World Chess Federation

Anti-Cheating Committee

MINUTES OF THE ACC CONGRESS MEETING BAKU, 7 September 2016

The meeting was attended by the following ACC members: Israel Gelfer (Chair), Yuri Garrett (Secretary), Rashed Al-Dhaheri, Klaus Deventer, Laurent Freyd, Andy Howie, Konstantin Landa, Yuliya Levitan, Salomeja Zaksaite. A full list of other attendees can be obtained from Fide Secretariat.

1. Chairman's report.

The Chairman briefly went through past operations of the ACC, illustrated the status quo of the Committee and outlined the challenges that lie ahead in view of the transition to a full blown Commission.

The Chairman also specified that the anti-cheating rules for the 42nd Olympiad were not drafted by the ACC but rather by the people who are involved in the organization of the Olympiad. While the wording of the rules may not be perfect, the anti-cheating procedures are a sign that Fide is reacting to the cheating challenge and is trying to counter the problem.

2. ARB-ACC online seminar

In 2016 ACC members Garrett and Landa held webinars together with experts from ARB (in English and Russian, respectively) with a view to explaining the changes that have been introduced by the AC Guidelines. A total of almost 120 arbiters attended the webinars live (and many more offline) and other two events have been organized in the Spanish and Arabic languages.

3. Finalized cases: Nigalidze, Sandu, Ricciardi, Tetimov, Valles;

The Committee briefly illustrated the findings of the Investigating Chambers that already reported to Ethics. In four cases the IC found there was prima facie evidence of breach of the Code of Ethics, whereas no violation appears to have been identified in the so-called Valles case.

Mr Francois Strydom, Chairman of Ethics, took the floor to contribute recommendations for improving the final IC reports to Ethics. He also pointed out that Ethics will need to have a common session with Prof. Kenneth Regan in order to better understand his methodology in statistically identifying instances of computer-assisted cheating. Finally he also voiced his opinion in favour of generally harsher sanctions.

4. Becoming a Commission, a report from Constitutional Chairman Rivello

Mr. Rivello illustrated the proposed changes that are necessary to turn the ACC into a proper FIDE Commission. ACC received the information and will present its comments to Mr. Rivello before the GA.

5. PGN screening tool development

The ACC informed that an analisys of the technical requirements of the PGN screening tool has been carried out to the satisfaction of ACC and Fide, but also that since that moment no progress has been made in the implementation of the all-important web-based PGN screening tool. The ACC considers the development of the tool as a top priority for fighting cheating and is strongly requesting that Fide funds its implementation as originally planned.

6. ACC site development

The ACC wishes to stress that is in dire need of an efficient web-based front-office / back-office tool for everyday operation and for communicating with the public. Again, this is considered to be top priority, as without a proper repository for all the cases that have to be dealt with, it is almost impossible to work efficiently.

Due to time constraints, the last two points of the agenda have not been discussed in full. However, before ending the meeting the ACC stressed that it has not met for 16 months and that operation has suffered greatly for this reason. The ACC therefore is requesting Fide to equip the ACC with adequate funds in the immediate future thus enabling it to operate properly.

ACC Chair Israel Gelfer

ACC Secretary Yuri Garrett