

# **World Senior & Veteran Chess Championships 2015 Inspection Report**

Three bids were received from the federations of Czech Republic, Italy & Slovenia and an inspection of the facilities was made by David Jarrett from January 16<sup>th</sup> -23<sup>rd</sup> 2014. The inspection was based on probable entries of around 300 as new age limits will be in force from 2014 and there is no statistical data available. There were 226 entries in 2013 with the previous age limits.

All three organisers have great experience in organising events. The Italian organiser has hosted the World Seniors a few years ago in a different part of Italy. Recently the Italian Youth events were held at the proposed venue with 1200 participants. The Slovenian organiser hosted the European Team Senior in 2011 and the European Senior Individual Championship in 2009 as well as the European Club Cup in 2011. The Czech organiser is responsible for many large International Opens each year and has hosted the European Youth in Prague.

The new regulations and guidelines for such matters as medals were explained to all bidders.

The allocation of stars to hotels varies across borders and resort hotels may have different criteria to inner city business hotels. All the hotels inspected were spa resort hotels and offer a wide range of spa treatments to guests. All hotels offered free internet facilities in the rooms.

I would like to thank the three organisations for the help and hospitality received.

## **Czech Republic: Marianske Lazne – proposed dates 18<sup>th</sup> November – December 1<sup>st</sup> 2015**

This is a spa resort comprising many hotels in different categories. The players with personal right would be hosted in 4 stars Hotel Monty. Three hotels were inspected and all were 4 star and under the same management. These comprise around 250 rooms. Other hotels are available if required. A buffet was offered for all meals in each hotel, except Excelsior where lunch would be offered via a menu. I stayed at the Hotel Monty and the buffet selection was limited.

The proposed tournament hall at Hotel Monty is only 216 square metres. In addition there is a dining room on the first floor that can be converted but this is only 126 square metres. On the basis of 2 square metres per player, this would only provide space for 170 persons. Some additional space is possible by using a section of the lobby but if the entry goes over 200, it is unlikely to be enough. There was an Open Tournament in progress at Hotel Polonia whilst I was there and this had a tournament hall that could add space for an additional 160 players. Toilet facilities are adequate at each venue although wheelchair users would need to play in the first floor area of Hotel Monty as disabled toilets are not available at the main hall level. Wheelchair users would stay at Hotel Excelsior and have daily transport to Hotel Monty. Adequate transport will be available for all participants that need it. Although the central area of Marianske Lazne is flat, Hotel Monty is on a small hill. There will be at least 80 electronic boards.

The nearest international airport is Prague and is just below two hours distance by road. Karlovy Vary airport (Karlsbad) has good connections with Russia (Moscow, St Petersburg and Ekaterinburg) and is half the distance away at 80 km. There is also a train service to Prague/Germany.

Participants would be offered free use of the swimming pool at Hotel Monty plus Sauna, Fitness Centre, Jacuzzi and Whirlpool at their own hotels. There would be a 20% discount on Wellness Centre treatments.

Most main FIDE languages would be covered and a seminar, blitz tournament and excursions would be organised. There would be a Press Centre with some free accommodation offered to journalists. The web site would be in two languages, English and Czech, but with announcements also in Russian and German.

The bid has the support of the town and I met with the Mayor during my visit.

### **Italy: Acqui Terme – proposed dates November 9<sup>th</sup> – 22<sup>nd</sup> 2015**

This is a spa resort comprising many hotels in different categories. The players with personal right would be hosted in 4 stars Grand Hotel. This has rooms for wheelchair users on each floor. Four hotels were inspected of 4 and 3 stars. These comprise over 300 rooms. Other hotels are available if required. A menu with at least two choices for each course will be offered for lunch and dinner in each hotel. I stayed at the Grand Hotel and the food was very satisfactory.

The Congress Centre Hall mentioned in the bid is three years old with around 1000 square metres of playing area with many additional rooms for officials, refreshments, etc., plus an enclosed balcony that can be used for press or spectators. Toilet facilities at the Centre are sufficient with special toilets for disabled players. The Grand Hotel is about a 10/15 minute walk on level ground but there will be 3 mini buses available to take wheelchair or other persons needing assistance. Several of the other hotels are nearer the hall. There would be at least 50 electronic boards for internet transmission of games.

