



Meeting of the ICCF Praesidium in LINZ

23.8 - 31.8.1980

MINUTES

A meeting of the ICCF Praesidium combined with meetings of the commissions took place in Linz (Austria) from 23rd to 31st August, 1980. The meeting was organized by the Austrian Chess Federation. The participants were welcomed by the Mayor of Linz at the Town Hall. Further receptions were given by the Governor of Upper Austria and the General Director of the Raiffeisenbank, Linz. A full day excursion was made to Hallstatt (salt mines or lake trip as well as Pre-history Museum, Catholic and Protestant churches and ossuary) and to Salzburg (guided tour).

The following took part in the meeting:

Hans-Werner von Massow (W.Germany) as ICCF President

Prof. Dr. M. Elwe (Netherlands) Hon. President of FIDE, as guest of honour

H. Åhman (Sweden) as Auditor

R. Berthelsen (Norway) as member of the Documentation Commission

K.H. Boese (W.Germany) as member of the Qualifications Commission

H. Brusila (Finland) as member of the Tele-chess Commission

Dr. T. Bullockus (USA) as member of the Tele-chess Commission and as Central Tournament Secretary of World Cup Tournament V

E. Debaissieux (Belgium)

Ing. P. Diaconescu (Rumania) as ICCF Vice-President as well as member of the Qualifications and Rules Commissions

E. Dieckmann (E.Germany)

R. Gillman (Great Britain) as member of the Qualifications and Tele-chess Commissions

A. Giraudet (France) as ICCF Vice-President and as member of the Rules Commission

O. Halme (Finland)

H. Heemsoth (W.Germany) as member of the Documentation Commission

H.-J. Heitmann (W.Germany) as member of the Working Party for Rating

A. Henriksen (Denmark) as personal representative of the World CC Champion, J. Sloth

K. Kaliwoda (Austria)

O. Kallinger (Austria)

St. Kania (Poland) as Contact-man to FIDE and as member of the Qualifications Commission

E. Larsson (Sweden) as Honorary Member of ICCF, as ICCF Vice-President and ICCF Tournament Director as well as Chairman of the Tournament Commission and as member of the Qualifications and Rules Commissions

A.-G. Lascurain (Argentina) as member of the Qualifications Commission

R. Lindroos (Finland) as member of the Qualifications Commission and the Working Party for Rating

Dr. B. Lukás (Czechoslovakia) as Honorary Member of the ICCF and as General Secretary of the ICCF

Dr. G. Mandolfo (Italy) as Deputy Chairman of the Tournament Commission

Frau Bertl von Massow (W.Germany) as Honorary Member of the ICCF, as member of the Qualifications Commission and as Deputy Chairman of the Tournament Commission

H. J. Mostert (Netherlands) as Honorary Member of the ICCF, as ICCF Vice-President as well



- as member of the Qualifications and Rules Commissions
- J.A. Nielsen (Denmark) as member of the Working Party for Rating
- E. Nuutilainen (Finland) as member of the Documentation Commission
- St. Nyman (Sweden) as member of the Sponsorship Circle
- Nol van't Riet (Netherlands) as Chairman of the Working Party for Rating
- H. Rittner (E.Germany) as Honorary Member of the ICCF, as ICCF Vice-President, as Chairman of the Qualifications Commission as well as member of the Rules Commission
- Prof. Dr. W. Sagarowsky (Russia) as ICCF Vice-President as well as member of the Qualifications Commission
- D. Smit (Netherlands) as Chairman of the Tele-chess Commission
- E. Spitzenberger (Austria) as member of the Documentation Commission
- E. Steindl (Austria) as member of the Rules Commission
- Dr. J. Vándorffy (Hungary) as ICCF Vice-President and as Chairman of the Rules Commission
- W. Wiese (W.Germany)
- R. Wikman (Finland) as member of the Rules Commission

The ICCF President, Hans-Werner von Massow took the chair.

The President of the Austrian Chess Federation, Alderman. Prof. Kurt Jungwirth, heartily welcomed the participants in the name of the host federation. He jokingly referred to Austria among the countries of the world as a "David", but said that Austria, as a neutral state was particularly suited as a meeting point for East and West, North and South.

The ICCF President, Hans-Werner von Massow, thanked him for the hearty welcome and pointed out

that the ICCF is also such a meeting point, making personal contact between people from all parts of the world during the course of its activities. The ethical basis of ICCF work is the striving to make a contribution towards peace and friendship between nations.

