



The International Correspondence Chess Federation

2012 Congress



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ICCF CONGRESS 2012

Pretoria, South Africa

Introduction

The 2012 ICCF Congress was hosted by the South African Correspondence Chess Association (SACCA). The venue was the Roodevallei Lodge – Pretoria, South Africa, between 29.10.2012 and 03.11.2012. The Roodevallei Lodge and Conference Centre are situated on the northern outskirts of the city in an area known as Kameeldrift. 27.10.2012 was reserved for special meetings of the Services Committee under the leadership of the new Services Director, Austin Lockwood. 28.10.2012 was reserved for meetings of the Executive Board and Management Committees.

The Congress facilities in the Congress Lodge and the local amenities were excellent. A special appreciation was extended to Dinand Knol and volunteer Elise Steenkamp who provided all the arrangements, shuttled participants back and forth from the airport and train station to the lodge, and all those hundreds of details we tend to forget about unless something goes wrong. Many thanks for making this a very successful and enjoyable Congress for all. A Sunday evening welcome reception was attended by many participants and guests and provided an opportunity to meet old and new acquaintance before the Congress activities the next day.

A tremendously successful and well-planned evening banquet was planned for and attended by all delegates, officials, and accompanying people. The evening started with some upbeat international native African music and circulating waiters and servers providing authentic drinks and cocktail and canapés. After a toast to ICCF leadership, both past and present, including past president Alan Borwell and present president Eric Ruch, the group was introduced to such delectable South African treats such as cheetah rangoons, elephant crispy skin, ocelot smartypants leg crispies, and crocodile fried tail nuggets. Later, we were ushered into the main dining room for a delectable meal, with fine dining, excellent South African wine, and stimulating conversation.

Excursions

Participants of the Congress and accompanying persons were offered several and interesting excursions.

- Thursday – A whole day excursion to the National Park of Pilanesberg, a sanctuary for many different species in South Africa, where the participants could see Elephants, Impala, Giraffes, Wildebeest, Zebra, Kudu and other grass eaters. Uwe Staroske said he could see a Rhino at a distance. The animals are wild within a very large area where they live their lives like in the wild. There were lions around but they were not visible during our stay.
- Friday – Cradle of Mankind, at the site some of the oldest remains of humans had been found as well as tools dated very long back making the place to be one of the oldest settlements of humans in the world. Delegates were sent around through time in an underground flume ride and fossils display. The guide even promised to become a member of the South African correspondence chess association.
- Friday – Lion Park - Here, the Delegates did have the chance to cuddle with lions, which is baby lions of maximum 5 months, but they were quite big. Feed Giraffes and see Surikats, Hyenas and even a black leopard. After that, we were driven in a cage, necessary to protect the wild animals from the dangerous delegates, around the park to see both predators as well as their prey. The main attraction was the white lions that are in principle extinct in the real world. A small lion family, with newborn white cubs, were shown. We also could follow four female lions that had interested in something we could not see. There were also Cheetahs and Wild Dogs to shown. Both being very much endangered species.

Chess Match

The traditional ICCF Blitz tournament was conducted. The results were:

1. Petr Buchníček (CZE)
2. Per Söderberg (SWE)
3. Dr. Fritz Baumbach (GER)

Unfortunately, there were not enough local chess players to organize a traditional over-the-board match.

International Correspondence Chess Federation

Congress Participants – Voting Members

MF	Delegate – Last	Voting Relationship
Argentina (ARG)	Cranbourne, Carlos León	ICCF Delegate
Australia (AUS)	Not present ++	
Austria (AUT)	Not present	Dr. Uwe Staroske (GER) (as proxy)
Belgium (BEL)	Not present	
Belarus (BLR)	Not present	
Brazil (BRA)	Not present	Carlos León Cranbourne (ARG) (as proxy)
Bulgaria (BUL)	Not present	Marjan Šemrl (SLO) (as proxy)
Canada (CAN)	Not present	Dr. Jason Bokar (USA) (as proxy)
Chile (CHI)	Not present	
Croatia (CRO)	Not present	Petr Buchníček (CZE) (as proxy)
Cuba (CUB)	Not present	Carlos León Cranbourne (ARG) (as proxy)
Czech Republic (CZE)	Not present	Petr Buchníček (CZE) (as substitute delegate)
Denmark (DEN)	Not present	
Ecuador (ECU)	Not present	
England (ENG)	Dearnley, Andrew	ICCF Delegate
Spain (ESP)	Not present	Ulrich Baumgartner (SUI) (as proxy)
Estonia (EST)	Not present	Auno Siikaluoma (FIN) (as proxy) Dr. Fritz Baumbach (GER) (as proxy)
Finland (FIN)	Not present	Auno Siikaluoma (as substitute delegate) Dr. Uwe Staroske (GER) (as proxy)
France (FRA)	Ruch, Eric	ICCF Delegate
Germany (GER)	Staroske, Dr. Uwe	ICCF Delegate
Greece (GRE)	Not present	

Guatemala (GUA)	Not present	
Hong Kong (HKG)	Not present	
Hungary (HUN)	Not present	Dr. Fritz Baumbach (GER) (as proxy)
India (IND)	Not present	
Ireland (IRL)	Not present	Per Söderberg (SWE) (as proxy)
Iceland (ISL)	Not present	Per Söderberg (SWE) (as proxy)
Israel (ISR)	Not present	Eric Ruch (FRA) (as proxy)
Italy (ITA)	Not present	Maurizio Sampieri (ITA) (as substitute delegate)
Japan (JPN)	Not present	
Latvia (LAT)	Gaujens, Artis	ICCF Delegate
Lithuania (LTU)	Not present	Artis Gaujens (LAT) (as proxy)
Luxembourg (LUX)	Not present	Marjan Šemrl (SLO) (as proxy)
Malta (MLT)	Not present	
Nicaragua (NCA)	Not present	
Netherlands (NED)	Oudheusden, Willem	ICCF Delegate
Norway (NOR)	Not present	Andrew Dearnley (ENG) (as proxy)
New Zealand (NZL)	Not present	Dr. Jason Bokar (USA) (as proxy)
Panama (PAN)	Not present	
Peru (PER)	Not present	
Poland (POL)	Not present	Mariusz Wojnar (POL) provided e-mail voting directions
Portugal (POR)	Not present	
Romania (ROU)	Not present	Maurizio Sampieri (ITA) (as proxy)
Republic of South Africa (RSA)	Knol, Dinand	ICCF Delegate
Russia (RUS)	Grodzenskiy, Sergey	ICCF Delegate

Scotland (SCO)	Not present	Andrew Dearnley (ENG) (as proxy)
Slovenia (SLO)	Marjan Šemrl	ICCF Delegate
Slovakia (SVK)	Not present	Petr Buchniček (CZE) (as proxy)
Switzerland (SUI)	Baumgartner, Ulrich	ICCF Delegate
Sweden (SWE)	Söderberg, Per	ICCF Delegate

Tunisia (TUN)	Not present	
Turkey (TUR)	Not present	
Ukraine (UKR)	Not present	Eric Ruch (FRA) (as proxy)
United States of America (USA)	Not present	Dr. Jason Bokar (substitute delegate)
Wales (WLS)	Lockwood, Austin	ICCF Delegate

52 Member Federations

11 ICCF Delegates (21.2%)

04 Substitute Delegates (7.7%)

01 E-Mail Voting Instructions (1.9%)

20 Proxy's (38.5%)

36 Member Federations represented – (69.2%)

16 Member Federations not represented – (30.8%)

++ Australia initially discussed Congress matters with Dr. Jason Bokar, substitute delegate for the United States and proxy holder for New Zealand and Canada. However, with a maximum of three votes, Dr. Bokar could not accept the Australian proxy. It should be noted that in no case would one vote have changed the outcome of a proposal.

Congress Participants – Officials

Title	Last	First	Position	Attended?
President	Ruch	Eric	EB	Yes
General Secretary	Millstone	Michael	EB	Yes
Finance Director	Pyrich	George	EB	No
World Tournament Director	Geider	Frank	EB	No
Marketing Director	Vacant	-	-	-
Services Director	Lockwood	Austin	EB	Yes
Zone 1 Director	Caressa	Marco	EB	No
Zone 2 Director	Cranbourne	Carlos	EB	Yes
Zone 3 Director	Bokar	Dr. Jason	EB	Yes
Zone 4 Director	Knol	Dinand	EB	Yes
Title Tournament Commissioner	Tani	Gian-Maria	MC	No
Non-Title Tournament Commissioner	Dearnley	Andrew	MC	Yes
Direct Entry Commissioner	Pheby	Ian M.	MC	No
Webmaster	Figlio	Gino	MC	No
Qualification Commissioner	Limbert	Neil	MC	Yes
Ratings Commissioner	Binder	Gerhard	MC	Yes
Rules Commissioner	Söderberg	Per	MC	Yes

Congress Participants – Federation Members

Name	Country
Martin Bennedik	Germany
Nikolay Poleshchuk	Russia
Luz Marina Tinjaca Ramirez	Italy

Congress Opening – Monday, October 24, 2012

Opening Ceremonies

At 09:34, our host, Mr. Dinand Knol provided some brief welcoming remarks.

Word of Welcome by Dinand Knol to the 41st ICCF Congress held in Pretoria (RSA)

Meneer die president, lede van die uitvoerende bestuur, kommissarisse, amptenare, afgevaardigdes, erelede, gaste, dames en here, dit is 'n groot voorreg om u almal te verwelkom by die 41ste kongres van die ICCF hier in Pretoria. Dit is die eerste keer dat die ICCF sy kongres in Suid-Afrika en ook in Afrika hou. Sedert die eerste kongres wat ek in 2002 bygewoon het, het baie van u my genader en gevra of die kongres eendag in Suid-Afrika gehou kan word. Met die verloop van tyd het hierdie versoek steeds in my gedagte gebly en vandag het dit gerealiseer. Dus weer eens aan 'n ieder en elk van u, baie hartlik welkom in ons mooi en warm land.

After these words of welcome Mr. President, ladies and gentlemen a little more about our city and country. Pretoria was founded in 1855, has a population of over 2 million, and is our administrative capital. The other capital city is Cape Town which is the seat of the legislation.

South Africa, is the 25th largest country in the world by area, has a population of about 50 million and is the only one that borders both the Atlantic and Indian Oceans. It was founded in 1910 as the Union of South Africa and became a Republic in 1961.

After the congress of 2004, held in Mumbai (India), this congress is the second closest to the equator and it takes third place as being furthest to the south. The two top achievements belong to the congresses hosted by Argentina in 2005 (Villa La Angostura - 1st) and 1997 (Buenos Aires - 2nd).

This congress; however, does have a few top scores of itself. As already mentioned it is the first one held in South Africa and Africa. These are two inauguration events and can never be replaced or improved upon. Pretoria is only 157 years old and is the youngest city/town to host an ICCF Congress. Finally yet importantly is that at 1270 metres above sea level this is the highest one held to date. No other congress has ever taken place at an altitude above 1000 metres.

The majority of you present here today are visiting Africa for the first time and I would therefore like to conclude as follows: to each one of you, enjoy this congress and welcome to the far end of the dark and mysterious continent.

Mr. Michael Burke from the South Africa Over-the Board Association joined us from Johannesburg to provide us a warm welcome.

President's Opening Speech

Opening the Congress, the ICCF President Eric Ruch (FRA) warmly welcomed all the participants and expressed appreciation for the South Africa Chess Organisation hosting the 2012 ICCF Congress and all the hard work of the organizers in preparing the accommodations and facilities.

OPENING DISCOURS

***ICCF Congress 2012 – Pretoria South Africa
Monday 29th October 2012.***

Distinguished Guests, Dear Members of the South African Chess Federation, Dear Delegates, Member Federation Delegation Members and Accompanying Persons, Dear ICCF officials, Ladies and Gentleman:

May I first thank Mr. Michael Burke for those very kind words of welcome and for your great support of this Congress and our South African correspondence chess friends for your warm welcome.

It is my great pleasure to welcome you all here today and that for the very first time an ICCF Congress is being held on the African continent. It is also my great pleasure to welcome you in South Africa, which is amongst the countries on the African continent with the longest and the richest history and tradition in correspondence chess.

If we look back at history, we can find a long tradition of correspondence chess in South Africa back in the 19th century. As far as we know, the oldest CC game in records has been played by a gentleman from Cape Town against a gentleman of Grahamstown in the years 1863 - 1865. In addition, since we are today gathered in Pretoria, for those who do not know it, I invite you to analyze the game played in 1898 between the chess clubs of Pretoria and The Cape. It is considered amongst the jewels of correspondence chess and was published all over the world at the end of the 19th century analyzed by the most prestigious players of that time, Wilhelm Steinitz, Siegbert Tarrasch, Samuel Rosenthal and Leopold Hoffer amongst others. The South African Correspondence Chess Association has been established in 1934 and is the oldest on the African soil.

Last year has been also a sad year for ICCF. The famous Dutch CC grandmaster Dick van Geet passed away in April 2012. He was amongst not only the strongest CC players for many years but also a very strong OTB player and he revealed many major novelties in the opening 1. Nc3, which has been christened the Van Geet opening. In addition, the host federation has suffered the passing of a very strong player the SIM Kemp Piet.

Could I ask you to stand for a moment, in silence, in respect to these CC friends and other players and officials who passed away during the last year.

One-Minute Silence

Being here today to open the first ever ICCF congress in Africa is a great honour for me and I would like to thank the organizing committee of the South African Chess Association and especially the National Delegate and Zonal Director, Dinand Knol for the dedicated work to make this all possible. However, I would also like to include someone who without his work in the ICCF Executive Board, we would surely not be here in this room. For years he has been the Zonal Director for Africa – Asia, and we could even state that he has **created** the Africa – Asian zone, he gave a great impulse in the development of correspondence chess in countries in the continent. One of his ambitions was to organize a congress in his zone and show to all ICCF officials and National Delegates the vitality of CC in new countries and he was proud welcoming all of us in Asia, for the congress in Mumbai 2004. I am sure that he is proud of seeing one of his other dreams being realized: a Congress in Africa! If circumstances had permitted, he would have been with us today. I ask you a very warm applause to ICCF Honorary Member and former ICCF President, Med Samraoui!

In conclusion, I would like to express my sincere thanks to delegates and officials for the support they had given me during these years.

The 41st ICCF Congress, Pretoria 2012, is now duly open ☺

Could I now ask you all to stand for the playing of the ICCF Anthem

President's Opening Remarks

Due to previous commitments, the following ICCF Officials were unable to attend and expressed their apologies for not being present:

- Finance Director, George Pyrich (SCO);
- World Tournament Director, Frank Geider (FRA);
- Zone 1 Director, Marco Caressa (ITA);
- Title Tournament Commissioner, Gian-Maria Tani (ITA);
- Direct Entry Commissioner, Ian M. Pheby (ENG);
- Webmaster, Gino Figlio (PER)

Bertl von Massow Awards and Other Awards

The ICCF President outlined the background and criteria which applied for Bertl von Massow awards: - "Medals in Gold and Silver were awarded respectively for 15 and 10 years of faithful service to ICCF, as the Delegate of a National organisation, as Member of the Executive Board, Management Committee or Commissions, for Zonal organisations or as a Tournament Director, or as Team Captain of a winning or highly placed team in an Olympiad or Continental (Zonal) Team Tournament".

He then announced the names of officials that the ICCF Executive Board had agreed to receive Bertl von Massow awards in 2012. Each recipient (or their respective delegate) came forward to receive medals and certificates, with the acclamation of Congress.

Gold Medal

Recipient	Year	Accepted by
Dr. Ian S. Brooks (ENG)	2012	Andrew Dearnley (ENG)
Marco Caressa (ITA)	2012	Maurizio Sampieri (ITA)
Duncan Chambers (ENG)	2012	Andrew Dearnley (ENG)
Frank Geider (FRA)	2012	Eric Ruch (FRA)
Søren Peschardt (DEN)	2012	Ulrich Baumgartner (SUI)
Jo A. Wharrier (ENG)	2012	Andrew Dearnley (ENG)

Silver Medal

Recipient	Year	Accepted by
Gino Franco Figlio (PER)	2012	Carlos Cranbourne (ARG)
Hans-Jürgen Isigkeit (GER)	2012	Dr. Uwe Staroske (GER)

A list of all Bertl von Massow medal winners may be found in Appendix P.

Tournament Medals and Certificates

World Championship 24 Final

An engraved plate was presented to the winner of the WC 24 Final, Marjan Šemrl

Silver	Dr. Hans-Dieter Wunderlich	GER
Bronze	Tansel Turgut	TUR

World Cup Final XII, Postal

Gold	Matthias Gleichmann	GER
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World Cup Final XIV

Gold	Reinhard Moll	GER
Silver	Aleksey Konstantinovich Simakhin	RUS
Bronze	Andreas Schinke	GER

1st Veteran's World Cup

Gold	Rob P. Kruis	NED
Silver	Claude Oger	FRA
Bronze	Auno Siikaluoma	FIN

1st Junior World Cup

Gold	Danny Porcelli	ITA
Silver	Hermann Bauer	GER
Bronze	Hendrik Schweer	GER

Champions League IV

Gold	Team	1	Rolf Scherer	SUI
	Underdogs I	2	Alexander Schramm	GER
	(GER)	3	Ralf Müller	GER
		4	Peter Daus	GER

Olympiad 17 Final

Gold	1	Maximilian Voss	GER
	2	Peter Hertel	GER
	3	Arno Nickel	GER
	4	Dr. Stephan Busemann	GER
	5	Dr. Hans-Dieter Wunderlich	GER
	6	Gerhard Müller	GER
	TC	Dr. Matthias Kribben	GER

Silver	1/TC	David Lafarga Santorromán	ESP
	2	Joel Martín Clemente	ESP
	3	Pedro Drake Díez de Rivera	ESP
	4	Miguel Angel Cánovas Pordomingo	ESP
	5	Francisco de Asís Velilla Velasco	ESP
	6	Manuel Jesús Bescós Anzano	ESP

Bronze	1	Eros Riccio	ITA
	2	Alberto Dosi	ITA
	3	Livio Olivotto	ITA
	4	Claudio Cesetti	ITA
	5	Giorgio Ruggeri Laderchi	ITA
	6	Nicola Latronico	ITA
	TC	Gianni Mastrojeni	ITA

7th European Team Championship

Gold	1	Alois Lanč	SVK
	2	Vladimír Hefka	SVK
	3	Marek Kolčák	SVK
	4/TC	Ján Helbich	SVK
	5	Daniel Povchanič	SVK
	6	Pavel Eiben	SVK
	7	Alexander Horvath	SVK
	8	Marek Kolesar	SVK

Silver	1	Eros Riccio	ITA
	2	Claudio Cesetti	ITA
	3	Vincenzo Dell'Isola	ITA
	4	Giuseppe Pezzica	ITA
	5	Pierangelo Turati	ITA
	6	Mauro Petrolo	ITA
	7	Mario Versili	ITA
	8	Salvatore Montella	ITA
	TC	Michele Benedetto Rinesi	ITA

Bronze	1	Jože Novak	SLO
	2	Peter Žebre	SLO
	3	Dr. Anton Čopar	SLO
	4	Dr. Danilo Korže	SLO
	5	Aleš Borštnik	SLO
	6	Matej Keršič	SLO
	7	Mirko Bandelj	SLO
	8	Stane Korošec	SLO
	TC	Andrej Loc	SLO

CADAP XXI Final

Gold	Marcelo Dario Cabrera	ARG
Silver	Sergio Diaz	ARG
Bronze	Leonardo Guedes de Magalhães	BRA

Certificates were presented as follows:

2nd Webchess Open Final

1st	Jaroslav Kaas	CZE
1st	Siniša Loinjak	SLO
3rd	Alberto Gueci	ITA

The 2nd Webchess Open joint winners received engraved plates.

Approval of 2011 Congress Minutes

General Secretary Note: at this point in Congress, there are 52 Member Federations. Of this number, 36 are represented, leaving 16 MFs not represented.

Delegates: ARG, ENG, FRA, GER, LAT, NED, RSA, RUS, SLO, SUI, SWE (11)

Substitute Delegates: CZE, FIN, ITA, USA (4)

E-Mail Voting Instructions: POL (1)

Proxies: AUT, BRA, BUL, CAN, CRO, CUB, ESP, EST, HUN, IRL, ISL, ISR, LTU, LUX, NOR, NZL, ROU, SCO, SVK, UKR (20)

Not represented: AUS, BEL, BLR, CHI, DEN, ECU, GRE, GUA, HKG, IND, JPN, MLT, NCA, PER, POR, TUR (16)

Approximately 1-week prior to Congress, a request to change some portions of the minutes was received from a Member Federation. These changes were reviewed by the Executive Board and the following was recommended to the full Congress:

- The changes were all recommended changes to wording and none of the changes affected any rules, decision, or statutes.
- The 2011 minutes were sent out for four separate reviews: once to the EB and all officials present, and 3 times to all delegates. All suggestions and recommended changes were incorporated with each review. At no time did the Member Federation in question provide any suggested changes.
- After more than a year of being published, to receive suggested changes approximately a week before Congress, with no chance for the delegates to review, consult with their Federations, or discuss the recommended changes were deemed inappropriate to be considered in Congress.

The Proposal to approve the 2011 Congress Minutes was made to Congress.

Proposal 1 - Vote to Approve the 2011 Congress Minutes:

For	(25)
Against	SCO, SWE (2)
ABS	ESP, ARG, BRA, CUB, CAN, NZL, LTU, LAT, NED (9)

Proposal 1 - The Congress Minutes of 2011 were approved and signed by ICCF President, Eric Ruch (FRA) and ICCF General Secretary, Michael Millstone (USA).

Executive Board Changes

Since last Congress, we have had the following changes to the ICCF Executive Board:

- Services Director – resigned
- Marketing Director – remains vacant

These vacancies have placed additional burdens on the remaining Executive Board members to continue the roles and responsibilities of these vacated positions.

** Note, after a mid-year election, Austin Lockwood, (ENG) was nominated by the English Federation and elected by the ICCF Delegates to the position of Services Director and member of the Executive Board. Austin has assumed his position with tremendous energy and vigour and we are starting to see many positive results and needed changes. Welcome Austin!

International Correspondence Chess Federation

Membership Matters

Michael Millstone - General Secretary

Dismissals and Suspensions

ICCF General Secretary, Michael Millstone (USA) reported the following Member Federations were suspended in 2011 for non-payment of dues:

- Burkina Faso
- Ivory Coast
- Ghana
- Mexico
- Qatar
- Togo
- Algeria

Also reported were outstanding balances from 2011 from the following two MFs:

- Bulgaria
- Israel

A request was made to vote on each of the MFs separately.

Proposal to dismiss **Algeria** from ICCF due to unpaid membership dues for the past 3-years:

Proposal 2 - Vote to dismiss Algeria from ICCF:

For	(36)
Against	(0)
ABS	(0)

Proposal 2 - Algeria has been dismissed from ICCF.

Proposal 3 - Proposal to dismiss **Burkina Faso** from ICCF due to unpaid membership dues for the past 3-years

Vote to dismiss Burkina Faso from ICCF:

For	(36)
Against	(0)
ABS	(0)

Proposal 3 - Burkina Faso has been dismissed from ICCF.

Proposal 4 - Proposal to dismiss **Ghana** from ICCF due to unpaid membership dues for the past 3-years

Vote to dismiss Ghana from ICCF:

For	(36)
Against	(0)
ABS	(0)

Proposal 4 - Ghana has been dismissed from ICCF.

Proposal 5 - Proposal to dismiss **Ivory Coast** from ICCF due to unpaid membership dues for the past 3-years

Vote to dismiss Ivory Coast from ICCF:

For	(36)
Against	(0)
ABS	(0)

Proposal 5 - Ivory Coast has been dismissed from ICCF.

Proposal 6 - Proposal to dismiss **Mexico** from ICCF due to unpaid membership dues for the past 3-years

Vote to dismiss Mexico from ICCF:

For	(29)
Against	USA, RUS (2)
ABS	LTU, LAT, CRO, CZE, SVK (5)

Proposal 6 - Mexico has been dismissed from ICCF.

Proposal 7 - Proposal to dismiss **Qatar** from ICCF due to unpaid membership dues for the past 3-years:

Vote to dismiss Qatar from ICCF:

For	(33)
Against	RUS (1)
ABS	LTU, LAT (2)

Proposal 7 - Qatar has been dismissed from ICCF.

Proposal 8 - Proposal to dismiss **Togo** from ICCF due to unpaid membership dues for the past 3-years

Vote to dismiss Togo from ICCF:

For	(36)
Against	(0)
ABS	(0)

Proposal 8 - Togo has been dismissed from ICCF.

International Correspondence Chess Federation

New Membership Matters

Three new Member Federations have made application to ICCF (see Appendixes A – D) – Panama (Zone 2), Tunisia (Zone 4), and Wales (Zone 1). The Finance Director noted that both Panama and Tunisia (former members of ICCF) have paid all back dues and are in good financial standing with ICCF. Any discussion was entertained; however, there was none.

Proposal 9 - Proposal to accept Panama, Tunisia, and Wales as full ICCF members:

Vote to accept all three Federations as members of ICCF:

For	(36)
Against	(0)
ABS	(0)

Proposal 9 - Welcome Panama, Tunisia, and Wales!

General Secretary Note: at this point in Congress, there are 55 Member Federations. Of this number, 37 are represented, leaving 18 MFs not represented.

Delegates: ARG, ENG, FRA, GER, LAT, NED, RSA, RUS, SLO, SUI, SWE, WLS (12)

Substitute Delegates: CZE, FIN, ITA, USA (4)

E-Mail Voting Instructions: POL (1)

Proxies: AUT, BRA, BUL, CAN, CRO, CUB, ESP, EST, HUN, IRL, ISL, ISR, LTU, LUX, NOR, NZL, ROU, SCO, SVK, UKR (20)

Not represented: AUS, BEL, BLR, CHI, DEN, ECU, GRE, GUA, HKG, IND, JPN, MLT, NCA, PAN, PER, POR, TUN, TUR (18)

Other Membership Matters

An interesting discussion ensued about the eligibility and status of Cape Verde Islands, our affiliated Member. It was noted that although only affiliated, they are one of our most active Members, hosting and participating in many tournaments. Consideration was given to provide our affiliated member more opportunities to participate and be recognized. It was decided two votes would be put forth: (a) allow Cape Verde Islands to participate in the upcoming (and subsequent) Olympiads and (b) allow Cape Verde Islands to apply for full membership to ICCF.

Proposal 10 - Proposal to allow Cape Verde Islands to participate in ICCF Olympiads:

Vote to allow Cape Verde Islands to participate in ICCF Olympiads:

For	(35)
Against	(0)
ABS	ESP, POL (2)

Proposal 10 - Proposal to allow Cape Verde Islands to apply for full ICCF membership:

Before the vote was taken, some additional discussion ensued. It was raised that to allow Cape Verde Islands as a full ICCF member would go against FIDE policy. Additional discussion from delegates centered on how closely aligned ICCF should be to FIDE. Last, Eric Ruch pointed out that one of the main reasons for ICCF alignment with FIDE is the recognition of titles and he was unaware of whether FIDE would recognize a title conferred by ICCF on a Cape Verde Islands player. Mr. Ruch has corresponded with several FIDE officials on this matter, but has not received an answer. It was decided that we did not have enough information to proceed to a vote; however, Congress did agree in principal to continue to pursue opportunities to allow full membership.

Financial Report & Accounts to 31.12.2011

George Pyrich – Finance Director

Firstly, I should like to express my regret at again being unable to be with you at this year's ICCF Congress. Unfortunately, the situation with regard to my health, although considerably improved over the last year, remains such that I am unable to undertake long flights.

Of course, I do hope that I will be able to attend Congress in future years and should like to wish that all of you enjoyed a wonderful experience in South Africa!

ICCF Financial Accounts - 2011

Delegates are requested to note the audited Financial Accounts for 2011 contained within the document "ICCF Accounts 2011" distributed separately. Delegates are also requested to note the surplus for the year of 8,909.19 EUR resulting in an increase in the Accumulated Fund to 265,727.15 EUR. Delegates are respectfully requested to approve these Accounts.

Delegates will note that the surplus recorded during 2011 is much reduced from those in 2009 (36,825.81 EUR) and 2010 (33,245.94 EUR). Whilst Income received during 2011 rose by some 7.3% over the previous year despite the introduction from 1 January 2011 of the entry fee reductions of an average of 20% approved at the 2010 Antalya Congress, Expenditure over the same period rose dramatically from 43,981.96 EUR in 2010 to 75,245.90 in 2011.

ICCF has recorded a modest and much reduced surplus during the year and its Accumulated Funds have again increased to record levels. Expenditure during the year increased sharply over that in 2010 with substantial increases to Congress Expenses, Congress Allowances, and the ICCF Webserver (including Development costs). Substantial expenditure was also incurred on Cash Prizes in respect of World Cup and Webserver Open events and, additionally, provision was made for the first time in the Financial Accounts in respect of Prizes due for payment in future years for current events, again World Cup and Webserver Open events.

As stated, Income for 2011 was some 7.3% higher than that for 2010 and despite of the introduction from 1 January 2011 of the reductions to fees of some 20% approved at the 2010 ICCF Congress. As shown in Appendices A & B at the end of this Report, total entries for individual tournaments increased by some 30% over the year, providing clear vindication of the decision to reduce fees!

Whilst it is not unreasonable to anticipate another good financial performance during 2012 (during the year we have another new cycle of the Champions League which in 2009 provided Income of 16,127.89 Swiss Francs, some 13,200 Euros at current rates), I consider that at this time it would be prudent to defer any consideration of any further reduction to ICCF fees until next year in view of continuing high expenditures on Congress Expenses and Allowances as well as Webserver costs. Additionally, it is not possible at this time to evaluate the effects of the decision approved at the 2011 Congress whereby the Rebate provided to National Federations in

respect of Direct entries was increased from 30% to 50% from 1 January 2012 the effect of which the Income received by ICCF in respect of Direct Entries was actually reduced.

Similarly, it would be prudent at this time to defer any consideration of increasing payments in respect of Congress Allowances paid to members of the Executive Board and the Management Committee.

Financial Plan

The President, Eric Ruch (FRA) reviewed the Financial Plan with Congress delegates. Due to the sensitive nature of the data, the financial plan will not be replicated in this report.

Summary of Entries Received for Years 2008/2009/2010

The Finance Director has provided tables for Summary of Postal Entries (Appendix E) and Server Entries (Appendix F).

The Balance Sheet, Profit and Loss Income, and Profit and Loss Expenditure statements are provided in Appendixes G, H, and I respectively.

There was no discussion concerning the Financial Report.