The nearest international airport is Milan which is just under two hours away by road. I flew direct from London to Genoa and the transfer time was one hour. Participants can be picked up by coach at Genoa, Milan or Turin. There is also a train service from Milan, Turin and Genoa, which I am told is at a very reasonable price.

There would be a 20% discount on Wellness Centre treatments and some shops will give a special discount to participants.

Most main FIDE languages would be covered and a seminar, blitz tournament, wine tasting and excursions would be organised. There would be a Press Centre with some free accommodation offered to journalists. The web site would be in at least three languages, English, German and Italian.

The bid has the support of the town and I met with the local Sports' Minister during my visit.

## **Slovenia: Rogaska Slatina - proposed dates November 17<sup>th</sup> – 30<sup>th</sup> 2015**

This is a spa resort with many hotels in different categories although it is proposed to use only the 4 stars hotel Grand Hotel Sava. This hotel has 50 standard rooms, 130 superior rooms and 100 de lux rooms. Many rooms have a balcony. Other hotels are available if required. Buffet is offered for each meal with a choice of 5 menus. In addition to the players with personal rights, they are offering in their bid, free accommodation to players with ELO over 2600.

The proposed tournament hall just outside the hotel complex is 350 square metres. In addition there is a Convention Centre within the hotel of 300 square metres. This would provide space for 325 players although there are other possibilities if required. Toilet facilities are adequate at each venue, including disabled toilets. Transport will be available to the playing hall for all participants that need it. The central area of Rogaska Slatina is flat and mainly traffic free. There will be at least 100 electronic boards.

Participants would be offered free use of the swimming pool, Sauna, Fitness Centre and Jacuzzi at the hotel.

The nearest airports are Ljubljana, Graz and Zagreb. All are around 90 km from Rogaska Slatina. I flew to Zagreb and the transfer was around one hour. There is also a train service to Ljubljana, Maribor and Graz. I flew to Zagreb and the transfer was just over an hour.

Most main FIDE languages would be covered and 4 free lectures by two Grand Masters, a blitz tournament, wine tasting, chess movie, glass factory visit, and excursions would be organised. There would be an organised Press Centre with some free accommodation offered to journalists. The web site would be in at least two languages, English and Slovenian, plus invitations additionally in German and Russian.

The bid has the support of the town and they are giving the tournament venue and the local theatre for opening and closing ceremonies. The Theatre has a capacity of at least 400.

### **Summary**

The competition would be well conducted by any of the three bidding teams as all of them have plenty of experience and adequate resources to make an excellent event. There are many similarities between the bids but the major differences are with the tournament hall and standard of hotels.

The Czech bid offers good hotels but the buffet offered only limited choice. The main tournament hall is limited in size and other space in the same hotel is unlikely to meet all requirements. The additional hall is some 10/15 minutes walking distance away from the main hotel but next to the other two hotels offered.

Italy offers a modern tournament hall that will be sufficient for all participants, albeit at some 10/15 minutes walking distance from the main hotel, although transport will be provided for those that

need it. The hotels and the food offered by menu were good. Italian menus are usually 4 courses and there will be a choice of at least 2 plates at each course.

In Slovenia the main tournament hall was just outside the hotel complex and the second hall was in the hotel. The hotel had been extensively modernised in recent years and offered many higher standard rooms. A buffet, comprising a salad bar, five choices of main course and dessert table, was available in the dining room.

A summary of these points and the inspection forms are attached.

## **Suggestions for the future**

I believe that the Events Commission should consider some amendments to the inspection form in order that points scored can reflect differences that are not apparent on the current form. On this trip all three organisers offered 4 star hotels and all have been scored the same. However, there were differences between them in quality of rooms and food. It would be more useful if the score for hotels could show a spread of points so that inspectors can more accurately reflect the differences. Thus 4 star hotels might be scored from 17 points to 23 points, not the obligatory 20 points as at present.

Some consideration should be given to adding some additional questions. In particular, the availability of hotel rooms and access to the tournament hall for wheelchair users should be included.

It is not consistent to compare room rates and transport rates under one heading. In this instance the transport rates for the Czech Republic bid were very favourable and although the room rates were lower, the other bids offered better value for money.

It was suggested by the Slovenian Organisers that the free day could be used for a World Seniors and Veterans Blitz Championship.

