



INTERNATIONAL CORRESPONDENCE CHESS FEDERATION

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Report on the Interzonal Tournaments to the ICCF Congress of 2017 Albena – Bulgaria

**Mr President, Members of the Executive Board, Commissioners,
Officials, Delegates, Ladies and Gentlemen**

It is my privilege to report on the Interzonal Tournaments
since the Congress of 2016 held in Bremen – Germany

Interzonal Team Tournaments (IZTT)

Background

The IZTT, which were inaugurated by our former president Med Samraoui of Algeria, are held every two years as a team event among the different geographical zones of ICCF. Each team consists of eight players playing a double round robin against at least four opponents. This makes it possible to qualify for title norms as at least eight games are being played. The purpose of these events is to play in the spirit of "amici sumus" (we are friends) and to give players in remote and less developed regions more exposure to competitive correspondence chess.

Completed Tournaments

1st Interzonal Team Tournament – Start Date: 1 September 2000

Tournament Organiser (TO)
Med Samraoui of Algeria (IA)

Tournament Director (TD)
IM Carlos Flores Gutiérrez of Spain (IA)

The event was started with five teams making it four opponents and eight games per participant.

The results, with each team playing 64 games, are:

1	Europe A	35½
2	Africa Asia	35
3	Europe B	33
4	Latin America	29½
5	North America Pacific	27

2nd Interzonal Team Tournament – Start Date: 15 September 2002

Tournament Organiser (TO)
IM Med Samraoui of Algeria (IA)

Tournament Director (TD)
SIM Carlos Flores Gutiérrez of Spain (IA)

The results, with each team playing 64 games, are:

1	Europe A	44½
2	North America Pacific	34
3	Africa Asia	31
4	Europe B	30
5	Latin America	20½

3rd Interzonal Team Tournament – Start Date: 15 December 2004

Tournament Organiser (TO)
SIM Med Samraoui of Algeria (IA)

Tournament Director (TD)
SIM Carlos Flores Gutiérrez of Spain (IA)

The event was enlarged to six teams with five opponents and ten games per participant.

The results, with each team playing 80 games, are:

1	North America Pacific	45½
2	Europe A	43½
3	Europe B	42½
4	Africa Asia	37
5	Latin America	36½
6	Europe C	35

4th Interzonal Team Tournament – Start Date: 15 December 2006

Tournament Organiser (TO)
SIM Everdinand Knol of South Africa

Tournament Director (TD)
SIM Carlos Flores Gutiérrez of Spain (IA)

The results, with each team playing 80 games, are:

1	Europe A	49
2	Europe C	46½
3	North America Pacific	44
4	Europe B	42
5	Latin America	31
6	Africa Asia	27½

5th Interzonal Team Tournament – Start Date: 27 December 2008

Tournament Organiser (TO)
SIM Everdinand Knol of South Africa

Tournament Director (TD)
SIM Carlos Flores Gutiérrez of Spain (IA)

The results, with each team playing 80 games, are:

1	Europe C	48
2	Europe A	46½
3	Latin America	41
4	North America Pacific	38
5	Europe B	34
6	Africa Asia	32½

6th Interzonal Team Tournament – Start Date: 27 December 2010

Tournament Organiser (TO)
SIM Everdinand Knol of South Africa

Tournament Director (TD)
SIM Carlos Flores Gutiérrez of Spain (IA)

The results, with each team playing 80 games, are:

1	Europe A	51½	
2	Europe B	46	
3	North America Pacific	42	
4	Europe C	35½	
5	Latin America	32½	3 team points
6	Africa Asia	32½	2 team points

7th Interzonal Team Tournament – Start Date: 28 January 2013

Tournament Organiser (TO)
SIM Everdinand Knol of South Africa

Tournament Directors (TD)
Iain Smuts of South Africa (IA)
and SIM Per Söderberg of Sweden (IA)

The event was now expanded to ten teams playing a single round robin format. This gives players the opportunity of meeting more opponents (from five to nine) without increasing the number of games (down from ten to nine). The feedback received from players is that they prefer the single game version with more opponents.