Auditor's Report

Josef Mrkvička – ICCF Auditor

Introduction

I, Josef Mrkvička, ICCF Auditor have audited the financial statements of the International Correspondence Chess Federation (thereinafter "ICCF"), which comprise the Balance Sheet as of 31 December 2011, and the Profit & Loss Statement for the year then ended. These financial statements form a part of the Finance Director's Report to this Congress.

ICCF Executive Board's Responsibility for the Financial Statements

The ICCF Executive Board, in particular the ICCF Finance Director George Pyrich, is responsible for the preparation and true and fair view of these financial statements. This responsibility includes designing, implementing and maintaining internal control relevant to the preparation and fair presentation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error; selecting and applying appropriate accounting policies, and making accounting estimates that are reasonable in the circumstances.

Auditor's Responsibility

My responsibility is to express an opinion on these financial statements based on my audit. I conducted my audit in accordance with the International Standards on Auditing, where appropriated and/or applicable. Those standards require that I comply with ethical requirements and plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance whether the financial statements are free from material misstatement.

An audit involves performing procedures to obtain audit evidence about the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. The procedures selected depend on the auditor's judgment. An audit also includes evaluating the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of accounting estimates made by the ICCF Finance Director, as well as evaluating the overall presentation of the financial statements. I set the level of materiality at EUR 17.00, which is the usual limit from which receipts are required for a cost reimbursement.

Audit Procedures Performed

I performed the following audit procedures:

- I checked if all ledger accounts had been opened by correct opening balances, equalling to closing balances as at 31st December 2010.
- I checked the formal correctness of all book entries made on various ledger accounts during the year 2011.

- I checked if the closing balances of ledger accounts as at 31st December 2011 had been allocated correctly to particular items of Balance Sheet and Profit & Loss Statement.
- I compared the issued NF Statements of Accounts for the year 2011 with the respective book entries.
- In a detailed way, I analysed the accounts receivables and accounts payables as at 31st December 2011.
- I checked the vouchers and bank statements provided by the Finance Director and compared them with the respective book entries in the Day Book.

The discovered discrepancies were submitted to the Finance Director, together with my proposals how to rectify them. I am pleased to say that all my proposals have been welcomed and accepted by the Finance Director, and the appropriate adjustments have been made in the final version of the Financial Statements.

Generally, I am delighted to say that in comparison with the past year 2010, the number of discrepancies and necessary adjustments decreased significantly, which made my audit work much easier.

Material Findings

- In comparison with the year 2010, and in my opinion very wisely, the Finance Director created a provision for future money prizes amounting to € 16 949.78. This provision reduced the accounting profit of the year 2011 quite significantly, but it will be dissolved in the future years as the money prizes become due.
- In my Auditor's Report for the year 2010, I recommended generally to reduce the yearly ICCF profits and to use the collected funds from past years for the benefit of ICCF players. I am delighted to see that this reduction has happened just in the next year and that ICCF is nearing to a balanced budget, which is to be expected by non-profit organizations.
- Between the years 2010 and 2011, ICCF profit decreased by € 24 336.75. The main items which caused this decrease are – apart from the abovementioned creation of provision for future money prizes € 16 949.78 – increase in costs of ICCF Congress amounting to € 6 994.18 and increase in costs for the webserver development of € 3 424.18.
- As I predicted in my last Report, the decrease of ICCF tournament start fees from 1st January 2011 had apparently no negative impact on ICCF income. Contrary to that, the income from tournament fees showed the year-on-year increase of € 7.5 thousand. However, I want to stress that any year-on-year comparison is doubtful, because of the different portfolio of tournaments started in the particular years. We only could compare the same categories of tournaments and even here, the results are ambiguous.
- There was a quite surprising – and overall positive – development in ICCF overdue receivables. In the year 2010, the Finance Director had to write off the unpaid debts of in total 10 national federations. From these written-off debts, TKM, TUN, and PAN acknowledged their old debts in 2011, TUN, and PAN have just paid them up in 2012. On the other hand, the unpaid debts of BUR, CIV, GHA, MEX, QAT, and TOG had to be

written off in 2011. However, the total amount of these written-off debts only was € 392.16.

- In addition, there was a positive development in the market value of the ICCF investments which increased by € 1 038.65. Despite this increase in value, and alike in the past year, I still do not recommend any new investments in bonds denominated in €.
- ICCF cash position remains strong and sound. In my 2010 Report, I recommended to strengthen as much as possible the Credit Lyonnais Savings account because of a higher rate of interest, and to keep the balance of the RBS account in Perth on a reasonable minimum. Both these recommendations were acknowledged and followed by the Finance Director.

Recommendations and Proposals

- This year, I only have one proposal, which is more or less formal. In the year 2011, the Finance Director applied interests for late payments to two national federations. Formally, he added the interests to their opening balances in their 2011 Statements. From the accounting point of view, the interests were accounted for correctly. Nevertheless, in order to keep the linkage between the Statements and respective ledger accounts, I asked the Finance Director to show the late payment interests (if any) as special items in the 2012 Statements.
- Otherwise, I only have to say that **the ICCF finances keep being in good condition**, and I do not see any risk of financial shortage neither for the year 2012 nor for the follow-up years.

Conclusions – Auditor's Opinion

I believe that the audit evidence I have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for my audit opinion.

Opinion

In my opinion, the financial statements give a true and fair view of assets, liabilities and accumulated fund of ICCF as of 31 December 2011, and of costs and earnings for the year then ended.

Finally, I would like to express my appreciation of the dedicated and good work of the Finance Director, George Pyrich, during the whole year 2011, and to thank him for his perfect co-operation with me during the course of audit.

Josef Mrkvička
ICCF Auditor

Proposal 11 - Proposal to approve the Financial Report as written:

Vote to approve the Financial Report as written:

For	(37)
Against	(0)
ABS	(0)

Proposal 11 - The Financial Report was approved as written.

It should be noted that Congress considered the Auditor's report without objection.

International Correspondence Chess Federation

Direct Entry Commissioner

Ian M. Pheby – Direct Entry Commissioner

Dear Chessfriends,

First, I would like to apologise for not being able to present this report in person. As you may know, I have a total fear of flying, and I am thus unable to attend Congress unless it is held within mainland United Kingdom. I did have the pleasure of meeting many of you at the Leeds Congress in 2009, which I attended.

Andrew Dearnley (ENG) has kindly agreed to present this report on my behalf.

I am pleased to submit the report to the 2012 ICCF Congress regarding the Direct Entry programme. The period of this report will be from the programme start on 5th April 2006 through to 31st May 2012.

Appointment

I was appointed as Deputy Direct Entry Commissioner on 7th February 2011. Following the retirement of Jean-Christophe Chazalotte (FRA) from the post of Direct Entry Commissioner, I was appointed Direct Entry Commissioner at the 2011 Congress held in Järvenpää, Finland.

Direct Entry Programme

The Direct Entry Programme enables players to register for ICCF events subject to holding the appropriate qualifications for that event by making a payment through PayPal. Unfortunately, some countries are not part of the Direct Entry Programme; I sincerely hope that they join as soon as possible. I am pleased to report that Germany became part of the Direct Entry Programme in October 2011, and their members now enjoy the option of entering ICCF events by Direct Entry.

Processing entries is now somewhat easier than when I started my work on the Direct Entry Programme courtesy of the automation of the process on the webserver. My thanks to all those involved in ensuring this system works so efficiently.

Information about the Direct Entry Programme

From January to December 2011, 1368 entries for ICCF tournaments were registered, that is 3.75 entries per day, representing an increase of about 28% compared with 2010 (1069 entries, 2.93 per day). From January to May 2012, 602 entries were registered, that is 3.96 entries per day. A significant reason for this increase is the popularity of the Direct Entry Programme.

During the past year, entry to European Zone Individual Master Class, Higher Class, and Open Class (Webserver) events has become possible through Direct Entry. The data from these events are contained within their respective Promotion Tournament.

Appendix J contains details of the entries to the varied tournaments available by Direct Entry, and the level of activity in each tournament.

Direct Entry 5th Webserver Anniversary

To celebrate the fifth anniversary of the Direct Entry Programme, a tournament was organized by Jean-Christophe Chazallete (FRA). The current situation is that the preliminary rounds are now complete and 91 players will compete in 7 semi-finals for the right to play in the Final. Each semi-final is a Category IV event. The semi-finals will be held from 1st October 2012 to 31st March 2014. I wish to thank Jean-Christophe Chazallete (FRA) for his continued organization of this successful event.

Appreciation

I wish to thank Andrew Dearnley (ENG) for kindly agreeing to present this report to Congress on my behalf. I would also like to thank Jean-Christophe Chazallete (FRA) for his work as Direct Entry Commissioner prior to my appointment.

It has been and continues to be an honour to serve the ICCF as Direct Entry Commissioner, and I hope to continue to serve the ICCF for many years as your Direct Entry Commissioner.

Qualification Commissioner

Neil Limbert – Qualifications Commissioner

This has been another busy year in the ever-increasing number of Title tournaments! Since the 2011 Congress, there have been an incredible **191** Title tournaments started -- an average of one new Title Tournament every 2.3 days.

During the same period, I have checked, verified and awarded **136** new Titles to players (GM, SIM, IM, LGM, LM, and IA); an average of one new Title every 3.3 days. This compares to the 133 new Titles confirmed at the 2011 Congress. In addition, there is another **64** Tournament Medals & Certificates to be awarded.

The 2011 Congress decision to amend the Tournament Rules to allow the Qualifications Commissioner to award Titles based on “overscore” has had a very positive effect. Twelve Titles have been awarded during the year on this basis, and this will save considerable time in Congress on Special Applications. As you can see from this Report, there are no Special Applications!

Nominations for the Grandmaster (GM) Title

Applications under Rule 10.4 (c)

AUT	10464	Christian Muck	GM
BRA	71140	Rafael Leitão	GM
BUL	50173	Valentin Dimitrov Iotov	GM
ENG	211305	Nigel Robson	GM
ESP	169024	Miguel Angel Cánovas Pordomingo	GM
ESP	169212	Manuel Jesús Bescós Anzano	GM
ESP	160106	Francisco Javier Muñoz Moreno	GM
EST	930112	Jüri Siigur	GM
FIN	460917	Auno Siikaluoma	GM
GER	83821	Michael Rümmele	GM
GER	82340	Wolfgang Standke	GM
GER	85201	Dr. René-Reiner Starke	GM
GER	86189	Prof. Dr. Jürgen Stephan	GM
LTU	920043	Alfonsas Kupšys	GM
ROU	440550	Costel Voiculescu	GM
RUS	141737	Aleksandr Gennadievich Efremov	GM
SLO	480135	Aleš Borštnik	GM
SLO	480084	Danilo Korže	GM
SLO	480232	Matjaž Pirš	GM
SLO	480179	Jernej Šivic	GM
SVK	950055	Vladimír Hefka	GM
SVK	950019	Marek Kolčák	GM
UKR	940623	Sergei Bubir	GM

Nominations for the SIM Title

Applications under Rule 10.5 (a)

AUT	10248	Heinz Polsterer	SIM
AUT	10539	Klaus Rogetzer	SIM
BLR	750014	Alexandr Sergeevich Ivanov	SIM
BRA	71140	Rafael Leitão	SIM
BRA	71133	Leonardo Guedes de Magalhães	SIM
BUL	50460	Aleksandar Gavazov	SIM
BUL	50007	Dimitar Z. Karapchanski	SIM
CHI	110077	Ricardo Cortés Olivares	SIM
CZE	130794	Jiří Dufek	SIM
ENG	210745	Alan J. C. Rawlings	SIM
ENG	211655	Harvey D. Williamson	SIM
ESP	160468	Ángel-Jerónimo Manso Gil	SIM
FIN	460889	Taisto Koskela	SIM
FRA	180532	Patrick Thirion	SIM
GER	83217	Edgar Achilles	SIM
GER	83928	Wolfgang Bachmann	SIM
GER	85725	Robert Bauer	SIM
GER	85361	Martin Bennedik	SIM
GER	82651	Wolfgang Bunk	SIM
GER	81426	Jürgen Gburek	SIM
GER	80543	Harry Gromotka	SIM
GER	83539	Albert Hasselmeyer	SIM
GER	83534	Fred Kindbeiter	SIM
GER	85526	Uwe Peschke	SIM
GER	85343	Horst Sikorsky	SIM
GER	85913	Rudolf Wolfrum	SIM
HUN	230591	Csaba Jergler	SIM
IND	280176	P.B. Dhanish	SIM
IRL	260162	Ciaran O'Hare	SIM
ISR	140256	Michael Elent	SIM
ISR	270103	Michael Granski	SIM
NED	371050	Lambert Douwe Westera	SIM
POL	429028	Piotr Walczak	SIM
RUS	141737	Aleksandr Gennadievich Efremov	SIM
RUS	140226	Vladimir Pavlovich Kharlamov	SIM
RUS	141079	Valery Ivanovich Lebedev	SIM
RUS	140082	Nikolay Nikolaevich Poleshchuk	SIM
RUS	141671	Aleksandr Nikolaevich Shpakovsky	SIM
RUS	141756	Igor Viktorovich Telepnev	SIM
RUS	141656	Viktor Borisovich Zakharov	SIM
SLO	480228	Bojan Fajs	SIM

SLO	480179	Jernej Šivic	SIM
SLO	480213	Gregor Vohl	SIM
SUI	100389	Hansruedi Glauser	SIM
SUI	100357	Martin Leutwyler	SIM
SUI	100222	Roger Mayer	SIM
SVK	950321	Peter Paško	SIM
SVK	950334	Luboš Trembeckí	SIM

Nominations for the IM Title

Applications under Rule 10.6 (d)

BUL	50460	Aleksandar Gavazov	IM
BUL	50453	Zlatin Stoyanov	IM
BUL	50255	Simeon Vinchev	IM
CAN	90617	Dan Rotaru	IM
CHI	110077	Ricardo Cortés Olivares	IM
CZE	130886	Václav Čontoš	IM
CZE	131240	Pavel Fric	IM
ENG	211501	Dr. John Wharam	IM
ESP	160612	Juan Manuel Pérez Martín	IM
ESP	160965	Víctor Diego Rosa Ramírez	IM
ESP	160715	Vicente Destruels Moreno	IM
FRA	180733	Olivier Deville	IM
FRA	180532	Patrick Thirion	IM
GER	83928	Wolfgang Bachmann	IM
GER	85725	Robert Bauer	IM
GER	81213	Jörg Betker	IM
GER	81426	Jürgen Gburek	IM
GER	80543	Harry Gromotka	IM
GER	83539*	Albert Hasselmeyer	IM
GER	85500	Botho Jung	IM
GER	85783	Ralf Müller	IM
GER	85185	Heinz Schüppen	IM
GER	85397	Ralf-Axel Simon	IM
GER	83546	Heiko Starke	IM
GER	82599	Hans Tauber	IM
GER	85913	Rudolf Wolfrum	IM
GRE	220173	Kostas Oreopoulos	IM
HUN	230591	Csaba Jergler	IM
ISL	300163	Árni H. Kristjánsson	IM
ISR	270103	Michael Granski	IM
ITA	241029	Roberto Cerrato	IM

ITA	249197	Mauro Voliani	IM
LTU	920315	Algimantas Butnorius	IM
POL	421124	Mirosław Nowakowski	IM
POR	160993	João de Aragão Seia	IM
ROU	440499	Cristian-Ion Epure	IM
ROU	440569	Daniel Volovici	IM
RSA	550116	Ben Bester	IM
RUS	141801	Viktor Viktorovich Balabanov	IM
RUS	141188	Pavel Alekseevich Danenkov	IM
RUS	141957	Sergey Aleksandrovich Evtushenko	IM
RUS	141599	Sergey Yurievich Fedorov	IM
RUS	141857	Yury Pavlovich Gnutov	IM
RUS	141750	Boris Vladimirovich Ivanov	IM
RUS	141402	Valentin Vasilievich Kopeikin	IM
RUS	141809	Aleksandr Leonidovich Kuznetsov	IM
RUS	141425	Aleksandr Igorevich Loginov	IM
RUS	140593	Vladimir Stepanovich Sergeev	IM
RUS	141722	Sekretaryov, Roman Viktorovich	IM
RUS	141958	Albert Ilievich Serazeev	IM
RUS	141756	Igor Viktorovich Telepnev	IM
RUS	141656	Viktor Borisovich Zakharov	IM
SLO	480213	Gregor Vohl	IM
SUI	100371	Philippe Corbat	IM
SUI	100389	Hansruedi Glauser	IM
SUI	100388	Hans Hauenstein	IM
SUI	100377	Toni Riedener	IM
SUI	100385	Reinhard Schiendorfer	IM
SVK	950018	Martin Kevický	IM
SVK	950238	Stanislav Marek	IM
SVK	950334	Luboš Trembecký	IM
SWE	450501	Bo Lindström	IM
TUR	490081	Aykut Cihan Satıcı	IM
TUR	490190*	Diğer Selen	IM
UKR	949074	Ivan Chaika	IM
USA	514476	John Ballow	IM

Nominations for the LGM Title

Applications under Rule 10.7 (c)

CZE	130609	Kateřina Zpěvřkovř	LGM
GER	85903	Constanze Jaeckel	LGM

Nominations for the ILM Title

Applications under 10.8 (c)

GER	85817	Victoria Schweer	ILM
LTU	920327	Jurgita Dambrauskaitė	ILM
ROU	440574	Irina Luiza Marin	ILM
RUS	141864	Larisa Vasilievna Morokova	ILM

Nominations for the IA Title

Applications under Rule 10.9 (a)

ENG	211220	Neil Limbert	IA
FRA	89926	Markus Hřmske	IA
RUS	141643	Sergey Yurievich Zabutov	IA

Recommended Change to SIM Title Requirements

The Senior International Master Title (SIM) was first introduced in 1999, with the idea that this Title would become a “half-way” stepping point between IM and GM. However, in my opinion, it is not “half-way” at all; it is much closer to IM than to GM, and is therefore not performing the function for which it was introduced.

Title Norms are based on the idea of tournament rating performance. An IM Norm requires a rating performance of 2450 or higher; a GM Norm requires a rating performance of 2600 or higher. Therefore, when setting up the Title Norms for the SIM Title, I would have expected the SIM Norm to be based upon a rating performance of 2525 or higher (halfway between IM and GM). However, in fact, the SIM Title Norms have been set at the level of 2500 or higher – a full category lower than “half-way”. Why is this? I have checked the ICCF Minutes for the appropriate Congresses and there is no explanation as to why it was set at this level.

I believe the SIM Title should represent “half-way” between IM and GM.

The result of this decision can be seen in the statistics for the number of Titles issued for GM, SIM, and IM over the last few years. Ideally, the number of SIM Titles should be half-way between IM and GM.

Year	GM	SIM	(half-way)	IM
2012	21	47	39	57
2011	14	35	35	65
2010	20	53	53	83
2009	24	58	43	61
2008	10	41	24	48
2007	20	68	31	42
2006	19	49	31	43
2005	16	55	30	43
Average	18	45	36	55

The statistics bear out the decision to set the SIM Title one category lower than halfway. However, I believe this is wrong. During the course of the last 2 years, approximately 20% of all SIM Title awards are granted in the same year as the IM Title for performances in exactly the same tournaments. Often, the performance obtaining the SIM is only ½ point higher than the IM.

Proposal

Re-align the SIM Title Norm to one category higher, with effect from 1 January 2013 for all new Title tournaments started after this date.

The following table gives some examples of the effect that this change would have. If the proposal were accepted, a new Table of points would need to be constructed:

Players	Games	Title	Cat 3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
13	12	GM					9½	9	8½	8
		New SIM		9½	9	8½	8	8	7½	7
		SIM	9½	9	8½	8	8	7½	7	6½
		IM	8½	8	8	7½	7	6½	6	6

Players	Games	Title	Cat 6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
15	14	GM		11½	11	10½	10	10	9	8½
		New SIM	10½	10	10	9	8½	8	7½	7
		SIM	10	10	9	8½	8	7½	7	6½
		IM	9	8½	8	7½	7	6½	6	5½

Proposal 12 - Vote to approve the proposal to amend the qualifications for SIM:

For	(37)
Against	(0)
ABS	(0)

Proposal 12 – Unanimous approval to amend the qualification of the SIM title.

Note: this approval will require changes to the Tournament Rules as well as some Webserver modifications. Both the Tournament Rules Commissioner and the Services Director are aware of the needed changes and will strive to implement them by 1 January 2013.

Pre-Webserver Title Norms Proposal

One of my most frequent queries from players / delegates concerns the “Norms” showing against the player’s names on the Server. Currently, the Norms displayed concern tournaments where the crosstables are held on the Server. Any Norms obtained in pre-webserver tournaments do not show.

I know that Martin Bennedik was trying (in connection with Gerhard Binder) to add these Norms automatically via a download from EloQuery. However, this has not yet happened & EloQuery is being discontinued. I have asked Gerhard for an update regarding this but received no answer.

Proposal

That the Qualifications Commissioner be given manual access to add / edit / amend Norm data held against each player.

I know Martin was not very keen on this idea as he would rather it be done automatically. However, if automation is not possible, then manual amendment is essential. It should be remembered that there would be no additional new Norms added in this way, just Norms from old tournaments. So, as time goes by, this will be used less and less.

Proposal 13 - Vote to approve the proposal to provide the QC manual access to add/edit/amend norm data:

For	(37)
Against	(0)
ABS	(0)

Proposal 13 – Unanimous approval to allow the QC manual access to add/edit/amend norm data.

As a matter of discussion in the Executive Board, we have agreed in principal that the Qualification Commissioner will not be responsible for packaging and shipping medals direct to the National Federation delegate or certifications, prior to, during, or after Congress. Medals will be brought to Congress if one of the following individuals is available to accept the medal/certificate on behalf of the player:

- Delegate
- Substitute Delegate
- Proxy
- Zonal Director

As will be discussed later, a deadline will be set a number of days before Congress and if one of the above individuals is not available to accept a player's medal and or certificate, they will not be brought to Congress and will be made available in the next Congress.

Services Director

Austin Lockwood – Services Director

Introduction

First, many thanks to the delegates who had the confidence to elect me as ICCF Services Director in April 2012.

Second, I would like to acknowledge the contribution of my predecessor as ICCF Services Director, Jean-Christophe Chazalotte, who began many of the projects which I have had the pleasure of continuing.

My thanks also to the ICCF President, Eric Ruch, and the Executive Board and Management Committee, all of whom have been very supportive and made me feel welcomed as part of the 'team'; and to my good friend Martin Bennedik with whom I have been talking about correspondence chess technology for many years, and now have the exciting opportunity to put some of our ideas into practice. Also thanks to the members of the ICCF Services Committee who have assisted in testing new features of the server.

Webserver Development

There have been two significant improvements to the webserver, a major update to the overall design, and the implementation of content management features, which will allow the content of the main website at iccf.com to be transferred to the playing server.

A professional designer, Kirsten Witascheck, was contracted to produce designs for the new look server; these were evaluated and refined by the Executive Board, comprehensively tested by members of the ICCF Services Committee, and finally implemented on the main server by Martin Bennedik.

The reception from players was positive overall, and the new design was generally perceived as a significant improvement over the previous design. However, I did receive some very constructive criticism of the new design, most of which will be very useful as we progress with refining and improving the site, based largely on this feedback.

I do realise that the server is not yet *perfect* following the redesign and that there is still a lot of scope for improvement, especially as the old design had become very familiar to a lot of players and officials. It is my intention to continue to implement improvements to the user interface and improve acceptability and usability.

A new system was developed for managing the testing workflow; this appears to have been moderately successful and has allowed us to set up a methodical testing regime, which allows new server features to be pushed out more rapidly than was previously possible. Testing is carried out by all members of the ICCF services committee and thanks are due for this effort.

The current website at iccf.com is based on old technology, which is no longer maintained, this has resulted in a number of incidents in which the site has been compromised. It has become imperative to close this site down as soon as a replacement can be brought online. As it was decided by 2011 Congress to progress towards an integrated playing server and web site, we have been working towards adding content management features to the playing server. This means that we will be able to merge the two sites (hopefully) before Congress, with the playing server becoming the single, integrated, web site for ICCF.

Merging the sites will reduce the overall level of maintenance, as well as making ICCF's web presence less confusing for players (in particular potential new players) and sponsors.

Features Completed in 2011/12 (Phase 9)

A list of features completed for Phase 9, produced by Martin Bennedik, is attached to this report as an appendix. Please see Appendix L for Phase 9 Development Plan.

Features Planned for 2012/2013 (Phase 10)

The ICCF Services Committee met on Saturday 27th October 2012. A prioritised work plan for 2012/13 will be drawn up at this meeting and subsequently presented to Congress for approval. Please see Appendix T for the Phase 10 Development Plan

Other Issues and Future Plans

Source code review: ICCF are very lucky to have a contractor who is also a correspondence chess player – Martin Bennedik has produced and maintained a very high quality server system for playing correspondence chess, has done so for many years, and hopefully will do so for many years to come.

It would be naive, however, to assume that Martin would always be available. It is my intention to ask an independent expert to conduct a review of the server source code to ensure that it would be possible to hand this over to a new developer should it ever become necessary. This is purely a precaution and in no way implies any lack of confidence in the current arrangement.

Security and disaster recovery policy: It is my intention to review the current server security and disaster recovery arrangements (for example backup and restore policies), to minimise any risk to our important data, or availability. Again, this will be a routine review and does not imply any weakness in the current arrangements.

Documentation: The current documentation for players and officials is old and incomplete. I intend to make use of new server features (in particular the content management and globalisation features) to review and rewrite documentation where necessary. Some technical work will be required (for example providing context sensitive help links on important pages) and this should be part of the 2012/13 development plan.

Document Archive: As I have been looking through the old website, with a view to transferring content to the new site, it has become apparent to me that there is a huge archive of documents kept by ICCF. Much of this material does not need to be online and will not be uploaded to the new website, however there are important documents and should not be destroyed, or kept privately by individual officers (where there is a risk of fragmentation and/or loss). I would like to establish a proper archive of historical documents, with proper backup facilities, accessible by ICCF officers, and which can be made available to anyone doing historic research.

Online Meetings: I intend to evaluate the possibility of holding small meetings using freely available video-conferencing technology. One of the reasons for selecting Google Apps as an email provider (see below) was that Google offer a system called 'Hangouts' which allows for video conferencing involving multiple participants. If successful, this may facilitate regular meetings of sub-committees (for example the Services Committee) at zero cost.

Website

As mentioned above, the old website currently hosted at <http://www.iccf.com> will be transferred to the playing server, the technical implementation of this is already in place, however at the time of writing (September 2012) there is still a large amount of content to be transferred to the new site.

Many thanks are due to Clive Murden for his work maintaining the old website, unfortunately, Clive has now retired as ICCF Webmaster, and a suitable replacement has not yet been appointed. Additionally, ICCF are currently without a Marketing Director, who would normally have some responsibility for website content.

In the light of this, a small team of volunteers have kindly offered to help develop the content for the new website; these are Eric Ruch, Michael Millstone, Neil Limbert, and Mariusz Wojnar. Thanks are due to these volunteers, and with their help, I hope to complete the transfer before we meet in South Africa for Congress.

ICCF Helpdesk

The ICCF Helpdesk has been maintained by Markus Hömske. Markus has provided a very high level of service to ICCF as Helpdesk Manager and I am very grateful for his contribution; his responses are always courteous and helpful (despite the fact that the emails he receives are not always strictly in the spirit of *Amici Sumus!*).

Currently there is no way to audit helpdesk requests, or to track trends. I believe that some form of helpdesk management software would not only provide useful statistics, which could guide future development and documentation, as well as assisting Markus and any other volunteer for the Helpdesk. This will be investigated further in 2012/13.

ICCF Email Hosting

A number of ICCF officers currently have iccf.com email addresses. Unfortunately, these mailboxes are hosted on the same hosting solution as the old website. As the contract for this hosting plan will be cancelled when the old website is closed down, it was necessary to find an alternative solution for email.

Google Applications provide a free service for domains, and I have been gradually transferring email accounts from the old hosting service to Google Apps. An email account can be set up for any ICCF officer if this is necessary for them to carry out their work, but please note that these accounts will be attached to roles rather than individuals. ICCF does not provide a social email service for officers or former officers.

Austin Lockwood
ICCF Services Director

Proposal 14 - Vote to approve the budget for the webserver as discussed in the Financial Plan (12.000 Euro for webserver development and 10.000 Euro for Marketing).

For	(37)
Against	(0)
ABS	(0)

Proposal 14 - The webserver budget has been approved. Also agreed to by Congress was an additional 1.000 Euro to employ a third party developer to review the webserver codebase and 500 Euro to lease a helpdesk application.

Archivist

Ron Langeveld – Archivist and ICCF World Champion:

Server game additions to the archive section are more frequent now. Monthly updates can be provided without much effort and I believe this is welcomed by most players as the most important aspect of this section.

Chess 960 used to be integrated into the archives due to the way the server collects the exports. This has been refined with a software update that enables me to provide separate archives for both chess 960 and standard CC.

Completed archives have been refreshed in July 2012. As a result, more games have become public for earlier years. For more information, please see the updated <http://gamesarchive.iccf.com/>

The old archive section will eventually be closed. Instead, the archives will be made available via <http://www.iccf-webchess.com/>. For now, the most recent links have been duplicated there by the Services Director.

At the end of 2011, a few issues with the server were fixed in relation to the export of games:

- Instead of using the long event name, use the short event name (because the long event name is often truncated by PGN software, including Chessbase)
- If the event is a national event, include the country code.
- Bug fix: If the event name contains quotation marks, remove or escape them in the PGN tag.
- The viewing rules entered by the TD before the start of an event was too flexible with regard to setting the threshold for finished games. In the past this threshold has been set too high for many events, presumably by accident or because the implication was not known. As a result, many complete events did have no games visible to the public. As a result, these games were also missing in the archives. This has been fixed and enhanced by Martin Benedik at the end of 2011.

Plans for the year until the next congress in 2013 in order of priority provided there is available time to get to the end of the list:

- Continue monthly updates of standard CC archives and Chess 960 archives upon completion of enough games (1.000 for example);
- Migrate the old archives to the new section at <http://www.iccf-webchess.com/>
- Update and standardize (naming) the World Championship archive with emphasis on completeness;
- Process the backlog in older email- and postal archives;
- Provide email- and postal archives with standardized player and tournament names.

After reviewing Ron's report, an interesting discussion ensued about whether access to the archives should be allowed for all people or only those registered to ICCF.

A proposal was offered to Congress to limit access of the ICCF archives to only registered ICCF players. (Martin Bennedik offered that implementation would be relatively easy).

Proposal 15 - Vote to limit access of the ICCF archives to only registered ICCF players.

For	(27)
Against	USA, CUB, BRA, ARG, SUI, WLS (6)
ABS	ESP, CAN, NZL, POL (4)

Proposal 15 - Vote is passed and access will be limited to registered ICCF players as soon as it can be implemented in the webserver.

