Isolated Player Support Officer’s Report

To Virtual Congress 2025

This is my first report since I was appointed as the Isolated Player Support Officer (IPSO) in September 2023. First of all, many thanks to the Executive Board for appointing me to this position that provided me the opportunity to serve and support the non-federated isolated players.

Since the elimination of the old zonal system there is something missing from the service that ICCF provide to these players and supporting isolated players is essential to our future.

As the IPSO I serve almost as a delegate for isolated players (but without a vote), providing support in their registration and issues of payment, confirming new accounts, accepting invitations for tournaments, and representing isolated players in reports to Congress and other communications. In addition, I also make arrangement for mailing/sending the medals and certificates to the respective locations of the players.

There were 96 new confirmed isolated players since January 1, 2024 until June 12, 2025. I send questionnaires to prospective players before their accounts are approved. Players who respond to questionnaires get their accounts confirmed while those who do not respond or do not provide their real names get rejected. Below is the breakdown of confirmed isolated players by region/country.  
  


In the same period, there were 27 titles earned by isolated players as show in the table below.  
  
  
  
Tournament medals and certificates and CCE and CCM medals were sent to the isolated players in Croatia, Serbia, Andorra and Venezuela and also to the isolated players of Belarus. After coordination with Belarus, the CCE and CCM medals for the Belarus players were forwarded to the Embassy of Belarus in Washington, DC who in turned sent these to the designated addressee in Belarus.

The medals and certificates of the major titles of IM, SIM and GM are to be handed in person during the Opening and awarding ceremonies of the 2025 Congress. These medals and certificates will not be distributed as the 2025 Congress is virtual, being held online. Hopefully, my proposal for the 2026 Congress to be held in Manila will be approved by the Congress, in which case I can receive the medals and certificates of the major titles on behalf of those players who will not be able to personally attend.  
  
I am also pleased to announce that a team of isolated players are able to participate in the 2nd World Team Cup Tournament. This is good move in giving the opportunity to the isolated players to join and play in team tournaments. The selection of the team was based on the latest ratings of the players and also provided opportunity to players of other countries to participate and be represented. Majority of the team members have come from the former Russian and Belarusian federations.

Arthur C Simplina

Isolated Player Support Officer

July 16, 2025