The results, with each team playing 72 games, are:

1	North America Pacific B	40½	
2	Europe D	40	
3	Europe B	39½	14 team points
4	North America Pacific A	39½	12 team points
5	Europe A	39	
6	Europe C	38½	
7	Latin America	37	
8	Africa Asia C	33½	
9	Africa Asia B	28	
10	Africa Asia A	24½	

8th Interzonal Team Tournament – Start Date: 31 March 2015

Tournament Organiser (TO)
SIM Everdinand Knol of South Africa

Tournament Directors (TD)
SIM Per Söderberg of Sweden (IA)
and SIM Dr Michael Millstone of USA (IA)

The event was enlarged to eleven teams.

The results, with each team playing 80 games, are:

1	North America Pacific C	45½	
2	North America Pacific B	43½	
3	Europe C	42	
4	Europe A	41½	13 team points
5	North America Pacific A	41½	10 team points
6	Europe E	41	
7	Africa Asia A	40	
8	Europe B	39½	
9	Latin America	39	
10	Europe D	38½	
11	Africa Asia B	28	

Ongoing Tournaments

9th Interzonal Team Tournament – Start Date: 10 March 2017

Tournament Organiser (TO)
SIM Everdinand Knol of South Africa

Tournament Director (TD)
Marco Caressa of Italy (IA)

The event was enlarged to thirteen teams.

The results so far are:

1	Europe B	17½
2	Africa Asia A	17
3	Europe C	16½
4	Africa Asia C	16
5	Europe A	13
6	North America Pacific A	12
7	Latin America E	12
8	Latin America C	11½
9	Latin America D	11½
10	North America Pacific B	10
11	Latin America A	8½
12	Latin America B	8
11	Africa Asia B	4½

Future Tournaments

The 10th IZTT is planned to start during December 2018.

Interzonal Individual Tournaments (IZIT)

At the Congress held in Kraków in Poland approval was given to organise an IZIT based on the following criteria:

- A set number of players from each zone are entered.
- These are divided into groups playing for norms and to qualify for semi finals and a final.

Results of Ongoing Tournaments

1st Interzonal Individual Tournament

Preliminaries – Start Date: 28 February 2014

Tournament Organiser (TO)

SIM Everdinand Knol of South Africa

Tournament Director (TD)

Marco Caressa of Italy (IA)

There were 11 preliminary groups of 9 players each (all category 2).

The winners of the groups are:

Group	Winner(s)	Country	Score out of 8	Norm Achieved
A	Claus Jensen	DEN	6	IM
	Larry Parsons	USA	6	IM
B	Philip Norchler	CMR	5½	
C	Aleksandrs Smirnovs	LAT	6	IM
	Daniel S Woodard	USA	6	IM
D	Thomas Williams	USA	7	IM
E	SIM Kristo S Miettinen	USA	7	
F	Bronislavas Kriksciunas	LTU	6½	IM
G	Alexei Malashenkov	BLR	5½	
H	Kenneth E Jones	USA	5½	
I	Darko Babic	SLO	6	
J	Loren R Schmidt	JPN	6	IM
K	Marco Sgherri	ITA	5½	

Semi Finals – Start Date: 30 March 2017

Tournament Organiser (TO)

SIM Everdinand Knol of South Africa

Tournament Director (TD)

SIM Gino Franco Figlio of Peru (IA)

There are 4 semi final groups of 13 players each (all category 5). These semi finals are now well on their way and should be completed by the beginning of 2019.

2nd Interzonal Individual Tournament

Preliminaries – Start Date: 17 June 2016

Tournament Organiser (TO)
SIM Everdinand Knol of South Africa

Tournament Directors (TD)
Marco Caressa of Italy (IA)
SIM Gino Franco Figlio of Peru (IA)
Alok Saxena of India
Dr Ambar Chatterjee of India
Francisco Carapinha of Cape Verde
and Brain Jones of Australia

The event was enlarged to 12 preliminary groups of 9 players each (all category 2). This resulted in 108 participants with 27 from each zone. These preliminaries are now well on their way and should be completed by the beginning of 2018.

Future Tournaments

The 3rd IZTT is planned to start during December 2017.

Conclusion

I would like to conclude this report by thanking the zonal directors for their support in arranging the players that entered these events as well as the tournament directors who are supervising the players taking part in them.

SIM Everdinand Knol
August 2017