**David Jarrett**

			Transport from airport	Hotel				Tournament Halls (square metres)		
				Star	Single	Double	rooms	Main	Second	Reserve
Italy	Grand Hotel		70	****	85	65	140	1000		
	Imperiale			****	85	65				
	Regina			***	70	55	90			
	Valentino			***	70	55	50			
Czech	Monty		40	****	70	55	100	216	126	350
	Excelsior			****	70	55	60			
	Bohemia			****	70	55	76			
Slovenia	Grand Hotel Sava		70	**** ++	80	65	100	350	300	
	Grand Hotel Sava			**** +	72	59	130			
	Grand Hotel Sava			****	65	52	50			

# INSPECTION REPORT

## Marianske Lazne, Czech Republic



Catalogue of criteria

### CATEGORY 1: ORGANISATION

<b><u>1.1 Tournament Hall</u></b>	Points	Inspector Points
- excellent	30	
- good -216 & 126 at main hotel, further space available	15	15
- normal	0	
- fair	-10	
- not sufficient	-50	
Items to be checked for the tournament hall:		
* Space (2s-m at least for adult events. 1.5 s-m at least for youth events)		
* Equipment		
* Access		
* Lighting		
* Surroundings		
* Ventilation		
* Toilets- only on 1st floor for disabled		
* Office-Internet Access		
<b><u>1.2 Distance Tournament Hall to Hotels</u></b>		
- accommodation & playing hall in the same complex - main halls	15	15
- walking distance (not more that 15 minutes) - additional hall	12	
- more that 15 min, but free bus transportation	6	
- more that 15 min, but paid bus transportation	0	
- more that 15 min, and no transportation	-10	
<b><u>1.3 Covered languages (English, Russian, French, German, Spanish etc.)</u></b>		
* for each language covering competition web site	2	4
(max 5 languages- max 10 points). The competition web site should operate in all languages 5 months before the start of the competiton		
<b>Czech, English, plus brief details in Russian, German</b>		
<b><u>1.4 Parallel chess activities (seminar, tournament, exhibitions, etc)</u></b>		
- for each activity - excursions, seminar, blitz tourn	2	6
(max 5 activities-max 10 points) final results will be checked by FIDE Technical Director.		

### CATEGORY 2: HOTELS

<b><u>2.1 Quality of hotels</u></b>		
- 5 stars* and better	25	
- 4 stars* - Hotel Mondri 104 rooms	20	20
- 3 stars*	10	
- 2 stars*	5	
<b><u>2.2 Free Internet Access in hotels</u></b>		
* free internet access in rooms	10	10
* free internet access in Reception Hall	5	
* paid internet access	0	
* no internet access	-15	
<b><u>2.3 Other free offers</u></b>		
- for each free offer-	2	6
(max 3 offers-max 6 points) Final results will be checked by FIDE Technical Director		
<b>sauna, whirlpool, fitness centre, swimming pool, 20% discount on spa treatment</b>		

<b>CATEGORY 3: ROOM RATES &amp; transportation rates in comparison with other bids</b>		
<b>3.1 Room rates and transportation rates:</b>		
- excellent	20	
- good - room rates normal and transport cost good	15	15
- normal	10	
- fair	0	
- high	-10	
- higher than for normal clients	-20	
<b>CATEGORY 4. TRAVEL CONNECTION</b>		
* international airport in a distance of not more than 1 hr by car/train	20	
* international airport in a distance max 2 hr by car/train- Prague	15	15
* local airport in a distance of not more than 1 hr by car/train-Karlovy Vary	10	
* local airport in a distance max 2 hr by car/train	5	
* no airport	-10	
(Airport is international if there are daily regular flights from at least ten different countries in Europe)		
<b>CATEGORY 5. PRESS-PROMOTION</b>		
- Organised Press Centre	3	3
- invitation with free accommodation for some journalist	3	3
- live games in internet, (number of boards) - 80 boards	0 - 5 - 10	5
- Other special arrangements for publicity- tv	0 - 5 - 10	5
<b>CATEGORY 6. CIRCULATION OF EVENTS</b>		
* The bidder (NF)organised the same event the prior-year	-10	
* The bidder (NF)organised the same event 2 years before	-5	
<b>TOTAL POINTS:</b>		
<b>CATEGORY 1: ORGANISATION</b>		
1.1 Tournament Hall		15
1.2 Distance Tournament Hall to Hotels		15
1.3 Covered languages		4
1.4 Parallel chess activities		6
<b>CATEGORY 2: HOTELS</b>		
2.1 Quality of hotels		20
2.2 Free Internet Access in hotels		10
2.3 Other free offers		6
<b>CATEGORY 3: ROOM RATE &amp; TRANSPORTATION RATES</b>		15
<b>CATEGORY 4: TRAVEL CONNECTION</b>		15
<b>CATEGORY 5: PRESS - PROMOTION</b>		
5.1 Organised Press Centre		3
5.2 Invitation with free accommodation for some journalist		3
5.3 Live games in internet, depending on number of boards		5
5.4 Other special arrangements for publicity		5
<b>CATEGORY 6: CIRCULATION OF THE EVENTS</b>		
6.1 The bidder (NF)organised the same event the prior-year		
6.2 The bidder (NF)organised the same event 2 years before		
<b>TOTAL POINTS:</b>		122
<b>DATE: January 25th 2014</b>		
<b>INSPECTOR'S NAME: David Jarrett</b>		
<b>SIGNATURE:</b>		