International Correspondence Chess Federation

Marketing

In the absence of a Marketing Director, President Eric Ruch offered a few comments on outstanding marketing activities.

Some of the marketing activities Eric have performed:

- Renewed sponsorship agreement with New in Chess magazine
- Ongoing discussion with potential sponsor “Vibes”
- Due to a lack of ICCF marketing support, the agreement with Chessbase has been terminated

ICCF is still seeking a Marketing Director and would ask all delegates to poll their players for players that are extremely well versed in the ICCF product (what ICCF has to offer) and organization as well as a good knowledge of marketing.

International Correspondence Chess Federation

Diamond Jubilee Web Book

Mariusz Wojnar – Project Director

Short History

Let me introduce the history of the idea to produce that book first.

ICCF published an ICCF Gold Book (in paper) 10 years ago as part of its 50th anniversary celebrations.

Pedro Federico Hegoburu, Editor-in-Chief for Gold Book, writing 10 years ago *"Peoples maintained their history for future generations through oral stories and tales, or preserving history through written means, in stone tablets or paper books. Today we have at our disposal common electronic means to store data, and the near future will show us more advanced and incredible options such as holograms and interactive two or three-dimensional programmes. This book on Correspondence Chess could be the last printed book on the subject ..."* was right.

ICCF experienced huge technological transformation during last 10 years from postal tournaments through fax and email to server events. The best example of that progress was the 11th ICCF World Cup organised by BFCC (England) in the period of 1997-2011. Now all you need to meet (or make new) friends is an internet connection on your laptop or tablet/smartphone - without leaving your home or quite the contrary wherever you go all over the world. Therefore, it was time for new technology for our Diamond Book, as well.

The concept of an ICCF Diamond Book (in the form of a Web Book) being produced for its 60th anniversary was presented by ICCF Honorary President, Alan Borwell, during the ICCF Congresses in Leeds (England) 2009 and Antalya (Turkey) 2010 but with a pre-requisite being the availability of a new ICCF website with facilities to enable the development and hosting of such a Web Book. Congress in Turkey was my first one and I was very enthusiastic finding such an interesting and ambitious project.

There was further discussion on the concept during the ICCF Congress 2011 meeting in Finland and, although facilities were not yet available on the ICCF website "iccf.com", as the delegate for the Polish Chess Federation, I offered to accept material for the Web Book in a development area on the Polish Correspondence Chess Commission website. Finally, the ICCF Congress 2011 in Finland accepted my offer to be the Project Leader for the ICCF Diamond Jubilee Web Book, with Alan Borwell (SCO) providing support.

Plan

Therefore, we could begin to assemble the Diamond Web Book and this was planned in a sequence of stages.

- Step 1 - to import material from the ICCF Gold publication into the new facility (end of September 2011).

- Step 2 - be to obtain updated and new material from member federations, ICCF officials, and volunteers (end of October 2011).
- Step 3 - to assemble the ICCF Diamond Jubilee Web Book on the Polish website in readiness for release (end of year 2011), with a link from "iccf.com" and eventual transfer to new "iccf.com" facility.

Implementation

I started my work immediately, at the ICCF Congress 2011 in Järvenpää (Finland) already. Together with Alan Borwell, we had several meetings and discussed many details, including the name of the website. Finally, we agreed on the name "**Celebrating 60 years of the ICCF**". Alan kindly handed me over all ICCF Gold Book documentation in an electronic version. Then I created website at address <http://kszgk.com/iccf/> and started from good design, which was rearranged few time before final version.

In Step 1, I had to choose an appropriate tool. After some experiments and analysis, I decided to use web supported by Word Press. I considered several themes to be used, but finally I found theme Atahualpa to be the most suitable one. Capabilities of a tool/theme and design were the main criteria. Atahualpa is a very customizable and browser-safe (incl. IE6) theme.

Then material from the ICCF Gold publication was imported into the new facility in the middle of September 2011. The structure is based on Gold Book more or less and the final version is presented in Appendix 5. It includes following chapters: Foreword, Presidents welcome, About ICCF, Site Route Map, History of ICCF, ICCF Meetings, Member Federation Articles, Playing CC with ICCF, The Future.

In the meantime, member federations were asked - in August 2011 (request repeated in October and December) - to provide updated information to supplement the articles, which were in ICCF Gold (i.e., National Federation correspondence chess history, games, pictures, etc.) and other information regarding ICCF tournaments, titles, ratings, ICCF history. Response was very good and most of member federations answered positively. Some special articles were requested from various officials. Several articles were reviewed and updated, if necessary.

In Step 2, I obtained updated and new material from member federations, ICCF officials, and volunteers (mostly between October and December 2011). When they came, they were edited and assembled in real time (which belonged to Step 3) to the ICCF Diamond Jubilee Web Book on the Polish website. Then providers were asked to review material, this time at the web, again. Main work was done by the end of December 2011 and the Web Book was released.

All the stages initially planned to create the Diamond Web Book have been completed now. However, the website is not perfect yet and some editorial corrections (language, spelling, cross tables design improvement, providing games in pgn format) need to be made. In many cases these are very time-consuming activities and not manageable to one person only.

ICCF webserver is an integrated website for ICCF. Link from it to the ICCF Diamond Jubilee Web Book is provided at introductory page "About ICCF". Eventual transfer to new "iccf.com" facility is under consideration; however, there are many limitations. That is why country pages on the list "Nations & Zones" (new ICCF website) have been linked to their MF articles (MF brief description).

Further steps will be to update the ICCF Diamond Web Book so that it will become a permanent ongoing CC history of ICCF and its Member Federations.

I strongly believe this book reflects both the progress and the wonderful passion of Correspondence Chess and that you will enjoy it. I hope that many new people will join us in celebrating these friendships over a chessboard, whatever it is - solid or virtual.

I would like to thank everyone for his or her collaboration in making this web book possible.

Acknowledgements

A web book of this size and scope, even if you have basic information from previous paper edition, can hardly ever be the work of one man. Luckily, many people contributed to it.

This section is always destined for trouble, because one simple omission can haunt the writer or editor for long time. Therefore, with prior pleadings for forgiveness to everyone who might accidentally be left out or ignored, I would like to thank the following for their collaboration in making this web book possible:

- All ICCF Delegates and everyone who submitted an article or game for the web book. A special word of gratitude to Neil Limbert (ENG), who provided the updated article for the English Federation very early - this article was used as a model for most of the remaining articles in that section.
- Nol van 't Riet (NED) for excellent articles on "Rating System" (updated by Gerhard Binder and me) and "ICCF and the future", which after 10 years are still amazing.
- Eric Ruch (FRA), ICCF President, for "Presidents welcome" and articles on the history of correspondence chess for the period of 2002-2011 (in preparation) and on interesting prognosis "ICCF and the future of correspondence chess beyond 2025".
- Dmitry Lybin (BLR), composer, for telling me story about the ICCF anthem.
- Wiesław Sawicki (POL) for formatting most of the crosstables, and finding time in his busy schedule to provide many helpful suggestions in HTML - language for displaying web pages.

A very special "thank-you" to my predecessor in work for ICCF Jubilee Pedro Federico Hegoburu (ARG) for producing Gold Book, which was the basis for my project.

Finally, all my gratitude to ICCF Honorary President Alan Borwell (SCO). For his contribution to both Diamond Web Book and especially Gold Book, where he together with his wife Moira did the most work. For his trust in me, and because without his commitment and help, this web book would have never seen the light of day.

Mariusz Wojnar
Project Leader
Warsaw, September 2012

International Correspondence Chess Federation

World Tournament Director

Frank Geider – World Tournament Director

Dear Delegates, Officials, and Friends of ICCF,

To my great regret, health problems prevent me from being amongst you at this Congress in Pretoria. In my absence, the ICCF President, Eric Ruch, will represent me.

Introduction

The growth of the number of events played on the ICCF server continued this year.

Tournaments

In addition to the Reports presented by each of the Tournament Offices, which Congress will scrutinise with careful consideration, I should like to add the following:

Jaroslav Hybl Memorial

At its meeting in April 2012, the Executive Board of the Czech CCA decided to organize – additionally to the Jaroslav Hybl Memorial, which had already been approved by you – also a B tournament, with the possibility to fulfil SIM and IM norms. The tournament would be started at the same date as the A tournament.

Furthermore, Czech CCA Executive Board decided to encourage participation in the A tournament by prize money amounting to 1.000 Euros. (The original application did not comprise any prize money.) At this occasion, an enquiry was broached if it would be possible to distribute this amount not as the prize money, but as appearance money for invited foreign players. The main argument was that this is normally done in the FIDE invitational tournaments where the GMs and/or other high rated players receive not only appearance money, but also other benefits (free accommodation, pocket money, etc.).

I propose that this issue be discussed at the congress to be able, in the future, decide on what type of request.

Proposal 16 - After discussion, Frank's proposal to allow an appearance fee (in principle) was voted on:

For	(37)
Against	(0)
ABS	(0)

Proposal 16 - proposal to allow an appearance fee (in principle) was passed unanimously.

Reprehensible Practice

We are witnessing the development of a practice to monetize the result of its parts. The player offers his opponent to send him money in exchange for a zero or abandonment. The ICCF strongly condemns this practice. It goes against our principles, our laws, and our rules.

After further discussion on this point, the following actions were agreed to:

- The EB will take an action to review the Code of Conduct with respect to including more precise definitions of more recent infractions, and
- As an Arbitration Committee suggestion, include some specific wording on “mirror games” in the Code of Conduct.

Recommendations

I propose that the decision approved in four previous Congresses whereby each member federation may hold national federation events (up to 105 games) on the ICCF Webserver free of charge during the year to the opening date of the next ICCF Congress in 2013 now be renewed.

Proposal 17 - The proposal was slightly amended for each Federation to host up to 105 games free of charge on the ICCF Webserver each year the Federation is in good financial standing – forever.

For	(37)
Against	(0)
ABS	(0)

Proposal 17 - The proposal to host up to 105 games free of charge on the ICCF Webserver each year the Federation is in good financial standing – forever passed unanimously.

Personnel Changes

Ending 2011, following the election of Marco Caressa (ITA) as Zonal Director Zone 1 - Europe, the EB has unanimously appointed Gian Maria Tani (ITA) as the new Title Tournament Commissioner. Gian Maria will also continue his dedicated work as World Tournament Leader for the postal tournaments.

I thank Marco Caressa for the work done during these years. In addition, I thank Gian Maria Tani agreeing to take over.

Finally, I wish to thank all the people who have helped me in my WTD duties. I should like to list all their names but to do so would result in a never-ending list and also risk missing out someone.

Frank Geider
ICCF World Tournament Director

Confirmed Tournaments

Alexandar Kiproff Memorial (BUL)

ICCF Webserver

15 players

Cat. IX

Start date: February-March, 2012.

Invitational tournament in memory of Alexandar Kiproff, Bulgarian chess player and organizer.

70 Years Correspondence chess in Bulgaria (BUL)

ICCF Webserver

15 players

Cat. XIV-XV

Start date: September-October, 2012.

Jaroslav Hýbl Memorial (CZE)

ICCF Webserver

Invitational tournament

Section A

Cat. XIII-XV

15-17 players, ELO 2525+

Start date: 4Q/2012 – 1Q/2013

Appearance money for foreign players:

GM, SIM 2600+ - € 150

GM, SIM 2551-2599 - € 100

Other titled or non-titled players 2525-2550 – € 50

TO: Josef Mrkvicka

Section B

Cat. VI-VII

15-17 players

Start date: 4Q/2012 – 1Q/2013

TO: Josef Mrkvicka

Jaroslav Hýbl (1928-2006)

Jaroslav Hýbl was one of the best Czech correspondence chess players and an Honorary Member of the Czech CCA. He was awarded the IM title in 1965 and the GM title in 1968. He finished second in the 5th World Correspondence Championship (1965-1968) and played in the Final of the 6th World Correspondence Championship (1968-1971). He was a member of the winning Czechoslovak team in the 5th Olympiad (1965-1968).

BFCC GOLDEN JUBILEE A (ENG)

Invitational tournament.
 ICCF Webserver
 Cat. X- XIII
 15 players
 Start date 01.12.2012
 TD IA Andrew Dearnley

BFCC GOLDEN JUBILEE B (ENG)

Invitational tournament.
 ICCF Webserver
 Cat. V-VIII
 15 players
 Start date 01.12.12
 TD Neil Limbert

BFCC GOLDEN JUBILEE C (ENG)

Invitational tournament.
 ICCF Webserver
 Cat. II-IV
 15 players
 Start date 01.12.12
 TD IA Ian M. Pheby

FINJUB-50 Jubilee (FIN)

In celebration of its 50-year anniversary The Finnish Correspondence Chess Federation) is organizing an International Open Tournament.
 Preliminaries, Semifinals and Final
 ICCF Webserver
 Preliminaries stage will start on November 1., 2012
 Groups will be composed by 7 players
 Time control will be 10/50 and there will be 30 days of leave per year
 The winner of each group will advance to the Semifinals, ties in points for first place will not be broken and both players will advance.
 Conditional moves will be allowed as well as live display with a 5-move delay.
 Invitational tournament.

Mémorial Henri PINSON (FRA)

ICCF Webserver Invitational tournament.

Section A

Cat. X (minimum 3 GMs)

13 players

Start date: May-July 2012

Section B

Cat. VII-VIII

13 players

Start date: May-July 2012

BdF Diamant 4 (GER)

ICCF Webserver,

Start date: Spring 2013

15 players,

Cat. X (Ladies),

Invitational tournament for Ladies (5 Germany and 10 other NF)

BdF Smaragd 4 (GER)

ICCF Webserver,

Start date: Spring 2013,

15 players,

Invitational tournament for Ladies (5 Germany and 10 other NF)

Carl Carls Memorial A (GER / ENG)

ICCF Webserver,

13 players, (it is intended to include 4 English players, 4 German players, 5 from other federations)

Cat. X,

Start date: 11 September 2013,

Invitational tournament.

Carl Carls Memorial B (GER / ENG)

ICCF Webserver,

13 players, (it is intended to include 4 English players, 4 German players, 5 from other federations)

Cat. VI,

Start date: 11 September 2013,

Invitational tournament.

*Kindly supported by the Bremer Schachgesellschaft von 1877 (www.bremersg.de)
In Germany, Carl Carls is known as the inventor and advocate of the English Opening, therefore these tournaments are organized by England as well as by Germany. The Bremer Schachgesellschaft von 1877 kindly supports these tournaments - this is the chess club in which Carls played chess for many decades. Carls was born in Varel near Bremen and lived in Bremen until his death. The start date (11. September 2013) is the 55th anniversary of his death.*

Germany Grandmasters 02 (GER)

ICCF Webserver,
Start date: Spring 2013,
15 players,
Cat. XI-XII,
Invitational tournament

Germany Masters 02 (GER)

ICCF Webserver,
Start date: Spring 2013,
15 players,
Cat. VII-IX,
Invitational tournament (7 Germany, 8 other NF)

Janis Klovans memorial (LAT)

ICCF Webserver
15 players
Cat. ~X-XI
Start date: dec.2011
TO: Artis Gaujens
Janis Klovans, FIDE, and ICCF GM, died last year not finishing all the games in the J.Vitomskis memorial.

“75 years of Correspondence Chess in Portugal” (POR)

ICCF Webserver,
Invitational tournament.
Start date: 1st December 2012

Section A

13-15 players,
Cat. XII – XIII.
TD - IA Leo Lahdenmäki (FIN)

Section B

13-15 players,
Cat. VI – VII.
TD - João Salvador Marques (POR)

The APXC organize this invitation tournament ("75 years of Correspondence Chess in Portugal") in order to celebrate 75 years of existence of Correspondence Chess in Portugal. In fact, the first correspondence chess tournament was held in Portugal in 1937 and was organized by the Portuguese Chess Federation, chaired by Mr Eduardo Pellen.

Mihai Suta Memorial (ROU)

ICCF webserver

Invitational tournament

13 players

Cat. III-IV

Start date: October 2011

Karelin Memorial (RUS)

ICCF Webserver

15 players

Cat. VIII.

Start date: 15 December 2011

Invitational tournament.

Sergey Sokolov Memorial (RUS)

ICCF Webserver

15 players

Cat. VIII.

Start date: 15 December 2011

Invitational tournament.

RCCA-Emerald 2012-1 (RUS)

ICCF Webserver

15 players

Cat. V.

Start date: 15 March 2012

Invitational tournament.

RCCA-Emerald 2012-2 (RUS)

ICCF Webserver

15 players

Cat. V.

Start date: March 2012

Invitational tournament.

RCCA-Gold 2012 (RUS)

ICCF Webserver

15-17 players

Cat. 11.

Start date: December 2012

Invitational tournament.

RCCA-Silver 2012 (RUS)

ICCF Webserver

15-17 players

cat. 8.

Start date: December 2012

Invitational tournament.

RCCA-Bronze 2012 (RUS)

ICCF Webserver

15-17 players

cat. 5.

Start date: December 2012

Invitational tournament.

Russian Correspondence Chess Association -20 (RUS)

ICCF Webserver

3 stages: preliminaries, semi-finals, and final.

7-11 players in each group at preliminary stage.

Number of participants at semi-final and final stages will be defined at start of tournament.

The winners of Final will receive special gold, silver, and bronze medals.

Start date: 24 April 2013

Invitational tournament for all comers.

One observation was made for this Russian Correspondence Chess Association tournament proposal that as an Open tournament, it conflicts with 20th World Cup Open tournament.

Some discussion ensued and Congress requested that Sergey consider a solution to avoid having two Open tournaments start at the same time.

After Congress, the Russian Federation has proposed the following:

The RCCA-20 tournament will start on 24 of April 2013, on the day of the 20th anniversary of foundation of RCCA.

Russia will organise the ICCF World Cup 20 and offer to start the preliminaries in November 2013.

Title Tournament Commissioner

Gian-Maria Tani - Commissioner

I was appointed TTC at the beginning of the year 2012. It has been a bit difficult for me to “learn” everything about my new work and probably I made a few mistakes, for which I apologize. Now, it seems to me that everything is running in quite a good way, but I have still a lot of things to study and to learn...

Gian-Maria’s report to Congress highlighted the results of all the World Correspondence Chess Championships (Finals, Candidates, Semi-Finals, and Preliminaries), Ladies World Championships, Olympiads, Ladies, Olympiads, Grand Master Norm and Master Norm Tournaments. Details may be found in Appendix K.

“Special Rule” for GMN and MN Tournaments

Tournament Rule 4.6 says:

4.6 Players without the qualifications listed in rules 4.3 and 4.4 may be allowed to participate in norm tournaments at the discretion of the Title Tournament Commissioner if their participation does not lower the tournament category.

I had (also hard!) discussions with a few Delegates, who asked to enter players with very low ratings, according the so-called “special rule” 4.6. My opinion is that there is no reason to fix a “minimum rating” and then to allow players under this limit to play anyway!

I propose to the Rules Commission to discuss the cancellation of § 4.6. In the meanwhile, I ask the Congress to authorize me to refuse entries accordingly § 4.6, unless the difference from the requested minimum rating and the player’s rating is very, very low or very important circumstances occur.

This proposal was discussed in both the EB/MC meeting and in Congress.

Proposal 18 - Proposal to accept the proposal to limit the TTC to accept only players within the specified rating:

For	ESP (1)
Against	(36)
ABS	(0)

Proposal 18 - The decision was to continue to allow the Title Tournament Commissioner the discretion to accept or reject any player whose rating falls under the limit specified. This does not change the present operation whereby the TTC can decide to accept or reject an application if it does not lower the category of the tournament.

Mentioned in the TTC report was the difficulty of getting enough players to start a Master Norm event. It was observed that some players have been waiting for almost 3-years for a section to start.

Proposal 19 - Proposal to eliminate Master Norm by Postal events:

For	(34)
Against	SWE (1)
ABS	IRL, ISL (2)

Proposal 19 - Effective immediately, Master Norm by Postal events will no longer be offered.

Proposal 20 - It was proposed that the 8 players on the waiting list would be contacted and offered a double round robin tournament.

For	(37)
Against	(0)
ABS	(0)

Proposal 20 – Unanimous decision that the 8 players on the waiting list would be contacted and offered a double round robin tournament.

Non-Title Tournament Commissioner

Andrew Dearnley - Commissioner

I have had a busy start in my first year as Non Title Tournament Commissioner with several major events to organise or oversee including the Diamond Jubilee Officials events, 5th Webchess Open, 5th Veterans World cup, 2nd Junior World Cup and of course the 5th Champions League season. I am pleased to report that, with the help of some fantastic tournament organisers, who I shall mention during this summary, there have been record entries for most of these events. This is particularly rewarding when one observes that correspondence chess events are so well supported by the players and their Federations.

First, it was my pleasure to organise four sections of Diamond Jubilee official tournaments in memory of George Stibal of Australia, who worked tirelessly for ICCF and his own Federation. His wife, Sheila wrote to me personally to say how thrilled she was that ICCF were honouring her husband in such a nice way. Thanks to Eugen Demian for bringing this to ICCF's attention in his last NTTC report.

Then it was onto organising the 2nd Junior World Cup. First of all many congratulations to DANNY PORCELLI (ITA) won the first Junior World Cup. This was a good tournament between *some* of the players but five juniors in the final continued to default games and this ruined it for other participants to some extent. This leads me onto say, that despite our President gaining sponsorship from ChessBase for the 2nd Junior World Cup, entries proved to be very low and disappointing. Only 30 came forward to play and already all three sections have had excessively too many defaults. In the absence of an ICCF Marketing Director to promote the event and help the organiser and tournament director, sadly, I strongly recommend that ICCF suspend organising further junior world cups. Thanks to Markus Homske for his support and dedication to the juniors.

A general discussion was started about schools and school development. Based on the previous experience with junior tournaments, it was decided in principle not to start another Junior World Cup next year.

Proposal 21 - A proposal to allow school events/tournaments to play free of charge on the webserver was presented to Congress.

For	(37)
Against	(0)
ABS	(0)

Proposal 21 - To allow school events/tournaments to play free of charge on the webserver was passed unanimously.

Now it was the turn of the 5th Webchess open. This in contrast to the junior World Cup, proved to be extremely popular. Entries flooded in to Guido Bresadola and thanks to his wonderful webpage, with entries updating daily, players and delegates were kept informed. I was also able to use ICCF's mailshot tool to inform players that the event was taking place and entries were being accepted. This certainly helped increase the visibility and thus the entry into the tournament. I would estimate seven to ten per cent of the entrants for this event enquired further and then took part. A staggering 91 preliminary sections were set up between record numbers of 637 players! Incredible, well done and thanks Guido!

Without a 'breather', it was then the turn of our veteran players with Germany (BDF) kindly volunteering at the last congress to take over the organisation for this popular event. Again, entries came thick and fast and I had to extend the deadline by a few weeks to accept the strong flow of players wishing to take part. Again, I had used the ICCF mailshot to advise all zones that the VWC 5 was there participate in. My NTTC email inbox was deluged with enquiries and entries, which were forwarded to our German friends. With their marketing and updates on the ICCF main page another record entry of 468 veterans playing in 36 sections ensued. I would like to thank Uwe Staroske and his excellent team of BDF organisers for making this happen!

Many enquiries from players also reached me regarding the proposed start of the next Champions League (season 5) Before I could put this in motion, key Champions league 4 games which determined relegation and promotion needed to finish. This number came down eventually in July and I was able to have just two crucial games from B division adjudicated and leave all other games in play. To this end, Champions League 5 was announced accepting entries from National Federations and Direct Entry. After discussion with the ICCF EB, it was decided to decrease the time control to 10 moves in 40 days and allow conditional moves. This was to try to keep to the two-year Champions League cycle decided at congress in Finland. It is apparent that whilst some players finish their games within two years, some games go past on past this time. Hence, NTTC Proposals for congress to help deter '*some optimistic*' adjudications in Champions League crucial games as follows;

Proposals

A fee of 10 Euros to be charged for adjudication in Champions League to be paid by both players. The player awarded the adjudication decision will receive their payment back.

A fee of 20 Euros to be charged to the player appealing any adjudication decision in the Champions League. This would only be returned if the appeal were successful.

Proposal 22 - Proposal to add adjudication fees to the Champions League as described above:

For	(30)
Against	POL, LUX, BUL, SLO (4)
ABS	RUS, NZL, USA (3)

Proposal 22 - Effective immediately, Adjudication fees will be adopted. The NTTC will work with the Finance Director to determine a process to collect and reimburse these fees. It should be

noted this proposal would only be in effect for those crucial games that would affect promotion/relegation status for the next season.

I am pleased to announce that there were 225 teams entered for Champions League 5. This is an increase of 43 teams on the previous season! 99 NEW teams are taking part. Champions League 5 has one A section, four B sections and twelve C sections.

Added to this and to complete my report on the main tournaments, there was the sterling work done by Mariusz Wojnar in organising the 18th World Cup in which he managed to attract a massive 844 entries, so it has been a year to remember.

Finally, I would like to express my gratitude to the following people for their help and organisation; Guido Bresadola and Leonardo Madonia for keeping the promotion tournaments running smoothly. Gian-Maria Tani for the postal sections. Ian M. Pheby, who did a magnificent job with all direct entries and especially with the Champions League Direct Entries, which were not without their problems. Neil Limbert for help setting up/checking CL5 entries and Valer Eugen Demian for advice and the formula/spreadsheet for this event. Clive Murden and Austin Lockwood for technical help/updating. I would like also to appreciate the tournament organisers and tournament directors in all events.

The NTTC was asked how the Promotion Tournaments (Open, Higher, and Master class) have been faring over the years. Please see Appendix O for a listing provided by the NTTC.

Andrew Dearnley
Non Title Tournament Commissioner

Postal Tournament Commissioner

Gian-Maria Tani - Commissioner

Year 2011

The number of postal correspondence players is still decreasing: more and more players have internet facilities and they like better to play speedily on ICCF web-server than waiting for postcards.

In 2011, I started 12 sections (3 WT/M, 3 WT/H, and 6 WT/O) with a total of 82 players, while in 2010 the players were 93: this means a decrease of 10.75% of the players.

Anyway, there are still a considerable number of players who likes to play by post, especially in "lower classes": WT/H and WT/O did not decrease, but actually showed a small increase in the number of players!

Countries and Zones

The players of 2011 postal world tournaments came from 18 different countries (while in 2010 the number of countries was 16). As usual, most of the players were from Europe (71.95%), but we had an increase of players from NAPZ (26.83%). One player (1.22%) came from Africa/Asia, yet unfortunately, we had no players from Latin/America. The most players came from Germany (35); the second and the third most players came from the USA (12) and Italy (6) (the same as in 2010).

New Structure of Postal Promotional Tournaments

At Järvenpää Congress, it was decided to change the structure of Postal Promotional Tournaments. Starting from October 2011, M class sections have just 6 players and H and O sections have 4 players. All tournaments are played double round robin. This means players have to wait less time for their assignment and it seems that this change has been appreciated by players. In the first 8 months of 2012, I already started 18 sections (4 WT/M, 4 WT/H, and 10 WT/O), with 80 players: quite the same number of players as in the whole 2011 year!

ICCF Diamond Jubilee Postal World Cup 19

The Preliminaries of this important tournament started on 31/10/2011 with 99 entries (also 11 SIM or IM) from 20 National Federations: a quite good success (they are the 10.53% of the entries to the Diamond Jubilee Webserver Cup!). I arranged 9 preliminaries groups, each with 11 players. The Preliminary Groups have been assembled trying to have players of similar strength. In each group have been inserted 3 or 4 players from Germany (who entered 32 players), 1 or 2 players from Czech Republic and Italy (each with 11 entries), and no more than one player from any other countries. The winner of each Preliminary Group and the 4 best

runners-up will qualify for the Final (13 players). The Preliminary Groups will finish on 01/09/2013. Any unfinished games that will decide promotional positions will be adjudicated. The Final is expected to start on 01/01/2014 at the latest.

The Tournament Directors are R. Battistini (ITA), B. Brobakken (NOR), M. Hömske (FRA), J. Jansen (NED), T. Klauner (LUX), L. Lahdenmäki (FIN), I. M. Pheby (ENG) and L. Tinture (FRA).

Approximately 38% of the games have already ended.

Tournament Directors

As usual, many thanks to “my” Tournament Directors (Rubens Battistini, Bjørn Brobakken and Thed Klauner for the Promotional Tournaments and the TDs of the Diamond Jubilee) for their excellent work!

International Correspondence Chess Federation

Thematic Tournaments

Leonardo Madonia – Thematic Tournament Office

The number of players who participated in thematic tournaments remained almost identical in 2010 (231) and 2011 (222). Even in the first nine months of 2012, the average was maintained as 168 players have already started their tournament, and more than 30 players have already entered the groups that will start in autumn and winter. The interest of ICCF players in thematic tournaments continues to be very high, so I will again propose 12 themes (5 by post and 7 on the server) for 2013. Obviously, entries to the series of themes will continue to be always available.

This year my Office started a continuous series of unrated Chess 960 tournaments. Unfortunately, this particular mode of play of chess is still not valued and so only 3 tournaments started with 15 players. However, the Diamond Jubilee 1st Chess 960 World Cup was a great success! This tournament saw the participation of 103 players of which there were 21 titled players including the highest rated player in the ratings list. Players really liked the formula (unrated, 10 moves/20 days) and the excellent prizes, of course. Currently, only 4 of the 522 games started on 30th October 2011 are unfinished. The next stage will see 35 semi-finalists fight to qualify for a Final round containing 9 players played on a double round robin basis.

I recently had the opportunity to speak with Mr. Ruch about this tournament, and we agreed on the idea to organize a regular Chess 960 World Cup. I therefore ask the Congress to authorise from 2013 a Chess 960 World Cup starting annually, presumably during the month of March. If Congress authorises such an event, a Commission of the Congress must set the money prizes, materials from sponsorship (books, magazines,...), etc. and agree qualification to one or more stages of the World Championship in order to help and support participation.

My personal request is to have the possibility of setting the server to allow tournaments to start on a single round robin basis, which is currently not possible.

As usual, I ask all the National Federations to publish the information about 2013 themes and Chess 960 events on their websites and magazines.

Proposal 23 - Proposal to start a Chess960 World Cup on an annual basis.

For	(37)
Against	(0)
ABS	(0)

Proposal 23 - A Chess960 World Cup will be started on an annual basis.

It should be noted that with a single round robin tournament, computing effective rating might not be clear. This will need to be examined by the Rating Commission and Web Services Director before consideration of implementation.

A request was made to clarify the need for “secret” thematic tournaments. Some delegates objected to any tournament where the results were secret, while other delegates confirmed the Congress decision in Bulgaria to offer some thematic tournaments as “secret”, so that players may experiment without revealing their ideas. The Congress decision was to request further information from the Thematic Tournament Office and players who have opted for the “Secret” tournaments.

