

## Zone 2 Director Report to Congress in Bulgaria 2017

### Introduction

The second year of my mandate as Zonal Director has seen the consolidation of the zone in multiple aspects including our website with a streamlined event registration process, a new Web Publishing Director in Juan Pérez, improved tournament rules, and completion of all planned tournament cycles.

Zone 2 is ready for new challenges, finances have stabilized and the idea of becoming a larger zone with more norm opportunities for our players seems close to reality.

### Our People

The number of registered players in zone 2 has increased in one year from 1,077 in August 2016 to 1237 in August 2017. Only 493 are active and we take this as a challenge. The distribution of active players among the different zones is as follows

August 2017	Zone 1	Zone 2	Zone 3	Zone 4
Active	5347	493	911	400
Total	11038	1237	2361	1095

(source: mailing system)

### Our officers

Our ten national delegates continue to provide support to their players. Brazil recently elected a new President of the CXEB, our friend SIM Richard Fuzishawa (BRA), their national delegate remains the same, our friend Bianor de Oliveira Neves (BRA).

Our Web Publishing Director Jesús Verenzuela (VEN) sadly passed away in December 2016. His great contributions to our zone will be sorely missed. Our friend Juan Carlos Pérez Rodríguez (ARG) took over the post and has provided numerous high-quality articles for our website.

Our General Tournament Director IM Juan Martello (ARG) and General Secretary CCM César Reyes Maldonado continue working for the zone. Our Finance Director GM César Blanco resigned due to personal reasons and we have not been able to find a volunteer to fill this position.

### Our tournaments

The following events have been started since August 2016:

- Clase Abierta

- 3 7-player groups
  - 63 games
- Clase Alta
  - 2 7-player groups
  - 42 games
- ML Norm
  - 3 11-player groups
  - 165 games
- GML Norm
  - 311-player groups
  - 165 games
- Zonal Preliminaries
  - 5 7-player groups
  - 105 games
- Zonal Semifinals
  - 4 11-player groups
  - 84 games
- Friendly Match against Russia
  - 183 boards
  - 366 games
- 9<sup>th</sup> Interzonal TT
  - 5 8-player teams, 13-team event
  - 392 games
- 11<sup>th</sup> PanAm TT
  - 13 4-player teams
  - 312 games
- 2017 PanAm Individual Preliminaries
  - 33 7-player groups
  - 693 games

Norm availability may be reviewed in the following table

Norms 2017	Aug 2016-2017
Total Games	2387
Total active players	493
Total Games with norms	1118
Norm games/active player/year	2.27

We find that almost 50% of the games we organize provide norms, which is probably high this year due to the start of two important team tournaments

Tournament rules

We have changed slightly our Promotion tournament rules and our Zonal Championship rules. We added a fourth stage to the Zonal Championship hoping that higher-rated players will access the Final with more ease by increasing the number of filters.

### Tournament fees

We are proud to offer events at very low fees, ranging from 4 to 10 USD, majority of them at 4 USD (3.4 euro).

### Our Website

Hosted by GoDaddy.com, we use a cpanel system, including SSL. It allows for multiple websites and therefore we installed a Forum using phpBB software.

Our main website is here:

<https://www.cadapzona2.com/>

Our Forum is here:

<http://cadapzona2.info/>

The website uses wordpress, latest version in spanish. Theme is Twenty seventeen. A very nice tutorial on customization is found here:

<https://premium.wpmudev.org/blog/twenty-seventeen-wordpress-theme/>

We have installed an antiviral plugin given the recent increase of attacks to wordpress websites.

Our store uses WooCommerce and allows transactions using Paypal and credit cards. We find the use of credit cards very popular in our zone. The credit card platform is Stripe. They handle the credit card transactions securely in their own servers. No information is stored in our servers. The money is automatically deposited in our bank account within 7 days.

### Our Finances

Our funds can be reviewed in the following tables

	Paypal 1	Paypal2	Bank (credit card)	Debt from federations	Total
August 2016	252.91	57.73	154	328	792.64
August 2017	0	1,091.6	776.17	412	2,279.77

Our expenses in the last year are listed:

- 1/11/2017 \$66.49 yearly payment for SSL
- 2/10/2017 \$12 Cleantalk payment-wordpress plugin

- 2/24/2017 \$566.17 ICCF payment
- 5/1/2017 \$52.5 Postal expenses delivering medals and diplomas to players

Finally, I would like to thank the players, delegates, presidents of federations and my friend Juan Martello (ARG) for their support and encouragement, without them nothing would be accomplished.

Respectfully submitted,

Gino Figlio

Zone 2 Director