

*79th FIDE Congress
17-25 November
Congress Centre, Dresden, Germany*

**Chess In Schools Commission
17 November 2008
MINUTES**

Chairman: Prof. Uvencio Blanco (VEN)

Present; Mr. Florencio Campomanes (Honorary President FIDE), Mr. Lewis Ncube, (FIDE Vicepresident), Mr. Lazar Mazouz (FIDE Vicepresident), Mr. Jorge Vega (America President), Mr. Allan Herbert, (Chairman CACDEC), gm Yuri Razuvaev (Chairman Trainers Committee), T. Tsorbatzoglou (Co.Chairman opf Youth and Junior Events Committee), Dr. Alexander Kostiev (Secretary CISC), IM Kemal Osmanovic (Member CISC), gm Yuri Averbach (RUS), g. El Sahhar (EGY), D. Ambarukmi (IND), W. Kastner (AUT), R. Atanassov (BUL), S. Muratkuliev (TKM), O. Esau (RSA), E,. Polihronade (ROM), H. Reimova (TKM), Ch. Mouta Netto (BRA), M. Bernardette (SEY), B. Hoareau (SEY), R. Smith (TRI), A. Emil-Danut (ROM), A. Nicolieva (BUL), B. Howell-Meyer (BAR), P. Bazan (ARG), F. Salino (ARG), J. Glek (ACP), R.N. Barrera (ARG), E. Mulero (PUR), G. Babic (PLW), S. Martin (PLW), J. Wilkinson (JAM), J. J. (ANG), M. Da Munda (ANG), M. Baquero (ECU), F. Hanson (PLW), J. Berglund (PLW), F. Lopera (COL), M. Sani (NIG), O. Solaja (NIG) and L. Adeyemi (NIG).

1. A word of welcome

The president Blanco welcomed the participants and to appreciate the presence of Mr. Florencio Campomanes, Mr. Lewis Ncube, Mr. Jorge Vega, Mr. Lazar Mazouz, Mr. Allan Herbert, gm Yuri Averbach and gm Yuri Razuvaev. And miembers of tour Commission: Dr. Alexander Kostiev and IM Kemal Osmanovic

2. Minute of Silence for the disappearance of physical Mr. Nicola Palladino

Mr. Blanco invited the audience to pay a minute's silence for the loss of Mr. Nicola Palladino, founder and president of *Chess In Schools Commission* (1986 – 2006), one of the most prominent drivers of chess school in the world and Honorary Member FIDE.

3. Report of President – Activities 2008 – by Prof. Uvencio Blanco

After, Prof. Blanco present a summary about the most important activities developed during the 2008, related to work at front of the Commission of Chess in Schools FIDE.

He said: "I would like to kindly inform you herewith about the most important activities developed during the 2008, related to our work of the *Chess on Schools Commission FIDE*. Note, that our principal interest is:

1. To assist National Federations to introduce Chess in schools. To continue to assist the national federations with less development in chess to facilitate the incorporation of the new values to the chess of high technical level.
2. To prepare curricula and courseware for Chess Education in schools.
3. To prepare training programs for schools; focused in the generation of the universal project to popularise chess in the schools and universities.
4. To create an international program of formation, qualification and permanent update of the educational applicants to instructors and professors of chess.
5. To start the promotion of supporting the precocious talent in chess;
6. To design a project, in order to stimulate the investigation that relates Education to Chess; and,
7. To make recommendations and propose amendments, as it sees ft, in its field of competence.

It is for that reason, that we have made emphasis in conferences and meetings of work with the directors of the national federations interested in initiating projects of scholastic chess such as Argentina, Bostwana, Brasil, Colombia, El Salvador and Suráfrica, among others.

Please find enclosed a synthesis with the activities to develop, during this year 2008.

1. Seminary on "Methodology to teach chess in schools" in San Salvador University, El Salvador (January);
2. ISCU Grand Prix (Selection to European Schools Cup), Moscow – Rusia (January);
3. Conference on the mission of the "Commission of Chess in Schools FIDE in Cali – Colombia (March);
4. European School Cup / Individual, Khalithea, Greece (April);
5. IV Evaluation of Chess Mission – La Guaira – Venezuela (April);
6. Euro-pean School Team Champ. in Varna – Bulgaria (June);
7. I International Seminary on Chess & Tecnology; La Punta University, San Luis – Argentina (July);
8. World Cup Team Championship, Czech Republic (July);
9. World School Individual Champion. in Singapore (July);
10. Program of visits to National Federations of Chess. In Africa (Johannesburg, Surafrica and Gaborone, Bostwana, Setember);
11. Internacional Seminary on Metodology for Teach Chess in Schools in San Sebastian Do Paraiso, M. Gerais – Brasil (Setember);
12. Annual Meeting of Chess In Schools Commission – 79° Congreso FIDE in Dresden – Germany (November);
13. I International Seminary on Chess in Preescholar in Yaracuy – Venezuela (December).