Please see Appendix M for Postal Themes for 2013 and Appendix N for Webserver Themes for 2013.

International Correspondence Chess Federation

Voting Change

At this point in Congress, the Finnish delegate had to leave to fly home. He decided to “will” his two voting cards (one as the delegate to Finland and the other as the proxy holder to Estonia). Nothing in the statutes or rules prevented this, although there were some interesting debates about the roles, responsibilities, and privileges of proxy holders.

The request was to pass the voting card of Finland to Dr. Uwe Staroske (GER) delegate of Germany and the Estonia voting card to Dr. Fritz Baumbach as ICCF Honorary Member. Voting was called for each separately.

Proposal 24 - Proposal to transfer the voting card for Finland from Auno Siikaluoma (FIN) to Dr. Uwe Staroske (GER):

For	(31)
Against	NOR, ENG, SCO, WLS (4)
ABS	ESP, POL (2)

Proposal 25 - Proposal to transfer the voting card for Estonia from Auno Siikaluoma (FIN) to Dr. Fritz Baumbach (GER):

For	(18)
Against	USA, CAN, NZL, SVK, CZE, SUI, IRL, ISL, SWE, SCO, NOR, ENG, WLS (13)
ABS	ESP, CRO, LUX, BUL, SLO, POL (6)

Proposals 24 and 25 passed. While both voting cards have been passed to new members, it should be noted that Congress has agreed in principle that voting decisions should be solidified before Congress and no changes made after the deadlines. This will be discussed further in the Internal Matters section.

Playing Rules Commission

Per Söderberg, Playing Rules Commissioner

Membership Matters

The commissioner wishes to replace Wim van Vugt (NLD) with Dr. Uwe Staroske (GER).

Discussions

There was a discussion about Special Leave reasons, initiated by Michael Millstone. Particular about the words used “Overseas” and “Urgent”. However, no definitive proposals were presented to PRC and thus no handling by the PRC was possible. Michael will present them in his own report to Congress as Special Leave Officer.

Some guidelines were established that we shall keep the Postal and Server reasons the same. There are some obvious differences on being able to receive the moves. We also received two proposals from the Italian Federation:

Server Playing Rules 4a:

4a. Conditional moves are not allowed in webserver games.

The proposal is to change to:

4a. Conditional moves are used in webserver games -- with all the changes that means to rules and guidelines.

Proposal 26 - Proposal to make conditional moves mandatory:

For	LAT, LTU, POL, ITA (4)
Against	(26)
ABS	ESP, SCO, NOR, ENG, CRO, CZE, SVK (7)

Proposal 26 - No changes will be made to the playing rules regarding conditional moves.

Server Playing Rule 6a.

6a. Each competitor is allowed 50 days for every 10 moves, unless the tournament announcement explicitly specifies otherwise.

The proposal is to change to:

6a. Each competitor is allowed 40 days for every 10 moves, unless the tournament announcement explicitly specifies otherwise.

These two issues have been discussed many times by Congress and the PRC do not support these proposals. The if-move is a remainder from the postal times and rather different in the server time, with its hidden feature. Several players perceive that it is used tactically and complaints have been received. Moreover, the time, 50/10 seems now to be accepted as a standard, so no reason to change the standard time for ICCF play. In both cases, the rules allow an organizer to use 40/10 as well as if-moves for their own tournaments, i.e., the Champions League.

Proposal 27 - Proposal to change the playing rules to 40 days/10 moves:

For	ITA (1)
Against	(34)
ABS	ESP, CRO (2)

Proposal 27 - No changes will be made to the playing rules regarding time controls.

Playing Rules Server 6d

6d. A competitor who has exceeded the time allowed shall forfeit the game.

Guideline 6d:

When one's opponent has exceeded the time limit or overstepped the 40-days reflection time per move, a player should send a claim to the Tournament Director using the email option of the webserver. It is recommended to claim an ETL as soon as it occurs.

TEAM: When one's opponent has exceeded the time limit or overstepped the 40-days reflection time per move, a player should inform the Team Captain who will send a claim to the Tournament Director using the email option of the webserver. It is recommended to claim an ETL as soon as it occurs.

The proposal is to set a similar 40 days limit to making the claim. As it very well could be a case of double default. The PRC also felt that the mentioning of 40-days reflection time had no meaning here, a player might not claim according to 3b) and it would only be the effect that the game continues.

Therefore, the proposal is to change the Guideline to read:

Guideline 6d:

When one's opponent has exceeded the time limit, a player should send a claim to the Tournament Director using the email option of the webserver. It is recommended to claim an ETL as soon as it occurs, if no claim of ETL is received after 40 calendar days (Leave not counted) the game may be scored as a double default (0-0).

TEAM: When one's opponent has exceeded the time limit, a player should inform the Team Captain who will send a claim to the Tournament Director using the email option of the webserver. It is recommended to claim an ETL as soon as it occurs, if no claim of ETL is received after 40 calendar days (Leave not counted) the game may be scored as a double default (0-0).

Proposal 28 - Proposal to change the playing rules so that at 40 calendar days, an e-mail claim must be made or the game may be counted as a double-default.

For	(35)
Against	SVK (1)
ABS	CRO (1)

Proposal 28 - The proposal was passed.

Playing Rule 7c

7c. In addition, the Special Leave Office may grant up to 30 days' additional leave per annum, which in exceptional circumstances may be backdated and/or extended. Applications for such leave must be sent to the Special Leave Office.

To replace:

7c. In addition, the Tournament Director may grant up to 30 days' additional leave per annum, which in exceptional circumstances may be backdated and/or extended. Applications for such leave must be sent to the Tournament Director.

(This is simply an omission so it should be a formality. We should have done it when the SLO was formed.)

Postal Rules:

Playing Rule 8c

8c In addition, the Tournament Director may grant up to 30 days' additional leave per annum, which in exceptional circumstances may be backdated and/or extended.

Propose to be changed to:

8c In addition, the Special Leave Office may grant up to 30 days' additional leave per annum, which in exceptional circumstances may be backdated and/or extended.

See above.

Proposal 29 - Proposal for adoption of minor changes to playing rules 7c and 8c.

For	(37)
Against	(0)
ABS	(0)

As Chairman, I am grateful to all the members for their hard work and constructive contributions.

Playing Rules server [update proposal] – Mariusz Wojnar

Proposal is to make small update to allow conditional moves - just to delete "not":

4) Conditional continuations

a. Conditional moves are ~~not~~ allowed in webserver games.

Technically, it is possible and used successfully at ICCF server in many tournaments since few years. That issue has been discussed many times (at congresses and different forums) and there is no rational and objective argument against conditionals.

Please find below a kind of summary from different discussions.

Firstly, conditional move is an option and not obligation to use. If player wants to risk making a mistake that is his choice, but it certainly is not his opponent's business to worry about.

Secondly, conditional moves are hidden to opponent in server games (contrary to postal games). *The opponent receiving the conditional string is unaware of it until he/she has selected and committed a reply, at which time the system generates an alert and immediately shows the 1-ply response to the committed reply.*

Let us answer a basic question, what is wrong in receiving conditionals?

That you do not expect to have immediately to consider another move in your game?

That might be annoying for some players?

Someone saying that does not want to see your move immediately is saying, "You're not allowed to move yet. I don't want to see a move from you right now since I just got done making my move." It is ridiculous.

It would be the same as if I happened to be online at the exact moment my opponent replied, and I moved near instantly to his reply. He would then be faced with the exact same situation as if I had entered a conditional move. I then wait there, constantly refreshing the page for his next move. As soon as he makes it, I reply immediately again. For him, it would be ridiculous to complain about it. I see the conditional system as no different.

I think it is time to make progress, so please support my proposal with regard to conditional continuations.

This proposal was discussed along with the Italian proposal to make conditional moves the default. This proposal was defeated 24-4.

Special Leave Proposal

The General Secretary and Head of the Office of Special Leave submitted a proposal to eliminate special leave. However, because of some new options and extenuating circumstances, the proposal was withdrawn. The reasons provided sparked some lively discussion about the process and procedures of Congress, specifically towards delegates, voting, proxies, and proposals.

The first issue raised and agreed upon was the consideration that ICCF has a number of committees and commissions; all filled with highly knowledgeable and experienced players. It makes little sense to wait an entire year and submit proposals at the last minute, or even worse, at Congress without the benefit of committee/commission deliberation. Rarely does the notion of a *correspondence chess emergency* require immediate action, and if so, this is what the Executive Board is entrusted to handle.

Because the Playing Rules commission did not have adequate time to discuss and arrive at a recommendation for Congress, the Proposal was withdrawn. A discussion about proposal procedures to be followed was completed and the results may be found in the General Secretary Proposals section of these minutes.

International Correspondence Chess Federation

Tournament Rules Commission

Duncan Chambers - Commissioner

The members of the Commission are:

Duncan Chambers (ENG) (Chairman), Gerhard Binder (GER), Sergey Grodzensky (RUS), Leonardo Madonia (ITA), Ralph Marconi (CAN), George Pyrich (SCO), Gian-Maria Tani (ITA), Leo Lahdenmäki (FIN), Per Söderberg (SWE), Marco Caressa (ITA), Andrew Dearnley (ENG)

as General Secretary and President:
Michael Millstone (USA) and Eric Ruch (FRA).

As Chairman, I am grateful to all the members for their hard work and constructive contributions.

Following the revision of various tournament rules last year, this has been a quiet year for the TRC. The following issues are presented for discussion and decision:

Qualifications for WCCC Semi-Finals and Candidates

In January we discussed a proposal from Josef Mrkvicka to the effect that players who achieve places 3-4 (or 3-5) in a WCCC semi-final or candidates should receive a new qualification at the same level (or as Josef put it 'stay at the same WCCC stage') even if they achieve less than 60% of possible points. The current rules state that a score of 60% (i.e. 7.5/12 or 8.5/14) is required (paragraphs 1.2.1b and 1.3.1b). Josef presented examples from the WCCC semi-finals where in 3 out of 7 sections of WCCC 33 only the winner achieved more than 60% of possible points.

Some TRC members argued strongly that the current situation is unfair and qualification should be determined by position irrespective of the number of points scored. Others felt that there is no need for a change in the current rules. The TRC was unable to reach a consensus on this issue.

Recommendation: We ask the Congress to decide whether a change in the current rules is necessary and if so to provide guidance on the number of players at each level (preliminaries, semi-finals, and candidates) who should receive a new qualification at the same level. If this is agreed in principle, the TRC will revise the relevant sections of the tournament rules.

Congress decided that this proposed change might affect the WCCC structure, which was decided in Leeds. Therefore, Gerhard Binder (Chairman), Arjen Oudheusden, Eric Ruch, Josef Mrkvicka (CZE), and Uwe Staroske will form a working group to determine the impact, if any, this proposed change might have on the WCCC cycle.

Specific Issue Regarding WCCC Candidates 30 and 31

This issue was raised by Gian-Maria Tani.

ICCF Congress decided to decrease the high number of players with a qualification to a Final, which for WCCC CT 30 and 31, just the winner, would get a qualification to a WCCC Final. What about the "runners up" (i.e. the players who get the second place in a Section of CT 30 or CT 31)?

It should be obvious that they get a qualification to a further CT, but...Rule 1.3.1.b says:

1.3 Candidates' Tournament

1.3.1 The following will be entitled to enter the Candidates' Tournament:

(b) the participants in the previous or running Candidates' Tournaments who scored at least 60% of the possible points but did not qualify for the Final.

If a player get 2nd place in CT 30 and CT 31 (or he shares 1st/2nd place, but is 2nd after tie!) with less than 60% of points, he couldn't play in next CT, but in next Semi-final !

I believe that this is not right, because Rule 1.4.1.b says the runner-up should play in the Final; if a provisional rule voted by the Congress does not allow the participation to the Final, the player should have the right to play in the next CT.

It is not a "theoretical case": it has just occurred in WC30CT07
(<http://www.iccf-webchess.com/EventCrossTable.aspx?id=22604>):

Busemann qualifies to the Final. Winkler and Straka, according to 1.4.1.b. should qualify to the Final, but the "provisional rule" does not allow. Therefore, according to 1.3.1.b, they just qualify to a Semi-Final.

Recommendation: The TRC believes this situation arises from an oversight and supports the decision of Gian-Maria that:

Winkler and Straka (and the other players who, in the future, will be in the same situation) get automatically a qualification to CT, according to 1.4.1.b. + the "provisional rule"

We ask the Congress to endorse this decision.

After an excellent discussion, Congress decided that this proposal would also be examined by the working group listed above as modifying the present 60% rule could significantly change the WCCC structure as defined by the Leeds Congress working group.

Ratings

Gerhard Binder, Rating Rules Commissioner

This year already, four new rating lists were published, all on time and including the usual pdf-file. For some reasons, especially the new calculation method, it was impossible for me to continue with publishing Eloquetry. However, with the perfect service from our webserver for nearly all facilities from this beloved program, there is no further need for it and the tremendous additional work.

The new calculation method as decided in Järvenpää was implemented with the first rating list in 2012. It calculates the difference between the players's rating and the opponent's rating now using the recent published rating for the player and the higher value of start rating and recent rating for the opponent. This method leads to a quicker approximation to the players' real strength. Using the opponent's better value (start rating or recent rating) is a good compromise to consider a player's development during the game and to avoid disadvantages if he goes down due to circumstances outside of the game. With the recent four rating lists, the new method has proved itself – no strange cases as in the past and no longer complaints about a too low start rating if an opponent goes up during the game!

There are two ideas to consider for the future

Special Rating System for Chess960

With growing interest in Chess960, there comes up a wish for special ratings. This would require a careful preparation (analysing available finished tournaments, having enough results to initialize the system, adapting the database structure and the calculating software on the webserver). I assume that this could be done during 2013; the implementation will not be possible before 01/01/2014. This was also a proposal put forth by the Polish Delegate. Congress has decided to create a small working group to prepare the rating and rules for implementation next Congress in Poland. Gerhard Binder will Chair, and members will be Martin Bennedik, Mariusz Wojnar, Austin Lockwood, and Valery Igorevich Myakutin.

Up-to-Date Rating Lists

With the reliability and service of the webserver, I could imagine to calculate and publish ratings at the first day of their validity including all results till the day before (e.g., rating list 2013/2 could appear at 01/04/2013 based on results from 01/01/2013 till 31/03/2013 (first quarter) and valid from 01/04/2013 till 30/06/2013 (second quarter). It is a technical possibility, but I do not know if this is desirable! Currently you have at least two weeks extra time to compose a tournament based on the next rating list. If we change the dates as shown above you can start important tournaments likely only in the second half of a rating period.

Proposal 30 - Proposal to have the Rating Lists published the first day of each quarter:

For	ESP (1)
Against	(34)
ABS	CRO (1)
NP	RUS (1)

Proposal 30 - Proposal to have the Rating Lists published the first day of each quarter was defeated.

Unconfirmed Accounts

As part of the Rating Commissioner discussion, the point was raised that many new players are set to “Pending”, yet the delegate never does anything for a long period. Some new player’s applications have been waiting for over 6-months for action. It was decided that this is contrary to the purpose of allowing new players to register to play in ICCF.

Actions to be taken:

- (a) The webserver will send an e-mail message to the delegate with pending players in their account after 14-days.
- (b) A log or report should be available to delegates to reflect their acceptance/rejection status.

Appeals Committee – Playing Rules

Ragnar Wikman, Committee Chair

Because of the very nature of server play, it is obvious that most of the appeals related to server games are based upon trivial misunderstandings of the rules and such appeals are customarily dealt with directly by the Chairman, according to §3 of our working procedure. (This was quoted in its entirety in our report for the 2004 Congress.) Only a few server appeals had to be dealt with using the reviewing procedure and not even one needed the attendance of a full plenary session.

Still there are quite a few emails directed to Appeals that clearly belong to the TD level. In most cases, this is not a deliberate attempt to bypass the TD; it is simply unfamiliarity with the terminology, sometimes combined with unfamiliarity with computers, and with the English language.

Consequently, the task of the Chairman could be made much easier (though of course cases like this can be solved in a matter of minutes) if the national federations were to explain the difference between TD and Appeals (and how to make the proper contacts via the server!) to their players, for example on their own websites.

However, the remaining postal events keep keeping us busy during the year. In the spring, we had to deal with a particularly nasty case (in a full plenary session) where players flatly refused to obey instructions from the TD and insisted upon their own "rights". Moreover, regrettably it seems we will have another similar case to deal with during this autumn.

No new members have been appointed during the year.

Finally, I wish to express my sincere thanks to all members of the Commission for your valuable input during the past year.

Appeals Committee – Other Rules

Alan Rawlings, Committee Chair

It is my pleasure to tell you that I can again repeat last year's report: the Commission has done no work since the last Congress. A number of issues have arisen during the course of the year; many lay outside our terms of reference, while the remainder did not result in a formal appeal.

The membership of the Committee requires revision. While Artis Gaujens (LAT), Pablo Salcedo Mederos (CUB), and I are willing to serve another year, Dinand Knol (RSA) is now an ICCF official and according to the Committee's regulations is no longer eligible for membership, and Tim Runting (AUS) has retired. Proposals for replacements will be put to the Executive Board as soon as possible, and I hope that the 2012 Congress will be able to confirm these.

Congress note: as of Congress, no nominations have been submitted for the replacement of these two committee members.

International Correspondence Chess Federation

Arbitration Committee

Richard Hall, Chair

With one exception, the Committee has had another quiet year. Referrals have been dealt with by me in the spirit of AMICI SUMUS. Informal advice has also been given to ICCF officials from time to time.

The major exception has been the appeal by a player on the "Mr. 50%" issue. The player in question had been playing twin games in several tournaments against higher-rated opponents with the sole intention of artificially increasing his ELO rating, i.e., with two draws or a win and a loss. Such a ploy is only possible with webserver play and though clearly against the spirit of the game, there is nothing in the ICCF Rules expressly forbidding it. The Committee had great difficulty in coming to a conclusion in relation to the appeal and has recommended that Congress consider promulgating a rule to deal specifically with the issue.

The Committee (current members myself, Alan Borwell (SCO), Georg Walker (SUI), Ragnar Wikman (FIN) and Fritz Baumbach (GER) remain, ready, willing and able to deal with all referrals during the coming year.

Congress note: the Mr. 50% issue is also known as "mirror play" and was discussed. Taking the committee's recommendation to heart, the EB has taken the action to include specific mention of this practice in the Code of Conduct.

Arbiter Committee

No report was received.

International Correspondence Chess Federation

Interzonal Team Tournaments

Dinand Knol, Interzonal Team Tournament Organiser

Background

The IZTT, which were inaugurated by our former president, Med Samraoui (ALG), are held every two years as a team championship among the different geographical zones of ICCF, and normally start during the month of December of each evenly numbered calendar year. Each team consists of eight players playing a double round robin event against at least four opponents. This makes it possible to qualify for title norms as at least eight games are being played.

Completed Tournaments

IZTT I – Start Date: 1 September 2000

Tournament Organiser Tournament Director

Med Samraoui of Algeria (IA) IM Carlos Flores Gutiérrez of Spain (IA)

1. Europe A 35½ out of 64
2. Africa/Asia 35
3. Europe B 33
4. Latin America 29½
5. North America/Pacific 27

IZTT II – Start Date: 15 September 2002

Tournament Organiser Tournament Director

IM Med Samraoui of Algeria (IA) SIM Carlos Flores Gutiérrez of Spain (IA)

1. Europe A 44½ out of 64
2. North America/Pacific 34
3. Africa/Asia 31
4. Europe B 30
5. Latin America 20½

IZTT III – Start Date: 15 December 2004

Tournament Organiser Tournament Director

SIM Med Samraoui of Algeria (IA) SIM Carlos Flores Gutiérrez of Spain (IA)

1. North America/Pacific 45½ out of 80
2. Europe A 43½
3. Europe B 42½
4. Africa/Asia 37
5. Latin America 36½
6. Europe C 35

IZTT IV – Start Date: 15 December 2006

Tournament Organiser Tournament Director

SIM Everdinand Knol of South Africa SIM Carlos Flores Gutiérrez of Spain (IA)

1. Europe A 49 out of 80
2. Europe C 46½
3. North America/Pacific 44
4. Europe B 42
5. Latin America 31
6. Africa/Asia 27½

IZTT V – Start Date: 27 December 2008

Tournament Organiser Tournament Director

SIM Everdinand Knol of South Africa SIM Carlos Flores Gutiérrez of Spain (IA)

1. Europe C 48 out of 80
2. Europe A 46½
3. Latin America 41
4. North America/Pacific 38
5. Europe B 34
6. Africa/Asia 32½

Results of Ongoing Tournaments

IZTT VI – Start Date: 27 December 2010

Eleven games are still in progress. The results so far are:

Tournament Organiser Tournament Director

SIM Everdinand Knol of South Africa SIM Carlos Flores Gutiérrez of Spain (IA)

1. Europe A 51
2. Europe B 46
3. North America/Pacific 38
4. Europe C 34
5. Latin America 30½
6. Africa/Asia 29½

The Way Forward

The IZTT VII is scheduled to start in December this year. Entries have been invited and must be submitted by the end of November. Interzonal activities can be expanded by staging an IZTT every year instead of every second year.

The concept of smaller and/or larger teams can also be looked into. An event could involve only two or three of the zones instead of all four. These events can also be held for individuals instead of teams. What about a championship of zonal champions and/or former zonal champions?

Anything can be considered providing it is on a zonal basis. The concept of making title norms available and giving players a wider scope of opportunities should be adhered to. The free entry facility should be continued to assist those who are less fortunate as well as to promote development.

International Correspondence Chess Federation

Zone 1 (Europe) Report

Sergey Grodzenskiy (RUS), Deputy Zonal Director

European Team Championships

The Final of the 7th E.T.C. is finished: 1. Slovakia, 2. Italy, 3. Slovenia.

The 8th E.T.C. Final began on 02.01.2012 with 13 teams. (TD Klauner, Thed - LUX).

The Semi-finals of the 9th E.T.C. began on 15.07.2011 with 34 teams divided in 3 preliminary groups (TD Karel Glaser -CZE-)

The Final of the 9th E. T.C. will start in the 4th quarter 2013.

The Semi-finals of the 10th E.T.C. will start in the 3rd quarter 2013.

European Individual Championships

Now, there are just 21 games remaining in the Final of 67th E.I.C., which started on 01.07.2011 with 15 players (4 GM, 6 SIM, and 3 IM). (TD Valery Myakutin - RUS).

The 7 groups of the Semi-finals of 69th E.I.C., which started on 01.06.2012 (on ICCF webserver), are still ongoing. (EU/C69/sf01 – TD Marco Caressa - ITA, EU/C69/sf02-07 - TD Valery Myakutin – RUS).

The Final of 68th E.I.C. will start in the 2nd quarter 2013.

The Semi-finals of the 70th E.I.C. will start in the 1st quarter 2014.

As far as European Individual Championships is concerned, we have working group of five members and we hope that the group will work out and prepare proposals for the next ICCF Congress and Zone 1 Europe Meeting.

Gerhard Radosztics Memorial

The Semi-finals of this postal national team tournament for players with a low ELO, started on the 15.05.2009, and are finished. 13 National Federations entered this competition.

The Final began on 15.09.2012 with 7 teams. (TD of both tournaments is Ian M. Pheby – ENG).

Thor Løvholt Memorial

The Semi-finals of this web-server national team tournament for medium-rated players started on 09.01.2011. 29 National Federations entered this competition; the team of Russia consists of women only. The T.D's are Ian M. Pheby (ENG), Andrew Dearnley (ENG), and Karel Glaser (CZE). Many thanks to Neil Limbert (ENG) who perfectly organized this tournament. Play in 1st and 3rd groups has finished, only 2 running games left in the 2nd group. Qualifiers to the final are already known. The final will start in spring 2013. The team tournament has had success. The meeting decided to organize the second a second tournament along the same lines.

Witold Bielecki Memorial

This national team tournament for players with a low ELO (the second edition of "Harre Otte Memorial") began on 25.01.2012 with 22 teams divided in 3 preliminary groups (TD Mariusz Wojnar – POL).

Promotional Tournaments

The European Tournament Director L. Madonia (ITA) informs us that in 2011 he started 9 postal groups (1 "M", 3 "H", and 5 "O") with a total of 67 players. In the first 10 months of 2012, 7 postal groups (3 "M", 1 "H", and 3 "O") have been started with 56 players.

In 2011, the E.T.O. started 35 promotional webserver tournaments (11 "M", 9 "H" and 15 "O") with 367 players. The first 10 months of 2012 have an excellent trend: 35 webserver groups (9 "M", 12 "H", and 14 "O") with 359 players have already been started.

European Postal Cup

92 players from 15 countries entered this postal tournament.

23 teams of 4 players each started to play on 15.07.2011 in 3 Preliminary Groups. (T.D.: M. Hömske -FRA-). The event shows that postal play is still alive in Europe.

"Rochade 5171 20th Anniversary" Team Tournament

The tournament played with 15 teams is finished now. 1. Czech Republic, 2. Spain Teide, 3. Russia; ICCF-Europa "Yellow Team" is 5th, ICCF-Europe "Blue Team" is 7th.

Interzonal 2010

As usual, ICCF-Europa entered three teams in this important tournament, which started on 27.12.2010. The 24 European players came from 24 different countries. The European Team Captains are G. Sapundijev (BUL), A. Yermenko (UKR), and A. de Blois Figueredo (ESP). The tournament is close to an end. Team Europe A has already won the event, while team Europe B has finished 2nd. Team Europe C will probably finish 4th. I am ready to organize three teams from Europe according to the principle: 24 players from 24 countries.

Friendly Match “Ukraine vs. Rest of Europe”

Match started on 19.12.2011.

As it was agreed, such a match “One country vs. Rest of Europe” will be organized annually. This year I propose to organize a match «Russia vs. Rest of Europe”. The match will start in December 2012. TD Carlos Cranbourne.

Financial Matters

The Finance Director, Carlos Flores Gutiérrez, oversaw the 2011 Accounts, which has been checked by the Auditor, George Pyrich. It shows the economic situation of ICCF-Europa to be, in my opinion, satisfactory. Zone 1 Meeting decided to allocate 750 Euros in assistance to organizers of the ICCF Congress 2013.

Concerning Zonal Director, I offer to give Marco some time to solve his personal problems and before he will arrange them, I am ready to fulfil the duties of the Zonal director. Only if Marco himself decides to retire it will be necessary to hold the elections of a new Zonal Director and to start the procedure according to the ICCF rules. Meeting decided to give Marco Caressa time until the end of November.

Finally, I would like to thank all the friends who actively worked in European Zone Executive Board. In order not to forget somebody I will limit myself to thanking to Gian-Maria Tani, who has successfully been the Zonal Director for Europe for many years, Carlos Flores as ICCF EU-Zone Treasurer during the last eight years and wish a new Zonal Director Marco Caressa successfully decide his problem, also I wish every success to George Pyrich in his new work of ICCF EU-Zone Treasurer and Josef Mrkvička as new Zonal Auditor.

Zone 2 (Latin America) Report

Carlos Leon Cranbourne – Zonal Director

During this period, the actions taken by CADAP have been performed by the following people:

- Carlos Leon Cranbourne Argentina Zonal Director & CADAP President
- Márcio Barbosa de Oliveira Brazil CADAP Deputy Zonal Director
- Juan Carlos Perez Rodriguez Argentina CADAP Zonal Tournaments Director
- Pedro Federico Hegoburu Argentina CADAP Zonal Tournaments Director
- Armando Alexis Pérez Pérez Cuba CADAP Zonal Tournaments Director

New Deputy Zonal Director

Dr. Márcio Barbosa de Oliveira (Brazil) will be the next Deputy Zonal Director.

The CXEB Delegate has been working for a long time in ICCF Zone 2 and I would like to send a special recognition for his continuous task done inside CADAP.

Pan-American Tournament

I am very pleased to announce the organization of the new ICCF Continental event: “The First Pan-American Absolute Individual Championship”. We believe that an event like this (including CADAP & NAPZ continental countries) will not only strengthen the ties between our federations but also allow us to crown a member of our continent as the First Pan-American Individual Champion.

LIPEAD

Peru will take over this interesting ICCF Event and they will be prepared to secure cash prizes for the top two finishers as well as a medal or trophy for the Champion. Since the global economy is still in crisis, we are committed to keep the entry fees low. I strongly support my friends from Peru for this wonderful initiative and I am ready to ask ICCF for the approval of this tournament.

I wish the very best and success to our friends Alfredo Cilloniz (LIPEAD Delegate) and Gino Figlio.

CADAP Calendar Events

Latin American Tournaments Current Tournaments 2012

- CADAP 22 Zonal Final
- CADAP 2011 Zonal Semi-final
- CADAP 2011 Zonal Preliminaries
- CADAP Candidates 2011

Programmed Latin American Tournaments for 2012

- Latin American CADAP 23 Zonal Tournament (Final Section)
 - Start date December 2012

Programmed Latin American Tournaments for the next year 2013

- Latin American CADAP Zonal Tournaments (Preliminary Sections)
 - Start date July 2013
- Latin American CADAP Zonal Tournaments (Semi-final Sections)
 - Start date September 2013
- Latin American 2013 Master Norm Tournament
 - Start date between July & November 2013

International Correspondence Chess Federation

Zone 3 (North America/Pacific) Report

Dr. Jason Bokar (USA), Zonal Director

Updates to the Zonal Leadership and Structure

At the beginning of 2012, Dr. Jason Bokar took over for Corky Schakel as the new Zonal Director. Corky will remain the Country Secretary for USA. Additionally, Euan Demian has accepted the role as Deputy Director for NAPZ. At this time, there is no designated (or formal) website for NAPZ but many countries within NAPZ have their own websites (i.e., Canada, USA, New Zealand, and Australia).

One change in country leadership: In Australia, Tim Runtig is standing down as President and International Secretary after 10 years in the job. Brian Jones has taken over the duties of International Secretary.

Tournaments

In North America, the Walter Muir Invitational event started in 2012, with many thanks to the efforts of Corky Schakel and Ralph Marconi. There are two sections with 8 GMs and 6 SIMs of 15 players in Section A Category 13, and 15 players in Section B Category 7.

Also, in the U.S., the USCCC19 (19th Championship) preliminaries (77 entries) is now complete, and the Final started July 4, 2012. USCCC20 entries are now being accepted, start date expected to be in October 2012. Finally, the US Olympiad Team has qualified the 18th Final to be started at the end of 2012.

Among the zone's countries, we have had many friendly matches started through the individual country organization. This type of tournament has proven to be very popular and is strongly supported by our zone.

Direct Entry

Direct Entry has proven to be a very useful method to increase the participation in ICCF events. Not only through the more established countries, but we have seen increases in the number of applications coming from Mexico and Bermuda and Trinidad and Tobago, for example.

