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| iccflog2000_35mm1**TITLE****TOURNAMENT****COMMISSIONER** | **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 TITLE TOURNAMENT COMMISSIONER

**1. WORLD CHAMPIONSHIPS**

**1.1 WCCC Finals**

The 33rd WCCC Final (started on 20/11/2022) ended on 11/08/2025, with a perhaps paradoxical outcome: 126 matches ended in draws, and the only 10 wins were the consequence of the sudden death of former world champion A.S. Dronov. The title of 33rd World Champion has been thus shared among the 10 players who drew all their games except the one against Dronov: Angel Acevedo Villalba (PER), Valery Konstantinovich Aleksandrov (RUS), Mikhail Mikhailovich Churkin (RUS), Daniel M. Fleetwood (USA), Olaf Hesse (GER), Tiziano Mosconi (ITA/ISL), Javier Ros Padilla (ESP), Ivan Anatolevich Panitevsky (RUS), Pavel Sváček (CZE) and Tansel Turgut (TUR).

The 34th WCCC Final was started on 20/12/2024 with only 15 players from 11 different countries: it was impossible to have 17 players with a valid qualification right agreeing to play; the TD is IA Ian M. Pheby (ENG).

**1.2 WCCC Candidates’ Tournaments**

The Sections of the 42nd WCCC (started in 2022) are almost finished: only one game is still running; the Sections of the 43rd and 44th WCCC (started in 2023 and 2024) are in constant progress.

**1.3 WCCC Semi-Finals**

The Sections of the 48th WCCC (started in 2024) are in constant progress.

The 2025 Sections (49th WCCC) were started on 20/06/2025 (9 Sections with 135 players); the TD are IA Valery Igorevich Myakutin (RUS) and IA Bianor de Oliveira Neves (BRA).

**1.4 WCCC Preliminaries**

The Sections of the 47th WCCC (started in 2023) are almost finished; the Sections of the 48th WCCC (started in 2024) are in constant progress.

The 2025 Sections (49th WCCC) were started on 20/03/2025 (12 Sections with 180 players); the TDs are IA Giraldo Menéndez Rodríguez (CUB), IA Bianor de Oliveira Neves (BRA), IA Alain Rogemont (FRA) and IA Laurent Tinture (FRA).

**2. OLYMPIADS**

**2.1 CC Olympiads Finals**

The Final of the 22nd Olympiad (started on 22/01/2024) is in constant progress: over 87% of the games have already finished.

**2.2 CC Olympiads Preliminaries**

The Preliminaries of the 23rd Olympiad (started on 22/01/2024) are in constant progress: over 96% of the games have already finished.

**3. NORM TOURNAMENTS**

In 2024, 78 Norm Tournaments were launched, with 1086 players from 61 countries, while in 2023, 72 Norm Tournaments were launched, with 1023 players from 59 countries. There was therefore an increase in players of 6.16%. For reasons I can't explain, the top 5 classes (from GMN/A to MN/A) saw a 74.5% increase in entries, while the bottom 5 classes (from MN/B to CCE/B) saw a 29.6% decrease.

In the first 6 months of 2025, 36 tournaments were launched, with 504 players.

**4. NEXT TOURNAMENTS TO BE STARTED**

**4.1 WCCC Final**

The 35th WCCC Final is scheduled for the 4th quarter of 2026, but it's uncertain whether it will be possible to get 17 players with a valid qualification who wish to participate. I therefore propose to postpone it to the 2nd or 3rd quarter of 2027.

**4.2 WCCC Candidates’ Tournaments**

The Candidates’ Tournament of the 45th WCCC has been announced and registration is now closed. The tournament will start on 20/09/2025; the TD will be IA Juan Alberto Martello (ARG).

The Candidates’ Tournament of the 46th WCCC is scheduled for September 2026.

**4.3 WCCC Semi-Finals**

The Semi-Finals of the 50th WCCC are scheduled for June 2026.

**4.4 WCCC Preliminaries**

The Preliminaries of the 50th WCCC are scheduled for March 2026.

**5. ACKNOWLEDGMENTS**

I would like to thank all "my" Tournament Directors (in alphabetical order: Gordon M. Anderson, Karsten Kjeldsen, Juan Alberto Martello, Carlos Martín Sánchez, Giraldo Ménendez Rodríguez, Michael Millstone, Clive Murden, Valery Igorevich Myakutin, Bianor de Oliveira Neves, Ian M. Pheby, Alain Rogemont, Giorgio Ruggeri Laderchi and Laurent Tinture) for their great commitment and constant collaboration.

A big "thank you" for their support and help also goes to all ICCF officers who are in continuous contact with me and especially to the WTD Uwe Staroske.

#### Torino, 27/08/2025.

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