

The MINUTES of the XXIII CONGRESS of the International Committee of Silent Chess at Rotterdam, Netherlands, on 28 July 1996, commencing at 09.35 hours.

I.C.S.C. Board Members present:

Boyce, A.J.	President
Visco, M.	Vice President
Westerveld, G.	General Secretary/Treasurer
Dyjo, W.	Board Member
Sobolev, Y	Board Member

Country-Member Delegates present:

1.	BELARUS	Gorbylev, A.
2.	CROATIA	Cehic, G. , Tarcazy, S.
3.	CZECH REPUBLIC	Schmid, J. , Frydl, K.
4.	ENGLAND	Gardner, P.K. , Handy, P.
5.	FINLAND	Entelá, O.
6.	GERMANY	Krumscheid, T. , Heins, H.
7.	HUNGARY	Lukacsovics, L.
8.	ITALY	Baiocco, A. , Baiocco, I
9.	KAZAKHSTAN	Cheutchouk, E.N.
10.	LITHUANIA	Sabukiene, G.
11.	NETHERLANDS	Johannesen, H. , Grüdelbach, H.W.
12.	POLAND	Morawski, A. , Michalczuk, K.
13.	PORTUGAL	Araujo, M.
14.	RUSSIA	Makin, M , Salov, S.
15.	SCOTLAND	Tullis, P. , McLellan, G.
16.	SLOVENIA	Slatinsek, J.
17.	SWEDEN	Berntsson, I. , Korenkiewicz, J.
18.	SWITZERLAND	Hofer, A. , Nüesch, B.
19.	YUGOSLAVIA	Nikolic, M.

01. President A.J.Boyce declared the 23rd Congress open at 09.35 hours. He then warmly welcomed the delegates, and the KNDSB President, Mr. H.W. Grüdelbach, Mr.G. Vida (Hungary), and Mr. R.H. van Perlstein (NED). He followed up with the sad news that Mr. Barris of Latvia had recently passed away, and asked for a one minute's silence.

It was agreed that Mr. P.K. Gardner be accepted as a Minute-taker.

02. The KNDSB President, Mr. H.W. Grüdelbach, addressed a word of warm welcome to all with the hope that the Congress would be both smooth and successful. He then gave out a souvenir pen clad in a wooden box to each present to mark the occasion.

03. Apologies were received from LATVIA, ICELAND, UKRAINE, BULGARIA (Mr.Panev), and Mr. Meurer (ICSC Honorary President) who regretted not coming to the Congress but wished all good luck at the Congress.. Mr.Pinilla Santibanez of SPAIN was welcomed as an observer.

04. Of the investigation on the voting power forms supplied prior to the Congress, a total of 43 votes were accepted. Only UKRAINE was deemed void following their absence at the Congress.

05. The introduction of both red (accept) and yellow (reject) cards for the voting system were demonstrated by Mr. M. Visco. and circulated to all.  
The appointed scrutineers were as follows:

Tarczay, S	-	Croatia
Lukacscoovics	-	Hungary
Baiocco, L.	-	Italy
Reserve: De Araujo, M.	-	Portugal

At this stage, Mrs. DRONKERS, wife of the late Mr. Dronkers arrived. Mr. Boyce greeted her warmly with a flower plant, and acknowledged her husband's successes with the following speech: 'In August 1949, at Copenhagen, Denmark, Mr. Dronkers of the Netherlands founded the I.C.S.C. and was the I.C.S.C.'s first President. He worked hard to keep the I.C.S.C. going and stayed with the I.C.S.C. until his death 15 years ago. The seeds Mr Dronkers had sown have seen the I.C.S.C become a tree, and its roots now represent the Delegates. We shall never forget this great man! It is with great pleasure that Mrs Dronkers is here with us. Let us give her a good clap. Thank you, Mrs Dronkers, for coming to this Congress, and we wish you all the best of health for the future.'

Mrs. Dronkers was indeed overwhelmed and responded with warm thanks.