NAPZ will be sending a team to the next Interzonal Team Tournament. We have had an enthusiastic response to the request for players and we are looking forward to the event!

Application for Hosting Congress

We are pleased to announce that Australia has put forth a request to hold either the 2014 or the 2015 ICCF congress.

Closing Remarks

The NAPZ is still struggling to fill zonal type events (Higher Class and Master Class) with many participants playing directly in global events, or participating in invitationals. The pool of potential players is still relatively small. The NAPZ will make strong effort to identify ways to improve the situation. I appreciate greatly the help and advice of our Country Secretaries. I would also like to thank Eugen Demian who agreed to be Deputy (and on whom I will be relying more often in the near future) and Ralph Marconi for his constant guidance!

International Correspondence Chess Federation

Zone 4 (Africa/Asia) Report

Dinand Knol – Zonal Director

Zonal Team

- Zonal Director (ZD): SIM Everdinand Knol of South Africa
- Deputy Zonal Director (DZD) and Tournament Organiser (TO): Iain Smuts of South Africa (IA)
- Web Master (WM): SIM Giorgio Ruggeri Laderchi of Italy (IA)
- Tournament Director (TD): GM Mark Noble of New Zealand

Tournaments

The following tournaments were started during the past year: The TO for all these events is Iain Smuts (IA):

On 15 December 2011:

- The 11th Africa/Asia Zonal Championship Final - TD Iain Smuts (IA)

On 15 January 2012:

- The 15th Africa/Asia Zonal Championship Preliminary Sections A to E – TD GM Mark Noble
- The 15th Africa/Asia Zonal Championship Preliminary Sections F to J – TD SIM Everdinand Knol
- The 15th Africa/Asia Zonal Championship Preliminary Sections K to P – TD Iain Smuts (IA)

This tournament had 145 entries and equals the record for our zone set by the 13th Zonal Championship two years ago in 2010!

On 15 March 2012:

- The 13th Africa/Asia Zonal Championship Semi Final Sections A and D - TD SIM Everdinand Knol
- The 13th Africa/Asia Zonal Championship Semi Final Sections B and C - TD Iain Smuts (IA)

The following tournaments are still in progress: The TO for all these events is Iain Smuts (IA):

- The 14th Africa/Asia Zonal Championship Preliminary Section D - TD GM Mark Noble
- The 14th Africa/Asia Zonal Championship Preliminary Sections I and K – TD SIM Everdinand Knol
- The 14th Africa/Asia Zonal Championship Preliminary Section P – TD Iain Smuts (IA)

The following tournaments have been completed during this year: The TO for all these events is Iain Smuts (IA):

- The 11th Africa/Asia Zonal Championship Semi Final - TD Iain Smuts (IA)
- The 12th Africa/Asia Zonal Championship Semi Final - TD Iain Smuts (IA)
- The 13th Africa/Asia Zonal Championship Preliminary - TD Iain Smuts (IA)
- The 14th Africa/Asia Zonal Championship Preliminary Sections A, B, C and E – TD GM Mark Noble
- The 14th Africa/Asia Zonal Championship Preliminary Sections G, H and J – TD SIM Everdinand Knol
- The 14th Africa/Asia Zonal Championship Preliminary Sections K, L, M, N and O – TD Iain Smuts (IA)

This zone intends to start the following tournaments during the coming year – the format will depend on the amount of entries received. The start dates will depend on the completion of previous cycles:

- The 6th Africa Continental Championship
- The 6th Asia Continental Championship
- The 12th Africa/Asia Zonal Championship Final
- The 14th Africa/Asia Zonal Championship Semi Final
- The 16th Africa/Asia Zonal Championship Preliminary

Our zone is currently participating in the 6th Interzonal Team Tournament (IZTT):
The team consists of the following eight players:

- Board 1 – GM Mark Noble of New Zealand
- Board 2 – SIM Sergey Simonenko of Turkmenistan
- Board 3 – Ben Bester of South Africa
- Board 4 – Marius Fourie of South Africa
- Board 5 – Pervez Godrez Mandviwala of India
- Board 6 – SIM Pieter Kemp of South Africa - replaced by Samantha Tavinski of South Africa after the former sadly passed away
- Board 7 – Alok Saxena of India
- Board 8 – Iain Smuts of South Africa

Appreciations

In conclusion, I thank all the people that are mentioned in this report as well as everybody else that assisted with the administration and development of CC in our zone. A special word of thanks goes to Iain Smuts for his outstanding work as the Zonal TO for the past 6 years and to SIM Giorgio Ruggeri Laderchi our Webmaster and also to Marco Caressa the ZD of Europe for allowing us the beneficiary use of their website.

The President, Eric Ruch, then presented some interesting statistics concerning the Zone 4 tournaments. While Zone 4 tournaments have been free for many years to promote more zone 4 players, it appears that 60-70% of the players who play in Zone 4 tournaments are not from Zone 4.

It was noted that some countries are on the fringe of the Africa/Asia demarcation (AUS, ISR, JPN, HKG, NZU, and TUR). A proposal was offered to limit the free participation of players from these countries to no more than 2 per country. If any more than 2, then the full price should be charged for additional players.

An amendment to this proposal was offered that this proposal not include players from TUR and ISR, due to geographical and political reasons. This amendment will be voted on first.

Proposal 31 - Proposal to include players from TUR and ISR from the overall proposal to limit the number of free entries in a Zone 4 tournament to no more than 2.

For	(15)
Against	LAT, LTU, ROU, ITA, GER, BUL, LUX, ISR, UKR, FRA, RSA, AUT, FIN (13)
ABS	ESP, BRA, CUB, ARG, RUS, IRL, ISL, SWE, POL (9)

Proposal 32 - The next proposal is to limit the free participation of players from AUS, JPN, HKG, NZU, TUR, and ISR to no more than 2 per country. If any more than 2, then the full price should be charged for additional players.

For	(29)
Against	SUI, NOR, ENG (3)
ABS	BRA, CUB, ARG, SCO, POL (5)

Delegates from England and Wales wanted mention in the minutes that the results of these votes may have been affected by the mid-Congress switching of 2 voting cards.

General Secretary Proposals

Michael Millstone, General Secretary

Article 18

- 1) People who have served with distinction as President may be elected Honorary President by a two thirds majority of the Congress.
- 2) People who have served with distinction for the benefit and development of correspondence chess at the international level may be elected Honorary Members by a two thirds majority of the Congress.
- 3) Honorary Presidents and Members have the right to take part in all meetings of the Executive Board and all of the Congresses as observers without voting rights. In addition, they shall be kept informed of all ICCF activities.

Proposed Revisions

Article 18

- 1) People who have served with distinction as President may be elected Honorary President by a ~~two-thirds~~two-thirds majority of the Congress.
- 2) People who have served with distinction for the benefit and development of correspondence chess at the international level may be elected Honorary Members by a ~~two-thirds~~two-thirds majority of the Congress.
- 3) Honorary Presidents and Members have the right to take part in ~~all meetings of the Executive Board and all of the~~ Congresses as observers without voting rights. In addition, they should be provided the same information and invitations as member federation delegates.

Discussion

Certain privileges associated with honorary membership (Honorary President and Honorary Member) of ICCF are counter to the democratic principles that are the bedrock of our organisation.

The award of Honorary President and Honorary Member of ICCF was intended to acknowledge the work and dedication given to ICCF over many years by particular individuals. ICCF fully supports this honorific and offers the deepest of respect and support to those individuals who currently hold these honorary positions.

However, the day-to-day running of ICCF should be vested in elected and appointed delegates and officials, who are directly accountable to the members. There should not be a lifetime governance role for any individual within a democratic organisation such as ICCF.

Congress discussed the matter and the role of the observer was clarified. A Congress observer shall be allowed to attend Congress meetings and participate to the extent allowed by the Congress President, who is ultimately responsible for controlling the Congress meetings and agenda.

It was also clarified that a substitute delegate must be a member of the same Federation.

Proposal 33 - Proposal to vote in favour of changing the statute as proposed:

For	(29)
Against	ESP, SCO (2)
ABS	CRO, CZE, SVK, EST, FIN, POL (6)

The Proposal for an amendment to Article 28 was withdrawn.

ICCF – Congress Preparation Process and Procedures

Following the General Secretary withdrawal of his Special Leave proposal, an informative discussion was entertained by Congress participants on how to make Congress sessions more productive.

It was agreed in principle by all in Congress that the following procedures regarding voting, proxies, delegates, medals and certificates, and proposals be followed:

(a) Proposals must be submitted to the appropriate committee/commission before being presented for discussion and voting at Congress. It was agreed that 2 months committee/commission time would be the minimum time allowed for discussion and opinions. If a proposal is submitted with less than 2 months time, the committee/commission may still consider the proposal, but an opinion to Congress is not guaranteed and the proposal may not be voted upon.

(b) 6-weeks prior to the start of Congress, all Proposals will be locked and a Proposal cover sheet provided to all delegates to offer time for questions, clarifications, and discussion with players and/or proxies.

(c) 6-weeks prior to Congress, all delegates intending to attend Congress or be represented by a substitute delegate must have indicated as such. A delegate-voting sheet will be distributed to all Member Federations.

(d) 4-weeks prior to Congress, proxy selections will be due. No proxy changes will be accepted after this date.

(e) 2-weeks prior to Congress, any Federations not represented by a delegate, substitute delegate, proxy holder, or Zonal Director, will be notified that the medals/certificates for their players will not be shipped to Congress and they may retrieve them at the next year's Congress.

Given that the ICCF 2013 Congress (Poland) will start on 20.07.2013, here are the deadlines agreed to by Congress:

20.07.2013 – ICCF 2013 Congress starts

06.07.2013 – Deadline for medal/certificates responsible official to be identified

22.06.2013 – Proxy selections due

08.06.2013 – Delegate and substitute delegate declarations due.

08.06.2013 – All Proposals to be voted on in Congress are due.

13.04.2013 – All Proposals to be considered for the 2013 Congress must be submitted to the appropriate committee/commission for deliberation.

Internal Matters

Timeline to Congress

The following was a discussion under the Special Leave Proposal, but will be replicated here as the subject areas falls more under ICCF Internal Matters.

The first issue raised and agree upon was the consideration that ICCF has a number of committees and commissions; all filled with highly knowledgeable and experienced players. It makes little sense to wait an entire year and submit proposals at the last minute, or even worse, at Congress without the benefit of committee/commission deliberation. Rarely does the notion of a *correspondence chess emergency* require immediate action, and if so, this is what the Executive Board is entrusted to handle.

Because the Playing Rules commission did not have adequate time to discuss and arrive at a recommendation for Congress, it was withdrawn, and proper proposal procedures will be followed.

It was agreed in principle by all in Congress that the following procedures regarding voting, proxies, delegates, medals and certificates, and proposals be followed:

- (a) Proposals must be submitted to the appropriate committee/commission before being presented for discussion and voting at Congress. It was agreed that 2 months committee/commission time would be the minimum time allowed for discussion and opinions. If a proposal is submitted with less than 2 months time, the committee/commission may still consider the proposal, but an opinion to Congress is not guaranteed and the proposal may not be voted upon.
- (b) 6-weeks prior to the start of Congress, all Proposals will be locked and a Proposal cover sheet provided to all delegates to offer time for questions, clarifications, and discussion with players and/or proxies.
- (c) 6-weeks prior to Congress, all delegates intended to attend Congress or be represented by a substitute delegate must have indicated as such. A delegate-voting sheet will be distributed to all Member Federations.
- (d) 4-weeks prior to Congress, proxy selections will be due. No proxy changes will be accepted after this date.
- (e) 2-weeks prior to Congress, any Federations not represented by a delegate, substitute delegate, proxy holder, or Zonal Director, will be notified that the medals/certificates for their players will not be shipped to Congress and they may retrieve them at the next year's Congress.

Given that the ICCF 2013 Congress (Poland) will start on 20.07.2013, here are the deadlines agreed to by Congress:

13.04.2013 – All Proposals to be considered for the 2013 Congress must be submitted to the appropriate committee/commission for deliberation (T-14 weeks)

08.06.2013 – All Proposals to be voted on in Congress are due (T-6 weeks)

08.06.2013 – Delegate and substitute delegate declarations due (T-6 weeks)

22.06.2013 – Proxy selections due (T-4 weeks)

06.07.2013 – Deadline for medal/certificates responsible official to be identified (T-2 weeks)

20.07.2013 – ICCF 2013 Congress starts (T-0)

Elections

It should be noted the following elections occurred mid-term:

Zonal Director 1 – Marco Caressa (ITA)

Zonal Director 4 – Dinand Knol (RSA)

Services Director – Austin Lockwood (WLS)

Translation/Globalization

On behalf of the BdF, Martin Bennedik presented a report discussing the pros and cons (including potential costs, if any) to provide many of the ICCF services in multiple languages. The concept was welcomed by all; however, the costs to provide professional translation services seemed prohibitive based on the ICCF budget.

It was decided that the Webserver should support as many languages as possible and the effort to do so will be through soliciting volunteers. After verification, the Services Director will place translations on the webserver.

The documents should flow from the Member Federation delegate to the Services Director, not from individual players to the Services Director. This will allow the delegate to verify the translations and not overwhelm the Services Director with requests.

ICCF Zones and Member Federations

Dinand Knol (RSA) completed an analysis examining the zonal structure of ICCF as compared to FIDE. The document was distributed at Congress and some discussion ensued about (a) The validity and viability of zones in ICCF, (b) Whether the present geographical zonal structure works for ICCF, and (c) our (ICCF) interest in aligning with FIDE. The document may be found in Appendix S, but no changes were made or proposed at this time.

International Correspondence Chess Federation

Registration

Last year, the seat of ICCF was established in Switzerland. It was recommended that a physical seat be established in Lausanne (Canton de Vaud).

The creation of a French Office was established to conduct daily business. Documents were submitted to recognize ICCF as a legitimate non-profit organization.

Proposal 34 - Vote to approve moving the physical seat as recommended and continuing with the processing of documentation to establish ICCF.

For	(37)
Against	(0)
ABS	(0)

Proposal 35 - A proposal to approve a budget of 2.000 Euros for next year for legal services related to ICCF registration.

For	(36)
Against	(0)
ABS	SCO (1)

Copies of the Statutes revised by Congress in 2012 are available in Appendix Q (French) and Appendix R (English).

The Internet bylaws project is ongoing and we would like to thank Jean Christophe Chazallete (FRA) for all his hard work in offering his legal services in this matter.

Historical Research Committee

The Historical Research Committee produced a comprehensive list of all ICCF Congresses and Presidiums.

Year	Congress			Presidium Meeting		
1951				London	England	1
1952				London	England	2
1953				London	England	3
1954				London	England	4
1955				Amsterdam	Netherlands	5
1956	Amsterdam	Netherlands	1			
1957	Stockholm	Sweden	2			
1958	Stockholm	Sweden	3			
1959	Amsterdam	Netherlands	4			
1960				Leipzig	German Democratic Republic	6
1961	Moscow	USSR	5			
1962				Vienna	Austria	7
1963	Dubrovnik	Yugoslavia	6			
1964				Leningrad	USSR	8
1965	Budapest	Hungary	7			
1966				Prague	Czechoslovakia	9
1967	Krems	Austria	8			
1968				Lugano	Switzerland	10
1969	Brussels	Belgium	9			
1970				Rome	Italy	11
1971	Lugano	Switzerland	10			
1972				Arnhem	Netherlands	12
1973	Warsaw	Poland	11			
1974				Nice	France	13
1975	Bad Mitterndorf	Austria	12			
1976				Bucharest	Romania	14
1977	Landskrona	Sweden	13			
1978				Munich	Federal Republic of Germany	15
1979	Järvenpää	Finland	14			
1980				Linz	Austria	16
1981	London	England	15			
1982				Paris	France	17
1983	Poznan	Poland	16			
1984				Pula	Yugoslavia	18
1985	Peebles	Scotland	17			
1986				Baden	Switzerland	19
1987	Bloemendaal	Netherlands	18			
1988				Arhus	Denmark	20
1989	Richmond	England	19			
1990				Bad Blankenburg	German Democratic Republic	21
1991	Järvenpää	Finland	20			
1992	Graz	Austria	21			
1993	Gdansk	Poland	22			
1994	Perth	Scotland	23			

1995	Gjøvik	Norway	24			
1996	Bad Neuenahr	Germany	25			
1997	Buenos Aires	Argentina	26			
1998	Riga	Latvia	27			
1999	Thun	Switzerland	28			
2000	Daytona Beach	United States	29			
2001	Rimini	Italy	30			
2002	Seixal	Portugal	31			
2003	Ostrava	Czech Republic	32			
2004	Mumbai	India	33			
2005	Villa La Angostura	Argentina	34			
2006	Dresden	Germany	35			
2007	Benalmádena	Spain	36			
2008	Pleven	Bulgaria	37			
2009	Leeds	England	38			
2010	Antalya	Turkey	39			
2011	Järvenpää	Finland	40			
2012	Pretoria	South Africa	41			

Remote Participation- Proposal from the Polish Delegate

We are looking for progress and active participation in ICCF work. That is why let me submit proposal for let say remote participation in Congress. We discussed that issue few times already. Even last year Michael Millstone, General Secretary, reported us possibility of electronic voting.

I have some experience from my previous job, where I used to participate in teleconferences. Therefore, I know that technical capabilities for teleconference exist now, but solutions are very expensive now.

Eric Ruch, in his visionary paper "ICCF and the future of correspondence chess beyond 2025" submitted for the ICCF Diamond Jubilee Web Book, goes even further.

"Advanced chess was recognized by ICCF during the Virtual General Assembly held in 2023. No need to have "physical" meeting nowadays. The neural interface that everyone has at home, allows you to enter instantaneously a virtual meeting where your avatar will discuss with the Delegates and the ICCF officials. It is amazing how "real" these virtual meeting can be, and those who remember the former congresses with all the Delegates and Officials seating in the conference room, will see almost no difference."

Why not using the latest technology right now?

So at the beginning, let us start from at least small step and adopt remote participation in the form of electronic voting through an email or website questionnaire.

Each eligible member would be issued a password to a website with limited access (could be ICCF website or any other), where proposals for voting could be submitted live. Anyway, it is done by Michael every time and presented at a screen in conference room.

Voting questionnaire for a website is easy to produce. During voting, a delegate could only tick a button (yes, no, abstain). Alternatively, even comment, if time allows. Alternatively, if it is too complicated or advanced, the General Secretary could send to remote delegates just an e-mail with proposal to be voted.

Possibly small adjustment in the ICCF Statutes is required depending on interpretation of representation at a congress or voting rights or definition of a term for congress meeting.

This proposal was discussed at Congress and although the concepts are valid and extremely promising, there was some discussion about the merits of attending Congress and participating in face-to-face discussions. Cost was also a prohibitive factor when last checked, and would need to be re-examined. Perhaps a demonstration at the Congress in Poland could demonstrate the capabilities and offer delegates additional options for Congress. As a corollary, it was decided in principal that future Congress documentation, including a Proposal sheet, be sent to every delegate with enough time to consider the issues to be voted. This will be discussed more in the next sections of the Internal Matters section.

Commissions and Committees

All ICCF Committees and Commissions Members were reviewed. The present membership along with any changes from 2011 Congress are identified below

Playing Rules Commission

Per Söderberg (SWE), (Chair), Leo Lahdenmäki (FIN), Nikolay Poleshchuk (RUS), Ragnar Wikman (FIN), Ralph Marconi (CAN), Duncan Chambers (ENG), George Pyrich (SCO), Kenneth Reinhart (USA), Kristo Miettinen (USA), Dr. Uwe Staroske (GER).

Tournament Rules Commission

Duncan Chambers (ENG) (Chair), Gerhard Binder (GER), Sergey Grodzensky (RUS), Leonardo Madonia (ITA), Ralph Marconi (CAN), George Pyrich (SCO), Gian-Maria Tani (ITA), Leo Lahdenmäki (FIN), Per Söderberg (SWE), Marco Caressa (ITA), Andrew Dearnley (ENG).

Rating Rules Commission

Gerhard Binder (GER), (Chair), George Pyrich (SCO), Jo Wharrier (ENG), Ragnar Wikman (FIN), Valery Myakutin (RUS), Mariusz Wojnar (POL)

Note: The ICCF President and the General Secretary are ex-officio Members of the above Commissions

Marketing Committee

(To be determined once a Marketing Director is selected)

Arbiters Committee (ACO)

Dmitry Lybin (BLR) (Chair), Alan P. Borwell (SCO), George Pyrich (SCO), Frank Geider (FRA), Per Söderberg (SWE), Neil Limbert (ENG), Marco Caressa (ITA), Andrew Dearnley (ENG).

Historical Research Committee (HRC)

Iván Bottlik (HUN), (Chair), Tim Harding (IRL), Eric Ruch (FRA), Sergey Grodzensky (RUS), Ken MacDonald (CAN)

Services Committee (SC)

Andrew Dearnley (ENG), Eric Ruch (FRA), Frank Geider (FRA), Gerhard Binder (GER), Gino Figlio (PER), Iain Mackintosh (SCO), Ian M. Pheby (ENG), J. Franklin Campbell (USA), Dr. Jason Bokar (USA), Jean-Christophe Chazalotte (FRA), Karlheinz Weber (GER), Marco Caressa (ITA), Mariusz Wojnar (POL), Markus Hömske (FRA), Michal Volf (CZE), Neil Limbert (ENG), Per Söderberg (SWE), Peter Maylott (AUS), Rudi Hirr (GER), W.A. Oudheusden (NED).

Appeals Committee (Playing Rules)

Ragnar Wikman (FIN) (Chair), Leo Lahdenmäki (FIN) (Secretary), José Amorim Neto (BRA), Ian Brooks (ENG), Marco Caressa (ITA), Carlos Flores Gutiérrez (ESP), Cecilio Hernández Fernández (ESP), Ralph Marconi (CAN), Wes Underwood (USA)

Appeals Committee (Other ICCF Rules)

Alan Rawlings (ENG), (Chair), Artis Gaujens (LAT), Pablo Salcedo Mederos (CUB).

Arbitration Committee

Richard V.M. Hall (ENG) (Chair), Alan P. Borwell (SCO), Ragnar Wikman (FIN), Georg Walker (SUI), Fritz Baumbach (GER)

Disciplinary Committee

Frank Geider (FRA) (Chair), Marco Caressa (ITA), Juan Alberto Martello (ARG), Andrey Nikolaevich Pavlikov (RUS), Leonard (Corky) Schakel (USA), Ian E. Smuts (RSA)

Internal Bylaws Working Group

Eric Ruch (FRA) (Chair), Jean-Christophe Chazalotte (FRA) (Vice-Chair).

World Championship Working Group

(as discussed in the Tournament Rules Commission)

Gerhard Binder (GER) – Chair

Dr. Uwe Staroske (GER)

Willem Oudheusden (NED)

Josef Mrkvička (CZE)

Eric Ruch (FRA)

Chess 960 Ratings Working Group

(work to be done in the Ratings Commission)

Gerhard Binder (GER) – Chair

Mariusz Wojnar (POL)

Austin Lockwood (WLS) (Technical questions only)

Martin Bennedik (Technical questions only)

Future Meetings

2013 Congress Proposals

One Proposal was received from the Member Federation of Poland to host the 2013 ICCF Congress. Poland has hosted an ICCF Congress three times previously: Warszawa in 1973, Poznań in 1983, and Gdańsk in 1993. This proposal is to host the Congress in the city of Kraków – the second largest city in Poland.

Kraków (eng. Cracow) lies in the southern part of Poland, on the Vistula River (Polish pronounciation: Wisła), in a valley at the foot of the Carpathian Mountains, 219 m (719 ft) above sea level; half way between the Jurassic Rock Upland (Polish: Jura Krakowsko-Częstochowska) to the north, and the Tatra Mountains 100 km (62 mi) to the south, constituting the natural border with Slovakia and the Czech Republic; 230 km west from the border with Ukraine.

Kraków is the second largest and one of the oldest cities in Poland dating back to the 7th century. Kraków has traditionally been one of the leading centres of Polish academic, cultural, and artistic life and is one of Poland's most important economic hubs. It was the capital of Poland from 1038 to 1569; the Polish-Lithuanian Commonwealth from 1569 to 1596; the Grand Duchy of Kraków from 1846 to 1918; and Kraków Voivodeship from the 14th century to 1999. It is now the capital of the Lesser Poland Voivodeship.

Kraków's historic centre, which includes the Old Town, Kazimierz, and the Wawel Castle, was included as the first of its kind on the list of UNESCO World Heritage Sites in 1978. The Old Town (Polish: Stare Miasto) is the most prominent example of an old town in the country. For many centuries, Kraków was the royal capital of Poland, until Sigismund III Vasa relocated the court to Warsaw in 1596. The whole district is bisected by the Royal Road, the coronation route traversed by the Kings of Poland. The Route begins at St. Florian's Church outside the northern flank of the old city-walls in the medieval suburb of Kleparz; passes the Barbican of Kraków (Barbakan) built in 1499, and enters Stare Miasto through the Florian Gate. It leads down Floriańska Street through the Main Square, and up Grodzka to Wawel, the former seat of Polish royalty, overlooking the Vistula River. Old Town attracts visitors from all over the World. Kraków historic centre is one of the 13 places in Poland that are included in the UNESCO World Heritage Sites. The architectural design of the Old Town had survived all cataclysms of the past and retained its original form coming from the medieval times. The Old Town district of Kraków is home to about six thousand historic sites and more than two million works of art. Its rich variety of historic architecture includes Gothic, Renaissance, and Baroque buildings. Kraków's palaces, churches, theatres, and mansions display great variety of colour, architectural details, stained glass, paintings, sculptures, and furnishings.

Location

The proposed location is the Park Inn by Radisson. The Park Inn by Radisson Krakow Hotel is nestled in the heart of the city centre, within walking distance of famous attractions like the historic Wawel Castle and the Jewish district of Kazimierz. Underground parking is provided for 72 cars. A tram and bus stop is located across from the hotel.

<http://www.parkinn.com/hotel-krakow>

Travelling

John Paul II International Airport Kraków-Balice is located 13 kilometres from the hotel. Park Inn Hotel is situated near well-constructed communication routes (Rondo Grunwaldzkie); urban transport allows fast and easy access to PKP railway station and PKS bus station. Main train station offering hourly service between nearby cities is located 3km from the hotel.

===

Distance between Cracow and some European cities (if you want to measure distance from Cracow to your city we recommend using this calculator: <http://www.distancefromto.net>)

- Warsaw, Poland - 293km, 4h
- Katowice, Poland – 79,2km, 59m
- Wrocław, Poland- 270km, 2h 50m
- Gdansk, Poland- 606km, 8h 30m
- Bratislava, Slovakia - 460km, 5h
- Prague, Czech Rep - 539km, 5h 30m
- Berlin, Germany - 597km, 6h
- Minsk, Belarus - 771km, 10h30m
- Vilnius, Lithuania - 754km, 12h
- Kiev, Ukraine - 863km, 12h10m

Transportation from/to the airports (Kraków-Balice) or railway station is optional and can be provided on request.

Proposed Timeframe

20.07.2013 – 27.07.2013

Tentative Agenda

20.07. (Sat): Arrival; EB/MC Meeting

21.07. (Sun): Opening Ceremony; Congress; Committee Meetings; Opening Banquet

22.07. (Mon): Congress; Chess event

23.07. (Tue): Congress; Chess event

24.07. (Wed): Congress; ICCF Blitz Tournament

25.07. (Thu): Full day excursion

26.07. (Fri): Full day excursion (optional) or free time; Closing Banquet

27.07. (Sat) (morning): Departure

Hotel Accommodations and Costs

Guest room (high standard)

- Single (1 person) - 75EUR/day (breakfast included)
- Double (2 persons) - 105EUR/day (breakfast included)

Key features: bathroom, satellite TV, free high-speed internet access.

Complimentary access to fitness centre and sauna.

Possible ladies/ partners program (short excursions in the vicinity).

There is a possibility of organizing extreme sports and optional excursions on request (not included).

Excursions

The Wieliczka Salt Mine (Polish: Kopalnia soli Wieliczka), located in the town of Wieliczka in southern Poland, lies within the Kraków metropolitan area. The mine, built in the 13th century, produced table salt continuously until 2007, as one of the world's oldest salt mines still in operation. From its beginning and throughout its existence, the Royal mine was run by the Żupy krakowskie Salt Mines, believed to be the world's 14th-oldest company. Commercial mining was discontinued in 1996 due to low salt prices and mine flooding. The mine's attractions include dozens of statues and an entire chapel that has been carved out of the rock salt by the miners. The oldest sculptures are augmented by the new carvings by actual artists. About 1.2 million people visit the Wieliczka Salt Mine annually. The Wieliczka mine is often referred to as "the Underground Salt Cathedral of Poland." In 1978, it was placed on the original UNESCO list of the World Heritage Sites. Even the crystals of the chandeliers are made from rock salt that has been dissolved and reconstituted to achieve a clear, glass-like appearance. It also houses a private rehabilitation and wellness complex.

Proposal 36 - Proposal to accept the offer from the Polish Federation to host the 2013 Congress:

For	(37)
Against	(0)
ABS	(0)

2014 Congress Proposal

The Member Federation of Australia has offered to host the 2014 ICCF Congress in Sydney, Australia. Because of the heavy tourist season and difficulties in booking rooms, the Member Federation wishes to receive a commitment from ICCF during the 2012 Congress in South Africa.

Proposal 37 - Proposal to accept the bid of Australia to host the 2014 Congress in Sydney, Australia – as long as all details are received by the General Secretary by the end of 2012 and all details meet the requirements set forth in hosting an ICCF Congress.

For	(37)
Against	(0)
ABS	(0)

Any Other Matters

With no other matters being brought forward, ICCF President, Eric Ruch declared Congress adjourned.

Congress Minutes

The Congress Minutes will be available as soon as possible after Congress, subject to review and editing requirements. The Congress Minutes will be sent to all delegates/officials and published on the ICCF website. The review process will be in four cycles:

- ICCF President – review completed on 25.11.2012
- ICCF Officials attending Congress – deadline 15.12.2012
- ICCF Officials and Delegates – deadline 31.12.2012
- ICCF Officials and Delegates – deadline 10.01.2013

In closing the ICCF Congress 2012, the ICCF President, Eric Ruch (FRA) thanked the South African Chess Association and all those who had helped with the Congress to make this Congress most successful. The Congress venue and all arrangements had been excellent and they were accorded a standing acclamation.

The ICCF President then thanked all ICCF officials for their reports for the Congress and for their tremendous work on behalf of ICCF throughout the past year. He had greatly appreciated the way in which everyone had participated so well in the demanding work of the Congress throughout the week and thanked delegates for the quality of their contributions and friendly presentations.