4. Report of the Secretary – Dr. Alexander Kostiev – Russia

Mr. Kostiev reported information related to the International Schoolarchip Chess Union (ISCU), of which he is chairman. Mr. Kostiev tells about World and Continental Championships among schools champions and schools team. Then he introduce project International Centre of Chess Educational (ICCE), and note thath main point of mentioned project is on-line educational for chess teachers from chess developing countries. The CISC approved ISCU activity in 2008 and 2009 years on the field of organization World Schools Individual and Team Championships, etc. Also, CISC, recommended to ISCU more clously cooperative with this Commission and the work of the presidents of the continental Africa, America, Europe and Asia. And, The CISC give thanks to Mr- Kostiev for his great work pro chess in schools.

5. Speech of gm Yuri Razuvaev (Chairman of Trainer Comm.) - Russia

The gm Y. Razuvaev greeting members of CISC and note that *FIDE Trainers Committee* fully support proposal of *Russsian Chess Federation* and *Russian State Social University* about creating *FIDE Education Centre* in Moscow. He said that both Committees can successfully work under methodical and pedagogical problems in the field of chess education for children. Mr. Blanco said that the CISC fully support the proposal of Committee of Trainers for arranging the FIDE Chess On-line System of Education. Congratulations for this Idea and work.

6. Speech of Mr. Leontxo García / Chess and Alhzeimer – Spain

Mr. Garcia (Journalist of "El Pais", Spain), spoke about a study conducted at Albert Einstein Hospital in New York -not directed specifically at chess- a. The results showed that those who played chess (in the study spoke of "board games"), but a subsequent interview with Dr. Verghese made it clear that what worked best was chess and bridge, increased their cognitive power up to 74% more than the others, curiously, those who did exercise did not increase at all. This article for "Jaque" based on the study of the Clinical Hospital of Valencia, with information from Dr. Isabel de la Fuente, director of the study. b. In only two cases of Alzheimer's that I have found among thousands of chess (in Spain, 7% of those over 65 suffer from Alzheimer's disease), one is explained in this article Neurocir, and it is extremely interesting. It is a chess British offered the first signs of an incipient. When he died a short time later, for reasons entirely unrelated to his dementia, he did the autopsy and found, on their levels of cerebral amyloid and other indicators, which actually had a highly developed Alzheimer's. Surge and the assumption that the frequent practice of chess at least delays the development of the disease, although the two for several thousand indicates that prevents further. On the other hand, there is a direct logical connection: Chess develops especially memory and concentration, just the first thing that strikes Alzheimer's. c. Here's just the latest of the many studies that indicate a proportionately inverse relationship between cognitive activity during the life (cognitive reserve or mental reservation, call neurologists) and the risk of senile dementia. This study goes a step further, arguing that cognitive

activity carried out near the old age or during the same is even more influence than the previous one. d. Under these signs more than 30 neurologists, I gunned down questions during an hour and a half, the conclusion was that all my evidence fit well with that concept of "cognitive reserve". That is, chess is like a gym for the mind. e. Finally, Mr. García attach an article that was published last week, focuses on the outcome of a study in the U.S. and fits exactly with my thesis. To do a scientific study that deserves all the blessings international, with 100% security, there is a methodological problem on the bias of self: People with concerns prior intellectuals tend to appear voluntarily to the studies, while it is very difficult to make Thousands of people who do not like chess practice for years. I am working with several neurologists and an epidemiologist of great prestige to overcome that obstacle; back contacts with them in March. F. This is very important: The experts assure me that my signs are more than enough to say that the frequent practice of chess improves the quality of the aging brain, without the need to get to extremes such as Alzheimer's or other dementia. Prevention is very important, for reasons including the large amount of public money to save. Since we are talking about prevention, we should work with all citizens, including children.

7. Speech of Dr. Omar Esau / Chess and HIV/AIDS – South Africa

Checkmating HIV/AIDS is and innovative project started in a Cape Town primary school in South Africa in 2006. The project formed part of a PhD Thesis completed by Dr. Omar Esau who strongly believes the board game can equip young people with the ability to think ahead and help them to make life-changing decisions such as abstaining or having protected sex. The critical way of thinking can prevent the spreading of the HIV / AIDS disease- For more information read Dr. Omar Esau's dissertation Esau, O. 2008. Breaking the culture of silence in checkmating HIV/AIDS as a teacher-researcher. PhD. Thesis, Cape Town: University of the Western Cape.

8. Speech of Prof. Radislav Atanassov – Nati. Sport Academy – Bulgaria

Asist. Prof. R. Atanassov tells about preparation of chess coach in Bulgarian University of Physical Culture.

