#  International Correspondence Chess Federation


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## Direct Entry Commissioner

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**Report to the 2015 Congress**

**Direct Entry Programme**

22nd June 2015

Dear Chessfriends,

1. **Introduction**

 I am pleased to submit my fourth report as Direct Entry Commissioner to the 2015 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 2015.

2. **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.

 The Programme benefits from the automation of the process for entries on the webserver. This process is being continually reviewed to seek possible improvements, and I extend my thanks to all those involved in ensuring this system works so efficiently.

 I am pleased to report that the Direct Entry Programme has received its 11,000th eligible entry in January 2015. Since its introduction in 2006, the programme has received an average of about 106 entries per month. The greatest number of entries in a month was in May 2014 when 341 entries were received.

3. **Information about the Direct Entry Programme**

 From January to December 2014, 2273 entries for ICCF tournaments were registered, that is 6.23 entries per day, representing an increase of about 25% compared with 2013 (1816 entries, 4.98 per day). This is to date a record number of entries in a year. However, from January to May 2015 a total of 966 entries were registered, that is 6.40 entries per day. We are therefore well on the way to breaking the record set in 2014.

 **Appendix 1** contains details of the entries to the varied tournaments available by Direct Entry, and the level of activity in each tournament.

4. **Rejected entries**

 Unfortunately, there are occasions when the Direct Entry Office has to reject entries, and this can occur for a variety of reasons. Whilst a small number of rejections can be expected, 2014 saw a very large number of rejections, some 129 in total, which is far too many. **Appendix** 2 contains details of these rejections.

 Delegates are kindly requested to remind those players within their Federation of their need to be qualified to enter the event of their choice. The qualification criteria for the various events appear on the webserver. It would save the players’ disappointment and the Direct Entry Office a lot of work if the number of rejections could be dramatically reduced.

5. **Direct Entry 5th Webserver Anniversary Tournament**

 To celebrate the fifth anniversary of the Direct Entry Programme, a tournament was organized by Jean-Christophe Chazalette (FRA). The current situation is that the final is taking place with play officially having started on 5th April 2014. The final is a Category VIII event contested by 15 players, and play will cease on 5th April 2016. The prizes for the event are:

 1st prize: DE 5th Anniversary Tournament trophy, plus 450 €

 2nd prize: 330 €

 3rd prize: 220 €

 By winning their semi-final groups, the following players are each entitled to **3 free entries** in any Direct Entry tournament of their choice. **The free entries must be used before 31st March, 2016:**

 **ICCF NUMBER NAME FEDERATION**

 **181193 Broudin, Melissa FRA**

 **390491 Pessoa, Francisco Azevedo POR**

 **141826 Terekhov, Andrey Andreevich RUS**

 **100129 Terreaux, Gilles SUI**

 **142089 Beilin, Sergey Mikhailovich RUS**

 **371050 Westera, Bert NED**

 **380073 Noble, Mark F. NZL**

 To date, only three free entries have been used. I have contacted these players individually to remind them of their entitlement.

6. **Direct Entry 10th Webserver Anniversary Tournament**

 I have proposed to hold a 10th Webserver Anniversary tournament to celebrate 10 years since the start of the Direct Entry Programme in April 2006. Should my proposal receive the necessary support, an announcement seeking entries will be made later in 2015 with a view to start the preliminary groups on 5th April 2016, the 10th anniversary of the Direct Entry Programme.

7. **Appreciation**

 I wish to thank:

* Jean-Christophe Chazalette (FRA) for his continued organization of DE5A.
* All Tournament Organisers for their continued support of the Direct Entry Office and the Programme.
* All National Federations with whom the Direct Entry Office has had contact for their cooperation.

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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.

