

Commission for Women in Chess

Batumi, Georgia

29th September 2018, 11.00-13.00

Chairpersons: Susan Polgar (USA), M. Fierro (ECU)

Present: N. Cinar (TUR), P. Ambarukwi (INA), D. Chen (TPE), A. Sorokina (BLR), S. Johnson (TTO), U. Umudova (AZE), A. Dimitrijevic (BIH), K. Blackman (BCF), D. Murray (BCF), C. Zhu (QAT), P. Truong (CAM), M. Naugana (MAW), K. Howie (SCO), C. Meyer (USA), R. Haring (USA), U. E. Gronn (NOR), S. Bayat (IRI), S. Rohde (USA), M. Khamboo (NEP), Dr. G. Font (HUN), Dr. N. Short (ENG), A. Karlovych (UKR)

MATTERS DISCUSSED

At the beginning of the meeting, we addressed the items discussed in the official WOM report submitted to FIDE.

The Chairperson (Ms. Polgar) especially praised FIDE for the Women's World Blitz and Rapid Championships in Saudi Arabia which had a substantially increased prize fund, though it was only one third of the prize in the Open section. The total prize fund in the Women's championships were \$250,000 for each event.

Beatriz Marinello reported on her project "Smart Girl" on behalf of the Social Action commission, which included projects in Uganda, Chile, France and the US. This projects seeks to increase participation by girls in chess in those countries.

Martha Fierro elaborated on the project about chess in women prisons in Genoa, Italy, which involved the training of refugees in Italy who in turn, train women prisoners.

Sophia Rohde from the United States shared some of the work their federation is in doing to promote chess for girls in the USA. They subsequently presented a video showing various interviews with young girls in chess, highlighting the benefits and challenges that they experience in chess.

The Chairperson discussed the disadvantages faced by young girls and women:

Many young girls are being put in uncomfortable situations where they have to face and endure sexual harassment or even worse. Consequently, in an effort for parents to protect their daughters will then have to spend significant additional expenses.

Beatriz Marinello reported on a recent story in the Spanish language media, regarding Ingrid Aliaga Fernandez from Peru, who had accused her former coach of sexual harassment.

While members of WOM sympathize with the alleged victim, we cannot recommend any action until we receive an official complaint from the victim herself. We asked her to please contact WOM but so far have not heard back.

The committee and attendees also discussed the position that WOM should take on this matter.

A document sent by Keenese Katiseng, Botswana, on "Prevention of sexual and gender harassment and abuse in sports" which was circulated among the attendees.

CAISSA AWARDS

Thanks to the generous support of Lobortas Classical Jewelry House, WOM presented valuable cups for the performance for 2016 to GM Anna Muzychuk, Ukraine and for 2017 to GM Nana Dzagnidze, Georgia.

A formal letter of recognition was given to Mr. Lobortas for his continuous support to FIDE and WOM.

RECOMMENDATIONS

Prizes should be equal for all Official FIDE events starting with the Junior Events and others with smaller prize funds for Open and Women. This will eventually also be the case for the biggest FIDE Events, such as the World Championship with larger prize funds.

The reigning Women's World Champion should have a more active role in promoting chess among women. She should automatically be given the role as FIDE Chess Ambassador.

FIDE should introduce training for players on Media interactions, protocol, dress code, and how to deal with sponsors and fans, etc. The objective being to enhance the image of chess players and thereby attracting more sponsors.

Based on the discussions on the sexual harassment allegations issues, it was agreed that WOM would:

- Develop a sexual harassment policy, in conjunction with FIDE lawyers.
- Again, we encourage Ingrid Aliaga Fernandez to formally lodge a complaint to WOM/FIDE.

Based on the proposal from Ms. Bayat of Iran, we suggest to remove all registration fees for women players for Official FIDE Events. The objective being to increase female participation in these events as well to somewhat compensate with the above mentioned additional costs.

All FIDE Commissions should have a minimum of 25% composition of women, with the goal being 50%.

Commission for Women's Chess (WOM)

REPORT FOR 89th FIDE Congress 26 September - 6 October 2018.

