

88th FIDE Congress

Commission for World Championships & Olympiads (WCOC)

Antalya, Turkey

12 October 2017, 15:00 - 17:00

Minutes

Chairman: G. Makropoulos (GRE)

Members: E. Dervishi (ALB), I. Gelfer (ISR), H. Elgendy (EGY)

Present: A. Vardapetyan (ARM), L. Freyd (FRA), W. Stubenvoll (AUT), T. Nikolopoulos (GRE), I. Merenzon (AGON), N. Avdiu (KOS), G. Mastrokoukos (GRE), Z. Azmaiparashvili (GEO), T. Kipshidze (GEO), N. Faulks (BER), A. McFarlane (SCO), G. Wastell (AUS), R. Ricca (ITA), A. Schuering (NED).

1. Contract with AGON and future plans (presented by AGON)

AGON presented their plans for the Candidates Tournament 2018 in Berlin and the World Championship Match later that year. The business model used for these two events will involve cost effective savings compared to 2016 and at the same time produce the same top quality events. Mr Makropoulos noted that the final announcement for the venue of the World Championship Match 2018 will be confirmed by FIDE only after sufficient funding has been secured.

2. Women's WCC match 2017, contract with China

Mr Geoffrey Borg reports that he is in continuous contact with the Chinese Chess Federation which confirmed its commitment to organise the match. Mr Borg will visit China this month to finalize the contract.

3. Candidates regulations 2018, AGON proposals on biometrics (annex 1) and broadcast rights for Ethics Commission (annex 2).

The WCOC noted that the first 3 participants for the 2018 Candidates Tournament have qualified from the World Cup (Aronian and Ding Liren) and the previous World Championship match (Karjakin). The full list of players will be published after the rating list of December is out, not including the current world champion who qualifies directly for the World Championship match. The winner of the Candidates Tournament in Berlin will challenge the world champion Magnus Carlsen for the title in Q4 2018.

The WCOC approves the proposal of AGON concerning biometrics of the players, subject to the player's consent. The players should also be asked of their opinion before specifying exact regulations.

The WCOC backs the proposal of AGON concerning the suggested policy on moves broadcast protection, subject to the comments of the Ethics Commission.

4. Grand-Prix 2019, time control and 30-move draw offers

WCOC noted the proposal of the FIDE press officer to use the same control in the Grand-Prix as in the World Cup and also apply the 30-move draw offer limit in the Grand-Prix. The proposals aim in increasing the sportive element of the events and avoiding short draws. After thorough discussion, WCOC suggests to ask for the opinion of the GP participants before implementing any changes.

5. Women's Grand-Prix 2017-18, schedule

Mr Geoffrey Borg reports that 3 Women GP tournaments will take place in 2018 and 1 tournament in 2019. There is an interest from China, Mexico and India to hold events. Mr Geoffrey Borg will also propose a new playing system based on swiss events, to be examined by the WCOC for future Women GP events.

6. Proposal of IA Ashot Vardapetian concerning the WCC match 2018 (annex 3).

The WCOC discussed the proposal of IA Ashot Vardapetian for a new format of the World Championship match. WCOC supports the current system as it adds more excitement to the match.

7. Any other items.

7.1) World Blitz & Rapid Championships 2017: AGON proposed to organise the event in December 2017 and introduce a system with online preliminary events. WCOC backs the idea and AGON shall finalize details and anti-cheating procedures with Sotiris Logothetis and George Mastrokoukos. If a satisfactory bid is submitted by AGON, the WCOC shall give its final approval by 31 October.

7.2) Olympiad 2018: Mr Zurab Azmaiparashvili informed the commission that the event has secured a single venue for the whole event, with a total area of 5,500 square meters. Both men and women will play in the same building.

7.3) Olympiad 2020: The event has been awarded to Khanty-Mansiysk, Russia.

7.4) Olympiads 2022 and 2024: The bidding procedures will be opened until the end of the year and bids shall also include the organisation of the preceding World Cup and the Women's World Championship (knock-out).