

FIDE at SportAccord

FIDE again attended the SportAccord convention, which this time was held in London from April 4th to 8th. The FIDE team included Nigel Freeman, Treasurer, Geoffrey Borg, CEO, David Jarrett, Executive Director, and members of the Secretariat from Athens.

FIDE was represented at the annual meetings of ARISF (Association of Recognized Sports Federations) and SportAccord. David Jarrett was re-elected as one of the financial examiners of ARISF.

An agreement was signed with SportAccord for the inclusion of Chess in the SportAccord Mind Games that will be held in December 2011 in Beijing (see attached).

Many persons attended the FIDE stand in the Exhibition area and among those with whom discussions were held were WADA, Eurovision, Aon, FISU and Peace & Sport. Also preliminary talks were held with a potential Olympiad bidder. The comments of Emiliano Simonelli, Senior Manager at WADA received after the meeting are attached.

There was a positive meeting with representatives of the IOC. Mr Borg's report is below.

Next year's SportAccord will be held in Quebec, Canada in May.

REPORT REGARDING MEETING WITH IOC IN LONDON

Thursday, 7th April 2011

Present for meeting: IOC – Jean-Laurent Bourquin & Christian Wassmer

FIDE: Nigel Freeman, Berik Balgabaev and Geoffrey Borg

IOC opened the meeting by inquiring about the “World Team Championship” in Russia last year and the number of teams participating as well as some other minor questions such as the Israel-Yemen pairing and subsequent resolution were discussed.

IOC were pleased to note the development program of chess in schools in a number of countries and the efforts of FIDE President to popularise chess. Also, they discussed the organization of the forthcoming SportAccord Mind Games in Beijing.

FIDE explained the details of the various programs for chess in schools and requested IOC to support this program with a higher amount of money than is currently given by the IOC to FIDE. IOC requested FIDE to send a proposal.

FIDE also highlighted the problem with the lack of recognition by several NOCs of chess as a sport despite the “nod of recognition” by the IOC. IOC said that 115 NOCs

was quite good and several other ARISF Federations were much lower. Also, it was a matter of respecting the NOCs individuality and national interests.

FIDE then brought up the issue of participation in the Youth Olympics. IOC explained that there was an issue of keeping these games to a moderate size and that costs had to be controlled. FIDE offered that if they were part of the Youth Olympics they would organise to cover the hosting expenses for the athletes participating and this would therefore be no cost for the organiser. IOC said this was unfortunately not possible.

Mr Wassmer from IOC then explained the function of the new Entourage Commission that had been introduced in IOC to deal with the effects of key people surrounding athletes.

Letter from WADA dated April 14th 2011

Dear Mr. Jarrett,

Following our meeting at the SportAccord Convention in London and in light of the information provided on that occasion, we are pleased to inform you that we consider your anti-doping program to be in line with the World Anti-Doping Code.

We congratulate you for the results achieved and encourage you to sustain your efforts in order to further develop your program. We would be pleased to provide guidance and assistance in this process if needed.

Thank you for your commitment to the fight against doping in sport.

Sincerely,

Emiliano Simonelli

Senior Manager - Code Compliance, Standards and Harmonization
Responsable Principal - Conformité au Code, Standards et Harmonisation
World Anti-Doping Agency / Agence Mondiale Antidopage