Regarding the designation "David", the ICCF President insisted that in the sphere of chess, Austria is a "Goliath" and pointed out the great activity in over-the-board and also in correspondence chess. In the time before the foundation of IFSB in 1928, the CC tournament of the Vienna Chess Newspaper, organized by Prof. A. Becker was a valuable help for popularising CC. He honoured the memory of Austria's Franz Kundert (Ebensee) who, together with him in 1935, organized the first European CC Olympiad. 17 national teams took part in this and, at that time when the medium of correspondence chess was fighting for recognition as an independent form of chess competition, this was a very great success which considerably strengthened the position of IFSB. The ICCF President also honoured the memory of the Master, Hans Muller (Vienna) and Ernst Grünfeld (Vienna). He spoke appreciatively of them as true friends of correspondence chess who demonstrated the importance of top IFSB tournaments to the chess world generally by their participation in them. Finally, he emphasized the valuable work which Austrian CC was currently undertaking in ICCF.

In the Report of the General Secretary, it was indicated that much individual spade work had been necessary with CC players from all over the world in the past year. The reason for this was the publicity about ICCF in many publications and international daily and specialist newspapers as well as the inclusion of ICCF in the UNESCO address list.

The General Secretary announced with special pleasure that an umbrella organization for CC had been created in USA. This organization embraces CCLA, the CC

section of USPCF (that is the OTB organization), PACT and other national CC unions in USA. The constitution presented by this umbrella organization indicates that a sound foundation for success exists.

The General Secretary stated with sincere regret that the decision of the 1979 Järvenpää Congress regarding the North Atlantic Team Tournament had not been respected. By the composition of this tournament as it has now been started, it is not an approved tournament of the ICCF. Therefore the qualification norms set by the previous year's Congress are not applicable. According to the decision of Congress, the following countries were established as participants: Canada, France, Great Britain, Iceland, Ireland, Portugal, Spain and USA.

In closing, the General Secretary informed the meeting that there was a proposal for admission of the Zimbabwe Chess Federation. The General Secretary's proposal that Zimbabwe be taken up as the 55th nation was unanimously accepted by the Praesidium.

The Report of the Tournament Director gave a comprehensive survey of all the tournament arrangements of the ICCF and statistics broken down into countries and tournaments for the past 12 years.

The Report of the World Tournament Office gave the information that in 1978, 1974 players started in 266 groups. In 1979, 1869 players started in 251 groups. In the first 8 months of 1980, 1598 players started in 218 groups. This suggests an increase in participation during the current year as opposed to the previous year. In the Thematic Tournaments, in 1978, 295 players started in 59 groups. In 1979, 230 players started in 46 groups, and in the first 8 months of 1980, 160 players started in 32 groups.

The Report of the European Tournament Office gave the information that in 1978, 2195 players started in 263 groups. In 1979, 2320 play-

ers started in 272 groups and in the first 7 months of 1980, 1561 players started in 183 groups. The increasing trend of the previous year was also shown in the current year. The Final of European Team Championship I and the Preliminary Round of European Team Championship II with a total of 384 players from 23 countries have made good progress. In addition, the report contained a schedule by countries and participants.

The Report about the Tournaments in Latin America showed a further increase in activity. The Final of the 3rd Latin American Championship ended in July 1980. The Final of the 4th Latin American Championship began in September 1980. The Semi-final of No. 5 began in January 1980. The Preliminary Round of No. 6 will end in December 1980 and the Preliminary Round of No. 7 will start in October 1980. The Final of the All-America Championship ended in May 1980. The 3rd Latin American Team Tournament has made good progress.

The Report of the Contact-man to FIDE gave information that the meetings of FIDE increasingly value the activities of ICCF. In particular, he called attention to the importance of the Tele-chess Olympiad organized by both federations and reported on the meeting of the FIDE/ICCF Commission at Amsterdam in March this year, as well as the resultant announcement of the 2nd Tele-chess Olympiad. He further stated with pleasure that several FIDE title-holders were taking part in international correspondence chess.

The Report of the Treasurer gave a global balance and an itemized balance for the different accounts. Both statements showed a good financial basis for ICCF.