Batumi, Georgia

Co-Chairperson: GM Susan POLGAR & IM Martha Fierro BAQUERO

Secretary: IA Anastasia SOROKINA

Councilors: Ms. Keenese KATISENG (Botswana), GM Zhu CHEN (Qatar), GM Antoaneta STEFANOVA (Bulgaria)

Members:

Ms. Fiona STEIL-ANTONI (Luxembourg), Ms. Nilufer CINAR (Turkey), Ms. Damaris ABARCA (Chile), IM Irene SUKANDAR (Indonesia), IA Anemone KULZCAK (France), Ms. Evita SIMANGO (Mozambique), Ms. Dina Mei-Fang CHEN (Chinese Taipei), Ms. Aleksandra MILOVIC (Montenegro), Ms. Sonia ZEPEDA (El Salvador), IM Elisabeth PAEHTZ (Germany)

Special Advisors:

GM HOU Yifan (China), GM Maia CHIBURDANIDZE (Georgia), GM Xie JUN (China), GM Xu YUHUA (China), GM Alexandra KOSTENIUK (Russia), GM Anna USHENINA (Ukraine)

The Women's Commission has been very active in promoting the participation of all female players, arbiters, trainers and organizers in various events and activities around the world. This report will highlight the main FIDE activities whilst noting a number of continental and regional initiatives. More detailed information can be obtained from:

<http://womenschess.fide.com/>

1. EVENTS

1.1 22nd European Chess Club Cup for Women 2017

Antalya, Turkey, 7-15 October 2017.

22nd European Chess Club Cup for Women 2017 was held in the Avantgarde Hotel in Antalya, Turkey, from October 7 (day of arrival) to 15 (day of departure) 2017.

12 teams from 8 countries participated in the ECCC for Women (51 players).

The event was played according to the Swiss system of 7 rounds, and according to the "ECU Tournament Rules". For the top clubs and best board prizes, 10,000 Euros was awarded as follows: 1st place 3,000 EUR; 2nd place 2,500 EUR; 3rd place 1,500 EUR; 4th place 1,000 EUR. Individual prize for best women player on 1st-4th board - 500 EUR each (total 2,000 EUR).

The top seed in the women section was Batumi Chess Club Nona from Georgia. Having won this cup already twice in 2014 and 2015, the Georgians were seeking a third title with their usual lineup consisting of Georgian national players such as Dzagnidze, Khotenashvili and Batsiashvili with the addition of Harika Dronavalli, the Indian number one on the top board. The champions of Russia, UGRA Chess Club, seemed to be the main obstacle on their way to a third title: Girya, Pogonina, ex-World Champion Ushenina and Nechaeva were all fighting to bring the cup to Russia. Legacy Square Capital – was the third seed with an ELO average over 2400 and with a young and talented lineup led by Kashlinskaya.

In the course of a tense and difficult struggle after 7 rounds Batumi Chess Club Nona (Georgia) and Odlar Yurdu (Azerbaijan) both had 11 points but on tiebreaks the Georgians got the first place. The third place went to Bossa Nova (Belarus).

Final Ranking after 7 Rounds

Rk.	SNo		Team	Games	+	=	-	TB1	TB2	TB3
1	1		Batumi Chess Club NONA	7	5	1	1	11	126,5	18
2	4		Odlar Yurdu	7	5	1	1	11	117,5	17
3	5		Bossa Nova	7	5	0	2	10	116	19
4	2		UGRA Chess Club	7	4	2	1	10	107,5	18
5	3		SHSM Legacy Square Capital	7	3	2	2	8	114,5	16
6	6		Cs Studentesc Medicina Timisoara	7	3	2	2	8	93,5	18
7	7		Anatolia	7	4	0	3	8	79	17
8	9		Marmara	7	3	0	4	6	56	13
9	10		Beer Sheva Chess Club	7	2	1	4	5	47,5	13
10	8		Mulhouse Philidor	7	2	1	4	5	34	10
11	11		Aegean	7	1	0	6	2	27	8,5
12	12		Mediterranean	7	0	0	7	0	15,5	2,5

1.2 Women's World Rapid and Blitz Championships 2017 Riyadh, Saudi Arabia 24-31 December 2017.

In these two championships players from 55 countries participated, among them 11 out the World Top-15 women.

The total Prize Fund for the event is \$2,000,000, with individual prize funds of \$750,000 for the Open and \$250,000 for the women in both (Blitz and Rapid each) events. There were 30 prizes for each event, with the first prize being \$80,000 in the Women's Sections, all new records.

Ju Wenjun of China was the clear winner with 11.5/15 points at the Women's World Rapid Championship. Her compatriot Lei Tingjie was in close to get to a tiebreak match, but she could not win with black against Nana Dzagnidze, therefore, being awarded the silver medal. Elisabeth Paetz won the bronze with 10.5 points.

In the Women's World Blitz Championship, Nana Dzagnidze repeated the strong performance from the first day of the Rapid, which was sufficient for clear first place with 16.5/21 points.

The powerful finish of five straight victories lifted Valentina Gunina to the second place half a point behind the winner.

