

75th FIDE Congress
Calvia, Mallorca, Spain
21-31 October 2004
Sol Antillas Hotel

Commonwealth Chess Association

President: P.T. Ummer Koya

Date: 27 October 2004

Venue: Sala Cabrera

Present: N. Divinsky (CAN), O. Esau (RSA), K. Msukwa (MAW), P. Domingue (SEY), P. Viner (AUS), L. Bellhouse (BAR), Suan Evans-Quek (WLS), P. Wilson (ENG), D. Buthali (BOT), J. Kikonyogo (UGA), D. Evans-Quek (WLS), E. Barumba (UGA), P. Singe (KEN), C. Goman (GCI)

President of the Commonwealth Chess Association P.T. Ummer Koya welcomed members to the meeting, particular welcome was extended to Nathan Divinsky of Canada for returning to the international chess arena.

President Koya reported that although regional tournaments have been held over the past five years, chess has not participated in the Commonwealth Games. Attempts were made to approach the Asian Olympic Association and other similar associations for the inclusion of chess have not succeeded due to the small number of interested federations to participate. Towards this end Commonwealth Chess Association members were encouraged to popularise chess at national commonwealth committee level. With 56 member countries, embarking on the recognition drive and popularity campaigns, chess should succeed on acceptance to the Commonwealth Games. From the African Continent viewpoint, it was felt that African member states could build on the momentum gained through 2003 All Africa Games. President Koya narrated his experience from the mid 1970s in popularising chess in India even when there was no sponsorship.

The meeting discussed the schedule of the Commonwealth Chess Championship for the next 3 years. India will host the event in 2005 and 2006 while South Africa will host the Championship in March 2007. For the 2005 Commonwealth Championship President Koya informed the meeting that 2 players and 1 official shall receive free accommodation and meals. In addition, the players shall not pay entry fees. The Championship will be held in Bikaner, at Maharaja Palace (a five star hotel), last week of February 2005. It is proposed that the winners of various categories be awarded titles by FIDE as follows:

<u>Category</u>	<u>Title</u>
Main Event	Grandmaster
Junior Event (U-20)	International Master
Girls Event	Woman International Master
Under 15	FIDE Master

A Subcommittee comprising Prof. Divinsky, P. Wilson and D. Buthali will present the proposal to the General Assembly.

Five countries confirmed this participation in the event – Wales, South Africa, Malawi, Botswana and Seychelles. Meanwhile, Uganda will confirm later while the Caribbean Islands are to be informed.

P.T. Ummer Koya

President, Commonwealth Chess Association