The ICCF President thanked the General Secretary, the Tournament Director, his assistants and the Tournament Office Directors for the Continental Tournaments, the ICCF Contact-man to FIDE as well as the Treasurer for the valuable work undertaken.



## CHANGES IN THE COMMISSIONS

### Qualifications Commission/Working Party for Rating

The Praesidium appointed Nol van't Riet (NL) to succeed R.Lindroos (SF) who had resigned as Chairman of the Working Party but would continue his meritorious work as a member of the Working Party. The following were appointed as further members of the Working Party: H.-J.Heitmann (BRD), J.A.Nielsen (DK) and Dr.Fr.Thañhausser (A).

### Tele-chess Commission

The Managing Secretary, D.Smit (NL) had made it known that regrettably long-standing differences, particularly on questions of responsibility, made it impossible for him to work together any more with the Chairman of the Commission, Prof. Dr.Eventov. On the proposal of ICCF Vice-President Prof.Dr.W.Sagorowsky (SU), D.Smit (NL) was appointed Chairman of the Commission in place of Prof.Dr.Eventov and the position of Managing Secretary was abolished.

The Report of the Qualifications Commission contained the outcome of the meeting held in the course of the Praesidium Meetings as well as the discussions carried out in writing on some points of the Playing Rules.

The Qualifications Commission ratified the allocation to groups for Ladies' CC Olympiad III made since the last Congress, to two groups, each of eight teams. It confirmed the statement of the General Secretary that the composition of the North Atlantic Team Tournament was not an authorized tournament of the ICCF and that the title norms given at the previous year's Congress no longer applied.

The full proposals concerning bestowal of titles were ratified by the Praesidium and may be found under the heading, "Bestowal of Titles". The Praesidium agreed the proposal of the Qualifications Commission regarding title norms for the Polish Henryk Swinarski

Memorial Tournament as well as the Town Team Tournament Wroclaw. The title norms may be found in the section headed "Tournament Arrangements".

The Praesidium agreed to an increase to the title norms in items 40 d) and 41 e) of the Playing Rules by 5%. The text may be found under the section headed "Matters Pertaining to the Playing Rules". This increase applies to all individual tournaments authorized henceforth (including the Linz meeting). The Praesidium also agreed with the decision by 9 votes to 1 of the Qualifications Commission to make an addition to paragraph 10 of the Playing Rules and supported the unanimous decision of the Commission to invite Prof.Dr.M.Euwe, Ex-world Champion over-the-board, to the Final of World CC Championship XI.

After much discussion in the Qualifications Commission, the suggestion to limit in time the validity of international titles for norms was not adopted. The Praesidium charged the Commission, in connection with the desirable intensification of title norms, to examine whether the percentage count of title-holders for international individual tournaments under items 40 d) and 41 e) of the Playing Rules can be further increased and report to next year's Congress.

On a proposal of the World Championship Tournament Secretary, the Qualifications Commission decided that the programme for the next world championships shall be as follows:

<u>Semi-final</u>	<u>1-Final</u>	<u>Final</u>
13 - 1981	---	---
14 - 1983	12 - 1983	11 - 1983
15 - 1985	13 - 1985	---
16 - 1987	14 - 1987	12 - 1987
17 - 1989	15 - 1989	13 - 1989
18 - 1991	16 - 1991	14 - 1991

Allocation to groups and drawing of lots shall take place at the respective congresses. The proposal of a four-yearly cycle for the World Championship requires an alteration to item 3 and 4 of the Playing Rules

and the Praesidium ratified this decision.

The Report of the Working Party for Rating gave first of all a retrospective survey.

The Working Party had presented a rating list to the 1979 Järvenpää Congress as a result of the work so far undertaken. Several errors in this list made it necessary to examine the reason. This analysis showed that the possibilities of the system in practice had not been fully exhausted. In the meantime, G.K. Sorokin (SU) and H.-J. Heitmann (BRD) had submitted proposals for solving the problems, although not within the requirements of the method and statistical terms of the Elo system. At the meeting of the Working Party in Linz, it was unanimously decided that the work shall be carried out in accordance with Elo system techniques, because ICCF as an international organization must have a true Elo system. A good method for this is given by Prof. Elo in his book "The Rating of Chess Players".

The following three-stage plan will provide a working basis and it is hoped that each stage can be accomplished in one year.