**Ian M Pheby**

**Direct Entry Commissioner**

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**Appendix 1 – Entries to Direct Entry Programme**

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|   | **2006\*** | **2007** | **2008** | **2009** | **2010** | **2011** | **2012** | **2013** | **2014** | **2015\*\*** |
| **DE Applications** | **393** | **728** | **821** | **1038** | **1070** | **1368** | **1260** | **1816** | **2273** | **966** |
| **Average Applications per day** | **1.46** | **1.99** | **2.25** | **2.84** | **2.93** | **3.75** | **3.44** | **4.98** | **6.23** | **6.40** |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| **World Championships** |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| WCCC - Preliminaries | **3** | **6** | **23** | **10** | **3** | **10** | **33** | **28** | **30** | **32** |
| WCCC - Semifinals | **1** | **2** | **5** | **2** | **1** | **5** | **7** | **12** | **18** | **25** |
| WCCC - Candidates | **1** | **6** | **10** | **6** | **1** | **0** | **0** | **4** | **7** | **0** |
| LWCCC - Semifinals | *N/A* | *N/A* | *N/A* | *N/A* | *N/A* | **1** | **0** | **0** | **0** | **0** |
| **World Cups** |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| World Cups | **47** | *N/A* | *N/A* | **95** | *N/A* | **224** | **1** | **279** | **0** | **22** |
| Veterans World Cups | *N/A* | *N/A* | *N/A* | **28** | **47** | **56** | **85** | **99** | **79** | **33** |
| Junior World Cup | *N/A* | *N/A* | **6** | *N/A* | *N/A* | **1** | **1** | **0** | **0** | **0** |
| Chess 960 | *N/R* | *N/R* | *N/R* | *N/R* | *N/R* | *N/R* | *N/R* | **23** | **43** | **42** |
| **European Championships** |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Server Championship Open | *N/A* | *N/A* | *N/A* | *N/A* | *N/A* | *N/A* | *N/A* | **33** | **169** | **97** |
| Server Championship Preliminaries | *N/A* | *N/A* | *N/A* | *N/A* | *N/A* | *N/A* | *N/A* | **15** | **114** | **53** |
| Server Championship Semifinals | *N/A* | *N/A* | *N/A* | *N/A* | *N/A* | *N/A* | **5** | **0** | **42** | **0** |
| Server Championship Candidates | *N/A* | *N/A* | *N/A* | *N/A* | *N/A* | *N/A* | *N/A* | *N/A* | **11** | **7** |
| Postal Championship Open | *N/A* | *N/A* | *N/A* | *N/A* | *N/A* | *N/A* | *N/A* | **2** | **7** | **1** |
| Postal Championship Semifinals | *N/A* | *N/A* | *N/A* | *N/A* | *N/A* | *N/A* | *N/A* | **2** | **3** | **1** |
| **Norm Tournaments** |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Grandmaster Norm | **3** | **6** | **8** | **9** | **19** | **30** | **13** | **25** | **26** | **10** |
| Master Norm | **8** | **16** | **22** | **18** | **25** | **39** | **53** | **78** | **66** | **17** |
| **Champions League** |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Champions League | *N/A* | **103** | *N/A* | **166** | *N/A* | **0** | **47** | **0** | **0** | **47** |
| **Promotion Tournaments** |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| European Open Class | *N/R* | *N/R* | *N/R* | *N/R* | *N/R* | *N/R* | *N/R* | **56** | **0** | **0** |
| European Higher Class | *N/R* | *N/R* | *N/R* | *N/R* | *N/R* | *N/R* | *N/R* | **28** | **0** | **0** |
| European Master Class | *N/R* | *N/R* | *N/R* | *N/R* | *N/R* | *N/R* | *N/R* | **37** | **0** | **0** |
| NAPZ Open Class | *N/A* | *N/A* | *N/A* | *N/A* | *N/A* | *N/A* | *N/A* | **123** | **191** | **78** |
| NAPZ Higher Class | *N/A* | *N/A* | *N/A* | *N/A* | *N/A* | *N/A* | *N/A* | **45** | **65** | **30** |
| NAPZ Master Class | *N/A* | *N/A* | *N/A* | *N/A* | *N/A* | *N/A* | *N/A* | **48** | **43** | **35** |
| World Open Class | **174** | **324** | **313** | **292** | **338** | **302** | **395** | **444** | **323** | **139** |
| World Higher Class | **39** | **56** | **88** | **153** | **93** | **116** | **158** | **166** | **176** | **71** |
| World Master Class | **45** | **66** | **63** | **63** | **89** | **137** | **173** | **165** | **186** | **97** |
| World Postal Open Class | *N/A* | *N/A* | *N/A* | *N/A* | *N/A* | *N/A* | *N/A* | *N/A* | **12** | **5** |
| World Postal Higher Class | *N/A* | *N/A* | *N/A* | *N/A* | *N/A* | *N/A* | *N/A* | *N/A* | **1** | **2** |
| World Postal Master Class | *N/A* | *N/A* | *N/A* | *N/A* | *N/A* | *N/A* | *N/A* | *N/A* | **4** | **3** |
| **Thematics** |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Thematics | **11** | **30** | **14** | **22** | **47** | **73** | **59** | **63** | **95** | **35** |
| **Jubilee Tournaments** |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Jubilee 960-1 | *N/A* | *N/A* | *N/A* | *N/A* | *N/A* | **23** | **0** | **0** | **0** | **0** |
| **Direct Entry Events** |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| DE5A | *N/A* | *N/A* | *N/A* | *N/A* | **139** | **350** | **0** | **0** | **0** | **0** |
| **Money Prize Tournaments** |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Money Prize Tournaments | *N/A* | **113** | **169** | **131** | **102** | *N/A* | *N/A* | *N/A* | *N/A* | *N/A* |
| Fast Money Prize | *N/A* | *N/A* | *N/A* | **25** | **34** | *N/A* | *N/A* | *N/A* | *N/A* | *N/A* |
| **Rapid Tournaments** |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Rapid Tournaments | *N/A* | *N/A* | **4** | **10** | *N/A* | *N/A* | *N/A* | *N/A* | *N/A* | *N/A* |
| **Blitz Tournaments** |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Blitz Tournaments | *N/A* | *N/A* | **7** | **8** | *N/A* | *N/A* | *N/A* | *N/A* | *N/A* | *N/A* |
| **Open Tournaments** |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Aspirer | *N/A* | *N/A* | *N/A* | *N/A* | *N/A* | *N/A* | *N/A* | **28** | **146** | **63** |
| Webchess Open | **61** | *N/A* | **89** | *N/A* | **132** | **0** | **216** | **0** | **384** | **0** |
| Chess 960 | *N/A* | *N/A* | *N/A* | *N/A* | *N/A* | 1 | **14** | **13** | **32** | **13** |
| NAPZ Chess 960 | *N/A* | *N/A* | *N/A* | *N/A* | *N/A* | *N/A* | *N/A* | *N/A* | *N/A* | **8** |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |

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

\*\* From 01/01/2015 to 31/05/2015

**Appendix 2 – Rejected entries in 2014**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **COUNTRY** | **TOTAL** |
| Argentina | 2 |
| Australia | 7 |
| Austria | 2 |
| Belarus | 1 |
| Canada | 6 |
| Croatia | 1 |
| Cuba | 1 |
| Denmark | 2 |
| England | 13 |
| Finland | 1 |
| France | 15 |
| Germany | 9 |
| Israel | 3 |
| Italy | 4 |
| Latvia | 1 |
| Mexico | 1 |
| Netherlands | 2 |
| Norway | 1 |
| Panama | 1 |
| Philippines | 1 |
| Poland | 2 |
| Portugal | 1 |
| Romania | 1 |
| Russia | 10 |
| South Africa | 1 |
| Switzerland | 2 |
| Tunisia | 2 |
| Turkey | 3 |
| USA | 33 |
|  | **129** |

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **REASONS FOR REJECTION** | **TOTAL** |
| Already entered event | 4 |
| Entered tournament after closing date | 1 |
| No qualification | 23 |
| Not eligible for EU events | 14 |
| Not eligible for NAPZ events | 18 |
| Player requested cancellation - did not mean to enter that event | 23 |
| Qualification already used | 3 |
| Quoted a qualification of winning an event when only in first place of an unfinished event | 1 |
| Player suspended | 5 |
| Rating too high | 16 |
| Rating too low | 18 |
| Tournament Organiser declined entry | 3 |
|  | **129** |

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