The rest of the field remained far behind. Ju Wenjun and Kateryna Lagno shared the third place with 14 points each, but the Rapid Champion Ju claimed the bronze thanks to her superior tie-break.

1.2 European ACP Women's Rapid and Blitz Chess Championships 2018 Tbilisi, Georgia, 29th March-1st April 2018

European ACP Women's Rapid and Blitz Chess Championships 2018 took place from 29th March-1st April, in Tbilisi, Georgia. 78 players from 16 European federations took part in the tournament.

The European ACP Women's Rapid Chess Championship was held on 30th and 31st March, in Hotel Iota (the official venue of the event). After two days and 11 rounds, five players tied for the first place. According to the tiebreak system, Elisabeth Paetz (GER) became the new European ACP Rapid Chess Champion, while the second place went to Anastasia Bodnaruk (RUS) and Anna Muzychuk (UKR) took bronze.

The European ACP Women's Blitz Chess Championship took place on the 1st of April. Anna Muzychuk (UKR) became the sole winner with 10 points out of 13 games. Three players tied for the second place, but Elisabeth Paetz (GER) had the best tiebreaks and won silver, while Monika Socko (POL) took bronze medal.

The total prize fund of the championships was 25,000 EUR, with 14,500 EUR for the Rapid Championship and 6,000 EUR for the Blitz Championship.

The event was organized by government of Georgia, the Tbilisi City Hall, the Georgian Chess Federation and the Association of Chess Professionals, under the auspices of ECU.

1.3 European Individual Women Chess Championship 2018 Vysoke Tatry, Slovakia, 7 – 20 April 2018.

European Women Individual Chess Championship 2018 took place in Vysoke Tatry, Slovakia, from 7th to 20th April. The event was held in a 4* Hotel Bellevue, located in the national park of Vysoke Tatry.



The European Individual Women's Chess Championship was a qualification event for the next World Women's Chess Championship. The total prize fund of the event was 70,000 EUR.

143 players from 30 different European federations registered for the event, among whom 13 Grandmasters, 29 International masters, 35 Women Grandmasters, 22 Women International masters and in total 128 titled players, which makes the event very strong. The top four seeded players were rated 2500+: Muzychuk Mariya (UKR, 2540), Batsiashvili Nino (GEO, 2521), Dzagnidze Nana (GEO, 2507), Gunina Valentina (RUS, 2507). They are followed by 30 players rated 2400+, and some of them are: Goryachkina Aleksandra (RUS, 2495), Sebaq Marie (FRA, 2492), Khotenashvili Bela (GEO, 2484), Stefanova Antoaneta (ECU, 2479), Pogonina Natalija (RUS, 2474), Cramling Pia (SWE, 2472) and others.

Valentina Gunina reached an impressive result of 9 points out of 11 games, without a single loss and a whole point ahead of the runner-ups and, to achieve the title of European Women Chess Champion for the third time in her career (2012, 2014, 2018).

Seven players tied for the second place, each with 8 points. According to the tie-break criteria, silver medal went to Dzagnidze Nana (GEO, 2507), the Winner of the Championship in 2017, while Ushenina Anna (UKR, 2422) took the bronze medal and the third place.

19 players achieved the international FIDE title norms, while 14 players qualified for the next cycle of the World Women's Chess Championship.

N°	TIT	NOM	FÉD	ELO	PTS.	TB2	WE	W-WE	K	ELO+/-
1	GM	Gunina Valentina		2507	9	72,5	7,1	1,9	10	19
2	GM	Dzagnidze Nana		2507	8	74,5	6,83	1,17	10	11,7
3	GM	Ushenina Anna		2422	8	74	5,89	2,11	10	21,1
4	IM	Atalik Ekaterina		2452	8	67	7,06	0,94	10	9,4
5	GM	Stefanova Antoaneta		2479	8	66	6,93	1,07	10	10,7
6	IM	Paehtz Elisabeth		2468	8	66	7,11	0,89	10	8,9
7	WGM	Kulon Klaudia		2319	8	65,5	4,58	3,42	10	34,2
8	WIM	Shuvalova Polina		2389	8	65	5,27	2,73	10	27,3
9	WGM	Goryachkina Aleksandra		2495	7,5	69	7,45	0,05	10	0,5
10	IM	Mammadzada Gunay		2392	7,5	67,5	5,01	2,49	20	49,8
11	IM	Osmak Iulija		2361	7,5	67	5,39	2,11	10	21,1
12	IM	Javakhishvili Lela		2467	7,5	66,5	7,1	0,4	10	4
13	IM	Szczepkowska Karina		2403	7,5	57	7,38	0,12	10	1,2
14	GM	Muzychuk Mariya		2540	7	70,5	7,79	-0,79	10	-7,9

1.4 Women's World Championship Match 2018 Shanghai, Chongqing, China - 2 - 9 May, 2018

The match between Tan Zhongyi and Ju Wenjun was organized from 2nd to 9th of May in Shanghai and the latter half from 11th to 20th May in Chongqing. This match is managed by FIDE, China National general administration of sports chess sports management center, China Chess Association, Chongqing Sports bureau, People's government of Jiulongpo Suburb Choongqing.

