



INTERNATIONAL CHESS COMMITTEE OF THE DEAF

ICCD Board Report 2014-15

The 32nd I.C.C.D. Congress witnessed the newly elected ICCD Presidium consisting of President Phillip Gardner, Vice-President Maxim Rozhkov, Secretary-General Ivan Kulakov, Treasurer Holger Mende and Board Member Jaroslav Schmid. According to the ICCD Statutes, they were due to commence their duties on 1st January 2015 but a controversy surrounding the FIDE Chess Olympiads in Tromso, Norway, prompted Michele Visco to prematurely resign from his Presidential duties in September 2014 and hand over the reins to Phillip Gardner. And the new Board Members prepared for their roles as early as November 2014.

On November 30th - December 1st 2014, a meeting was staged in Zwolle, Netherlands (home of the I.C.C.D. Bank) where the retiring I.C.C.D. Treasurer handed over the role to the newly elected I.C.C.D. Treasurer, Holger Mende.

On December 14th –15th 2014 at Vilnius, Lithuania, during a festival chess tournament in celebration of the Vilnius Deaf Chess Club's 20th Anniversary, President Gardner had a most successful meeting with Secretary-General Kulakov for they were able to discuss several issues concerning the future operation of the ICCD Board. From their conclusions, they decided to hold a full ICCD Board meeting at Kiev in February 2015. Both Gardner and Kulakov were fortunate to enjoy the excellent hospitality of the LKSK President, Aleksas Jasiunas.

On January 22nd-23rd 2015, Secretary-General Kulakov carried out an inspection site visit in Baku in preparation for the 1st European Team Deaf Chess Championship and the 23rd European Deaf Club Team Championship. He met up with the Organizing Committee and discussed several issues towards hosting the events.

Thanks to the kind support of the Ukrainian Sports Federation of the Deaf, an ICCD Board Meeting was held in Kiev on February 21st-22nd 2016, and all Board members were present. Several (19) issues relating to the Board's work in

2015 were discussed, and the working schedule for 2016 was approved and task duties were assigned to all.

On March 28th 2016 we witnessed a historical event at the 45th Congress of the International Committee of Sports for the Deaf in Khanty-Mansiysk when the International Chess Committee of the Deaf was admitted as the Associated Member. Thus, the aim was fulfilled with the first step of entering into the Deaflympics Family. ICCD was represented by the Vice-President Maxim Rozhkov of Kazakhstan.

On May 18th-19th 2015, ICCD Vice-President Maxim Rozhkov visited Yerevan (Armenia) for a site inspection in preparation for the World Individual Championships of the Deaf. Several issues were looked into and resolved.

The 3rd Asian Individual Chess Championship for the Deaf was held on 8th - 17th August 2015 in Ulaanbaatar (Mongolia). We appreciate Enkhbayar Janchivnyambuu very much for his high-skilled organization that led to its great success. On August 11th 2015 the Congress of the Deaf chess players of Asia was held under leadership of the ICCD President Phillip Gardner and Vice-President Maxim Rozhkov. Again, the Congress was a great success.

The 1st European Team Chess Championship for the Deaf and the 23rd European Club Chess Championship was held in Baku (Azerbaijan) from the 27th September to the 4th October 2015. 6 Men's Teams, 6 Women's Teams and 6 Clubs participating at the event. During the Championships there were meetings of the ICCD Executive Board (Phillip Gardner, Ivan Kulakov and Treasurer Holger Mende) with representatives from Israel and Croatia to discuss issues concerning the said countries.

On October 17th-25th 2015 the 2nd World Chess Championship for Disabled was held in Dresden (Germany). Deaf chess players from several countries took part in the Championship. During the Opening Ceremony the ICCD Treasurer Holger Mende welcomed all on behalf of the ICCD. During the event ICCD President Phillip Gardner had a meeting with the Chairman of the FIDE Disabled Commission, GM Thomas Luther. Several issues were covered, mainly to do with finance and participation of the ICCD teams at the forthcoming Chess Olympiad in Baku 2016.