06. The appointed financial committee were as follows:

Sabukiene, G.	-	Lithuania
McLellan, G.	-	Scotland
Nuesch, B.	-	Switzerland

The financial accounts had already been circulated in English.

07. The following National Associations were accepted as members of the I.C.S.C.:  
BELARUS, KAZAKHSTAN,  
whilst the applications of both MOLDOVIA and SLOVAKIA were rejected, due to their non-payment of fees.

08. There were slight changes to the Agenda:  
12. d) World Individuals, Luzerne, Switzerland.  
14.1.7.(a) World Ladies Chess Individual Championships  
14.1.7.(b) ELO Ratings  
The I.C.S.C. President reminded all of the I.C.S.C.'s strict policy that all proposals should be submitted 3 months prior to the Congress.  
The changes in the Agenda were accepted by all.

09. The Minutes of the XXIIth Congress of the I.C.S.C., 1994 Brno, Czech Republic, were unanimously confirmed as a true record.

10. The I.C.S.C Board Report, published in the latest issue of the ICSC Bulletin, was unanimously accepted by all.

- 11.1 On the Financial Report, a few queries were made:  
a) The use of apple-pie charts should be introduced in future.  
b) The approval to sell the ICSC Computer to Mr. Vida for 500DM.  
c) The high fees of the auditor.  
d) Poland felt that the formatting of the Financial Accounts could have been improved.

- 11.2. The auditor's report was rejected by 30 votes to 8 votes.  
The new-style financial statement which should be submitted with the auditor's report at the next Congress was accepted unanimously.

- 11.3. The Report of the "Friends of the I.C.S.C. Fund" was accepted unanimously. And the I.C.S.C. President thanked all for donations.

- 12.a. The Report of the World Teams Deaf Chess Championships, Brno, Czech Republic, 1994, was verbally presented by K. Frydl. In short, the event was a great success, and a small profit was made. Videos of the event could be purchased. Accepted unanimously.
- 12.b. Italy reported on the European Clubs Deaf Chess Championships, Rome, Italy, 1995. It was the first time they had hosted a chess event, 14 clubs took part. And they had a woman arbiter. However there were two main problems. The first one concerned BELARUS's entry. Italy accepted their entry after the closing date and Belarus had not yet settled the debts and fees, and it was discovered after the event that the Belarus Club (Gobel) was not affiliated to the Belarus Deaf Chess Association. The second problem concerned Kiev of UKRAINE - they withdrew at short notice. Italy had already made all the reservation for both accomodation and meals for Kiev but Kiev refused to pay the fees due. Poland stressed that procedures should be strictly adhered to in the immediate future. The report was accepted by all.
- 12.c. Russia reported on the progress on the forthcoming European Clubs Deaf Chess Championships , Moscow, Russia 1997. The present currency in Russia is very unstable, hence their rather high charges on the daily rates. On accommodation, they added a third option - a hotel situated 40 km outside Moscow. The rates would be U.S. 60 dollars or 300 dollars for five days.
- 12.d. Switzerland gave a brief presentation on the World Teams Chess Championships, Luzerne, Switzerland, 1998. Participating countries would be given different packages based on various accommodation prices. Information would be available after Easter 1997.
13. The following diplomas were presented by Mrs Dronkers to:
- |               |              |                             |                      |
|---------------|--------------|-----------------------------|----------------------|
| T. Krumscheid | (Germany)    | GOLD                        | Services to I.C.S.C. |
| M. Nikolic    | (Yugoslavia) | GOLD                        | Services to I.C.S.C. |
| F. Wood       | (England)    | SILVER                      | Services to I.C.S.C. |
| G. Vida       | (Hungary)    | I.C.S.C. Honorary President |                      |
| Varekhine     | (Russia)     | International Master        |                      |
| S. Salov      | (Russia)     | International Grandmaster   |                      |
| R. Hoffman    | (Germany)    | International Grandmaster   |                      |
14. 1.1. Accepted that a new post of Treasurer be appointed at the next Congress.
- 1.2. Accepted on the increases, although the proposed fees should be rounded to the nearest five in Dutch guilders. This was accepted too.
- 1.3. Of the views generated, it was felt that more games should be provided. Westerveld to be the Editor. Agreed to sell the computer to Vida for 500 DM.
- 1.4. Accepted that Inspection visits should be covered by the I.C.S.C. for travelling expenses whilst the organising country should cater for accommodation costs.
- 1.5. Accepted by 14 votes to 6 votes (23 abstained) that the organising country may invite the ICSC Honorary Presidents and meet the accommodation cost whilst the travelling costs may be met by his national Association.
- 1.6. Any amendments would automatically be in line with the FIDE regulations.
- 1.7.(a) Accepted that the World Individuals Deaf Chess Championships for Ladies to take place with the men's event.
- 1.7.(b) Sobolev outlined the need to have the players ELO-rated and asked for information relating to ratings from different countries to continue his findings. Agreed that a sub-committee be set up with :-  
A.J. Boyce (England), Y. Sobolev (Russia) , J. Schmid (Czech Republic)
- 1.8. Agreed that the "Society of Friends of the I.C.S.C." be formed, and that the proposals be accepted.

