

## **FIDE Development Commission**

### **Minutes of the Core Committee Meeting**

Sonailsi Island Resort, Nadi, Fiji 9:05:13

#### **Present:**

Allan Herbert (Chairman), Rupert Jones (Secretary), Hal Bond, Brian Jones (Pres Oceania), Virgilio de Asa (Fiji), Paul Spiller (NZ), Gary Bekker & Anthony Maelasi (Solomon Islands).

Apologies: Martin Huba (Slovakia) & Stephen Kisuzwe (Uganda).

#### **1. Welcome**

Allan Herbert began by welcoming everyone. He thanked Mr Virgilio deAsa for being a welcoming host; & providing what was a very smooth running Zonal in a beautiful location and for hosting this meeting. He also added that at the FIDE Congress in Tallin in September there would this year be an Extra-ordinary (Special) General Meeting with one agenda item which would be the election of the four continental representatives for the new electoral commission. Also the issue of the Tromso Organisers travel grant to assist countries travelling to the Olympiad would be brought up. Because of this it would be good if as many members of the Development Commission as possible should be there with proposals and ideas so we can finalise how the travel grant is distributed.

Mr de Asa then gave a brief history of Fiji Chess (cited by Mr Herbert as an excellent example of a successful Developing Federation) What stood out was recognition by the Ministry of Sports & membership of Fiji's NOC who provided them with assistance for which they were grateful. Mr de Asa told us they had had more rated events in the last 12 months so enabling them to take advantage of the FIDE Rebate for level 4& 5 countries. Their number of rated players stood at 26. They have now staged 5 international events ( including 3 Zonals) They pushed well above their weight.

Zonal President B Jones pointed out the issue was how to take development further for Federations like Fiji. He thought the answer lay somewhere in 'schools chess'. Mr Herbert cited the example of what Barbados was now doing as well as a new policy of training teachers in Trinidad & Tobago in an extra curricular option when being teacher trained. Training the teachers was a way to go. It was mentioned that it was difficult getting responses from the Chess In Schools Commission as well as from the Asian Confederation on their budget proposals. Mr Spiller said it would be ideal if the continental Presidents allocated budgets down to Zonal Presidents who could then spend it on their own Projects. Mr Herbert added that only one continent so far has come back on how it intends to spend its development budget. He added that he would look into seeing if he could help with improving communication between Oceania and the Asian Secretariat.

#### **2. Review of 2012 Development Commission Istanbul Meeting Minutes & Matters Arising.**

The Chairman mentioned that the Istanbul minutes mentioned a review of the Development regulations for the new handbook. He said that David Jarrett was in charge of this and that we should refer to the attached paper. Basically we want to make everything more user friendly.

On the budget the most important thing was to take note of the radical restructuring of allocations between the continents. Before there was no allocation for Europe and now there was a 7.5% contribution.

The allocation is as follows

40% - Africa

25% - America's

20% - Asia

7.5% - Europe

7.5% - Chairman's Discretion.

A new idea was to improve each new Federations Administrative capacity'. There would be a small fund set aside to run 'maybe' workshops alongside an Olympiad where any newly elected Chairperson of a Federation would go through an orientation process. This would be in addition to the putting together of a 'development manual'. Furthermore the budget would not come from the main 'development' budget for the Treasurer had approved a separate budget for this.

It was also time to get all our 'development statistics' onto the FIDE website.

### **3. Development Regulations for New FIDE Hand Book & Review of Development List**

The website still carries our old 'CACDEC' list. They are out of date. We no longer use CACDEC. Every Federations is in a 'category' between ONE and FIVE. Category one being the most developed and this is calculated on the basis of the rating average of the top 10 players.

Also an item later in the agenda on cooperation with other commissions such as Chess In Schools and the Disabilities Commission.. Mr Herbert noted also that he had had meetings with Thomas Luther on Disability chess and that up to now this was a very euro centric matter. We need to see how this affects us in the less developed chess playing countries. For example new regulations will say that no player can refuse an opponent. Mr Herbert said he had learnt a lot on this topic from Mr Jarret's recent 'organisers' seminar in Barbados.

Also in looking at the new development criteria it was pointed out by Gary Bekker that there was no Cook Islands Chess Federation. Also Fiji should be moved from 5 to level 4. It was a proposal that the Development List be published as an appendix on the FIDE website.

Mr Herbert said he had had discussions with David Jarrett who is rewriting the fide handbook. They had talked about rewriting the 'Development Regulations' for the FIDE handbook. Some of the things that need to be included are...

- how you apply for 'Development funding'...
- what are the regulations for entitlement to pocket money
- what are the regulations for financial incentives for developing Federations
- what are the rules for managing the development lists
- how does a Federation go about putting together a 'Project Proposal'. (see the attached example from the IOC / ARISF) .

Development list be published by the January after an Olympiad (current list is valid from Jan 2013 to Dec 2014. The list to be reviewed every two years. The new regulations for this to go into the fide handbook.

And the big issue for us to ponder is how to BUILD the rating pool in those federations with no rated players. It was suggested that we make a note of the RATING average of new federations in level 5 (esp in view of the rating floor being lowered to 1000)

#### **4. Activity Rebate Criteria.**

Needs to be in the financial regulations that 'Development Federations' in level four and five are to be rebated 50% of entry fees for 'FIDE events' that they organise (that this is levied on the \$100 entry fee in FIDE regulations)

Levels 1, 2 and 3 rebated 20%.