After 10 games Ju Wenjun won by the score of 5.5 - 4.5 versus Tan Zhongyi and became the 17th champion of FIDE women's world chess. *Ju Wenjun* is the 6th Chinese to win the FIDE Women's World Chess Championship. She was rewarded by 120,000 Euros (After tax), which is approximately 900,000RMB. Tan Zhongyi got a prize of 80,000 Euros (After tax).

FIDE Women's World Chess Championship Match 2018

Final Ranking

Rank	SNo.	Name	Rtg	FED	1	2	Pts.
1	1	Ju Wenjun	2571	CHN	* * * * *	½ 1 1 0 1 0 ½ ½ ½½	5½
2	2	Tan Zhongyi	2522	CHN	½ 0 0 1 0 1 ½ ½ ½½	* * * * *	4½

2. FORTHCOMING ACTIVITIES

World Junior and Girls U20 Chess Championship, 4-16 September 2018 Gebze, Kocaeli, Turkey

23th European Club Cup for Women, 11-19 October 2018 Porto Carras, Halkidiki, Greece

Women's World Chess Championship, 1-25 November 2018, Khanty-Mansiysk, Russia

3. TRAINERS & ARBITERS SEMINARS

4. CAISSA AWARD

The winner of the 2017 Caissa award is Nana Dzagnidze of Georgia.

5. PROJECTS

Rumbo a la Gran Maestria

The *Rumbo a la Gran Maestria* WOM project has been successfully ongoing for the last 4 years. The project targets the top Latin-American young women, selected by rating and approved by their national federations.

The project consists of:

- Online lessons with Grandmaster Carlos Matamoros and International Master Renier Castellanos, both certified FIDE Trainers.
- Two weeks of intensive training camp in Italy with International Master Renier Castellanos.
- Playing in International Opens in Europe: Forni di Sopra, Benasque and Andorra.

SPFGI

The SPF Girls' Invitational is the richest all-girls championship in the world. The 15th Annual SPFGI took place on July 21-26, 2018 at Webster University (St. Louis, USA). Over \$320,000 in scholarships, along with cash and chess prizes were awarded to the winners among the 60 nominated and qualified participants. Girls participated from across the United States and around the American Continent.



Results and Photos here:

<https://photos.google.com/share/AF1QipMpSmnYH9hGlaYO75xGEBREZrP9bi2IU3AulMANqZiJLn59dHIVlyC2xf248n00iw?key=dDkzSjdtbGllRHZnTFNxMXVJZiNkQjJKZ3dQTExB>

https://gamesmaven.io/chessdailynews/womens/5-way-tie-for-1st-at-2018-spfgi-konovalenko-wins-playoff-photos-standings-6bum_IAKi0KhVd-3knOwDQ/

The 16th Annual Susan Polgar Foundation Girls' Invitational will take place on June 22-27, 2019 at Webster University (in St. Louis, Missouri)

Rehabilitation through Chess in Italy

WOM in collaboration with the Consulate of Ecuador in Genoa, reports that it has successfully completed the 'Project for Rehabilitation through Chess', which was carried out in detention centers in Genoa - Pontedecimo, it should be noted that this prisons have a women's section.



The Project was open to all detainees, of all nationalities present, with the main objective of rehabilitating all prisoners. The different courses included 10 classes, for a total of 20 hours each course, once a week. At the end of the courses, simultaneous exhibitions given by IM Martha Fierro Baquero to the detainees, currently co-President of WOM and Consul of Ecuador in Genoa. Each participant received a Certificate of attendance. The didactic

materials, chessboards and pieces, were all donated to the Detention Centers by the Accademia Internazionale di Scacchi.

The fundamental characteristic of the project is that a group of young chess player immigrants/ refugees became certified FIDE instructors, after receiving chess lessons for months with WGM Martha Fierro.

6. PROPOSAL

WOM hopes that prizes of Open and Women's FIDE events will be the same in the near future. For the immediate future we would like to propose that at FIDE events where entry fees and other expenses for participants are the same (such as World Girls' Championship, etc.), so should be the prizes. Also, FIDE should encourage national federations to introduce similar policies.