- Stage 1 Calculation of a provisional rating for a group of top players covering the period 1950 - 1970.
- Stage 2 Calculation of a rating valid for 1970 for this group of players and also for every player against whom those top players had competed during the period 1950 - 1970.
- Stage 3 Calculation of current and consequently factual ratings based upon the ratings of Stage 2, for the period from 1970 to the present time.

Numerous examples had been worked out by D. Smit (NL) and Nol van't Riet (NL) and sent to the Praesidium and to members of the Working Party.

The Working Party will take into consideration as many top tournaments as possible (individual and team tournaments). A supposition of at least 30 games for a placing is envisaged.

The Working Party will report to next year's Congress on the progress of its work.

The Report of the Rules Commission informed about extensive written and verbal deliberations. There was a proposal that an addition to paragraph 1 of the Tournament Rules be made - see Matters Pertaining to the Tournament Rules. The Praesidium agreed to the proposal of the Rules Commission that a final decision should be made at next year's Congress. The national federations are asked to let the General Secretary know their opinion about this addition by 1.3.1981.

The Report of the Tele-chess Commission referred to the invitations sent out by FIDE and ICCF to participate in Tele-chess Olympiad II with a closing date of 15.1.1981 and the particular importance of this joint organization was pointed out. The report further contained information, among other things, about the British Grandmaster Television Tournament in November 1979, about the traditional radio tournaments in UdSSR (Moscow against Artic/Antartic and the 31st Championship of Ships at Sea), about a proposed regular Tele-chess match between machine factories of the towns Donezk (SU) and Magdeburg (DDR). Also of interest was the information that in New Zealand a Province Team Championship, the Bledisloe Cup, had been conducted since 1904. At first the moves were sent by Morse, then by telegraph and lately by Telex. This is very important and popular in New Zealand. The Commission gave considerable interest and attention to computer chess and the question of what influence the computer might have upon correspondence chess. The report gave a valuation that the computers commercially available at present could at most serve as an aid to players in the second



and third classes.

The Report of the Documentation Commission gave information about progress of the work on the manuscript for the book "50 Years of World CC". This book will be published in 1981 by the publishers Rudi Schmaus, Heidelberg (BRD). A recommendation from Commission member G.C.van Perlo (NL) was submitted that a working party should be set up within the Commission with the following task:

- 1) Foundation of a central library.
- 2) All ICCF affiliated federations to be asked to send their journals and books (also retrospectively) to the working party.
- 3) The working party to prepare a catalogue regularly up-dated and made available to those interested.
- 4) The working party to select and arrange this material and produce every two years a publication ("CC Informator") with the most important material (tables, news, games and openings).

The Praesidium indicated its agreement that this recommendation should be realized with the concurrence of the Commission's Chairman, P. Clement.

The ICCF President thanked the commissions and their chairmen for the valuable work.

#### BESTOWAL OF TITLES

##### CC Grandmaster

P.H.Clarke (GB), A. den Ouden (NL), P. Palmo (SF)

##### International CC Master

A. Anton (R), A. Backlund (SF), F. Ballbé (E), A. Berggreen (DK), E. Ditt (BRD), T. Hamarat (TR), J.-J.Hecht (BRD), L. Hyldkrog (DK), O. Koskinen (SF), J.M.Lanz (E), E. Larsen (DK), P. Lehtikoinen (SF),

R. Mallée (BRD), B. Marcussi (RA), A.I.Michailow (SU), O.P.Miljutin (SU), J.S.Morgado (RA), E. Nacht (R), A.W.da Nobrega (BR), J. Penrose (GB), Prof.Dr.J.Planta (NL), C.S.Pouso (VE), V.B.Quist (DK), J. Svenningsson (S), T. Wiersma (NL).

##### International Arbitrator of the ICCF

P. Császár (H), O. Jantunen (SF), W. Nowicki (PL).

The ICCF President heartily congratulated the new title-holders of the ICCF.

The ICCF President handed to the Danish Delegate, Lecturer A. Henriksen, to pass on to World CC Champion J. Sloth (DK), as a prize, a silver tray with the cross-table of the Final results engraved upon it.

ICCF Vice-President E. Larsson had already handed over the gold medal on the occasion of a Danish CC evening in March this year.

With hearty congratulations, the ICCF President handed a gold medal to the Vice-World Champion, Prof. Dr.W.Sagarowsky (SU) who scored equal points.

