

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 automatisisation 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)