Report of the Appeals Committee (Playing Rules)

The past year has - quite exceptionally - been a very busy year for our

Committee. As we all know, last year's Congress implemented a quite thorough

revision of the Rules, which unfortunately spawned quite a few appeals, since

many players were confused by some of the new Rules.

I wish to stress that this in no way implies any criticism of either the Rules

Commissioner or the Rules Commission - as every computer programmer knows, when

you implement a major revision of an existing program, some errors are bound

to show up only "in real life", no matter how hard you tried to predict the

consequences in advance. Extensive testing is necessary, but regrettably not

sufficient!

Because of this I wish to express my sincere thanks to the Rules Commissioner

Dennis Doren, who listened to our complaints about the new types of appeals we

started to receive, and thanks to whom this year's Congress has been given an

opportunity to vote on a few proposals to adjust some of the rule changes

agreed upon last year, changes which have proved problematic "in real life".

Apart from these appeals caused by last year's radical rules revision, which

gave our entire Committee quite a lot of work, the automatisation of the server

has significantly reduced our workload. Hence, as before, most of the remaining

appeals have been handled by myself, without my having to bother the entire

Committee - many (if not most) of them are just based on misunderstandings of

the Rules (or, as a new feature, misunderstandings of how the server works

nowadays).

During the year also a personnel change has occurred. For health reasons our

longstanding member Carlos Flores (ESP) has been forced to withdraw. A very

heartfelt thanks to Carlos for his long and dedicated service in our Committee!

Finally, I wish to express my sincere thanks to all members of the Committee

for your important work - the past year has been unusually challenging, but you

have persevered :-)

The current member list is given in the Appendix.

Amici sumus

Ragnar Wikman

Chairman of the ICCF

Appeals Committee

(Playing Rules)

Appendix:

Current members of the Appeals Committee (Playing Rules)

Ragnar Wikman (FIN) - Chairman

Ian Brooks (ENG)

Marco Caressa (ITA)

Leo Lahdenmäki (FIN)

Ralph Marconi (CAN)

Per Söderberg (SWE)

Wes Underwood (USA)