#### Matters Pertaining to the Statutes

Paragraph 25 - new version:

The official languages of the ICCF shall be German, English, French, Russian and Spanish.

The above proposal from CADAP was agreed by the Praesidium.

In accordance with the instructions of the 1979 Congress at Järvenpää, the General Secretary reported on the result of his enquiries of other international sport organizations regarding the membership and playing possibilities of Scotland and Wales. The information thus received gave no reason to alter the decision of several Congresses, that in accordance with paragraph 3 of the Statutes, membership of Scotland and Wales is not possible.

Matters Pertaining to the Playing Rules

Paragraph 3) The World Championships organized by ICCF are played in two-yearly cycles with a duration of four years. They comprise....., which shall start when possible at the same time every fourth year.

Paragraph 4) The tournaments.... shall be finished in 3½ years  
.....

Paragraph 10) Add: In addition, the Praesidium shall have the right to confer 2 free places on grounds of extraordinary international achievement.

Paragraph 13) The correspondence chess Olympiad shall be played in three to four-yearly cycles.

Paragraph 40 d) those players.... fulfil the following norms: against Grandmasters 55%, against International Masters 75% and against players without international title 75%.

Paragraph 41 e) those participants.... achieve the following norms: against Grandmasters 35%, against International Masters 55% and against players without international title 75%.

All the alterations and additions were agreed by the Praesidium.

Matters Pertaining to the Tournament Rules

Paragraph 1 New text for the last sentence.

Anyone who fails to observe this instruction shall forfeit 5 days time of reflection and 10 days in the case of a repetition.

The decision concerning the above item will be made at next year's Congress.

Tournament Arrangements

The Praesidium noted with regret that the number of countries participating in the Ladies' CC Olympiad

had hardly increased although the Tournament Director had carried out special propaganda for this in accordance with the instructions of the 1979 Järvenpää Congress. The Praesidium requests affiliated federations to give special attention and support for ladies' correspondence chess in the future.

Regarding World Cup Tournament V given to the USA Federation (Central Tournament Secretary, Dr. Bullockus), it was decided that the announcement should be made in November 1980 with a closing date for entries of 14.3.1981 and a starting date envisaged of 15.5.1981.

The following norms were set for the following Polish invitation tournaments already authorized:

Henryk Swinarski Memorial (1 Grandmaster, 6 International CC Masters, 5 Masters): 6½ points from 11 games for the title of International CC Master.

Town Tournament Wroclaw (9 towns, Charkow, Essen, Helsinki, Tartu, Debrecen, Gdansk, Warsaw, Wroclaw, Hertogenbosch on 4 boards):

On Board 1, International CC Master for the best score with at least 75% of the possible points. Half-norm for International CC Master on Board 1 65%, Board 2 70%, Board 3 and Board 4 each 75% of the possible points.

The following tournaments were authorized:

On the proposal of CADAP, a team tournament to take place every four years comprising the three first placed teams from the Coppa Latina/Europa and the CADAP Team Tournament, a total of 6 teams, 8 boards with two games on each board. The first tournament to start at the end of 1981. On a proposal of the Netherlands Federation to mark the occasion of the 15th anniversary of NBC, two invitation tournaments, one Grandmaster Tournament (15 players) and one Master Tournament (13 players) to start in the Spring of 1982.

On the proposal of the Norwegian Federation to mark the 40th Anniversary of "Norges Postsjakkfor-

bund", an invitation tournament with 13-15 players to start 1983. On the proposal of the Russian Federation, a Sergei Mirovsky Memorial with 14-15 players to begin 1981. Sergei Mirovsky, born in 1881, was a worthy organizer of Russian CC.

Next Meetings

The 1981 Congress shall take place in Great Britain from 12th - 20th September. The venue has not yet been set.

Invitations had been received from the Yugoslavian Federation for the 1982 Praesidium Meeting and from the Polish Federation for the 1983 Congress. An invitation from the French Federation for the 1984 Praesidium with a Paris venue was accepted with hearty thanks.

The President closed the meeting with sincere thanks to all participants as well as to the host Federation, Austria, and especially to the Austrian Delegate, Councillor E. Steindl.

Linz - 31st August, 1980

Hans-Werner von Massow  
President

Dr. Bohuslav Lukás  
General Secretary

Translated by R Gillman