2. Following failure in meeting backward contributions, the following countries were struck out of the I.C.S.C. membership:
- |            |                 |
|------------|-----------------|
| COSTA RICA | (26 votes to 0) |
| ISRAEL     | (16 votes to 0) |
| SLOVAKIA   | (40 votes to 0) |
- 2.1. The proposals by Ukraine were declared void.
- 2.2. The first proposal by Russia was defeated by 26 votes to 6. And the rest were immediately withdrawn except for Proposal m) which was accepted.
- 2.3. Scotland's proposals were accepted, and it was agreed to form a sub-committee to carry out the research. The following were elected:
- |               |               |
|---------------|---------------|
| G. McLellan   | (Scotland)    |
| W. Dyjo       | (Poland)      |
| G. Westerveld | (Netherlands) |
| S. Salov      | (Russia)      |
| B. Nuesch     | (Switzerland) |
- 2.4. It was agreed that Italy should introduce a pilot scheme and organise an International Correspondence Tournament for the time being.

The I.C.S.C. President thanked all for contributing the proposals.

15. Letters have been received from the following countries:  
SOUTH AFRICA, FRANCE, AFGHANISTAN, CANADA, KENYA, MACEDONIA.

There was also a letter from the new C.I.S.S. President, John Lovett of Australia.

- |     |                                     |                       |        |
|-----|-------------------------------------|-----------------------|--------|
| 16. | 1997 European Club Championships    | MOSCOW - RUSSIA       | Def.   |
|     | 1998 World Team Championships       | LUCERNE - SWITZERLAND | Def.   |
|     | 1999 European Club Championships    | PULA - CROATIA        | Def.   |
|     | 2000 World Individual Championships | SLOVENIA / POLAND     | Cands. |
|     | 2001 European Club Championships    | LISBON - PORTUGAL     | Cand.  |
|     | 2002 World Team Championships       | PONZAN, POLAND        | Cand.  |
|     | 2003 European Club Championships    | HUNGARY/SERBIA        | Cands. |
|     | 2004 World Individual Championships | ITALY/GERMANY         | Cands. |

17. Supplementary papers (in A5 form) for the I.C.S.C. Handbook were circulated. Thanks were given to M.Visco for his work.

18. a)H. Johannesen (Netherlands) presented a souvenir pen clad in a wooden box to all present to commemorate the Rotterdam event. Very much appreciated by all.
- b)J.Schmid (Czech Republic) wanted to see all the participants fluent in sign language, for he was concerned by the increase of hard of hearing chess players. And he wanted to see the loss of decibels changed from 55 to 70. It was agreed that this matter would be reviewed.
- c) Mrs. Dronkers showed all a photo of her late husband with the FIDE World Champion, Dr. Max Euwe.
- The SWEDORO President accepted our thanks for use of the premises for the Congress, and presented the ICSC President a framed photograph of Mr. Dronkers and Dr. Max Euwe.

19. The Congress closed at 17.55 hours with a vote of thanks to the I.C.S.C. President.