In declaring the Congress closed, the ICCF President expressed hope that all would meet again in 2013 Congress in Poland.

/s/
Eric Ruch
ICCF President

/s/
Michael Millstone
ICCF General Secretary

Appendix A: Membership Application from Panama



THE INTERNATIONAL CORRESPONDENCE CHESS FEDERATION

MEMBERSHIP ENQUIRY/APPLICATION

We are interested in considering possible membership of ICCF on behalf of the Correspondence Chess players in our country.

COUNTRY:

PANAMA

IS THE COUNTRY MEMBER OF FIDE?:

YES

NAME OF ORGANISATION: Federación de Ajedrez de Panamá

IS THE ORGANISATION AFFILIATED TO THE OTB
FEDERATION?: YES

NAME OF MAIN CONTACT PERSON: Hermann V. Rösch
M.

E-MAIL ADDRESS: heroesch@hotmail.com

POSTAL ADDRESS: Zona Apartado 0818-00055 Panamá, República de Panamá

Tel. +507 6952-3550

NAME OF ALTERNATIVE CONTACT PERSON: José A. Carrillo
Pujol

E-MAIL ADDRESS: carrillopujol@hotmail.com

NATIONAL CHESS/OR CC WEBSITE: www.AjedrezPanama.net

APPROXIMATE NUMBER OF CORR. CHESS PLAYERS: 20

LEADING CORRESPONDENCE CHESS PLAYERS (eg Titled players in country)

790016 Sarlat, Felix (deceased) 2333,
790014 Rösch M., Hermann V. 2328,
790005 Navas, Narciso 2178,
790035 Rivera De León, Juan Alberto 2147,
790027 Caballero, Rodolfo (deceased) 2144,
790036 Rodríguez, Eliut 2126,
790037 Salguera, Alfredo 2117,
790013 De León, Javier 2072

OTHER COMMENTS OR
QUESTIONS _____

Submitted by: Hermann V. Rösch M.

Date: January 28, 2012

Please send this form duly completed by Email to:

ICCF General Secretary: Michael Millstone PJBoogie@yahoo.com
with a copy to the ICCF President: Eric Ruch at eric.ruch@hotmail.fr

Appendix B: Membership Application from Tunisia



THE INTERNATIONAL
CORRESPONDENCE
CHESS FEDERATION

MEMBERSHIP ENQUIRY/APPLICATION

We are interested in considering possible membership of ICCF on behalf of the Correspondence Chess players in our country.

COUNTRY: TUNISIA

IS THE COUNTRY MEMBER OF FIDE: Yes

NAME OF ORGANISATION: TUNISIA CHESS FEDERATION

IS THE ORGANISATION AFFILIATED TO THE OTB FEDERATION: Yes

NAME OF MAIN CONTACT PERSON: Wajdi CHOUARI

E-MAIL ADDRESS: wajdichouari@gmail.com

POSTAL ADDRESS: Rue Mokhtar El Hajri 5015- BOUHJAR - TUNISIA

Tel. 00216 22 950 830

NAME OF ALTERNATIVE CONTACT PERSON: Brahim FEKIH

E-MAIL ADDRESS: brahimhnach@yahoo.fr

NATIONAL CHESS/OR CC WEBSITE: _____

APPROXIMATE NUMBER OF CORR. CHESS PLAYERS: 24

LEADING CORRESPONDENCE CHESS PLAYERS (eg Titled players in country)

CHOUARI, MER, FEKIH, MOOTAMRI, KAABI, LABIDI

OTHER COMMENTS OR QUESTIONS _____

Submitted by Wajdi CHOUARI

Date: 30 January 2012

Please send this form duly completed by Email to:

ICCF General Secretary: Pedro F. Hegoburu at pfhegoburu@iccf.com
with a copy to the ICCF President: Eric Ruch at eric.ruch@iccf.com

International Correspondence Chess Federation

Appendix C: Cover Letter of Membership Application from Wales

13th December 2011

Dear members of the ICCF Executive Board,

Attached is an application for membership of ICCF on behalf of the Welsh Correspondence Chess Federation (WCCF). WCCF has not yet been formally established, however a draft constitution has been written and interested parties have been contacted; the primary aim of WCCF will be to support Welsh correspondence chess players in international play within ICCF, and so its formation is pending the success of this application.

Although the United Kingdom is a sovereign state, there is a long and proud tradition of the constituent countries of the UK having a distinct identity in international sporting organisations. This is true of OTB chess, where England, Scotland and Wales are all represented by distinct FIDE federations (the situation in Northern Ireland is more complicated, but beyond the scope of this discussion). In correspondence chess, England and Scotland are both represented in ICCF, however Welsh correspondence players are at a singular disadvantage when compared with their British compatriots.

There has been a previous attempt to form an ICCF correspondence chess federation for Wales, and indeed Welsh players have represented their country in the past in ICCF Olympiads, however Wales is a small country, with only a handful of active correspondence chess players and it is potentially difficult to generate the necessary momentum for these few players to keep an active federation going.

This, however, does not mean that correspondence chess is dead in Wales, far from it!, there are currently eight active Welsh players on the ICCF rating list, and many more playing under other British and international correspondence chess organisations.

The advent of email and webserver play, both in ICCF and other correspondence chess organisations, has made the world smaller; it's now as easy for players to join international correspondence chess tournaments as it is for them to join national events, and so the efficiency of forming a federation of players exclusively from a small country like Wales must be questioned, as the opportunities for running national events for a very small number of players with widely different playing strengths is minimal.

There are, however, in the UK, a number of correspondence chess organisations with both British and International scope; many of these organisations are already member organisations of the English federation, BFCC, however they also have a number of Welsh players who, unlike their English and Scottish co-players, are not represented in ICCF.

This proposal, therefore, is not to form a potentially unworkable federation from a very limited group of Welsh players, but to form a federation of British and international correspondence chess organisations representing Welsh players amongst their other members and on their behalf. It is, of course, hoped that the officers of this federation will be Welsh, and only Welsh players will represent Wales in international events.

We respectfully request that this proposal is considered by the ICCF Executive Board for Congress, 2012.

Austin Lockwood (ENG), Neil Limbert (ENG), David Vaughan (WLS)

International Correspondence Chess Federation

Appendix D: Membership Application from Wales



THE INTERNATIONAL
CORRESPONDENCE
CHESS FEDERATION

MEMBERSHIP ENQUIRY/APPLICATION

We are interested in considering possible membership of ICCF on behalf of the Correspondence Chess players in our country.

COUNTRY: **Wales**

IS THE COUNTRY MEMBER OF FIDE: **Yes**

NAME OF ORGANISATION: **Welsh Correspondence Chess Federation (WCCF)**

IS THE ORGANISATION AFFILIATED TO THE OTB FEDERATION: **No**

NAME OF MAIN CONTACT PERSON: **Austin Lockwood (ENG)**

E-MAIL ADDRESS: **austin@schemingmind.com**

POSTAL ADDRESS: **16 Allesley Close, Westhoughton,**

Bolton, United Kingdom, BL5 3DW Tel. +44 7767 237561

NAME OF ALTERNATIVE CONTACT PERSON: **Neil Limbert (ENG), David Vaughan (WLS)**

E-MAIL ADDRESS: **neil.limbert@tiscali.co.uk, davidam51@yahoo.co.uk**

NATIONAL CHESS/OTB WEBSITE: **<http://www.welshccf.org.uk/>**

APPROXIMATE NUMBER OF CORR. CHESS PLAYERS: **8 Currently active on ICCF rating list, 15-20 currently active in organisations potentially affiliated to WCCF**

LEADING CORRESPONDENCE CHESS PLAYERS (eg Titled players in country)

No currently active titled correspondence chess players.

OTHER COMMENTS OR QUESTIONS **Draft constitution attached, yet to be ratified**

Submitted by **Austin Lockwood**

Date: **13th December 2011**

Please send this form duly completed by Email to:

ICCF General Secretary: Michael Millstone PJBoogie@yahoo.com
with a copy to the ICCF President: Eric Ruch at eric.ruch@hotmail.fr

International Correspondence Chess Federation

Appendix E: Summary of Postal Entries

	2009			2010			2011		
	NF	DE	Total	NF	DE	Total	NF	DE	Total
World Individual Final			0	1		1			0
World Individual Cand.			0			0			0
World Individual SF.			0	13		13			0
World Individual Prelim.			0			0			0
World Individual - Master	57		57	45		45	29		29
World Individual - Higher	28		28	13		13	18		18
World Individual - Open	58		58	36		36	36		36
World Cup			0			0	99		99
Thematic Tourneys	46		46	50		50	43		43
Master Norm Tourneys	13		13	14		14			0
	202	0	202	172	0	172	225	0	225

International Correspondence Chess Federation

Appendix F: Summary of Server Entries

	2009			2010			2011		
	NF	DE	Total	NF	DE	Total	NF	DE	Total
World Individual Final	17	0	17	33	0	33	28	0	28
World Individual Cand.	49	3	52	119	4	123	78	0	78
World Individual SF.	90	1	91	154	2	156	201	5	206
World Individual Prelim.	135	8	143	149	7	156	201	10	211
World Individual - Master	576	63	639	504	80	584	514	132	646
World Individual - Higher	227	157	384	228	96	324	240	110	350
World Individual - Open	272	282	554	275	303	578	275	327	602
World Cup	608	94	702	0	0	0	621	227	848
Thematic Tourneys	106	15	121	131	51	182	139	40	179
Master Norm Tourneys	149	20	169	136	19	155	150	34	184
GM Norm Tourn.	57	8	65	51	8	59	65	25	90
Veterans Cup	244	29	273	319	44	363	347	56	403
Junior World Cup	26	7	33	0	0	0	0	0	0
Webserver Open	0	0	0	448	129	577	0	0	0
DE 5th Anniversary							0	360	360
Chess 960							80	23	103
	2,556	687	3,243	2,547	743	3,290	2,939	1,349	4,288

Appendix G: Balance Sheet

Balance Sheet as at 31st December 2011					
	2011 - Euros			2010 - Euros	
	Net Assets	Capital		Net Assets	Capital
Capital					
Accumulated Fund		255,779.31			220,375.59
Appreciation of Investments		1,038.65			2,163.78
Profit & Loss		8,909.19			33,245.94
Sub-Total - Capital		265,727.15			255,785.31
Intangible Assets					
Webserver in Service 2004	81,917.05			81,917.05	
Webserver in Service 2005	19,415.03			19,415.03	
Webserver in Service 2006	12,189.19			12,189.19	
Webserver in Service 2007	5,071.68			5,071.68	
Webserver in Service 2008	4,667.86			4,667.86	
Webserver in Service 2009	4,632.37			4,632.37	
Webserver in Service 2010	8,332.50			8,332.50	
Webserver in Service 2011	21,353.75			0.00	
Amortisation Webserver	-132,710.41			-123,898.78	
Sub-Total - Net Intangible Assets	24,869.02			12,326.90	
Investments					
Portfolio at Credit Lyonnais	17,262.48			16,223.83	
Sub-Total - Investments	17,262.48			16,223.83	
Stocks					
Medals	1,506.27			1,511.50	
Prizes	3,498.58			3,493.35	
Sub-Total - Stocks	5,004.85			5,004.85	
Receivables					
Member Federations	58,878.02			59,599.67	
ICCF Zones					
Officials	0.00			0.00	
Allowance for Bad Debts	0.00			0.00	
Sub-Total - Receivables	58,878.02			59,599.67	
Liabilities					
Suppliers	-2,019.31			-328.06	
Officials	-379.36			-433.60	
Tournament Directors	-617.60			-736.28	
Players	0.00			0.00	
Prizes Deferred	-16,949.78			0.00	
Prizes - MPT	0.00			-3,603.70	
Sub-Total - Liabilities	-19,966.05			-5,101.64	
Sub-Total - Net Current Assets	38,911.97			59,502.88	
Deferred Revenues	0.00				771.71
Bank Accounts					
Credit Lyonnais - Current	3,737.85			15,343.86	
Credit Lyonnais - Savings	160,256.16			130,767.25	
DE PayPal FRA	902.70			4,242.44	
RBS Perth Scotland	14,782.12			18,149.86	
Sub-Total - Bank Accounts	179,678.83			168,503.41	
TOTAL	265,727.15	265,727.15		256,557.02	256,557.02

Appendix H: Profit and Loss Income

		<u>2011 - Euros</u>	<u>2010 - Euros</u>
Membership		5,137.50	5,512.50
World individual candidates		735.00	1,347.75
World individual semifinal		4,216.01	5,900.51
World individual preliminary		6,481.54	5,707.63
Ladies World individual semifinal		547.64	0.00
World individual 7 player		5,981.60	7,141.87
World individual 11 player		6,737.62	6,592.48
Olympiads		1,632.00	0.00
Ladies Olympiad		884.00	0.00
Thematic		2,616.49	2,381.27
Master Norm		5,163.64	5,502.71
Grand Master Norm		2,824.06	2,780.75
Champions League		0.00	0.00
World Cup		12,672.68	0.00
Junior World Cup		18.01	0.00
Veterans World Cup		5,139.53	5,694.04
4th Webserver Open		0.00	4,430.46
DE 5th Anniversary Open		2,707.49	777.71
Jubilee 960 Open		975.25	0.00
Money Prize Tournaments		0.00	3,513.34
DE Fees Refunded & Other Adj.		0.00	-112.46
Invitation Tmts Cat. I-III		321.00	274.50
Invitation Tmts Cat. IV-VI		1,458.00	2,370.00
Invitation Tmts Cat. VII-XIII		4,753.00	6,892.50
Invitation Tmts Cat. XIV+		440.00	720.00
Invitation Team Tmts.		0.00	456.00
International Open Tmts		472.50	1,392.00
National Federation Server Games		9,264.60	8,140.50
Other Income		0.00	0.00
Creditors Written Off		0.00	228.98
Bank Interest		2,488.91	768.75
Interest for Late Payment		194.33	0.00
From Previous Years		292.69	0.00
		84,155.09	78,413.79

Appendix I: Profit and Loss Expenditure

	<u>2011 - Euros</u>	<u>2010- Euros</u>
Congress - Payment to Organisers	2,500.00	1,500.00
Congress - Banquet	3,609.70	1,710.00
Congress - Other Expenditure	1,878.72	949.06
Other Meetings	912.12	2,731.14
Officials	264.18	872.24
Congress Allowances	12,177.84	9,013.02
World Tourn. Office	696.35	1,257.30
Thematic Tourn. Office	95.20	82.15
DE Rebates to NF's	4,928.67	3,601.45
Fees - Redesign of WS & iccf.com	3,855.90	0.00
Fees - Translation of ICCF Statutes	613.74	0.00
Rating Costs	293.60	298.17
Prizes (MPT's)	307.38	2,832.77
Prizes (Other Events)	3,505.00	0.00
Prizes (Provision for current events)	16,949.78	0.00
Trophies, Medals & Books	1,947.76	1,801.06
ICCF Webserver	11,038.81	7,614.63
Other expenditure	110.67	0.00
Exchange Differences	-561.50	1,149.98
Debt Written Off	392.16	0.00
Bank Charges	918.19	1,070.67
Depreciation	8,811.63	7,315.52
Allowance for Bad Debts	0.00	182.80
	75,245.90	43,981.96
Surplus/Deficit	8,909.19	34,431.83
	84,155.09	78,413.79

Appendix J: Direct Entry Details

	2006*	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012**
DE Applications	389	728	822	1038	1069	1368	602
Average Applications per day	1.44	1.99	2.25	2.84	2.93	3.75	3.96

World Championships							
WCCC - Preliminaries	3	6	23	10	3	10	33
WCCC - Semifinals	1	2	5	2	1	5	7
WCCC - Candidates	1	6	11	6	1	0	0
LWCCC - Semifinals						1	0
World Cups							
World Cups	46	NR	NR	95	NR	224	0
Veterans World Cups	NR	NR	NR	28	46	56	31
Junior World Cup	NR	NR	6	NR	NR	1	1
European Championships							
EIC - Semifinals	NR	NR	NR	NR	NR	NR	5
Norm Tournaments							
Grandmaster Norm	4	6	8	9	19	30	5
Master Norm	9	16	22	18	25	39	22
Champions League							
Champions League	NR	103	NR	166	NR	0	0
Promotion Tournaments							
Open Class	174	324	313	292	338	302	127
Higher Class	39	56	88	153	93	116	64
Master Class	41	66	63	63	89	137	66
Thematics							
Thematics	10	30	14	22	47	73	18
Jubilee Tournaments							
NR	NR	NR	NR	NR	NR	23	0
Direct Entry Events							
DE5A	NR	NR	NR	NR	139	350	0
Money Prize Tournaments							
Money Prize Tournaments	NR	113	169	131	102	NR	NR
Fast Money Prize	NR	NR	NR	25	34	NR	NR
Rapid Tournaments							
Rapid Tournaments	NR	NR	4	10	NR	NR	NR
Blitz Tournaments							
Blitz Tournaments	NR	NR	7	8	NR	NR	NR
Open Tournaments							
Webchess Open	61	NR	89	NR	132	0	216
Chess 960	NR	NR	NR	NR	NR	1	7

* From 05/04/2006 to 31/12/2006

** From 01/01/2012 to 31/05/2012

Appendix K: Title Tournament Updates

World Championships

WCCC Finals

The Final of the 23rd WCCC ended on 31/12/2011. The winner (Ulrich Stephan -GER-) was already known.

The Final of the 24th WCCC ended on 23/06/2012. The winner (Marjan Šemrl -SLO-) was already known.

There are still 4 running games in the Final of the 25th WCCC, with 3 players who have the possibility to win the world title.

Ron A.H. Langeveld (NED) is the winner of the 26th WCCC, in which there are still 4 running games.

Finally, there are 31 running games in the Final of the 27th WCCC.

WCCC Candidates' Tournaments

There are no more running games in the Sections of the 29th WCCC (and previous).

The Sections of the 30th and the 31st WCCC (started in 2010 and 2011) are going on regularly.

The 2012 Sections (32nd WCCC) were started on 20/09/2012 (3 Sections with 48 players).

WCCC Semi-Finals

There are no more running games in the Sections of the 33rd WCCC (and previous).

The Sections of the 34th and the 35th WCCC (started in 2010 and 2011) are going on regularly.

The 2012 Sections (36th WCCC) were started on 10/06/2012 (11 Sections with 143 players).

WCCC Preliminaries

There are no more running games in the Sections of the 33rd WCCC (and previous).

There is just one running game in the Sections of the 34th WCCC (started in 2010).

The Sections of the 35th WCCC (started in 2011) are going on regularly.

The 2012 Sections (36th WCCC) were started on 10/03/2012 (15 Sections with 225 players).

Ladies' World Championships

LWCCC Finals

There are still 31 running games in the Final of the 9th LWCCC.

LWCCC Semi-Finals

There are still 4 running games in the Semi-Final 4 of the 10th LWCCC.

The other Semi-Finals of the 10th LWCCC have already ended.

Olympiads

CC Olympiads Finals

The Final of the 16th Olympiad (postal) is still ongoing. There are still 88 running games.

The Final of the 17th Olympiad ended on 12/08/2012. The winner was Germany, the runner-up was Spain and Italy got the third place.

The Final of the 18th Olympiad will start on 10/12/2012 with 13 teams on the ICCF webserver. The announcement has already been sent to the National Federations.

CC Olympiads Preliminaries

The Semi-Finals of the 18th Olympiad (webserver) are finished.

The Semi-Finals of the 19th Olympiad (postal) are still ongoing.

The Semi-Finals of the 20th Olympiad (webserver) will start on 10/12/2012. The announcement has already been sent to the National Federations.

Ladies' Olympiads

The Final of the 9th LCC Olympiad started on 10/10/2011 with 13 teams.

Grand Master Norm Tournaments

7 GMN sections were started in 2011.

Only 3 GMN Sections have been started in the first 10 months of 2012.

All sections are played on ICCF webserver. Unfortunately the waiting time is very high.

Master Norm Tournaments

MN Tournaments by post

The last postal MN Section was started on 10/12/2009.

Now there are only 8 players in the waiting-list (someone from the beginning of 2010!) and I don't know when (and if...) I'll have 13 entries.

I propose to dismiss MN tournaments by post.

MN Tournaments by webserver

13 MN sections were started in 2011.

12 MN Sections have been started in the first 10 months of 2012. The waiting time is quite low.

Next Norm Tournaments to be Started

WCCC Final

The Final of the 28th WCCC is planned to start on June 2013.

WCCC Candidates' Tournaments

The Candidates' Tournaments of the 33rd WCCC are planned to start on September 2013.

WCCC Semi_Finals

The Semi-Finals of the 37th WCCC are planned to start on June 2013.

8.4 WCCC Preliminaries

The Preliminaries of the 37th WCCC are planned to start on March 2013.

8.5 Ladies' World Championships

The Final of the 10th LWCCC was planned for the second quarter of 2013, but there are too many running games in the Final of the 9th LWCCC and in Semi-Final 4 of the 10th LWCCC.

Therefore, it is very unlikely that the qualified players will be known in a few months. I propose to postpone the start of the Final to autumn 2013.

The Semifinals of the 11th LWCCC were planned for the second quarter of 2013, too. I suggest starting them together with the Final of the 10th LWCCC, i.e. in autumn 2013.

Olympiads

The Final of the 18th C.C. Olympiad will start on 10/12/2012 (see 4.1).

The Semifinals of the 20th C.C. Olympiad will start on 10/12/2012 (see 4.2).

The Semifinals of the 21st Olympiad, played by post, are planned to start on the third quarter of 2013, unless the Congress decides otherwise.

Ladies' Olympiads

There is nothing planned for 2013.

Appendix L: Webserver Phase 9 Development Plan

Completed Work Items

Special Leave

Feature	Hours (estimate)	Priority	Project leader	Status
SLO officer has to be able to enter a special leave request on behalf of a player	2	1	Michael	Deployed
Make special leave list sortable	1	1	Michael	Deployed
Add special leave tab to player details (with a summary of how many days the player has taken during the current year)	2	1	Michael	Deployed
Total priority 1:	5			

Suspensions

Feature	Hours (estimate)	Priority	Project leader	Status
Give read-only access for TOs to suspension list and suspensions in the player details Also give read-only access for the QC	1	1	Frank	Deployed
Add check of suspension list when player is added to a tournament (warning only) Feature was already present	2	1	Frank	

Ratings

Feature	Hours (estimate)	Priority	Project leader	Status
Import the remaining historical rating lists		3 Changed to 1 for norms feature	Gerhard	Deployed
Changed rating-rule, calculate dw based on current rating.	Specification pending (e.g. substitutions)	1 (pending congress decision), September	Gerhard	Deployed

Title Tournaments and Norms

Feature	Hours (estimate)	Priority	Project leader	Status
Lists of norms achieved (also show norms achieved on cross tables, show norms achieved on personal details)	18	1	Neil	Deployed
Norms calculation in double round robin tournament	2.5 hours	1	Neil, Marco	Deployed
With the new requirement, that TDs no longer have to report the norms, it would be good to not only have the server send an email notification, but also store the norms on the server, in case the email gets lost (e.g. email server is down). This is covered by the feature "List of norms achieved". The priority of that feature is increased to 1.	TBD	4	Neil	
Principle of overscore included in rules now, email notifications should also include this Email notification cannot contain this information, because the email is sent as soon as the minimum score for a norm is achieved.	TBD	4	Neil	
The TO should receive the norm notification in addition to the other recipients	TBD	1	Neil	Deployed

Tournament Automation:

<p>Player signup issues to be discussed:</p> <p>Germany would prefer the email notifications to go to the tournament director, instead the ND.</p> <p>Wales is not a member, but would like the notifications to go to the England instead of the ZD.</p> <p>Players are still rejected because they are not a member of the NF, instead of offering them to become a member.</p>	Don't implement, countries can create rules in their email software	-		
<p>Still issues with player signup, players are neither rejected nor confirmed</p> <p>⇒ Separate specification "Improvements to player signup"</p>	TBD	TBD		Deployed
<p>Suspend players who have not paid the membership fee to their NF: Via suspension list, or via a separate flag. These players should not be able to enter a tournament via DE.</p> <p>Should be clarified and implemented by 1 January 2012</p> <p>Players should receive a message when trying to apply for a tournament which they are not allowed because they are not a member of their federation. Instead of registering for the event, they can see a link to a corresponding page on their federation's website (e.g. payment page).</p>	TBD	1	Gerhard?	Deployed

Marketing Tasks

<p>Gerhard: Birthday message?</p> <p>Messages to inactive players?</p> <p>Replaced by mailing feature below</p>		2 1		
<p>1) Sort the player database according to various criteria</p> <p>a) age: older than & younger than</p> <p>b) country</p> <p>c) Elo: lower than & higher than</p> <p>d) active & inactive</p> <p>e) men & lady</p> <p>f) played in previous tournament (eg a list of</p>	Estimate TBD	1	Alan Eric	Deployed

<p>player of Webchess Open 4 when we will start Webchess Open 5,...)</p> <p>If possible a combination (or successive) of criterias.</p> <p>2) The list should be used to send email with a text (or file attached)</p> <p>3) The list should be exportable (eg in excel format) for additional work.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Who can access the feature? The TOs should have accesse to it. • Does a WTD or maybe a marketing director need to approve the mailing before it is sent? This should be approved by the Marketing Director • Do we need an option for users to opt out of such mailings? Yes some kind of "unscription" feature should be set in the email sent to the players. 				
Improved design (pages visible to players)		1	Eric Technical: Austin	Deployed
Game screen, game list, take leave, cross table, log in, menu, front page, personal settings, new events list, player signup, event registration (same screens to be globalised)				
RSS feeds for started and finished events	5 hours	1		Deployed
Discuss with homepage redesign and unification				
Bug: Cross tables: Recent results are not displayed in red, when link was already visited.	CSS issue 2 hours	1	Reported by Ron Langeveld	Fixed with updated design
Add captcha / security question to the "Forgot password" screen, to prevent email bombs	2	1		Deployed
Unification of server with web site (See separate proposal)	2.5 days	Proposed 1	Eric, Austin	

Other Features

<u>Baumbach-Tiebreaking rule</u> Default for all tournaments with start date 1 January 2012 and later Replace (or add?) SB with tiebreak based on number of wins	4	1	?	Deployed
<u>Chess 960 support</u>				Deployed
<u>Support Xfcc</u>			Austin	
Improvements to TD List: Checkbox: Only IAs Sortable Hide dead TDs (Access to NDs from Administration menu) Same changes when selecting a TD/TO when creating/editing an event (IA checkbox only when selecting TD) Improvements to Role/TO List: Bug: drop-down is empty, but not invisible in case of TO-list	2 hours	1	Frank	Deployed
Automated notification messages when substituting or replacing (start list to new player, notification to other players, and team captains)	4 hours	1	Eric	Deployed
When registering for free 2 game match, automatically check if the player has already played in 4 of them Pending registrations are not yet considered in the count	3 hours	1	Markus Hömske	Deployed
Bug: Justification is not displayed on special leave details for a denied request	0.5	1	Michael	Deployed
Bug: In the player signup / account creation we have to forbid non-Latin characters	2	1	Austin	Deployed
Adding a player to an old rating list should also add him to the following rating lists to avoid holes in the rating history. Name and country should be taken from the oldest rating list following the target list, which contains the player.	2	1	Gerhard	Deployed
Zonal director needs access to unconfirmed accounts list, and be able to confirm and reject users from all countries of his zone	3	1 (immediately)		Deployed

Mariusz: Incorrect title abbreviations still used in player lookup dialog. Gerhard: And on edit account screen				Deployed
Gerhard: Change order of rating lists in rating list drop down on the rating list screen. (descending)				Deployed
Security improvements due to weak passwords: Ensure that IPs are blocked after 3 wrong passwords for ANY user for one hour Require at least one character for passwords Mark users as “has to change password at next log-in”			Austin	Deployed
change the PGN files generated by the server, including the PGN files used for the archive. The change is as follows: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Instead of using the long event name, use the short event name (because the long event name is often truncated by PGN software, including Chessbase).• If the event is a national event, include the country code.• Bug fix: If the event name contains quotation marks, remove or escape them in the PGN tag.	2 hours	1	Ron	Deployed
Excel format export for DE report	2-4 hours	1	Ian P.	Deployed
Corrections to event entry rejection notification message	1	1	Ian P.	Deployed
Bug: When uploading a sponsor banner, the file extension check does not ignore case		1		Deployed
Handle chess 960 games separately in the games archive	3 hours	1	Ron, Laurent	Deployed
Martin: Show a warning when creating/editing an event and setting the number of games in a viewing rule higher than the total number of games in an event. <ul style="list-style-type: none">• There should be an error message to the TO, when trying to start an event with an incorrect number in the viewing rule settings. The number of games in the event can be calculated based on the selected pairing rule and size. If the number of finished games in any of the viewing rules	4	1	Ron	Deployed

<p>exceeds the number of games in the event, there should be an error message.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • This should avoid the problem in the future, but doesn't handle the thousands of existing cases. • In any case, we can assume that if the event is finished, that the viewing rules "live" and "finished" are always fulfilled, and the complete games should be available under the viewing rule - even if the number of finished games was set too high. I think it is fair to assume that if the TO wanted the games to stay secret, that he used the "secret" viewing rule, and did not set a too high number of games on purpose. • This should solve the issue with the availability of these games, including the archive. There will still be an incorrect number of games displayed in the tournament rules below the cross table. 				
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Better Device Support

Feature	Hours (estimate)	Priority	Project leader	Status
<p>From Jean-Christophe: More and more players do not have an email client installed, because they are using web mail solutions. For these players, the mailto-links do not work. In all places, where a mailto-link is used, we should have an email-form instead.</p> <p>Austin: No captcha required if players are already logged in</p> <p>Checkbox: Copy to myself</p> <p>Done: Game screen, withdrawal wizard</p> <p>On the cross tables:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ A team captain can email his team ○ A player, or in a team event the team captain, can email the TD 	1 day	1	Austin	Deployed

<ul style="list-style-type: none">○The TD can email all players○A player can email his team captain○The TD can email all team captains○The TD can email an individual player, or in a team event an individual team captain <ul style="list-style-type: none">• At the bottom of a system message, the message author can be mailed.				
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International Correspondence Chess Federation

Appendix M: Postal Thematic Themes for 2013

<i>Theme N°</i>	<i>Entries not later than...</i>	<i>Start date</i>
1	15.01.2013	1.02.2013
2	1.03.2013	15.03.2013
3	15.04.2013	1.05.2013
4	15.09.2013	1.10.2013
5	15.11.2013	1.12.2013

Themes:

- 1 Pirc Defence, Classical System B08 1. 5254 4746 2. 4244 7866 3. 2133 7776
4. 7163 6877 5. 6152 5878 6. 5171
- 2 Catalan Opening, E05 1. 4244 7866 2. 3234 5756 3. 7273 4745
4. 6172 4534 5. 7163 6857
- 3 Danish Gambit, C21 1. 5254 5755 2. 4244 5544 3. 3233 6846
4. 6134
- 4 Sicilian, Moscow Variation, B51-2 1. 5254 3735 2. 7163 4746 3. 6125
- 5 Chigorin Defence, D07 1. 4244 4745 2. 3234 2836

Appendix N: Webserver Thematic Themes for 2013

<i>Theme N°</i>	<i>Entries not later than...</i>	<i>Start date</i>
1	1.01.2013	15.01.2013
2	15.02.2013	1.03.2013
3	1.04.2013	15.04.2013
4	15.05.2013	1.06.2013
5	1.09.2013	15.09.2013
6	15.10.2013	1.11.2013
7	1.12.2013	15.12.2013

Themes:

1	Dutch Defence, A80-99	1. 4244 6765
2	French Defence - Rubinstein Variation C10	1. 5254 5756 2. 4244 4745 3. 2133 4554
3	Queen's Gambit Accepted, D26-9	1. 4244 4745 2. 3234 4534 3. 7163 7866 4. 5253 5756 5. 6134 3735 6. 5171
4	Benko Gambit, A58-9	1. 4244 7866 2. 3234 3735 3. 4445 2725 4. 3425 1716 5. 2516
5	Larsen Opening, A01	1. 2223
6	Nimzoindian - Rubinstein System, E53-9	1. 4244 7866 2. 3234 5756 3. 2133 6824 4. 5253 5878 5. 6143 4745 6. 7163 3735 7. 5171
7	Sicilian - Portsmouth Gambit, B30	1. 5254 3735 2. 7163 2836 3. 2224

Appendix O: Promotion Tournament Statistics

TOTAL Entries Received

2007 --> 971
2008 --> 1570
2009 --> 1568
2010 --> 1576
2011 --> 1573
2012 (until 27 October) --> 1244

M class tournaments

2007 --> 367
2008 --> 644
2009 --> 609
2010 --> 647
2011 --> 603
2012 --> 469

H class tournaments

2007 --> 233
2008 --> 346
2009 --> 394
2010 --> 325
2011 --> 366
2012 --> 283

O class tournaments

2007 --> 371
2008 --> 580
2009 --> 565
2010 --> 604
2011 --> 604
2012 --> 492

Appendix P: Bertl von Massow Medal Winners

Initiated by Hans-Werner von Massow, in memory of his wife Bertl, who was a great supporter and worker for ICCF, these awards were adopted at the ICCF Congress in Poznan, Poland, in 1983. He rightly said, "through these medals, my dear wife will be present at meetings of ICCF year by year, for all the future". They are awarded respectively for 15 years (gold) and 10 years (silver) of faithful service to ICCF, as the Delegate of a National Federation, as a Member of the ICCF Presidium, Commissions or the Zonal organisations, or as Tournament Secretary (Director) or a Team Captain of a highly placed team in the CC Olympiad or Continental (Zonal) team tournament.

