



Mexican Correspondence Chess Association
Asociación Mexicana de Ajedrez por Correspondencia (AMAC)
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Mexican Correspondence Chess History.

The postal chess modality has existed for many years, as many as the existence of the postal service worldwide. The idea is simple: a game of chess is played between two contenders, who send their respective moves by letter. External analysis, books, consultation with other players and, today, computers are allowed.

The most interesting thing about this is that games by mail lasted months, even years, but now, with Internet, the time to required play this modality has been considerably reduced. In addition, the ICCF (International Correspondence Chess Federation) is the regulator of this activity, and frequently organizes all kinds of postal chess tournaments, using not only "e-mail" but also online servers, where the players do directly their moves and the system is in charge of saving the information, and sending mail messages to the players involved about the status of their games.

Postal chess is supposed, at least in theory, to promote a deeper study of chess. Analysis can be done not only mentally, since pieces can be moved. Similarly, with the help of modern programs, you can have first level advisors who define the best moves and value them for us.

You have to remember that the rivals have all the time in the world to decide what to play. In fact, the rules of the formal ICCF tournaments appeal to 10 plays in 50 days, which is a reasonable average.

Of course, players in correspondence tournaments have to play against 12 or 15 players at the same time, and although they have 50 days for 10 moves, this is simultaneous in all games. So, sometimes playing these championships is strong work and investment in time, always for the benefit of chess itself, but perhaps demerit other activities.

The ICCF awards international master and grandmaster titles to those who achieve certain sporting merits in this type of tournaments. There is a correspondence world champion, which is usually a strong player in live competitions, although most of the players use postal chess, who see little in front of the board in normal tournaments.

Mexico has two great correspondence chess masters: the players, Kenneth Frey and Jorge Aldrete. The first one was even on the list of the best 10 in the world in this modality. Frey is an example of discipline before the board and his long chess career is without a doubt extraordinary. Jorge Aldrete, on the other hand, is another player with a long career in the Mexican chess world. His foray into postal chess was crowned with the title of great master by correspondence, which speaks of the work and investment in time he has dedicated, because this title is not easily given to anyone.

Likewise, Mexico has two international masters, Clemente Guizar and Juan Gustavo Mercader. Clemente Guizar is a player with a long career in correspondence chess since 1991 and obtained the title of International Master in 1997, and is still active. participating in International tournaments. Juan Gustavo Mercader Martínez started his participation in the ICCF in 2011 and obtained the title of International Master 2017.



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As of September 2017, a group of enthusiastic correspondence players registered with the ICCF organized themselves to form the Mexican Correspondence Chess Association, for which dissemination activities were carried out. The first activities were to arrange friendly matches against Wales, the Netherlands, the United States and Peru, where 14 practitioners of the science game in their postal version faced prestigious players from those countries.

Among the players from Mexico who participated in these encounters were: Ricardo Antonio Canhe Naal, Jesus Yáñez García, José Pérez Domínguez, Mijahel Padilla Cruz, Ana Lilia Gaona Robles, Luis Alberto García Yoshida, José Martín Miguel Suarez Sánchez, Sergio Reyes Reyes, Jorge Luis Sáenz Ramos, Francisco Santiago Emilio González Christen, Jorge Alberto Esquivel León, Benjamín Góngora Montes, Ulises Pineda and the International Master Juan Gustavo Mercader Martínez.

Finally, after an intense process of organization, on March 15, 2018, the Mexican Association of Correspondence Chess was formally founded, agreeing to apply for membership in the International Correspondence Chess Federation. The following persons were elected as Board of Directors:

President: Juan Gustavo Mercader Martínez

Vice President: Jorge Alberto Esquivel León

Secretary: Ulises Pineda

Treasurer: Melisa Cisneros Escalona