

8th WORLD CHESS TEAM CHAMPIONSHIP 2011

Ningbo, China

15 – 27 July 2011

CHIEF ARBITER'S REPORT

The 8th World Team Chess Championship was held in the NEW CENTURY GRAND HOTEL (5*), in Ningbo, China, from 15 (Arrival) to 27 (Departure) July 2011.

The organizers were the Chinese Chess Association, the Ningbo Municipal Government and the Ningbo Sports Bureau.

Participants:

According to the regulations, the participated teams were:

- Russia (winner of the previous 7th World Chess Team Championship 2009),
- Ukraine, Israel, and Hungary (3 first places from Khanty Mansiysk Olympiad 2010),
- Azerbaijan, USA, Egypt, India (Continental qualifiers),
- China (Organizers' team) and
- Armenia (President's nominee).

Schedule:

The Tournament schedule that had been published on the web site was followed with no changes. The games started on 17 July, the free day was on 22 July and the tournament finished at the scheduled day, on 26 July.

The drawing of lots was made during the Opening Ceremony, and the captains' Meeting took place at the same day, on July 16, one day before the start of the Tournament. Every round was started at 15.00.

The start of the last round was at 10.00 and the Closing Ceremony was at 17.00.

Playing hall:

On July 17 the first round started, in the Conference Hall of the Ningbo NEW CENTURY GRAND HOTEL.

The playing hall was good, with enough space for players and spectators and good air-conditioning, but with a slight problem in the lighting. There was additional lighting in the hall by big spot lights provided by the hotel and finally none of the players expressed any complain.

All facilities were provided by the Organizers in the playing venue (fruits, cookies, juices, water, coffee and tea for the players and officials, W.C., smoking area, analysis area). There was no Press Room.

System of playing:

Each team (consisting of four players) was playing one match against all the others. The matches were played according to a Round Robin system in 9 rounds. Each team had one reserve player.

Scoring:

The number of match points (2 for a win, 1 for a draw, 0 for a loss) it had scored decided each team's place in the order of classification (final standings), according to the regulations of the event.

The tiebreak criteria were according to the following order:

- a. Game (board) points in total.
- b. Direct encounter for all the teams in the tie.
- c. Berger system on game points.
- d. Berlin system.
- e. Play-off match (for medals only) at a fast time-rate (15 min. per player for the entire game)
- f. Drawing of lots.

Time control:

The time control for the first 40 moves was 1 hour 30 minutes, followed by 30 minutes till the end of the game, with an increment of 30 seconds per move, starting from move 1, for each player.

Arbiters:

The list of the Arbiters was as follows:

Chief Arbiter: IA Panagiotis Nikolopoulos (Greece)
Deputy Chief Arbiter: IA Xie Jun (CHN)
Arbiters: IA Dai Lilli (CHN)
FA Liang Zihua (CHN)
NA Hu Xi (CHN)

All Arbiters were very good and I had an excellent cooperation with them.

The members of the Appeals Committee were: Israel Gelfer (ISR) as Chairman, Chu Bo (CHN) and Boris Kutin (SLO), as members.

No appeal was submitted.

Bulletins:

After each round a bulletin, including all the games, standings and results, was published and distributed to the captains of the teams and principals.

Technical equipment:

Electronic clocks and boards from DGT were used for the games (the model of the clocks was DGT XL).

No problems happened during the games.

Accommodation:

All players and principals stayed in NEW CENTURY GRAND HOTEL (5*). The conditions provided by the hotel were excellent.

Opening and Closing Ceremony:

The Opening Ceremony, in which the President of FIDE Mr. Kirsan Ilyumzhinov, the President of the Chinese Chess Association Mr. Chu Bo and other officials from the city of Ningbo and from FIDE, participated, took place in a conference hall of the NEW CENTURY GRAND HOTEL on July 16.

The Closing Ceremony took place in a conference hall of the NEW CENTURY GRAND HOTEL on July 26, after the end of round 9.

Prizes:

The 1st, 2nd and 3rd team received trophies and their players and captains received gold, silver and bronze medals.

The players with the best results (according percentage, points, games and performance) in their boards received gold, silver and bronze medals as well.

Organization:

The Organizing Committee did an excellent work and showed a great ability in organizing a chess event of such very high level.

All people of the Committee did their best concerning all details of the event and succeeded to achieve very high standards.

Conclusion:

The 8th World Chess Team Championship 2011 in Ningbo, China, was organized on a high level and it was a big success.

All requirements mentioned in the FIDE Handbook for organizing this top-level chess tournament were completely fulfilled.

All participants (players, captains, principals e.t.c.) were satisfied and had only positive comments for the event.

I would like also to mention the great sportsmanship all players showed during the whole event.

It was a great pleasure for me to work as the Chief Arbiter in this very successful event.

I add as attachments all the relevant information of the event.

Respectfully,

IA Panagiotis Nikolopoulos
Chief Arbiter WCTC 2011

Athens 28-08-2011