

## World Youth Inspection

The World Youth Championships will take place at Caldas Novas, Brazil from November 17th to 27th 2011. An inspection visit was carried out by Continental President, Jorge Vega and Executive Director, David Jarrett from August 16<sup>th</sup>-18<sup>th</sup>.

Caldas Novas is a resort town of hot springs with many hotels, at least six of which will be used for the Youth Championships. The town is a drive of just over 2 hours from the nearest airport, Goiania and about three hours drive from the capital, Brasilia. There are many flights each day to Goiania from such places as Rio de Janeiro and Sao Paulo. Brasilia has direct flight links with several countries, including the USA, Columbia, Peru and Portugal.

Participants will be met at the two main airports and transported to their hotel. All the hotels are within walking distance of the playing venue although there will be bus transportation for one hotel that is a little further away than the others. Five of the hotels belong to one group and offer free internet, full board plus swimming pools and free access to the local Water Park. The economy hotel is without these facilities and only offers breakfast.

Medical facilities will be available at all hotels and the playing venue. Free water will be supplied in the playing venue. There was sufficient space at the venue as several large side rooms were available in the event of a large entry. The lighting level of the main playing area would need to be investigated.

The inspection team commented on the need for English translations of hotel information and the necessary number of English speakers available in the hotel and playing venue to help with any problems. A suggestion was made to check the likely effect of a surge of activity on the internet connection. Electronic bulletins will be produced each day for all games.

The change of venue from Rio de Janeiro to Caldas Novas has meant that there are only nine possible playing days. The inspection team recommends that the playing schedule is reduced to nine rounds with a double round day for the 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> rounds followed by a rest day.

Events such as the World Youth Championships are not only chess events but an opportunity for the participants and accompanying persons to experience the cultural side of the country that they are visiting. This is likely to be the first visit to Brazil by the majority. This is the reason that we recommend to keep the free day that has been included in past events and is part of the regulations. A full programme of excursions will be offered to all participants on this free day and also for those interested on other days.

The inspection team concludes that the facilities available in Caldas Novas should ensure a successful World Youth Championship.