

86TH FIDE CONGRESS
1-8 SEPTEMBER 2015
ABU DHABI, UAE

CHESS IN SCHOOLS COMMISSION

4TH September 2015

15.00-19.00

Chairman: K. O'Connell (IRL)

Present: D. Jordan (GER), G. Wastell (AUS), M. Sirumapea (MOZ), G. Urosevic (SRB), T. Delega (POL), R. Jones (BOT), H. Karimi (IRI), R. Dongre (IND), S. Zerdali (ALG), C. Nsakanya (ZAM), S. Kisuze (UGA), R. Katende (UGA), B. Singh (IND), L. Ncube (ZAM), V. Danilov (ROM), I. Kangwagye (RWA), J. Kenmure (SOL), P. van Hollandt (AIDEF), H. Pees (DGT), A. Kostyev (RUS), C. Zhu (QAT), E. Hernandez (ESA), E. Celi (URU), A. Sorokina (AUS), R. Rivello (ITA), E. Smart (RSA), L. Mazouz (FIDE), N. Kalesis (GRE), M. Murphy (ISV), J. Junquiera (ANG), S. Simango (MOZ), A. Herbert (BAR), R. Zifkovits (AUT), T. Tsorbatzoglou (GRE), T. Lopang (BOT), S. Reuben (ENG), N. Sahar (IRI), A. Michalchischin (SLO), J. Bellin (ENG), M. Pahlevanzdeh (IRI), S. Polgar (USA), P. Truong (CAM), T. Luther (GER), T. Sitale (BOT), R. Roselli (URU), S. Tserendorj (MGL), C. Abundo (PHI), T. Jasim (BRN), M. Hate (ACF), M. Fierro (ECU), J. Vega (GUA).

Opening Remarks

The meeting was called to order at 3pm and the Chairperson welcomed all participants from various Federations. Chairman thanked FIDE President for appointing him Chairperson of CiS, and recognized the massive work done by Ali on CiS Nihat Yazici over the last term as Chairperson but also his tremendous work in Turkey on promoting chess to be the number one sport in that country, thanks to the Turkish Chess in Schools program.

He then handed over to the Secretary to chair the meeting on his behalf due to ill health and Council Member Sitale took the minutes in the meeting.

Minutes of Tromso meeting

The 2014 meeting's minutes were presented and agreed, they had been availed on the website for many months. Mr. O'Connell underscored the following from the 2014 minutes;

- Planned cooperation between CiS and the International School Sports Federation (ISF), which was at an advanced stage.
- Also the Erasmus+ partnership CASTLE project.

Chairman's Report

It was reported that CiS is progressing despite the financial constraints with a budget that has been on a steady downward trend. He underscored that the CiS emphasis is on Chess for Education (CFE) not Education for Chess (EFC). The Chairperson reported progress made in the development of FIDE Student Membership, with rapid growth of the Premium membership which offers student rating and FIDE ID's. He reported that the Commission's translation project is on-going with languages increase despite the high cost of translating from one language to the other. The chairperson also commented on having chess taught online and specifically the Early Years Skills Program as a stakeholder in the CASTLE project.

Roberto Rivello from Italy commented on the Chairperson's remarks, giving an overview to the background of the development in Italy of the psychomotricity that is at the core of FIDE's Early

Years Skills Program.

Chairman's Report Update

CiS Secretary reported briefly the main points of the Council meeting in Konya, Turkey 1-2 July, 2015. Present Kevin O'Connell (Chairman), Sainbayar Tserendorj (Secretary), Councillors Ravindra Dongre, Christos Pilalis and Tshepo Sitale, plus guests. Apologies of absence were received from Councillors Hadi Karimi and Bernardo Rosselli.

CiS Mission statement is posted on our web site.

The Psychomotricity curriculum (Year 1), videos and e-book will appear this year.

FIDE Student Membership, especially the Premium variety should be promoted vigorously. The package will no longer include a plastic ID card or any physical mailing. It will consist of: FIDE Student Rating and Premium web site (as before), plus four 20-page e-books per year.

CiS would pursue a cooperation agreement with the International School Sport Federation (ISF).

The course, work and teacher books that we have available for free download (Chess: The First Year of Study; Kulac Class books Year 1 & 2 and Teacher Guide, and our own Planet Chess were all endorsed: "Approved by the World Chess Federation's Chess in Schools Commission."

Councillor and Member reports Updates

Ravindra Dongre gave an update on the CiS program in India. It is growing with thousand of children adding to the existing numbers. He highlighted the main challenge being that of formation of teachers. But was happy that CiS is working on it through the development of on-line support.

Hadi Karimi reported that in Iran they had a visit by FIDE Senior Trainer Smbat Lputian from Armenia to assist in chess for schools and training. Now they are working on having to encompass disabled children and it's a social project that needs attention.

Bernardo Roselli presented a computer game called 'Chess and Legend' that is in Spanish but has since been translated in English. See <https://www.youtube.com/watch?t=11&v=qqGgyavTUl0>. This is a chess program for children aged 5-10 years. Uruguay has used it on a state program where they gave one laptop per child, and have reached 100,000 children.

