

Asian Continental Meeting

6 September 2015

Abu Dhabi, UAE

Minutes

0.1 Obituaries

The Board stood in a minute of silence to mourn the passing in the preceding year of friends of FIDE among whom are the following from Asia:

GM Zaw Min (MYA)

IA Evelyn Koshnitsky (AUS)

Section A: Administrative Matters

1. Report of the President

The Board noted that the Asian Chess Federation has accomplished or scheduled all the tournaments in the Asian calendar of 2015.

The popularity of tournaments for the youth was seen again in the large number of participants in the Asian Schools held in Singapore. The Asian Youth Championship was successfully organized in South Korea. All age groups under-8, 10, 12, 14, 16 and 18 were held together in the city of Suwon.

The Asian Continental Individual Championship was successfully organized in Al Ain with a record prize fund of \$87,000 for the Men's and Women's championship and for Rapid and Blitz championships. A record number of 32 federations participated in the Asian Championship which was held with 5-star accommodation.

Zonal championships were conducted in all Zones to select qualifiers for the World Cup. We thank the Zone Presidents for completing their events for both men and women.

It was emphasized that Asian calendar events are being organized by different federations across all Zones. The Asian Amateur Championship shall be organized by the Brunei Chess Federation. The Asian Seniors Championship shall be organized by the Iran Chess Federation. The Asian Juniors and Girls Championships shall be organized by the Kyrgyzstan Chess Federation.

New events are scheduled such as the Asian University Championship in Beijing, China.

Asian Chess Federation co-organized a number of Arbiters Seminars, August 2015 in Ulanbaatar, Mongolia, June 2015 in Riyadh, Saudi Arabia, June 2015 in Singapore, May/June 2015 in Dushanbe, Tajikistan, May 2015 in Muscat, Oman, Feb 2015 in Luang Prabhang, Laos and November 2014 in Delhi, India.

Asian Chess Federation will hold and has co-organized a number of Trainers Seminars, September 2015 in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia, September 2015 in Larestan, Iran, August 2015 in Ulanbaatar, Mongolia, June /July 2015 in Male, Maldives, June 2015 in Singapore, Jan 2015 in Auckland, New Zealand, Nov 2014 in Delhi, India.

Asian Chess Federation co-organized an International Organizer Seminar Feb. 2015 in Makkah, Saudi Arabia. ACF conducted the first Rating Tournament in January 2015 in Laos and will conduct inaugural rating tournaments this year in East Timor, Cambodia and Nauru.

2. Financial Report

Treasurer Mehrdad Pahlevanzadeh submitted the financial report.

In view of the tragic earthquakes which have struck Nepal, it was agreed to write off the debts of Nepal Chess Federation for the year.

As required by UAE law, the board agreed that the ACF president is authorized to open a bank account and purchase assets for Secretariat operations of the Asian Chess Federation.

3. Affiliations

The Board welcomed the Nauru Chess Federation as our newest member.

4. Replacement of Vice President

The Board noted that in accordance with ACF Statutes, Sheikh Sultan appointed Sheikh Musad Al Zuwari of Saudi Arabia, former president of Al Ahli Club, as ACF Vice President replacing Alawi Al Zawawi of Oman.

5. Replacement of Executive Board Member

Asian Continental Assembly in Tromso was informed that the Mongolian Chess Federation replaces nomination of Genden Altan Och for disciplinary reasons. The Board noted that the Asian Chess Federation accepted the Mongolian Chess Federation nomination of Sainbayar Tserendorj to the Executive Board.

6. Appointment of Commission Chairmen

ACF President Sheikh Sultan appoints the following Commission chairmen:

Bharat Singh for Trainers and Academies Commission

Hisham Al Taher for Events and Competitions Commission

Abigail Tian Hongwei for Women's Commission

Casto Abundo for Arbiters Commission

Mehrdad Pahlevanzadeh for Online Commission

Adel Almery for Development Commission

The Board noted that the President shall appoint other committee chairmen pending receipt of nominations and qualifications for the following commissions: Chess in Schools, Media/social network, Seniors, Disabled, Talented players, Excellence Awards and Marketing.

The Board noted that the President shall appoint a number of Assistant Secretaries under the office of the Secretary General.

Section B: Tournaments and Matches

7. Zonal Championships

The Board congratulated Zone Presidents and thanked national federations for the organization of:

Asian Zonal 3.1 by the Oman Chess Committee 16-25 May 2015 in Muscat.

Asian Zonal 3.2 by the Nepal Chess Federation, 26 Mar to 2 Apr 2015 in Kathmandu.

Asian Zonal 3.3 by the Vietnam Chess Federation 6-16 March 2015 in Ho Chi Minh.

Asian Zonal 3.4 by the Tajikistan Chess Federation 3-12 June 2015 in Dushanbe.

Asian Zonal 3.5 by the Chinese Chess Association 25 Oct-6 Nov 2014 in Zhong Shan.

Asian Zonal 3.6 by the Australian Chess Federation 3-10 July 2015 in Sydney.