9. Speech of Prof. Charles Moura Netto – Chess & Penitenciaries – Brazil

The "Chess that brings freedom program" - Chess pedagogical in prison units of Espírito Santo State – Brazil, is a partnership between Santa Maria de Jetibá municipality and the Espírito Santo State Secretary of Justice. Have as objective the practice of chess as a playful activity in order to develop the cognitive, moral and social shrewdness among the prisoners and to give them a chance to learn a new profession by being responsible for the creation of the boards and pieces of the game. The program is developed in four of prisons and 180 prisoners participating were divided into groups of 12 and has classes twice a week with classes of two hours each. As a result we noticed a better relationship and less violence among the prisoners who are practicing chess and 56 new chess players were recognized by the Chess State Federation. The boards and pieces made during the serigraphy classes will be sent to public schools all over the Espírito Santo State.

10. Speech of Lic. P. Bazán & F. Salino – Chess and Tecnology – Argent.

Mr. Salino have presented the work from the "La Punta University" - Argentina, from the year 2005 through the program "*Chess in Education Home*" activity which involves a significant number of children the Province of San Luis. In 2005/2008 to develop a series of conferences aimed at the formation of new instructors chess school. Equally, we must report that the University of "La Punta" as the government of St. Louis supported the realization of the *I nternational Congress on Education and Virtual Chess* " in July. In this seminar was presents: Suzan Polgar, Leontxo Garcia, Claudia Amura, Gilberto Hernández, David Saez, Uvencio Blanco, etc. La Punta University is working close with CISC and in 2009 will be the II Seminar in the same place: La Caja de los Trebejos – San Luis. Subsequently delivered books and information materials on the program.

11. Activities 2009

Prof. Blanco present a summary about the most important activities to develop by CISC during the 2009 year. 1. Exposition of the activities made during the 2008 in the Annual Assembly Confederation of

Chess of the Americas (CCA) – San Salvador, El Salvador in January; 2. Program of visits to National Federations of Chess. In Africa: Algeria, Egypt and Libia (or Morocco) in January; 3. ISCU Grand Prix (Selection to European Schools Cup) - Moscow – Russia in January / February; 4. Conference on the mission of the “Commission of Chess in Schools FIDE” – Milano, Italy in February 25/28; 5. International Scientific & Practical Conference “Chess in the system of educational in Russia and World” - Moscow, Russia in February; 6. Conference of the “Metodology for Teach Chess in Schools” - Sophia, Bulgaria in February; 7. World & European School Individual Championship - Porto Carras, Greece in April/May; 8. Program of visits to National Federations of Chess. In Asia: Indonesia and Thailand, in June; 9. Annual Meeting of Chess In Schools Commission – 80° Congress FIDE - Vietnam in June, ---10. World & European School Team Championship - Varna, Bulgaria in June 11/22; 11. II Internacional Seminary on Chess & Tecnology – La Punta University, Sa Luis in Argentina in July 08/11; 12. World Children Club Championship – Pardubice, Czech Republic in July 15/23; 13. VI Evaluation of Chess Mission – Caracas, Venezuela in December.

12. Conclusion and recommendatios to GA.

- a. CISC worked more intensive in 2008 year; this activities was approved.
- b. Visits, seminars and conferences was provided in Argentina, Asia, Bostwana, Brazil, Colombia, El Salvador, Greece, Russia, South Africa and Venezuela.
- c. World Championships and Continental Championships among school chess champions and schools teams were provided in Greece, Czech Republic, Brazil, Bulgaria, Singapore, South Africa and Uruguay.
- d. ISCU proposal about opening FIDE Education Centre on the base of Russian State Social University in Moscow was approved and recommended to GA.
- e. Our Web Page www.chessinschools (www.ajedrezlasescuelas in Spanish version), is working Ok; please, send us information for support this job.
- f. Our congratulations for Chess in Schools programs in Kalmikia, Moldova and Bulgaria.
- g. CISC will be acknowledgements In Memoriam to: Prof. Jorge Laplaza (ARG + 2007) and Mr. Nicola Palladino (ITA +2008); and H.E. Kirsan Iljhumzinov (KAL), Fodor Scripchenko (MLD) and D. Tim Redman (USA) for his great support to the Noble Cause of Chess in Schools in the world.
- h. CISC Program for 2009 was estructurred

13. Closing remarks

Prof. Blanco gives thanks to IA Jorge Vega Fernández our adviser and Dr. Alexander Kostiev, our secretary, for his important support to this team. The chairman invited everyone to work very hard, and permanently, in favor of strengthening this cause in all countries of the world.

*Prof. Uvencio Blanco
Chairman, CISC
Dresden, November 17th, 2008*