

Minutes
Social Projects Commission
Tallinn, Estonia
1 October 2013
15:00-19:00

Chairman: Darcy Gustavo Lima (BRA)

Observers: Andrei Korobeinik (EST), David Jarrett (ENG), Charles Moura Netto (BRA), Sandra Maria Guisso (BRA), Tony Rich (USA), Adam Dzwonkowski (POL), Uvencio Blanco (VEN), Russell Smith (TTO), Erick Hernandez (ESA), Suzan Polgar (USA), Jorge Vega (GUA)

Social Projects Commission

GM Darcy Lima Chairman

Report of SPC Commission Meeting 01/10/2013, Tallinn-Estonia

The Chairman GM Darcy Lima opened the meeting welcoming all the participants in the first SPC meeting.

The Chairman started telling the history of the creation of this commission that goes back on 2009 at the Executive Board in Thessaloniki, Greece when was submitted to approval. At the time the idea of having this commission was well received but at that precise congress the commissions were being restructured. Then in September 2012 it was finally born at the FIDE Congress of Istanbul. It was effectively established on March 2013.

Then was explained the scope and guide plan of SPC Commission as bellow:

Guide Plan

- 1)The SPC shall promote chess as a Powerful Tool for Prevention, including areas such as: drug prevention, disease control and prison chess.
- 1)Chess for Peace
- 1)Chess to develop and distribute strategies, guidance, metrics, standards, education, and information on how to increase sustainability in connection with social projects.
- 1)Deal with helping poor people and communities using chess as a tool
- 1)SPC shall liaise with other organizations with similar objectives.
- 1)SPC should work in the five Continents with special attention on Africa

After that the lines of action proposed were underlined such as

- . Spread knowledge
- . Material and Cultural Legacy
- . Support in Studies and Projects
- Develop chess as a common language between countries and as a diplomacy weapon to be an aid to solve disputes

Was explained also the methodology intend to support the lines of action

In the first line of action "Spreading Knowledge" we will make seminars both Presential and Online

In the Material and Cultural Legacy we will leave chess material as well books and encourage local cultural chess related activities

In the third we will act together in develop and financially support studies on the following areas Prevention, including areas such as: drug prevention, disease control and prison chess.

At the end of the inaugural speech the Chairman talked about the activities that are already going on and the planned ones in the very near future

Chess for Peace: using chess as a peace-guiding-tool is a important issue to this commission and David Jarret is doing from years a excellent job together with Peace and Sport. This action is running very strongly and is one of the main uses for chess that will help us to connect with the modern world and with world society

Another program that is already going on the Chess in Prison and we will "export" this to some Countries Also we start to make the Chess with sustainability program interacting with environment education in public schools. It consists in a series of classes where the children in poor communities or public school are encouraged to build a giant chess set with a Japanese Technique called 'papietagem". This Technique demands some alternate days where chess and Environmental Education are teached together.

We already also have some special program with drug and chess as a prevention tool and a support for treatment in this huge problem in our society

The planned activities still for 2013 and beginning of 2014 are

Support for Presential and Online Seminars (2 for Africa and 1 in Latin America and 1 in Asia)

Support of 5studies in the fields of Chemical addiction, and Chess sustainability related projects

Support for "Transfer of Technology" from the Chess in Prison 1 in Africa, 1 in America and 1 in Asia regarding the travelling and boarding of the technicians of the FIDE Sportaccord prized 2013 project

Develop of adapted material for chess in poor countries and Communities defining metrics and Standards for that

Three more projects in Africa: Chess for AIDS prevention in Moçambique, Chess in Prisons in Uganda and Chess in poor communities in São Tomé and Príncipe all three under commission member Pedro Chambule from Moçambique acting as a observer

Then was conducted by PHD Sandra Guisso the presentation about the data collected among the prisoners of the Sportaccord prized “Chess that gives freedom” and the interpretation of this data . The social representations of the detainees about the game of chess: a study of prisons of Espírito Santo, Brazil.

This study analyzed, in the perspective of social representations, the messages found the inmates' speeches at the State prison in Cachoeiro de Itapemirim, Espírito Santo State, Brazil. It was choosed one prisional unit and 184 inmates participated in the study. The inmates' narratives were analyzed about the chess game, practiced in prisons since 2007 as a practice of socialization. The discussion was a proposal to establish connection of the inmates' speeches about the game of chess and the relationship established by them with the experiences lived before prison. The analysis of speeches was made from the theory of social representations, based on Moscovici's discussions and other authors.

Then Mr. David Jarrett spoke about the Chess in Peace Program. About how he is developing, the role of FIDE and the national Federations on the programme. Also he explained about their initial agreement with Peace in Sports, a Monaco based organization and how chess became one of the sports used at this field.

The Chairman GM Darcy Limaremembered that he was few years ago at the Colombian program of chess for peace and was truly impressed and reinforce some words that is stated by the ONU that sport (chess too) is a universal language can be a powerful tool to promote peace, tolerance and understanding by bringing people together across boundaries, cultures and religions. Its intrinsic values such as teamwork, fairness, discipline, respect for the opponent and the rules of the game are understood all over the world and can be harnessed in the advancement of solidarity, social cohesion and peaceful coexistence.

Then was time to present the project with Chess being used on Environment Education and chess learning. The project uses one ancient Japanese technique of working with paper to make big pieces with recycled paper. The teachers works once a week on the classroom simultaneously teaching chess and environment education. After they finished the learning process they are also invited to exchange toxic products such as batteries and used cooking oil for chess pieces.

The next presentation was the study of the impact of chess intervention on the addiction of drugs and alcohol. It was a study that measured 3 variables:

- 1-People who went back to addiction and abandon the treatment
- 2-People who went back to addiction and return to treatment
- 3-People who finished the treatment without history of coming back to addiction

It was measured before they uses chess as a helping tool associated with the regular treatment and one year after chess.

It was showed in the studied group the following numbers :

Before Chess:

- 1-22,5 %
- 2-37,5 %
- 3-40,0 %

After Chess

- 1-8,1%
- 2-23,0 %
- 3-68,9 %

Then at the final discussion on the meeting was the many ways chess can be used and the importance of gathering information from various countries about their job in this area.

After that the meeting was closed

GM Darcy Lima Chairman