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| iccflog2000_35mm1  **POSTAL**  **TOURNAMENT**  **OFFICE** | **THE INTERNATIONAL CORRESPONDENCE CHESS FEDERATION**  **Gian-Maria Tani**  **via Guido Reni 75**  **I-10136 Torino**  **Italia**  **tel.: +39-3495519830**    **E-mail: g.m.tani.iccf@gmail.com** |

# ICCF CONGRESS 2025

## REPORT OF THE POSTAL TOURNAMENT OFFICE

**Year 2024**

In 2024 I started 5 WT/A and 3 WT/O, with a total of 33 players, while in 2023 I started 2 WT/A and 9 WT/O, with a total of 44 players.

This means a decrease in the number of players of exactly 25%, with a decrease in the number of WT/O tournaments and an increase in WT/A tournaments.

Players in the 2024 postal tournaments came from 12 different countries (11 countries in 2023). The largest number of players came from the United States (11) and Germany (9).

**Year 2025**

In the first 6 months of 2025 I started 3 sections (1 WT/A and 2 WT/O), with a total of 13 players.

**Considerations**

### At the risk of appearing boring, I will repeat here the same considerations that I wrote in my report for the 2024 Congress.

### I know that many people argue that due to the low number of entries for postal tournaments, it is useless to continue holding these types of tournaments.

But I will continue to reiterate (and fight for...) that ICCF was born on postcards and we cannot "kick out" some of our "customers", be they elderly people or chess players who prefer the "slow game", in the name of a false modernity.

Someone also suggested abolishing the division into two classes ("A" and "O") and organizing only one "open class". Doing this, in my opinion, would only serve to distance those few players with a medium-high rating (a player with a rating over 2000 would hardly agree to play - and risk ELO points - with players with a rating of around 1600 or with newbies at their first tournament!).

Therefore, as long as it will be possible to start at least one WT/A and one WT/O tournament every 6 months, I will be inclined to maintain the division of postal tournaments into two classes.

**Acknowledgments**

As usual, I would like to send a huge "thank you!" to “my” T.D., Rubens Battistini (ITA) and Josep Guevara i Pijoan (ESP), for their valuable and dedicated work.

Torino, 24/07/2025