Hal Bond added that all regulations relating to tournament fees and rebates should be simplified.

It was RECOMMENDED by the Commission that for section 7.3 we give rebates of 50% entry fees for levels 3,4 and 5...

in the regulations says that 'cadec countries in level 1 will have fide tournament fees , title, rating and entry fees to world events set off to the amount of their annual membership' (2.11) The words 'cacdec' should be replaced by levels 3, 4 and 5!!!

Another suggested idea is that it should be 100% for level 5, 75% for level 4 and 50% for level 3!

#### **5. Budget and Funding**

Africa	80,000	40%
America's	50,000	25%
Asia	40,000	20%
Europe	15,000	7.5%
Development Activity Rebate	E15,000	7.5%
Total	E200,000 (euro's)	
plus		
Chairmans Budget	E25,000	
World Youth Travel Grant	E23,000	
Chess in Schools Prg	E4,000	
Core Committee Meeting	E12,000	
Administration Manual & Orientation Seminar	E6,000	
Grand Total	<b>E270,000</b>	

#### **Areas Identified for project funding**

##### **a. Equipment**

Donations of equipment should be kept to a minimum. Exceptions are to be new Federations who need sets and clocks. A further exception will be for those Federations who are staging a major FIDE event which requires more equipment then they possess.

##### **b. Increasing Participation**

to promote participation by level 3-5 countries in 'Continental' . It may be that we take part of the financial contribution and give it in travel grants to the top 4 players by rating in a region or zone to a Continental Zonal, the Continental; a Continental Junior (for Open and Ladies) Championships.

### **c. Increasing the number of rated players**

To reduce further the number of level 5 countries with no rated players by funding seeding tournaments to build up rating pools..

### **d. Capacity Building**

In major continental events (ie the Pan American Jun's) that 'Development' sponsor an 'Arbiters / Trainers' courses. (B Jones warned about sheer size of Asia; ie. its a long way to Sri Lanka) Mr Herbert reiterated that he would liaise with the Sheikh to see how we can better utilise the budget for the Asian continent ' to see if we can facilitate a more active approach'.

In Africa funding has traditionally gone to the African Junior, the Zonal and Youth Festival events. However the Committee did feel there should be some method for accounting the effectiveness of this; entries seem to be very static and therefore maybe time to look at this issue and consider instead distributing money directly to the players to enable them to travel as entries seem static.

On Asia the Chairman said he would undertake to contact the Asian Confederation about their Development programme. We are close half way through the year and we have had no budget proposals from them. (see 2hrs 54 mins on the tape)

It was important to get the key message across that there was an increase in the development budget and the Continents needed to find proposals on how to spend it. We should use the America's model as an example.

## **6. World Youth Travel Grant Awardees**

22 juniors had qualified for the travel grant (mostly from Africa) of which 16/17 accepted their places. Disappointing that the Hong Kong player did not accept his place. Also important to tell the Continents that the cost of this programme does not come out of their budgets as the treasurer has agreed to separately fund it.

A circular to be written to all 'Development' Federations in level 4 & 5 making them aware that the travel grant is there to be earned by Juniors qualifying through continental youth championships.. Developing federation can gain through publicity of a junior qualifying and going on to play in world events.

If you make travel grants based on merit and active rating it then puts an incentive on developing nations to rate their events so that they then increase their players ratings through hosting these events. This brought us back to Africa that the majority of African Federations only play rated games when an African Federation goes to an Olympiad. Mr Herbert said that he would try and talk to Mr Mazous about this.

## **7. 2014 Olympiad Travel Grant Recommendations**

In the bidding process for both Tromso & Baku Olympiad's a budget was included to help 'Development' federations travel to the Olympiad. For Tromso the amount was originally 1.2 million but it seems now that they can only afford 600,000 euros. (please refer to attached proposal by Mr Israel Gelfer)

Comments on Israel Gelfer's proposal (and other comments that arose from around the table).

- the proposal does differentiate between Open & Womens team only Chinese Taipei sent 2 teams in category 5 to Istanbul)
- do we cover the costs of the delegate /non playing captain /coach...the Committee thought it best if we stick only to players. Also means we can help more countries. Also Delegates are now getting their own assistance from hosting Federations.
- issue of Federations in arrears...
- the cost of travelling between Oslo and Tromso...
- do we set an upper limit; say to a maximum of 1300 euros per player etc...
- do you only get a grant if you send a team...
- do we reward Federations who have never showed up at an Olympiad; issue of carrot & stick...
- do we pay the whole costs for new level 5 federations making Olympiad debuts...
- and not to forget that this money comes from a 'Government entity' how do we know how they want to distribute this money (also will they provide the extra money that Mr Gelfer suggests)...
- do we look at spreading the money wider so helping more countries with a process for Open & Ladies teams; and if there is spare money do we help level 3 Federations...
- do we include an element of self-help...
- it is an election year and campaigning parties will be out to cry wolf..
- do we consider Federations who have to travel further such as from Oceania; the Caribbean etc
- what mechanism can we put in place that would help us from any unscrupulous Federation that wants to take advantage...

Always to remember from a 'developmental point of view' about what we want to achieve?; ie do we help with airtickets for more Federations; to create reasons for positive development by getting all the level 5 countries to the Olympiad; transit visas.

The committee did not like the idea of special assistance for Greece and Spain

Finally the Chairman suggested we all go away & think about this & come up with new proposals.

**The Meeting Closed**