Silver Medal	Gold Medal
1984	
L. Abramov (URS)	
F. Atabek (TRK)	1984
G. Balbe (FRA)	
Dr. G.S. Benner (USA)	1999
K.H. Boese (GER)	1984
F. Brglez (YUG)	1988
R. Charpentier (HUN)	
J.F. Cleeve (CAN)	1984
P. Clément (BEL)	1984
J.A. Cornu (SWZ)	1985
J. Daniyeko (POL)	
Ing. P. Diaconescu (ROU)	1984
C.G. Dieta (ARG)	1986
Prof Dr. J.S. Eventov (URS)	1984
M. Fiandor (ESP)	1985
H. Furrer (SWZ)	
R. Gillman (ENG)	1988
A. Giraudet (FRA)	1984
H. Heemsoth (GER)	1989
Dip. A. Heintze (GER)	1984
A. Henriksen (DEN)	1984
V. Houdek (CZE)	1993
Dr. R. Incelli (ITA)	1985
A. Iqbal (PAK)	1984
St. Jansson (SVE)	
S. Kania (POL)	1987
Ing. H. Kevický (CZE)	
A. Kiprof (BLG)	1984
E.J. Larsson (SVE)	1984
J.H. Ledesma Alvarez (CHI)	
J. Leguen (MRT)	1984

Dr. A. Lejarza (MEX)	
R. Lindroos (FIN)	1984
A.G. Loeffler (ARG)	1984
Dr. B. Lukas (CSR)	1984
M. Mädler (GER)	1984
H-W. von Massow (GER)	1984
P. Mastichiadis (GRE)	1984
H.J. Mostert (NLD)	1984
W.G. Muir (USA)	1984
Dr. G. Negyesi (HUN)	1984
E. Nuutilainen (FIN)	1987
J.L. Ormond (SWZ)	1984
M. Pakdaman (IRN)	
G. Porecca (ITA)	
H. Rabold (GER)	1985
Dr. J.J. Ravero (URU)	
H.R. Rittner (GER)	1984
I. Romanov (URS)	1984
W. Rosinov (URS)	1984
D. Smit (NLD)	1984
H.M. Souza (PER)	
E. Spitzenberger (AUT)	1984
W. Stilling (SWZ)	1984
U. de Oliveira Barroso (BRS)	1997
Dr. J. Vándorffy (HUN)	1984
M.Z. Villegas (BOL)	
G. Weinitschke (GER)	1993
N.R. Wikman (FIN)	1987
E. Winkler (GER)	1987
Prof. Dr. V. Zagorovsky (URS)	1984
1985	
W. Bielecki (POL)	1998
A.G. Lascurain (ARG)	1992
B. Olafsson (ISL)	
1986	
H. Åhman (SVE)	
G. Gorkiewicz (POL)	
B. Hauffe (GER)	1993
O. Jantunen (FIN)	1993
1987	
R. Berthelsen (NOR)	1993
H. Brusila (FIN)	1993
J.F. Bodis (FRA)	1992
Dr. T. Bullockus (USA)	
P.E. Ekblom (FIN)	

R. Feytens (NLD)	
N. Jungreis (ISL)	
T. Peretjatkowicz (POL)	
G.C. van Perlo (NLD)	1993
A.A. van 't Riet (NLD)	1993
1988	
G-M. Tani (ITA)	1994
H. Otte (GER)	1993
1989	
G. Perpirakis (GRE)	1997
1990	
A.F.P. Pereira (POR)	1998
1991	
A.P. Borwell (SCO)	1996
H.F. Glaser (SIP)	1996
L. Lahdenmäki (FIN)	1998
G.W.G. Livie (SCO)	1996
Ing. M. Samraoui (ALG)	1996
S. Sergiev (BUL)	
1993	
H. Prokopp (GER)	1993
S. Nordal (NOR)	
1994	
I. Bottlik (HUN)	1999
I. Eglitis (LAT)	
J.K. MacDonald (CAN)	1999
1995	
A.R. Ramírez (ARG)	
1996	
O. Halme (FIN)	2001
1998	
C-E. Erlandsson (SVE)	1998
G. Radosztics (OSR)	1998
A. Jonasson (SVE)	
E. Karelin (RUS)	2003
S-Å. Kronberg (SVE)	
M. Müller-Töpler (GER)	2003
P. Rasmussen (DEN)	1999
Prof. M.E. Zavanelli (USA)	2003
1999	
M.H. Carter (USA)	1999
M. Gluth (GER)	2004
E. Gromotka (GER)	
T.D. Harding (IRL)	2004
K-H. Podzielny (GER)	

U. Wagner (GER)	2004
2000	
Dr. F. Baumbach (GER)	2006
J. Deidun, Sr. (CAN)	
E. Kotzem (GER)	
R.P. Marconi (CAN)	2001
G. Walker (SWZ)	2006
2001	
G. Mastrojeni (ITA)	2006
2002	
C. Ros Miro (ESP)	2002
G. Paz y Barriga (PER)	2002
Y. Grodzensky (RUS)	2007
G.D. Pyrich (SCO)	2007
L. Vahesaar (EST)	2007
K. Vitols (LAT)	
Dr. H.R. Zabala (ARG)	
2003	
G. Binder (GER)	2008
J. Bohak (SLO)	2008
E. Liebert (EST)	2008
M. Manduch (SVK)	2008
P. Polakovic (SVK)	2008
A.J.C. Rawlings (ENG)	2008
M. Rotova (EST)	2008
H. B. Sarink (NED)	2007
2004	
J. Canibal (CZE)	
C. Flores Gutierrez (ESP)	2009
I. Hristov (BUL)	
T. Olafsson (ISD)	
A. Soltau (GER)	
P. Soderberg (SVE)	2006
U. Strautins (LAT)	
2005	
S. Cardoso Contreras (MEX)	2005
J.E. Déforel (ARG)	2005
J. Walther (GER)	2005
E. Bosenberg (GER)	
G. Bresadola (ITA)	2010
J.D. Finkelstein (ARG)	
T. Klauner (LUX)	2010
D. Lybin (BLR)	2010
F. Riva (LUX)	2010
2006	

K.Glaser (CZE)	2011
P. F. Hegoburu (ARG)	
Z. Nyvlt (CZE)	2011
2007	
Sultan M Al-Kuwari (QAT)	
D. Biella-Bianchi (PER)	
I. Brooks (ENG)	2012
M. Caressa (ITA)	2012
D. Chambers (ENG)	2012
R-A. Fay (USA)	
F. Geider (FRA)	2012
G. van den Haak (NED)	
A.J. Macchia (URU)	
S. Peschardt (DEN)	2012
J. Wharrier (ENG)	2012
2008	
G. Sapundjiev (BUL)	2008
L.Madonia (ITA)	
M. Rocius (LIT)	
J-P Dondelinger (BEL)	
G. Bendana (NCA)	
H.Onoda (JAP)	
2009	
F. J. Campbell (USA)	
Y. Dothan (ISR)	
A. Gaujens (LAT)	
J. Mrkvicka (CZE)	
T. Runting (AUS)	
G.F. Toro Solis (CHI)	
2010	
Everdinand Knol (RSA)	
Nikolay Poleshchuk (RUS)	
2011	
Valer Eugen Demian (CAN)	
Attila Kiss (HUN)	
Laurent Tinture (FRA)	
2012	
Gino Figlio (PER)	
Hans-Jürgen Isigkeit (GER)	

Appendix Q: Statuts de L'International Correspondence Chess Federation

Section 1 : statut, principes et objet de l'association

Article 1

L'*International Correspondence Chess Federation* (ICCF) est l'organisation mondiale des échecs par correspondance. Elle est indépendante et sans durée limitée. Sa fusion avec une autre organisation et sa dissolution requièrent l'approbation unanime des membres présents ou représentés de l'assemblée générale, dénommée Congrès.

Article 2

L'*International Correspondence Chess Federation* (ICCF) est dépourvue de but lucratif et organise une activité sportive purement récréative. Pour cette raison, l'ICCF est membre affiliée de la Fédération Internationale des Echecs (FIDÉ), elle-même membre de l'ARISF (*Association of IOC Recognised International Sports Federations*) regroupant les fédérations sportives internationales reconnues par le Comité International Olympique. Les dirigeants et personnalités concourant à l'activité de l'ICCF sont bénévoles.

Article 3

Les échecs par correspondance se définissent comme étant toute partie d'échecs dans laquelle les adversaires ne sont pas assis l'un en face de l'autre autour de l'échiquier pour jouer les coups. Les coups sont transmis à distance par tous moyens et le temps est normalement compté en jours par coups.

Article 4

1°) Le siège de l'ICCF est fixé en Suisse, au siège de l'association membre *Die Schweizer Fernschachvereinigung* (SFSV) - Association Suisse des Echecs par Correspondance (ASEC) - *Associazione Svizzera Scacchiper Corrispondenza* (ASSC), en vertu d'une convention spéciale annexée aux présents statuts.

2°) Le Congrès est autorisé à créer des bureaux partout dans le monde, en fonctions des intérêts de l'ICCF. Les bureaux sont ouverts en respectant la loi nationale régissant les associations du pays où ils sont créés.

3°) Le Congrès autorise le conseil d'administration à ouvrir un bureau doté de la personnalité morale sur le territoire de la République française, conformément à l'article 4, 1°) des statuts de l'ICCF, ayant son siège au domicile du président de l'ICCF.

Article 5

L'année financière de l'ICCF débute au 1er janvier et se termine au 31 décembre de chaque année. Les comptes sont présentés en Euros, de même que toutes les autres informations à

caractère financier, sauf à ce qu'il apparaisse plus favorable de les fournir dans différentes devises.

Article 6

1°) Les membres de l'ICCF contribuent à la vie matérielle de celle-ci par le versement d'une cotisation dont le montant est fixé chaque année par le Congrès. Cette cotisation est assise sur une part fixée sur le nombre de joueurs appartenant à la fédération membre et sur une seconde part correspondant au nombre et à la nature des parties d'échecs jouées par les joueurs appartenant à chaque fédération membre

2°) La première part de la cotisation des membres est calculée par tranche de 100 joueurs appartenant à la fédération nationale, donnant lieu pour chaque tranche, à une contribution d'un montant fixé par le Congrès.

3°) La seconde part de la cotisation des membres correspond à une contribution assise sur un tarif pour chaque tournoi organisé par l'ICCF multiplié par le nombre de joueurs des fédérations membres ayant participé à chacun de ces tournois.

4°) L'ICCF n'impose pas que ce tarif corresponde effectivement au montant du droit de jeu que les fédérations membres exigent de leurs membres pour participer aux tournois de l'ICCF et ne pratique à ce titre aucune ingérence dans la gestion économique et financière des fédérations membres.

5°) En cas d'urgence, notamment de création de tournois avant la réunion d'un Congrès, celui-ci délègue expressément au Conseil d'Administration la faculté de fixer un ou plusieurs nouveaux tarifs, au sens de du 3°) du présent article. Ces tarifs font l'objet d'une ratification au cours du premier Congrès utile.

6°) La seconde part de la cotisation est confirmée par le Congrès chaque année ou modifiée pour les tournois identiques joués dans les années précédentes.

Article 7

Les ressources de l'ICCF sont constituées par :

- a) Les cotisations annuelles des membres,
- b) Les subventions publiques, le cas échéant,
- c) Les dons et aides privées que l'association peut recevoir,
- d) Les autres ressources non interdites par les lois et règlements en vigueur; appartiennent à cette catégorie, les droits de jeux payés à l'ICCF directement par les joueurs, qui peuvent notamment être ressortissants de pays ne disposant pas d'association nationale de jeu d'échecs par correspondance, et en particulier par tout système de paiement en ligne sur l'Internet; les fédérations membres de l'ICCF peuvent refuser à leurs joueurs l'utilisation de ce système de paiement direct, dont les modalités sont fixées par le règlement intérieur.

Article 8

Le but de l'ICCF est de promouvoir et de développer l'étude et la pratique des échecs par correspondance à travers le monde. Elle encourage et développe les relations et les coopérations internationales entre les joueurs d'échecs, les amateurs et la Fédération Internationale des Échecs

(FIDÉ) en ayant pour objectif l'amélioration des contacts et l'harmonie entre tous les peuples du monde.

Article 9

1°) L'ICCF édicte les règles applicables au jeu d'échecs par correspondance au niveau international définies au paragraphe 1.2, incluant celles relatives au Championnat du Monde individuel et par équipes. L'ICCF a également pour but de promouvoir et a le pouvoir d'autoriser d'autres tournois par correspondance au niveau international

2°) Conformément à son règlement intérieur et à ses différentes règles de jeu, l'ICCF fournit un classement individuel et décerne les titres aux joueurs par correspondance et aux arbitres internationaux.

Article 11

L'ICCF a son propre logo, sa devise « AMICI SUMUS » (nous sommes amis) et son hymne. Ces éléments ne peuvent être reproduits sans autorisation préalable de l'ICCF.

Article 12

Les modifications des statuts requièrent un vote de l'assemblée générale, dénommée Congrès, à la majorité des deux tiers des membres présents ou représentés. Pour procéder à des modifications des statuts, l'annonce doit en être publiée au moins quatre semaines avant la tenue du Congrès.

Section 2 : acquisition et perte de la qualité de membre

Article 13

Les membres de l'ICCF sont les organisations d'échecs par correspondance nationales qui font autorité sur les activités nationales des échecs par correspondance dans leur propres pays, lequel doit être également membre à part entière de la FIDÉ. Une seule fédération par pays est admise.

Article 14

Une fédération nationale souhaitant adhérer à l'ICCF doit présenter une demande écrite au Secrétaire Général de l'ICCF qui doit comporter le nombre de ses joueurs adhérents, une copie de ses statuts, constitution et règles et toute autre information demandée par l'ICCF, en particulier au sujet de ses liens avec la fédération d'échecs nationale, membre de la FIDÉ. L'admission en tant que membre de l'ICCF est décidée par le Congrès.

Article 15

Chaque pays est désigné dans l'ICCF par le code de 3 lettres utilisé par la FIDÉ.

Article 16

Les membres de l'ICCF ont le droit de participer au Congrès et de voter, ou de désigner par écrit un mandataire pour voter en leur nom, et de soumettre des propositions au Conseil d'Administration et au Congrès de l'ICCF. Chaque membre a le devoir de nommer un Délégué officiel et d'en informer le Secrétaire Général, pour toutes les affaires de l'ICCF et en particulier la représentation au Congrès. Les fédérations membres ont le droit de participer aux tournois par équipes organisés par l'ICCF et de nommer les joueurs individuels aux tournois selon les règles et les quotas définis par l'ICCF dans son règlement intérieur et ses différents règlements de jeu.

Article 17

Les membres reconnaissent et acceptent les présents statuts, ainsi que le règlement intérieur, les différents règlements de jeu et les décisions de l'ICCF. Ils doivent s'acquitter sans délai du paiement de leur cotisation dans la période déterminée par le directeur financier, membre du Conseil d'Administration. La violation de ces devoirs peut entraîner la suspension ou perte de la qualité de membre par le Congrès, sur proposition du Conseil d'Administration.

Article 18

1°) Les personnes qui ont œuvré avec mérite en tant que Président peuvent être élues Président Honoraire par une majorité des deux tiers du Congrès.

2°) Les personnes qui ont œuvré avec mérite pour le bien et le développement des échecs par correspondance au plan international peuvent être élus Membres Honoraires par une majorité des deux tiers du Congrès.

3°) Les Présidents et Membres honoraires ont le droit de prendre part à tous les Congrès en tant qu'observateurs sans droit de vote. De plus, ils doivent être informés de toutes les activités de l'ICCF et recevoir les invitations au même titre que les Délégués.

Article 19

Le règlement intérieur définit les conditions dans lesquelles des clubs d'échecs par correspondance internationaux peuvent devenir membres affiliés de l'ICCF et définit les droits et devoirs qui s'attachent à cette qualité.

Section 3 : le Conseil d'Administration

Article 20

Le conseil d'administration comprend :

- a. Le Président
- b. Le Secrétaire Général
- c. Le Directeur Financier
- d. Le Directeur Mondial des Tournois
- e. Le Directeur du Marketing
- f. Le Directeur des Services

g. Les Directeurs de Zone (pas plus de 4)

Article 21

Le président a seul la capacité de représenter l'ICCF à l'égard des tiers dans toutes les activités de la vie civile de l'association, avec faculté de délégation, à un ou plusieurs membres du Conseil d'Administration. En cas d'empêchement, il est remplacé de droit par le Secrétaire Général de l'association.

Article 22

1°) Les membres du Conseil d'Administration et l'Auditeur financier, à l'exception des Directeurs de Zone, sont élus par le Congrès tous les quatre ans. Les membres élus prennent leurs fonctions à compter du 1^{er} janvier suivant la date du Congrès. Cependant, lorsque des élections intermédiaires s'avèrent nécessaires, elles peuvent être organisées par courriel et les membres élus dans ces conditions prennent leurs fonctions immédiatement.

2°) Le règlement intérieur fixe de manière détaillée les règles de votes et la procédure électorale.

Article 23

L'élection des Directeurs de Zones est organisée à l'intérieur de chaque zone.

Article 24

Le mandat de tous les membres du Conseil d'Administration prend fin au 31 décembre de la période de 4 ans.

Section 4 : le Congrès

Article 25

Le Congrès est la plus haute autorité de l'ICCF et exerce le pouvoir législatif. Il approuve le budget de l'ICCF, élit le conseil d'administration et l'Auditeur financier, détermine les structures de l'ICCF. Il supervise les activités déléguées au conseil d'administration et aux responsables de l'ICCF.

Article 26

Les membres votants du Congrès sont les Délégués officiels des fédérations membres.

Article 27

Aucun quorum n'est requis pour la tenue du Congrès.

Article 28

Si une fédération membre ne peut être représentée au Congrès par son Délégué, elle peut exercer son droit de vote de la manière suivante :

- a) par un Délégué suppléant membre de la même fédération ayant une autorisation écrite de la fédération concernée.
- b) par une déclaration écrite indiquant clairement ses intentions de vote.
- c) en donnant procuration écrite à un autre délégué ayant droit de vote ou à un Membre Honoraire ou Président Honoraire.

Les Délégués suppléants remplissant les conditions de l'alinéa a) ci-dessus sont éligibles pour recevoir des mandats d'autres fédérations membres.

Néanmoins, personne ne peut disposer de plus de 3 votes au total.

Article 29

Le Congrès doit se réunir au moins une fois tous les deux ans. L'organisation du Congrès doit être décidé par le Congrès précédent, ou à défaut par le Président.

Article 30

Les invitations, l'ordre du jour et les notices du Congrès doivent être envoyés par le conseil d'administration, avec l'invitation et les informations de la fédération hôte, au moins quatre mois avant la tenue du Congrès. Les propositions relatives à l'ordre du jour du Congrès doivent être reçues par le Secrétaire Général, ou le responsable de l'ICCF en charge de la question, au moins un mois avant le début du Congrès.

Le Président a la faculté d'annuler ou de réorganiser une réunion du Congrès en cas de circonstances exceptionnelles.

Article 31

Une réunion extraordinaire du Congrès peut être convoquée par le conseil d'administration sur la demande d'une majorité des membres de l'ICCF ou de deux tiers des membres du conseil d'administration. La réunion du Congrès est organisée dans les trois mois suivant la date de réception d'une telle demande.

Article 32

La demande d'une réunion extraordinaire du Congrès doit préciser le lieu, l'objet et l'ordre du jour de la réunion. Le conseil d'administration prendra les mesures nécessaires et fournira les détails de l'organisation à toutes les organisations membres au moins un mois avant la tenue de la réunion extraordinaire.

Section 5 : l'auditeur financier

Article 33

L'auditeur est responsable devant le Congrès de la vérification des comptes et des rapports financiers qui lui sont fournis ou qu'il réclame, selon les règles de l'ICCF et les bonnes pratiques de la comptabilité. Il doit fournir un rapport au Congrès.

Section 6 : les Comités d'Appels

Article 34

Trois Comités d'Appel sont institués au sein de l'ICCF :
Comité d'Appel (Règles du jeu),
Comité d'Appel (Autres règles),
Comité d'Arbitrage

Article 35

Le Comité d'Appel (Règles du jeu) est compétent exclusivement dans les affaires relatives aux règles du jeu de l'ICCF.

Article 36

Le Comité d'Appel (Autres règles) est compétent exclusivement dans les affaires relatives aux règlements des tournois de l'ICCF ainsi que de tous autres règlements en rapport avec le jeu d'échecs par correspondance à l'ICCF.

Article 37

Le Comité d'Arbitrage est compétent pour les litiges de nature plus large, tels que les litiges liés au comportement des dirigeants et officiels, des responsables de tournois, des fédérations membres ou des joueurs individuels.

Article 38

Les Comités d'appel de l'ICCF sont complémentaires et ne peuvent être considérés comme des échelons hiérarchiques pour des appels successifs.

Article 39

Les Présidents des Comités d'Appels sont nommés par le Conseil d'Administration. Ces nominations doivent être approuvées par le Congrès.

Article 40

Le travail des Comités d'Appels de l'ICCF est soumis à des procédures opérationnelles. Les joueurs, capitaines d'équipe, fédérations membres ou responsables doivent soumettre leur appel au Président du Comité d'Appel compétent.

Article 41

Les décisions des Comités d'Appel de l'ICCF sont sans recours.

Section 7 : Règlement intérieurArticle 42

Le Congrès adopte un règlement intérieur ayant pour objet de préciser et compléter les règles de fonctionnement interne de l'ICCF. Il pourra comprendre également les règles de jeu et de tournois de l'ICCF.

Section 8 : Dispositions finalesArticle 43

Les présents statuts ont été adoptés par le congrès 2012 de l'ICCF à la majorité des deux tiers des membres présents ou représentés à Pretoria (Afrique du Sud) et abrogent les statuts précédents dans leur version modifiée pour la dernière fois en octobre 2011 à Järvenpää (Finlande).

Tout problème d'interprétation des présents statuts se réglera sur sa version française, à raison de la nationalité suisse de l'association *International Correspondance Chess Fédération* (ICCF).

Fait à Pretoria (Afrique du Sud), le 31 octobre 2012.

Le Président

Le Secrétaire Général

Le Directeur financier

Eric Ruch

Michael Millstone

George Pyrich

Appendix R: Statutes of the International Correspondence Chess Federation

Section 1: Status, Principles and Purpose of the Association

Article 1

The *International Correspondence Chess Federation* (ICCF) is the worldwide organisation for correspondence chess. It is independent and has an unlimited duration. Its merger with any other organisation and its dissolution require the unanimous approval of members present or represented at the general assembly, called the Congress.

Article 2

The *International Correspondence Chess Federation* (ICCF) is a non-profit federation which organises a purely recreational sports activity. From its inception, ICCF has been an affiliated international member of FIDE (the World Chess Federation), which itself is a member of ARISF (*Association of IOC Recognised International Sports Federations*), which gathers together international sports federations recognised by the International Olympic Committee. For this reason, ICCF is an affiliate member of the World Chess Federation (FIDE), itself a member of ARISF (*Association of IOC Recognised International Sports Federations*) which gathers together international sports federations recognized by the International Olympic Committee.

Article 3

Correspondence chess is defined as any game of chess in which the players do not sit opposite each other at a chessboard to make their moves. The moves are transmitted remotely by various means and the time is normally counted in days per move.

Article 4

1) The seat of ICCF is based in Switzerland, at the headquarters of the member association *Die Schweizer Fernschachvereinigung* (SFSV) - Association Suisse des Echecs par Correspondance (ASEC)

- *Associazione Svizzera Scacchi per Corrispondenza* (ASSC), by virtue of a special agreement attached as an appendix to these Statutes.

2) The Congress is authorised to establish offices anywhere in the world, according to ICCF interests. The offices are opened in accordance with the national laws governing associations in the country in which they are located.

3°) The Congress authorizes the Executive Board to create an office with legal capacity on the French Republic territory, in accordance with the article 4, 1°) of the ICCF Statutes, having its seat at the place of residence of the ICCF President.

Article 5

ICCF's financial year begins January 1st and ends December 31st of each year. Accounts are presented in Euros, as well as all other financial information, except when it appears more favourable to provide it other currencies.

Article 6

- 1) Members of ICCF contribute to the material life of the organization by paying a membership fee which is set annually by the Congress. This membership fee is comprised of a fixed part based on the number of players belonging to the member federation and a second part corresponding to the number and nature of the chess games played by the players belonging to each member federation.
- 2) The first part of the membership fee is calculated per 100 players belonging to the national federation, giving rise, for each portion thereof, to a contribution in an amount set by the Congress.
- 3) The second part of the membership fee is a contribution levied against a rate for each tournament organized by ICCF multiplied by the number of players from the member federations who participated in each of these tournaments.
- 4) ICCF does not require that this rate effectively match the amount of the playing fees that the federations may require from their members to participate in ICCF tournaments and as such does not interfere in the economic and financial management of member federations.
- 5) In an emergency, particularly the creation of tournaments before the meeting of the Congress, the Executive Board is expressly delegated with the ability to set one or more new rates, as defined in paragraph 3) of this article. These rates are subject to ratification at the next Congress which takes place.
- 6) The second part of the membership fee is confirmed by the Congress each year, or modified for the same tournaments played in previous years.

Article 7

ICCF resources are comprised of:

- a) Annual membership fees,
- b) Government grants, if any,
- c) Donations and private assistance that the association may receive,
- d) Other resources not prohibited by laws and regulations; belonging to this category, game fees paid directly to ICCF by players, which may include citizens of countries with no national correspondence chess association, and especially any type of online payment system on the Internet; member federations of the ICCF may refuse to allow their players to use this direct payment system, in accordance with the rules established by the internal bylaws.

Article 8

ICCF's purpose is to promote and develop the study and practice of correspondence chess throughout the world. It encourages and develops relationships and cooperation between international chess players, enthusiasts and the World Chess Federation (FIDE) with the objective of improving contact and harmony among all peoples of the world.

Article 9

- 1) ICCF enacts the rules for correspondence chess at the international level as defined in article 3, including those relating to the individual and team World Championships. ICCF's purpose is also to promote and to be able to authorize other tournaments by correspondence at the international level

2) In accordance with its internal bylaws and its various playing rules, ICCF provides individual rankings and confers titles on correspondence players and on international arbiters.

Article 10

ICCF is a democratic association and does not discriminate based on race, skin colour, sex, language, religion, political or other opinions, national or social origin, property, birth origin or any other status. ICCF observes strict neutrality with respect to the internal affairs of member federations and affiliated organizations.

Article 11

The ICCF has its own logo, its own motto "AMICI SUMUS" (we are friends) and its own anthem. These materials may only be reproduced with ICCF's prior authorization.

Article 12

Amendments to the statutes require a vote of the general assembly, called the Congress, and a majority of two thirds of the members present or represented. To make changes to the statutes, the announcement must be published at least four weeks before the Congress is held.

Section 2: Acquisition and Loss of Membership

Article 13

ICCF members are national correspondence chess organizations who are the authorities on national correspondence chess activities in their own countries, and must also be full members of FIDE. Only one federation per country is allowed.

Article 14

A national federation wishing to join ICCF must submit a written request to the ICCF General Secretary, which must include the numbers for its player members, a copy of its statutes, constitution and rules and any other information requested by ICCF, especially regarding its relationship with the national chess Federation, which is the FIDE member. Admission as an ICCF member is decided by the Congress.

Article 15

The designation of each country in ICCF will be in accordance with the 3-letter code system used by FIDE

Article 16

ICCF Members have the right to participate and vote at the Congress, or to appoint a proxy in writing to vote on their behalf, and to submit proposals to the Executive Board and to the ICCF Congress. Each member has the duty to appoint an Official Delegate and to inform the General Secretary of this, for all ICCF business and especially for representation at the Congress. Member federations have the right to participate in team tournaments organized by ICCF and to name individual players for tournaments according to the rules and quotas set by ICCF in its internal bylaws and the various rules of play.