<b>INSPECTION REPORT</b>		
<b>Acqui Terme, Italy</b>		
Catalogue of criteria		
<b>CATEGORY 1: ORGANISATION</b>		
<b>1.1 Tournament Hall</b>	<b>Points</b>	<b>Inspector Points</b>
- excellent - 3 years old with 1000 sqm playing area plus many side rooms	30	30
- good	15	
- normal	0	
- fair	-10	
- not sufficient	-50	
Items to be checked for the tournament hall:		
* Space (2s-m at least for adult events. 1.5 s-m at least for youth events)		
* Equipment		
* Access		
* Lighting - unchecked but additional overhead lights will be installed		
* Surroundings		
* Ventilation		
* Toilets		
* Office-Internet Access		
<b>1.2 Distance Tournament Hall to Hotels</b>		
- accommodation & playing hall in the same complex	15	
- walking distance (not more that 15 minutes)	12	12
- more that 15 min, but free bus transportation	6	
- more that 15 min, but paid bus transportation	0	
- more that 15 min, and no transportation	-10	
<b>1.3 Covered languages (English, Russian, French, German, Spanish etc.)</b>		
* for each language covering competition web site (max 5 languages- max 10 points). The competition web site should operate in all languages 5 months before the start of the competiton	2	6
<b>Italian, German, English</b>		
<b>1.4 Parallel chess activities (seminar, tournament, exhibitions, etc)</b>		
- seminar, blitz tourn, wine tasting, excursions, special stamp cancellation (max 5 activities-max 10 points) final results will be checked by FIDE Technical Director.	2	10
<b>CATEGORY 2: HOTELS</b>		
<b>2.1 Quality of hotels</b>		
- 5 stars* and better	25	
- 4 stars*	20	20
- 3 stars*	10	
- 2 stars*	5	
<b>2.2 Free Internet Access in hotels</b>		
* free internet access in rooms - in 3 & 4 star hotels	10	10
* free internet access in Reception Hall	5	
* paid internet access	0	
* no internet access	-15	
<b>2.3 Other free offers</b>		
- for each free offer - 20% discount thermal bath activities, shop discounts (max 3 offers-max 6 points) Final results will be checked by FIDE Technical Director	2	2
<b>CATEGORY 3: ROOM RATES &amp; transportation rates in comparison with other bids</b>		
<b>3.1 Room rates and transportation rates:</b>		
- excellent	20	
- good - rooms based on value for money, transport normal	15	15
- normal	10	
- fair	0	
- high	-10	
- higher that for normal clients	-20	