Tshepo Sitale reported that Africa held its first Africa Schools Chess Championships in Gaborone, Botswana for the first time in history and the event was a success with 119 participants from Botswana, South Africa, Zimbabwe and Namibia. He pointed out that the online area is still a challenge for Africa as internet connectivity was slow and not there in some parts of Africa. So children are not able to join the CiS online membership and access resources and material for chess, hence the need for a special project for Africa.

Kevin O'Connell presented some of the videos that form part of the Early Years Skills Program that would not have been possible without the assistance of Alessandro Dominici and Alfieri Bianco.

Tshenolo Maruatona from Botswana gave an overview that the Africa Schools Chess

Championships held in Botswana were a success and in his view, having children play chess is not a problem but wants CiS to come up with a program of having Chess integrated in the Schools curriculum. The chairperson responded that he will avail himself at Continental meeting to discuss further on specific projects relevant and appropriate for each continent.

Dirk Jordan VP of Deutsche Schachjugend, mentioned that they had a special project and now they have over 150,000 kids participating. In many cases they use a box containing 60 different games to allow children to play 'chess' of various kinds. He handed one of the *Methoden fur den Schach-Unterricht* boxes as a gift to CiS chairperson on behalf of that organization.

Alexander Kostyev presented a video on using physical education as part of a chess program (psychomotricity) being developed by Russian Social State University (RGSU). The program was ongoing and, when completed, will be sent to the Russian Ministry of Education for review before end of the year.

CiS-TRG

The Chairperson informed the meeting that TRG offered to transfer the SI title to CiS.

FIDE CiS - Premium Student Membership.

Each Federation should discuss the Premium Student Membership opportunity. This is an open opportunity for them to build membership and funds, using material provided by FIDE, whereby 10euro is to be paid to FIDE but most of the funds are reimbursed to the Federation and FIDE keeps a small portion, about 2euros, for administrative purposes.

The chairperson allayed fears that FIDE wanted to bypass the Federation. He further stated that the platform is availed on many languages and currently there were more than 10 languages.

Verbal reports

GM Susan Polgar congratulated the CiS on the good work and pledged her support as someone who works with kids and education for chess.

Mohammed Hatem reported on universities chess in Asia. He shared the project he is working on in Palestine with an American University that was to be completed in November.

Khaled Ezedan Hijawe is starting a project in Palestine schools with support from the Ministry of Education.

Mr. Taha Husain AHMED JASIM mentioned the challenge that the Education ministry does not recognize chess as a sport. The advice was to use examples from other countries where chess is recognized as a Sport to build their case and the fact that most Chess Federations are NOC affiliates. Attendees discussed and shared ideas and initiatives on selling chess in schools. All agreed that Chess in Schools – Our Global Future (the main FIDE-CiS promotional booklet - new edition next year) was an excellent tool for this.

Thomas Luther Chairperson of the Disability Commission commended CiS for the good work and appreciated that the CiS web site has very good content. He suggested that we attempt to commercialize that material. The Chairperson agreed that this was a good suggestion which will be explored since it could generate revenue for FIDE and the Commission.

The Chairperson closed the meeting and thanked everyone for attending and appreciated the work

they are doing in regards to Chess in Schools. Council members for CiS were asked to remain behind for a brief meeting.

Council Members met shortly after the meeting and agreed that:

- The Chairperson congratulated Mongolia for once again showing the way, in that during the closing ceremony of the u16 Chess Olympiad in Ulaanbaatar, an agreement was signed by Yadamsuren Sanjmyatav MP, boosting the number of FIDE Premium Student Members by a record breaking 10,184. This Chess in Schools development is expected to make it into the Guinness Book of Records.
- Prize award for best video on Chess introduction is a good idea. The award could perhaps be named after a famous chess educator. Federations are requested to send suggestions.

Council unanimously agreed to make the following proposal to the Board

FIDE CIS PROPOSAL

1. CIS gratefully accepts TRG offer to transfer SI title (TRG Appendix 9) to CIS. Instructors will be trained by TRG agreed lecturers. TRG will cooperate with CiS to organize seminars.
2. CIS will institute and organize:
 - a. Certification for Early Years teaching (before children can read or write based on playing non chess games on a giant chessboard)
 - b. Diplomas for School Chess Leaders (organizers to provide support for teachers in schools without Instructors and to promote SI seminars)

All fees in euro	Method of Teaching	Train	Duration	Certificate Diploma Title	cost per year of	Licence Actual
FIDE-CIS Early Years Certificate	Online	10	Various - 'asynchronous'	20	10	30 (4 yr)
FIDE-CIS School Chess Leader Diploma	To be decided	20	Various - 'asynchronous'	30	15	30 (2 yr)
School Instructor Title	SEMINAR	100	2-3 days/ 15-18 hrs	50	20	40 (2 yr)



Kevin O'Connell
Chairman
Abu Dhabi 4th September 2015