audiogram test whilst in the middle of her analysis preparation which was out of order. The ICSC President admitted his surprise and agreed with the lack of tact shown. He then stressed that in future, any consultation would be directed to the country-member delegate.**
- 15.13 Egle Marcinkeviciene (LTU) informed that Jonas Patackas would be turning 70 in December 2008, and invitations to commemorate his birthday would be made at a later**

date.

15.14 Joao Alberto Ferreira (POR) suggested that for the sake of identification, the participants should wear uniforms representing their country.

15.15 Joao Alberto Ferreira (POR) suggested photographs of all participants on the wall or bulletin to help improve identification.

15.16 Dumitru Dumitru (ROU) mentioned that he was initially surprised with the lack of the Romanian national flag for the Romanian participant but now happy that this has been delivered.

16. CLOSING SPEECH BY THE I.C.S.C. PRESIDENT (18.21 hours)

The ICSC President declared the 28th ICSC Congress closed at 18.10 hours.