Asian Zonal 3.7 by the All India Chess Federation 4-18 Dec 2014 in Kottayam, Kerala

The Board applauded Zone President Rajesh Joshi for their first official event in Nepal.

- 8. Asian Continental Men's and Women's Championships 2015**
The event was held 1-13 August 2015 in Al Ain, UAE with record prize fund of \$87,000, a record number of 32 federations participating and in 5-star hotel accommodation and venue.
- 9. Asian Youth Championship 2015 Under-8, 10, 12, 14, 16 and 18**
The Board applauded the Korean Chess Federation president and delegation present for successfully organizing the event 3-11 August 2015 in Suwon despite the negative publicity of the MERS epidemic. It was noted that in coordination with the organizers, the Under-6 category was discontinued.
- 10. Asian Schools Championship - 2015**
The event was organized by the Singapore Chess Federation 30 May to 8 June 2015. The Board welcomed the new Singapore Chess Federation delegate Tony Tan.
- 11. Asian Cities Team Championship 2015**
The event was organized by the Sri Lanka Chess Federation 21-29 July 2015 in Colombo.
- 12. Asian Juniors and Girls Championships 2015**
The Asian Juniors and Girls championships shall be organized by the Kyrgyzstan Chess Federation 2-12 October 2015 in Bishkek, Kyrgyzstan.
- 13. Asian Amateur Championships - 2015**
The event will be organized by the Brunei Chess Federation 6-13 September 2015.
- 14. Asian Seniors 2015**
The event will be organized by the Iran Chess Federation 24 September to 2 October in Larestan.
- 15. Eastern Asian Youth Championship 2016**
As approved by the 2013 Asian Continental meeting at the FIDE Congress in Talinn, Estonia, that the Eastern Asian Youth Championship shall be established. ACF president Sheikh Sultan declared that it is an opportunity for more players to participate.
- The City of Tagaytay in cooperation with the National Chess Federation of the Philippines bids for the inaugural event.
- Executive Board member Sainbayar Tserendorj proposed and the meeting approved that the three Asian regional events to be submitted to the Qualification Commission for Direct Titles are the Western Asian, Central Asian and Eastern Asian Youth championships for under-8, 10, 12, 14, 16, 18 and 20.
- 16. Asian Continental Open and Women's Championships 2016**
Uzbekistan Chess Federation bids for the event 25 May to 4 June 2016 in Hotel Uzbekistan, Tashkent.
- The Board agreed to refer 2016 bids to the Asian Events and Competitions Commission.
- 17. Asian Juniors and Girls Championships 2016**
We invite bids for the event.
- 18. Asian Youth Championship 2016 Under-8, 10, 12 and Under-14, 16, 18**
The Mongolian Chess Federation bids for the event April-May 2016 in Ulaanbaatar.
The Sri Lanka Chess Federation bids for the event 1-8 September 2016 in Kaluthawa.
The Iran Chess Federation bids for either Asian Youth (or Asian Schools), July in Kish.

19. Asian Schools Championship - 2016

The Sri Lanka Chess Federation bids for the event 9-17 September 2016 in Kaluthawa.
The Iran Chess Federation bids for the Asian Schools (or Asian Youth), July in Kish.

20. Asian Amateur Championships - 2016

We invite bids for this event.

21. Asian Seniors 2016

The Eugene Torre Chess Foundation in cooperation with the National Chess Federation of the Philippines bids for this event.

22. Asian Nations Cup

UAE Chess Federation bids for this event to be held at Novotel in Abu Dhabi. The Asian Nations Cup will select the Men's and Women's qualifiers to the World Team Championship, May 2017 in Khanti Mansiysk, Russia.

23. Asian Cities Team Championship 2017

We invite bids for the event.

24. Asian Club Champions League

We invite bids for the event.

25. Oceania Junior Championship 2016

Oceania president Paul Spiller proposed to consider direct titles for Oceania junior championship, April 2016 in Fiji. Mr. Jamie Kenmure of Solomon Islands explained the proposal. The Board noted that the Oceania Juniors can be expanded to Eastern Asian Junior championship to make it qualify for titles.

Section C: Other Matters

26. 2nd Annual Asian Chess Excellence Awards

The Awardees for 2015 have been announced as published in the Congress manual. Secretary General Hisham Al Taher invited all members to the Awards Dinner.

27. Draft Mission Statement

Secretary General Hisham Al Taher invited comments on the draft Mission Statement.

28. Proposed Partnership with Arab American University

Mr. Mohammed Alatem presented his proposal to give Master in Chess degrees in partnership with the Arab American University in Palestine.

29. 1st Asian University Chess Championship

Mr. Luxman Wijesuriya of Sri Lanka addressed the Board on behalf of the Asian University Sports Federation and invited federations to send players to the Asian University Chess Championship in Beijing, China.

30. Closing

Asian Chess Federation president Sheikh Sultan bin Khalifa Al Nahyan thanked the members for coming to the meeting in Abu Dhabi.