

2014 FIDE WORLD CANDIDATES TOURNAMENT

Khanty-Mansiysk, RUSSIA

11 March – 1 April 2014

CHIEF ARBITER'S REPORT

The 2014 FIDE WORLD CANDIDATES TOURNAMENT was held in Ugra Chess Academy, in Khanty- Mansiysk, Russia, from 11 March (Arrival) to 1 April (Departure) 2014.

The organizer was the Khanty-Mansiysk autonomous okrug – Ugra, the Ugra Chess Federation and the World Chess Federation (FIDE), in cooperation with the Russian Chess Federation.

Participants:

According to the regulations, the eight (8) participants were:

1. **Viswanathan Anand** (IND, former world champion, 2770)
2. **Vladimir Kramnik** (RUS, world cup 2013 winner, 2787)
3. **Dmitry Andreikin** (RUS, world cup 2013 finalist, 2709)
4. **Veselin Topalov** (BUL, grand-prix 2012-13 winner, 2785)
5. **Shakhriyar Mamedyarov** (AZE, grand-prix 2012-13 runner-up, 2757)
6. **Levon Aronian** (ARM, FIDE rating list 2012-13, 2830)
7. **Sergey Karjakin** (RUS, FIDE rating list 2012-13, 2766)
8. **Peter Svidler** (RUS, host nominee, 2758)

Schedule:

The Tournament schedule that had been published on the web site was followed with no changes. The Players' Meeting and the Opening Ceremony were on 12 March, the 1st Round started on 13 March, the free days were on 16, 20, 24 and 28 March (after every three rounds), the last Round was on 30 March and the Closing Ceremony on 31 March 2014, as it was scheduled.

The drawing of lots had been made one month earlier, in the Athens FIDE Office and the pairings had been announced and published on the FIDE website on 10 February 2014.

Every round was started at 15.00.

Playing hall:

On March 13 the first round started in the Congress Hall of the Ugra Chess Academy.

The playing hall was very good, with adequate light and air condition and plenty of space for the players. There was also enough space for spectators, who were able to watch all games by two screens that were showing the matches.

All facilities were provided by the Organizers in the playing venue (bar area with fruits, cookies, juices, water, coffee and tea for the players and officials, W.C., medical center, etc.).

System of playing:

The tournament was played according to a Double Round Robin system (all play all with both colors) in fourteen (14) rounds.

Tie breaks:

The number of points (1 for a win, $\frac{1}{2}$ for a draw, 0 for a loss) it had scored decided each player's place in the order of the final standings of the tournament.

The tiebreak criteria were according to the following order:

- a. Direct Encounter.
- b. Number of wins.
- c. Sonneborn - Berger system.
- d. Tie break Matches (only for the first place).

Time control:

The time control for the first 40 moves was 2 hours, followed by 1 hour for the next 20 moves and by 15 minutes till the end of the game, with an increment of 30 seconds per move, starting from move 61, for each player.

Arbiters:

The Arbiters of the tournament were:

Chief Arbiter:	IA Panagiotis Nikolopoulos (GRE)
Deputy Chief Arbiter:	IA Hal Bond (CAN)
Arbiter:	FA Jamie Kenmure (AUS)

I had an excellent cooperation with both the Deputy Chief Arbiter and the Arbiter who both did an excellent job during the tournament.

The members of the Appeals Committee were: Boris Kutin (SLO), as Chairman, GM Vladislav Barsky (RUS) and D.V. Sundar (IND), as members.

No appeal was submitted.

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 whole tournament.

Accommodation:

All players, principals and officials stayed in TARRAY HOTEL (4*).
The conditions provided by the hotel were good.

Opening and Closing Ceremony:

The Opening Ceremony, in which the President of FIDE Mr. Kirsan Ilyumzhinov, the Governor of Khanty-Mansiysk autonomous okrug-Ugra Mrs. Natalya Komarova, the Head of Khanty-Mansiysk and President of the Ugra Chess Federation Mr. Vassily Filipenko, representatives of the sponsors and other officials from the Ugra Chess Federation and from FIDE and all the players participated, took place in the "Organ hall" of the "Ugra-Classic" on March 12.

The Closing Ceremony, in which the President of FIDE Mr. Kirsan Ilyumzhinov, the Governor of Khanty-Mansiysk autonomous okrug-Ugra Mrs. Natalya Komarova, the Head of Khanty-Mansiysk and President of the Ugra Chess Federation Mr. Vassily Filipenko, representatives of the sponsors and other officials from the Ugra Chess Federation and from FIDE and all the players participated, took place in the "Big hall" of the "Ugra-Classic" on March 31.

Prizes:

The 1st, 2nd and 3rd players received cups and presents from the Organizers.

There was also prize money of total of 600.000 euros for all players, according to the regulations of the event

Results:

The final Standings of the Tournament were :

Rank	SNo.	Name	Rtg	FED	Pts	Res.	vict	SB
1	6	GM Anand Viswanathan	2770	IND	8½	0	3	57,25
2	2	GM Karjakin Sergey	2766	RUS	7½	0	3	51,75
3	4	GM Kramnik Vladimir	2787	RUS	7	2½	3	49,25
4	5	GM Mamedyarov Shakhriyar	2757	AZE	7	2	3	48,00
5	1	GM Andreikin Dmitry	2709	RUS	7	1½	2	48,50
6	7	GM Aronian Levon	2830	ARM	6½	1½	3	45,00
7	3	GM Svidler Peter	2758	RUS	6½	½	3	46,00
8	8	GM Topalov Veselin	2785	BUL	6	0	2	42,25

The winner earned the right to play against the current World Champion GM Magnus Carlsen (NOR) in the match for the title of the FIDE World Champion 2014.

Organization:

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

Conclusion:

The 2014 FIDE WORLD CANDIDATES TOURNAMENT in Khanty-Mansiysk, Russia, was organized on a very high level and it was a big success.

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

All participants (players, principals, officials, etc.) were satisfied and had only positive comments for the event.

Congratulations belong to all people who worked hard for the great success of this very important chess 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:

- (a). Final Standings
- (b). Pairings and Results
- (c). Cross Table
- (d). Rating Statistics

Respectfully,

IA Panagiotis Nikolopoulos
Chief Arbiter
2014 FIDE WORLD CANDIDATES TOURNAMENT

Athens 6 April 2014