

World Chess Federation (FIDE)

President

Kirsan Ilyumzhinov

Dear Kirsan Nikolayevich!

As you know, on July 16th 2014 the Tromso Olympiad Organizing Committee has made a decision according to which the teams that applied for the accreditation after June 1st will not be accepted for the participation in the Olympiad. Following this decision, the Russian women's team, the twofold Olympic Champion, the winner of two previous Olympiads, is suffering. The application for the participation in the Olympiad was submitted on June 16th 2014 and thus the Russian women's team has no right to participate in the World Chess Olympiad.

The Russian Chess Federation considers the decision of the Tromso Olympiad Organizing Committee to be illegitimate and political. We'll litigate this decision in the court. Only on June 5th 2014 the organizers publicly informed that the Olympiad will take place at all, before that more than once they discredited this fact in the world press. This is enough for admitting the OC decision illegitimate: how can the Organizing Committee ask for confirmation in the Olympiad participation before June 1st, if the holding of the tournament was undecided till June 5th?

Already after the Organizing Committee confirmed the fact that the Olympiad would be held in July 7th 2014, the Russian Chess Federation received invoice for participation in the Olympiad. This invoice included fees for 10 players, that is Russian men's and women's teams. The invoice was paid in time. Thus in the 7th of July 2014 the participation of Russian women team in the Olympiad was not called in question by anybody, including the Norwegian Organisers. There are more evidence that the decision of the Organizing Committee is political and not connected with principles of fair sport struggle.

We are absolutely sure that the final decision regarding participation of the Russian women's team in the Olympiad can take only the FIDE President. And this is evidenced by the paragraph 6.1 of the Regulations for the Chess Olympiad (The FIDE President represents the interests of FIDE and is empowered to take the final decision on all questions relating to the Olympiad as a whole). In this connection I am applying to you, dear Kirsan Nikolayevich, with the request urgently and in writing form clarify FIDE position regarding the participation of the Russian women's team in the Olympiad in Tromso.

Best regards,

President of Russian Chess Federation

Andrey Filatov