Article 17

The members acknowledge and accept these Statutes, as well as the bylaws, the various rules of play and ICCF decisions. They must pay their membership fees without delay during the time period set out for this by the Finance Director, member of the Executive Board. The violation of these duties can lead to suspension or loss of membership by the Congress, as proposed by the Executive Board.

Article 18

- 1) People who have served with distinction as President may be elected Honorary President by a two-thirds majority of the Congress.
- 2) People who have served with distinction for the benefit and development of correspondence chess at the international level may be elected Honorary Members by a two-thirds majority of the Congress.
- 3) Honorary Presidents and Members have the right to take part in all Congresses as observers without voting rights. In addition, they should be provided the same information and invitations as member federation delegates.

Article 19

The internal bylaws define the conditions under which international correspondence chess clubs can become affiliated members of ICCF and define the rights and duties attaching to that status.

Section 3: Executive BoardArticle 20

The Executive Board includes:

- a. The President
- b. The General Secretary
- c. The Finance Director
- d. The World Tournament Director
- e. The Marketing Director
- f. The Services Director
- g. The Zonal Directors (not more than 4)

Article 21

The president alone has the ability to represent ICCF with respect to third parties in all activities of civil life of the association, with the power to delegate, to one or more members of the Executive Board. The General Secretary of the association replaces the president if the president is unable to continue

Article 22

- 1) The members of the Executive Board and the Financial Auditor, with the exception of the Zonal Directors, are elected by the Congress every four years. The elected members take office from the January 1st following the date of the Congress. However, when intermediary elections are required, they can be organized by email and the members elected under these conditions take office immediately.
- 2) The internal bylaws set out the rules of voting and the electoral process in detail.

Article 23

The election of the Zonal Directors is organized within each zone.

Article 24

The term of office for all members of the Board ends on December 31st at the end of the 4 year period.

Section 4 : The CongressArticle 25

The Congress is the highest authority of ICCF which exercises legislative power. It approves the ICCF budget, elects the Executive Board and Auditor and determines the structure of ICCF. It supervises activities delegated to the Executive Board and ICCF Officials.

Article 26

Voting Members of the Congress are the official delegates of Member organizations.

Article 27

No quorum is necessary for meetings of the Congress.

Article 28

When a Member organization cannot be represented by its delegate at a Congress, that organization shall be entitled to exercise its voting rights:

- (a) through a substitute delegate from the same organization, having written authority from the organization concerned,
- (b) by presenting an appropriate written declaration, stating clearly its voting intention.
- (c) by conferring in writing its voting right (a proxy) on another voting member or an Honorary President or Honorary Member.

Substitute delegates under a) are eligible to accept proxies from other Member organisations. However, no person may register more than 3 votes in total.

Article 29

The Congress shall meet at least every other year. The arrangements of a Congress shall be decided by the preceding Congress or, in the absence of such a decision, by the President.

Article 30

Invitations, agenda and formal notices for a Congress shall be sent by the ICCF Executive Board, together with the invitation and information from the host federation, at least four months in advance of the Congress. Proposals relating to the agenda of the Congress must be received by the General Secretary, or the appropriate ICCF official, at least one month prior to the commencement of the Congress.

The President of ICCF is empowered to cancel or rearrange a meeting of Congress, should exceptional circumstances arise.

Article 31

An extraordinary meeting of Congress will be convened by the Executive Board upon the request of a majority of the members of ICCF or two-thirds of the members of the Executive Board. It will be convened within 3 months of date of receipt of such a request.

Article 32

The request for an extraordinary meeting of Congress shall specify the location, the purpose and the agenda for the meeting. The EB will make the arrangements accordingly and will provide the details of the arrangements to all Member organizations at least one month in advance of the date of the meeting.

Section 5: The Financial Auditor

Article 33

The Auditor is responsible to the Congress for the auditing of the accounts and the financial reports provided to him or that he prepares, according to ICCF rules and best practices in accounting. He must provide a report to the Congress.

Section 6: The Appeals Committees

Article 34

There are three Appeals Committees established within ICCF:

- Appeals Committee (Playing Rules)
- Appeals Committee (Other Rules)
- Arbitration Committee

Article 35

The Appeals Committee (Playing Rules) has jurisdiction only in cases relating to the ICCF playing rules.

Article 36

The Appeals Committee (Other rules) has jurisdiction only in cases involving the ICCF tournament regulations and any other regulations relating to correspondence chess with the ICCF.

Article 37

The Arbitration Committee has jurisdiction over disputes of a broader nature, such as disputes related to the behavior of leaders and officials, tournament officials, member federations or individual players.

Article 38

The ICCF Appeal Committees are complementary and cannot be considered as hierarchical levels for successive appeals.

Article 39

The Chairmen of the Appeals Committees are nominated by the Executive Board. These nominations must be approved by the Congress.

Article 40

The work of the ICCF Appeals Committees is subject to operational procedures. Players, team captains, member federations or officials must submit their appeal to the chairman of the relevant Appeals Committee.

Article 41

Decisions of the ICCF Appeals Committee are without recourse.

Section 7: Internal Bylaws

Article 42

The Congress adopts bylaws whose purpose it is to clarify and supplement the ICCF internal operating rules. They may also include the ICCF playing and tournament rules.

Section 8: Final Provisions

Article 43

The present statutes have been passed by a majority of two-thirds of the members present or represented at the 2012 Congress in Pretoria (South Africa) and repeal the former statutes in their version modified for the last time at the 2011 Congress in Järvenpää (Finland).

If there are any discrepancies in the interpretation of these Statutes, the French version will prevail, due to the Swiss nationality of the *International Correspondence Chess Federation (ICCF)*.

Appendix S: ICCF Zones and Member Federations (MF)

Background

Some time ago we had a look at the zonal structures in ICCF and especially the system that I inherited from the previous zonal director (ZD) of Africa/Asia, Med Samraoui. We did not progress too far with it as I could not find anything in the congress minutes. I have been in contact with several officials, but with the exception of Alan Borwell no one could make me any the wiser. Alan informed me that he recalls that the matter was discussed in congress many years ago, but as far as he knows it was never recorded in the minutes. It was just a gesture of goodwill towards our zone by allowing certain countries from the other zones to participate in Africa/Asia zonal tournaments to help develop the CC in these areas.

I therefore propose that we turn over to a new page, forget about the system that I inherited and set up definitions of our zones and list all the National Federations (NFs) as well as the countries that are not ICCF members providing that they are FIDE members. A country may not become an ICCF member unless it is affiliated to FIDE.

FIDE Member Countries

The following countries - one way or another - are affiliated to FIDE in four zones:

Europe:

Albania	Andorra	Armenia
Austria	Azerbaijan	Belarus
Belgium	Bosnia & Herzegovina	Bulgaria
Croatia	Cyprus	Czech Republic
Denmark	England	Estonia
Faroe Islands	Finland	France
Georgia	Germany	Greece
Guernsey	Hungary	Iceland
Ireland	Israel	Italy
Jersey	Latvia	Liechtenstein
Lithuania	Luxembourg	Macedonia
Malta	Moldova	Monaco
Montenegro	Netherlands	Norway
Poland	Portugal	Romania
Russia	San Marino	Scotland
Serbia	Slovakia	Slovenia
Spain	Sweden	Switzerland
Turkey	Ukraine	Wales

Americas:

Argentina	Aruba	Bahamas
Barbados	Belize	Bermuda
Bolivia	Brazil	British Virgin Islands
Canada	Chile	Colombia
Costa Rica	Cuba	Dominican Republic
Ecuador	El Salvador	Guatemala
Guyana	Haiti	Honduras
Jamaica	Mexico	Netherlands Antilles
Nicaragua	Panama	Paraguay
Peru	Puerto Rico	Suriname
Trinidad & Tobago	United States of America	Uruguay
US Virgin Islands	Venezuela	

Asia:

Afghanistan	Australia	Bahrain
Bangladesh	Bhutan	Brunei Darussalam
Cambodia	China	Chinese Taipei
Fiji	Guam	Hong Kong
India	Indonesia	Iran
Iraq	Japan	Jordan
Kazakhstan	Kuwait	Kyrgyzstan
Laos	Lebanon	Macau
Malaysia	Maldives	Mongolia
Myanmar	Nepal	New Zealand
Pakistan	Palau	Palestine
Papua New Guinea	Philippines	Qatar
Singapore	Solomon Islands	South Korea
Sri Lanka	Syria	Tajikistan
Thailand	Turkmenistan	United Arab Emirates
Uzbekistan	Vietnam	Yemen

Africa:

Algeria	Angola	Botswana
Burundi	Cameroon	Central African Republic
Comoros Islands	Congo	Egypt
Ethiopia	Gabon	Gambia
Ghana	Ivory Coast	Kenya
Lesotho	Libya	Madagascar
Malawi	Mali	Mauritania
Mauritius	Morocco	Mozambique
Namibia	Nigeria	Rwanda
Sao Tome and Principe	Senegal	Seychelles
Sierra Leone	Somalia	South Africa
Sudan	Swaziland	Togo
Tunisia	Uganda	Zambia

Zimbabwe

Proposal for ICCF

My proposal is to define the zones and allocate the countries as follows:

Zone 1 - Europe:

Definition:

The continent of Europe including Israel (I assume for political reasons) as well as the entire Russian Federation and Turkey. This is the same as in the case of FIDE with the list of countries as follows:

ICCF members:

Austria	Belarus	Belgium
Bulgaria	Croatia	Czech Republic
Denmark	England	Estonia
Finland	France	Germany
Greece	Hungary	Iceland
Ireland	Israel	Italy
Latvia	Lithuania	Luxembourg
Malta	Netherlands	Norway
Poland	Portugal	Romania
Russia	Scotland	Slovakia
Slovenia	Spain	Sweden
Switzerland	Turkey	Ukraine
Wales		

FIDE members but not ICCF members:

Albania	Andorra	Armenia
Azerbaijan	Bosnia & Herzegovina	Cyprus
Faroe Islands	Macedonia	Georgia
Guernsey	Jersey	Liechtenstein
Moldova	Monaco	Montenegro
San Marino	Serbia	

Zone 2 – Latin America:

Definition:

The continent of South America as well as Central America and the Caribbean, but excluding Mexico. The countries are as follows:

ICCF members:

Argentina	Brazil	Chile
Cuba	Ecuador	Guatemala
Nicaragua	Panama	Peru

FIDE members but not ICCF members:

Aruba	Barbados	Belize
Bolivia	British Virgin Islands	Colombia
Costa Rica	Dominican Republic	El Salvador
Guyana	Haiti	Honduras
Jamaica	Netherlands Antilles	Paraguay
Puerto Rico	Suriname	Trinidad & Tobago
Uruguay	US Virgin Islands	Venezuela

Zone 3 - North America/Pacific:

Definition:

The continents North America and Oceania excluding Central America and the Caribbean, but including Mexico as well as all countries that are part of Asia but that are islands in the Pacific Ocean. The countries are as follows:

ICCF members:

Australia	Canada	Hong Kong
Japan	New Zealand	United States of America

FIDE members but not ICCF members:

Bahamas	Bermuda	Brunei Darussalam
Chinese Taipei	Fiji	Guam
Indonesia	Mexico	Palau
Papua New Guinea	Philippines	Singapore
Solomon Islands		

Zone 4 - Africa/Asia:

Definition:

The continents of Africa and Asia, but excluding all countries that are part of the latter and are islands in the Pacific Ocean. The countries are as follows:

ICCF members:

Algeria	India	South Africa
Tunisia		

FIDE members but not ICCF members:

Afghanistan	Angola	Bahrain
Bangladesh	Bhutan	Botswana
Burundi	Cambodia	Cameroon
Central African Republic	China	Comoros Islands
Congo	Egypt	Ethiopia
Gabon	Gambia	Ghana
Iran	Iraq	Ivory Coast
Jordan	Kazakhstan	Kenya
Kuwait	Kyrgyzstan	Laos
Lebanon	Lesotho	Libya
Macau	Madagascar	Malawi

Malaysia
Mauritania
Morocco
Namibia
Pakistan
Qatar
Seychelles
South Korea
Swaziland
Thailand
Uganda
Vietnam
Zimbabwe

Maldives
Mauritius
Mozambique
Nigeria
Palestine
Sao Tome & Principe
Sierra Leone
Sri Lanka
Syria
Togo
United Arab Emirates
Yemen

Mali
Mongolia
Myanmar
Nepal
Rwanda
Senegal
Somalia
Sudan
Tajikistan
Turkmenistan
Uzbekistan
Zambia

ICCF members but not FIDE members:
Cape Verde (affiliated member)

Dinand Knol - ZD Africa/Asia
October 2012

International Correspondence Chess Federation

Appendix T: Webserver Development Plan – Phase 10 (2012/2013)

Documentation

Feature	Hours (estimate)	Priority	Project leader	Status
New online help, based on system messages	ICCF	1	Austin, Gino	
Credit page is out of date	ICCF	1	Gino	
Search help / static content Optional: PDF documents		1	Austin, Gino	
Total documentation priority 1				

Globalisation

Feature	Hours (estimate)	Priority	Project leader	Status
From Martin: Support for passwords with Cyrillic characters (Russian players sometimes enter passwords with Cyrillic characters, and then cannot log in).	N/A	Will be handled by hashing the passwords	Austin	
Notes to cross tables have to support Unicode And for messages exchanged by players	8	1	Austin	In Test
Support for native characters in player names: Currently not supported (we would have to have two names, one native, and one transcribed to English/Latin). Therefore, in the player signup / account creation we have to forbid non-Latin characters in player names	We would need to discuss with the federations how to display the names	Forbid non-Latin: 1 Native characters: 2	Austin	In test
Globalize system messages improvements <ul style="list-style-type: none"> We should make sure that there is maximum of one translation per message and language. We should ensure that values for the type of message etc. match between original and translations. I think we could help the translators to get these settings correct by adding a translate button to the system message, 		1	Austin	

<p>which pre-populates the create message screen with the correct settings.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • We could have the RSS feed for different languages. • Some static content items have children defined. If the children are translated, these should be children of the translations. There is currently no way to show children which have no translation. This could be added. 				
Globalize event news (tournaments started and finished)		1	Austin	
<p>Globalize event headers</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ The event headers (such as “ICCF tournaments”, “World championships”, “World championship finals”) are currently not globalized. ○ We would need an admin interface for translating these. ○ Globalize display of event headers on tables and results. 		3	Austin	
<p>Globalize country and zone descriptions (This is similar to system message globalization and should be done at the same time)</p> <p>Remark: Existing features can be used to enter the text in the language of the country, therefore only priority 3</p>		3	Austin	
Globalize Groups and Positions of ICCF officials		3	Austin	
<p>Globalize notation on the game screen</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • PGN not to be globalized, only notation display on game screen (and live games) (2 hours) • Requires globalization of the Javascript used for move entry (TBD) • May require globalization of the Javascript for replaying games (TBD) 		3	Austin	

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Notation might have to be a separate option, for players who want the interface in a different language from the notation (TBD) • What about moves displayed in move notification email? (TBD) 				
<p>Globalize table headers</p> <p>These are currently mostly acronyms, including "SB", "RG", "FG", some signs including "%", "+/-", and some english words, including "Score", "Team results", "Place". I think these are already difficult to understand in English, and I am not sure if translating the acronyms would help or make things worse. Maybe add some explanation to the cross table headers?</p> <p>Decision:</p> <p>Globalize headers which are not abbreviations, leave abbreviations, add explanations to abbreviations, globalize explanations</p>		1	Austin	In test
<p>Globalize mailing feature:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Send mailing to all players preferring a language (e.g. send a German mailing to all players who prefer German) • Globalize disclaimer added at bottom of mailing 		2	Austin	
Globalization total priority 1:				

Multi Group Events and Related Features

Feature	Hours (estimate)	Priority	Project leader	Status
Multi group events See the separate document about multi-group events		1	Iain	In development, part 1 in test
Show registration status of a tournament to players		1	Iain	
Create event screen: create new group of a multi-group event		1	Iain	

Drawing screen when starting a tournament: Randomize order, order by rating, or manually change the start list order (maybe use ReorderList from control toolkit)	1	Iain	In test
Team match cross table for single rounded team events (to be implemented with drawing screen feature)	2	Gerhard	
Multi group balancing	2	Iain	
Manual group assignments using drawing screen	1	Iain	
Track status of event registrations	1	Ian P.	
Total priority 1:			

Better Device Support

Feature	Hours (estimate)	Priority	Project leader	Status
Mobile versions of login, game list, and game screen to be used with phones		1	Austin	
From Martin: Auto-resizing chess board Players are using multiple devices to access the server, some with big screens, and other with small screens. The chess boards should auto- resize, instead of having a fixed size stored in the user settings.		If it helps with above	Austin	
Touchscreen support for drag and drop More players are using touch screens now (smart phones and iPads), where the drag and drop currently does not work. Use https://github.com/furf/jquery-ui-touch-punch			Austin	Deployed
Total priority 1 from phase 9:				
Addition in phase 10: Game list: vary between date only, date and time, including seconds depending on browser window width, also event name / short name etc.		1	Austin	

Ratings

Feature	Hours (estimate)	Priority	Project leader	Status
Import historical events from Eloquetry (and calculate the historic norms for them)		1	Gerhard	Waiting for data

Difficult fields: Header, short name, start ratings				
Header: Use one dummy header, sort out manually				
Short name: Use Eloquary name				
Start ratings: Use rating from rating list				
Add running games to forecast, user can make a selection for the result (more difficult for non-server games)		1	Gerhard	
Add forecast to diagram in rating history		2	Gerhard	
Rounding issues: There are rounding differences between the forecast and the final rating calculation. These rounding issues exist because of using floating point arithmetic. It can be solved by specifying a fixed precision for the rating calculations (this should be in the rules)		3	Gerhard	
Add result date column to rating forecast		1	Mariusz	
Add link to game to rating forecast				
Attach rating reports to rating screen		1	Gerhard	Deployed
Rating report needs to be linked to the rating list				
Total priority 1 rating tasks				
Rating page design change: Two columns, left column: filter, right column: result list, link to rating report next to rating list drop down		1	Gerhard	Deployed

Title Tournaments and Norms

Feature	Hours (estimate)	Priority	Project leader	Status
Manual editing of norms (list cases where this is required: cheating, disciplinary commission decides, if historical data is missing)		1	Neil	Waiting for historical event import
Approval of Title Tournaments by WTD: (This was originally decided by congress 2008, however no specification was provided.) We could add a flag to the event settings "Approved by WTD".		3	Frank	

<p>For a title tournament, the server would have to verify the flag before the tournament is started.</p> <p>A WTD could have an "Approve" button for the tournament.</p> <p>The server could also store which WTD approved, and maybe the date and time of approval.</p> <p>I would assume communication between TO and WTD would be by email.</p> <p>Note: A promotion to ITT then also has to be approved by a WTD</p> <p>If the WTD approves the event, and the TO subsequently changes the event settings, the approval is meaningless.</p> <p>What should the process be?</p> <p>Should the TO be unable to make any changes after the approval?</p> <p>Or should any changes that the TO makes remove the approval?</p> <p>Also, what is with changes after the tournament has started?</p> <p>Is the WTD approving only the event settings, or also the participants of the event?</p> <p>There was still no specification provided, and the priority was reduced from 1 to 3.</p>				
Promote parent tournament to international title tournament (currently, each board has to be promoted individually – if the TO makes additional changes to the parent, promotions is reversed)		Linked to approval	Frank	
<p>Scheveningen ITTs:</p> <p>The congress in Dresden decided to allow Scheveningen ITTs.</p> <p>However, there is only one such tournament (Mostert memorial), and the implementation would be non-trivial (two different categories for such tournaments!)</p>		3	Neil	
Add notification of cancelled games in title tournaments to QC		1	Neil	Testing completed
Total				
<p>Change of title requirements and norm requirements in the past.</p> <p>Now: change norm for SIM title</p>		1 Before 2013	Neil	Testing completed

Tournament Automation

Feature	Hours (estimate)	Priority	Project leader	Status
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Paypal integration Implement Paypal express checkout and integrate this with the automated event registrations Note: after committing the transaction, it could still be pending, so the Paypal Payment Notifications probably still have to be implemented anyway => probably IPN is preferable		1	Ian P.	Waiting for feedback from project lead
Automatically starting tournaments		2	Guido	
Insufficient mating material detection (only simple cases)		3		
Claim draw feature with server arbitration See discussion in separate document: game completion		1, but wait for result of discussion by rules commission	Per. Eric	

Messages

Feature	Hours (estimate)	Priority	Project leader	Status
The message facilities should remain open for 7 days after the finish of the game Automatically close after 7 days (taking holiday into account) Remove manual closing Generate email notifications when messages are entered Display a message "The message box will remain open for x days" Maybe remove ping pong character of messaging, at least after game is finished.		2	Eric	

Marketing Tasks

Mailings: Formatted text, attachments		1	Eric	
Recognition of achievements on player details (e.g. title, medals, tournaments won, honorary members)		1	Neil	
Related: Send an automated message to tournament winner, could include a certificate of achievement, e.g. as a PDF file		1	Neil	

We could also offer high quality printed and signed version via Paypal Could be for 2 nd and 3 rd places, too				
Related: Add tournament winners to announcements of finished tournaments on the front page		1	Michael	
Unification Emails should be sent from iccf.com domain Email footers should use iccf.com Login should be valid across both domains		3		
Cross tables		1 for showing norms	Michele Rinesi, Frank Geider	Deployed
Extend cross tables with remaining information from old TD reports				
Norms achieved (how to display?) Admissions (what is that?) means qualification for next tournaments (see also old phase 3 proposal)				
Report required for postal tournaments (sent to the players by postal mail)?				
For qualifications we can use the existing event notes				
Add a flag for suspended countries		4	Ian P.	
Photos of players on player details (needs to be moderated) (maybe add Bio)		3		
All email notifications should have HTML template with Logo at the top		2		

Proposed Improvements for Players

Store previous draw offers in move list (e.g. when switching to time stamps) Martin: May be required according to FIDE rules?		1	Austin	In test
Clarify if FIDE rules actually forbids repeated draw offers Compare with game log				

Add resignations to game log (in case result is later changed by the TO, this seems necessary)	1	Austin	In test
Also added draw acceptance into game log for same reason			
List of all completed games of the player as PGN download (could be on player's details page) (see also congress decision about public availability of PGN files)	1	Austin	In test
Diagnostics page for help desk, that automatically diagnoses typical problems, such as: Not being logged in, game being stopped, player on leave, which browser, Javascript turned off, Cookies turned off, etc.	1	Austin, Markus	
Related: Embeddable version of game screen Which features do we need? E.g. Comments and variations?	Research: 1 Implementation: 2	Austin, Gino	
Game list: Link on event name to go to cross table	1	Austin	Deployed
Bread crumbs: On the game screen and board cross table, add link to team cross table in the bread crumbs Also: Move links to previous and next board below the cross table, because it is hard to find	1	Austin	In test
Notification of finished tournament to all participants (and team captains), including final table (and final team table)	1	Austin	
Check if list of finished games is in		Austin	Deployed

order by result date?				
List of games are now sortable and improved				
Total priority 1				
the wording of "Email AC" on the game page menu; this is confusing for many players and should be changed to "Email for Appeals"		1	Austin	Deployed

Proposed Improvements for TOs and TDs

<p>Martin: Show a warning when creating/editing an event and setting the number of games in a viewing rule higher than the total number of games in an event.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Optional, possibly lower priority: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Allow TOs to select for the "live" and "finished" viewing rules a value "when the event is finished" instead of a number of games. We could store this value as "-1" in the database. Implement a check of all running events that would calculate the number of games based on the pairing rule and size, and if the viewing rule exceeds this number, change it to "when the event is finished". 	2	Ron	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> To avoid cases where the board event has a different name than the parent event, in the edit event screen, we could: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Not allow to change the name of a board event. Not allow to change the name of a parent event without applying changes to the boards. 	1	Austin	In test

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Also for short name 				
<p>The leave rule “StandardSlo” should cause a warning or an error when used in unrated events</p> <p>Michael:</p> <p>And vice versa, a rated tournament without SLO should also cause a warning (although there are national tournaments which are rated but don’t use SLO).</p>		1	Michael	In test
<p>Allow WTD to edit more settings in edit event dialog, for example the tiebreaking rules</p> <p>TBD: which settings exactly</p>		1	Frank, Austin	Waiting for feedback from project lead
<p>Include games with pending adjudication and stopped games into time report</p>		2	Gino	
<p>The default for ICCF postal events is time duplication after 12 days – this should be used in the event settings as default, if postal transmission is selected</p>		3	Per	
<p>Adding a player to an already started event (it happens all the time that the TO forgot somebody, or he receives application too late...)</p> <p>See discussion of following feature</p>		3		
<p>Add a team to a team event</p> <p>We do have a feature "Add a board to a team event" in place for matches of two teams. Here the case is simple, as it is just a new event for the new board.</p> <p>Other than that we currently do not have features where players are added to an already running event.</p> <p>However, when adding a team to a team event it means adding a player to each of the board events.</p> <p>It would be logical to implement a feature of adding a player to an already running event first.</p>		3		

<p>Also there are questions about this. For example:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • In server games, we need to determine the color distribution based on the colour distribution of the existing games, and based on the pairing rule of the event. • Is this allowed in international title tournaments? If yes, we must recalculate categories and norms, and reevaluate the criteria for ITTs. This could be a problem for players who have already played their games for some time. It could even be a problem for rated events. I think we need rules to determine for which events at which stage this is allowed. • In Chess 960 events, we may have to randomize the new pairings. • Which messages should be sent to players? • Etc. <p>There is also no project lead for this feature.</p> <p>In summary:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • We first have to implement the related feature of adding a player to an already running event. • There must be a project lead with whom we can discuss these questions - probably somebody from some tournament commission? • Then we should write a proper specification and re-evaluate the amount of work this involves. • Finally we might want to re-prioritize the feature based on the results. 				
<p>Consider not sending a message that a player used more than 40 days, if the player has claimed an extension already.</p>		1	Austin	

Total priority 1				
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Other Features

Feature	Hours (estimate)	Priority	Project leader	Status
Issue with team tie breaks (related to Baumbach tiebreak)	TBD	1	?	
Arjen/Gerhard: All trusted users should see the account creator and creation date (if available) on the player details		1	Arjen	In test
National federations may require different tie breaking rules than the ones used by ICCF for their national tournaments. To cover all possible tie breakers, the first, second, etc. tie breakers have to be selected individually.		Russia would have to pay for design, estimate and implem.	Poleshchuk	
Canceled games and viewing rules?		Investigate: Can a TO just change the viewing rule in this case		Yes
Unconfirmed accounts: Display status of player on unconfirmed accounts list (Unconfirmed, offline, new, registered) When the RC confirms an account in status unconfirmed or offline, automatically send a starter password.		Proposed 1	Gerhard	Deployed
Administration of header structure: Display old tree view for administrators Allow to easily move a number of selected events to another header (when restructuring) Alternatively: Select a number of events by checkbox, have a command to move them to a different header Issue with the list of headers in the drop down growing: Use cascading drop down instead		1	Gerhard	

Needed, when we move the imported historical events around!				
Add warning when importing NF membership data, that existing data will be lost – user has to confirm import.		1	Austin	Deployed
<p>Fischer time control</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Initial amount of time, increment after each move Time added after each half move Time still rounded to days Tournaments are planned in Russia beginning in June 2013 		Would have to be payed by Russia	Nikolay Poleshchuk	
<p>Games archive</p> <p>should be available only to registered players is too big for current upload limitation</p> <p>Only the archive, not the other publicly available games and PGNs</p>		1, Before 2013	Ron Langeveld, Austin, Gino	In test
<p>Changes to conditionals</p> <p>Conditional string submitted and comitted by a player should be visible for him.</p>		1	Mariusz	
<p>The number of entries in status Pending grows up. We need a reminder after some (four ?) weeks and a solution for process them if nothing happens.</p> <p>1. After four weeks on the pending list, an email reminder is sent to the ND or ZD.</p> <p>2. At this stage the status should be changed to something like "Pending, Reminder Sent" and the RC may delete the account</p> <p>3. A list of all recent accounts can be downloaded by ZDs and NDs for their own nation/zone; this should include the name</p>		1	Gerhard	

of the person setting up the account, the current status of the account, all relevant dates, etc.				
Sometimes new players register for an event before anybody has confirmed or rejected them – see Vorontcov in the current list. I have no possibility to delete those entries nor their registrations in the registration list (which is rather crazy anyway!). Solution ? I have created a „RC, Testplayer“ and replaced other such entries by him. But of course, this is not the way we should work.		1	Gerhard	In test
Solution:				
Don't allow player to register for an event until they are confirmed				
Total priority 1				
If an account is deleted or confirmed by the RC, a notification should be sent to the account creator (i.e. delegate, or the TO, and/or the player himself) listing the deleted information.		1	Gerhard	
Download of list of players from a country, including the membership information, selection criteria: only members		1	Gerhard	
Add registrations to player details		1	Gerhard	In test
Visible to DE and TO (same users that can see the global registration list)				
After 40 calendar days, without taking into account leave, have passed after an ETL without a claim, send a reminder to the TD		1, before 2013	Per	

Maintenance Tasks

Feature	Hours (estimate)	Priority	Project leader	Status
Security improvement: encrypt the passwords in the database (this requires a different password reset method -		1	Austin	

send a new starter password - this option should be available to the helpdesk, too)				
Bug: Finished games show time stamp of last move in games list column “Since”, instead of result date			Reported by Panu Laine	
Security improvement: Implement login via SSL			Martin	
There are also a lot of registered users, who have never logged in to the server		TBD		
Use proper mime type (application/x-chess-pgn) on PGN files.		1		Deployed
Arjen Oudheusden: ND should have see the role lists for users from their country				
IP V6 readiness of IP blocking		3 (future)		
Possible stricter password rules for users with roles.				
Possible UI for setting the “has to change password at next log-in” flag. For example for cases where users have disclosed their password to helpdesk				
Bug: Adding players to a board, removing that board, and then trying to start the event results in an error “You have to assign the correct number of players before you can start the event.”			Neil	
Users can enter incorrect email address when signing up / changing email address. Email address entry could be repeated and/or validated.		1	Martin, Arjen	
Watchdog service? Related: status page hosted independently (proposed by Ron Langeveld) This is now implemented with Twitter			Martin, Ron Langeveld	
Usage statistics for the site (Austin: could use smartertools)			Austin	
Improve error handling when not logged in and		Proposed 1	Jan	Deployed

access to game denied. After logging in, must redirect to game instead of to error page again.			Schwarz	
Bug with substitutions in Scheveningen events possibly not being correctly evaluated for the rating list (hasn't happened so far)		3	Gerhard	

International Correspondence Chess Federation