

FIDE - ACP Meeting Report

Moscow, 25.03.2007

by Pavel Tregubov

Duration – 4 hours

Attendance:

from FIDE

from ACP

President K. Ilyumzhinov
President's advisor B. Balgabaev

President P. Tregubov

- I. The main topic of the meeting was **time control in FIDE official tournaments**. This subject has been one of the most discussed in the chess world over the past few years.

FIDE's basic concept is to gradually reduce the length of chess games, which would enable to:

- have two rounds a day in some tournaments, in order to substantially cut organisation costs and achieve time savings for professional chess players;
- make chess more attractive to media (TV in the first place) and as a result to potential sponsors.

ACP's position:

- reducing time for reflection damages the games quality; the calculation system for games with a shortened time control shouldn't therefore be the same as that for games with classical time control, as their sports value is lower;
- rather than continuing to reduce the classical time control, it would make more sense, in line with today's world, to actively develop and promote rapid chess;
- the world championship and its traditional time control are an integral part of chess history; the whole world championship cycle must be held with classical time control.

Following a long discussion, the parties worked out the following common position, which has to be approved by the ACP Board and will be presented for consideration to the next FIDE Presidential Board.

1. FIDE sets up three official time controls:
 - a) classical (100'/40+50')+30" for electronic clocks or 120'/40+60' for mechanical clocks;

- b) rapid 20' + 10" for electronic clocks or 25' – for mechanical clocks;
 - c) blitz 3'+2" for electronic clocks or 5' - for mechanical clocks.
2. There will be a separate calculation system for each of these time controls. In addition to the existing classical system, FIDE will introduce, from 1.07.2008 two new systems: one for rapid tournaments, and one for blitz tournaments.
 3. The whole world championship cycle, including continental championships, the world Cup and the world championship match will be held with the classical time control. The other FIDE tournaments are supposed to be held with the rapid time control.

II. Appeal Committe

19.03.2007 The ACP sent to FIDE a proposal on a problem which has recently become a topical issue: determining the composition of the Appeal Committee for FIDE official tournaments.

FIDE doesn't see any possibility of changing the composition of the AC for the upcoming Candidates matches, as its members (G. Makropoulos, B. Spassky, B. Ivanovich, B. Asanov) were invited a long time ago and have confirmed their participation.

It is agreed that the ACP will propose one of the candidates to the AC for the most important official FIDE tournaments.