# INSPECTION REPORT

## Rogaska Slatina, Slovenia



Catalogue of criteria

### CATEGORY 1: ORGANISATION

<b><u>1.1 Tournament Hall</u></b>	Points	Inspector Points
- excellent	30	
- good - main 350 sq mtrs, second 300 sq. mtrs	15	15
- normal	0	
- fair	-10	
- not sufficient	-50	
Items to be checked for the tournament hall:		
* Space (2s-m at least for adult events. 1.5 s-m at least for youth events)		
* Equipment		
* Access		
* Lighting		
* Surroundings		
* Ventilation		
* Toilets		
* Office-Internet Access		
<b><u>1.2 Distance Tournament Hall to Hotels</u></b>		
- accommodation & playing hall in the same complex (second hall)	15	15
- walking distance (not more that 15 minutes) - main hall 5 min walk	12	
- more that 15 min, but free bus transportation	6	
- more that 15 min, but paid bus transportation	0	
- more that 15 min, and no transportation	-10	
<b><u>1.3 Covered languages (English, Russian, French, German, Spanish etc.)</u></b>		
* for each language covering competition web site	2	4
(max 5 languages- max 10 points). The competition web site should operate in all languages 5 months before the start of the competiton		
Slovenian, English plus information in German and Russian		
<b><u>1.4 Parallel chess activities (seminar, tournament, exhibitions, etc)</u></b>		
- excursions, wine tasting, 4 chess lectures, chess movie, glass factory visit	2	10
(max 5 activities-max 10 points) final results will be checked by FIDE Technical Director.		

### CATEGORY 2: HOTELS

<b><u>2.1 Quality of hotels</u></b>		
- 5 stars* and better	25	
- 4 stars*	20	20
- 3 stars*	10	
- 2 stars*	5	
<b><u>2.2 Free Internet Access in hotels</u></b>		
* free internet access in rooms	10	10
* free internet access in Reception Hall	5	
* paid internet access	0	
* no internet access	-15	
<b><u>2.3 Other free offers</u></b>		
swimming pool, sauna, fitness centre, free accommdation if ELO over 2600	2	6
(max 3 offers-max 6 points) Final results will be checked by FIDE Technical Director		

<b>CATEGORY 3: ROOM RATES &amp; transportation rates in comparison with other bids</b>		
<b>3.1 Room rates and transportation rates:</b>		
- excellent - rooms based on value for money, transport normal	20	20
- good	15	
- normal	10	
- fair	0	
- high	-10	
- higher than for normal clients	-20	
<b>CATEGORY 4. TRAVEL CONNECTION</b>		
* international airport in a distance of not more than 1 hr by car/train	20	
* international airport in a distance max 2 hr by car/train- Zagreb, Ljubljana	15	15
* local airport in a distance of not more than 1 hr by car/train	10	
* local airport in a distance max 2 hr by car/train - Graz	5	
* no airport	-10	
(Airport is international if there are daily regular flights from at least ten different countries in Europe)		
<b>CATEGORY 5. PRESS-PROMOTION</b>		
- Organised Press Centre	3	3
- invitation with free accommodation for some journalist	3	3
- live games in internet, (number of boards) - 100 but maybe all	0 - 5 - 10	10
- Other special arrangements for publicity - tv	0 - 5 - 10	5
<b>CATEGORY 6. CIRCULATION OF EVENTS</b>		
* The bidder (NF)organised the same event the prior-year	-10	
* The bidder (NF)organised the same event 2 years before	-5	
<b><u>TOTAL POINTS:</u></b>		
<b>CATEGORY 1: ORGANISATION</b>		
1.1 Tournament Hall		15
1.2 Distance Tournament Hall to Hotels		15
1.3 Covered languages		4
1.4 Parallel chess activities		10
<b>CATEGORY 2: HOTELS</b>		
2.1 Quality of hotels		20
2.2 Free Internet Access in hotels		10
2.3 Other free offers		6
<b>CATEGORY 3: ROOM RATE &amp; TRANSPORTATION RATES</b>		20
<b>CATEGORY 4: TRAVEL CONNECTION</b>		15
<b>CATEGORY 5: PRESS - PROMOTION</b>		
5.1 Organised Press Centre		3
5.2 Invitation with free accommodation for some journalist		3
5.3 Live games in internet, depending on number of boards		10
5.4 Other special arrangements for publicity		5
<b>CATEGORY 6: CIRCULATION OF THE EVENTS</b>		
6.1 The bidder (NF)organised the same event the prior-year		
6.2 The bidder (NF)organised the same event 2 years before		
<b>TOTAL POINTS:</b>		136
<b>DATE: January 25th 2014</b>		
<b>INSPECTOR'S NAME: David Jarrett</b>		
<b>SIGNATURE:</b>		