

**76<sup>th</sup> FIDE CONGRESS**  
**Dresden, Germany**  
**17-24 August 2005**

**YOUTH AND JUNIOR EVENTS COMMITTEE**

**In chair: A-N. Yazici (TUR)**

**Present:** I. Leong (FIDE), I. Gelfer (ISR), M. Weeks (AUS), G. Terringer (SWE), G. Oganessian (ARM), B. Kutin (SLO), A. Kostyev (ISCU), I. Glek (ACP), K. Msukwa (MAW), C. Abundo (PHI)

Acting Chairman A.N.Yazici welcomed the delegates for committee meeting. He has mentioned that during the absence of Chairman P.T.Ummer Koya, FIDE management requested him to chair committee.

He has mentioned that basically, agenda of meeting, will be discussing these years youth and juniors events organised under auspices of FIDE and to take lessons from experiences to improve the conditions for the future.

Chairman declared the conditions, venue and dates of 2005 World Juniors U20 Boys&Girls Chess Championships, will be organised by Turkish Chess Federation in Istanbul. The invitation of the championships is given on Annex 1 of this report.

Chairman, opened the discussion on floor for 2005 World Youth Chess Championships organised in Balfort, France under very bad conditions. He has shown the reports and complaints of different participants from different countries. He has also transferred their very bad experience with organiser Mr.J.P.Touze for this event. He has underlined that the aim of committee is nor to judge organiser, neither to have a trial case for organisation. He has also mentioned that French Chess Federation should be separated from the issue and indeed they have helped kindly to TCF to solve visa problems before the event. He HAS Thanked to Mr.Damir Levacic from France, member of committee while he is not present during the meeting.

He has expressed that the aim of this discussion to take some lessons from this bad experience and to make a written proposal to FIDE Executive Board to improve the conditions of this event for the future. Chairman, has mentioned the history of World Youth Chess Championships through the last decade. The tournament became with Chess Olympiad the biggest chess event in the world. It is both very commercial tournament and under very big attraction. Therefore, it is necessary for FIDE to find how to improve the conditions for the event.

Then discussion was opened to floor.

The first speech was given by Mr.Gelfer. He has mentioned that after the Tbilisi Presidential Board, he has gone to Balfort to inspect the event. He has mentioned that this was very late. He has warned the organiser that the conditions were not okay but even he was not able to check some accommodation facilities. He has underlined that inspection for such big event should have been done at least 3 years in advance. He has shown the example of ECU procedures and proposed that it could be taken for start by FIDE. He has also mentioned that it was a mistake of FIDE to give event

without any inspection. He claimed that bidding procedure for youth events should be renewed very carefully.

Mr.Emanuel Weetis has confirmed what Mr.Gelfer mentioned before. He said that He was present during all the time in Balfort and it was the worst conditions in the last ten years he saw in World Youth Chess Championships. He has also expressed that this was a very bad experience for FIDE to loose a lot of credibility for such as prestigious event against to parents and players.

The President of ISCU Mr.Kostyev, has mentioned that inspections must be done very early for this type of big events. He has shared the floor opinion for the tournament. He has also proposed that for the future events at least university dormitories must be use with better conditions.

Mr.Kutin has made floor remind the Presidential Board in Tbilisi about possible problems organising event in Balfort. He has also shared the opinion of floor that for such as great event inspections should have been done earlier. He has mentioned that all we are guilty to be witness of such as shame.

Mr.Leong, started to remind participants from 1993 till now how world youth chess championships became very important. He has given some examples with food problems, with accommodation problems. He has also informed all participants of the meeting that as a future organiser of the event in 2008, Vietnam, he proposes the organisers of the event 2006 (Russia) and 2007 (Turkey) to establish a working group, and share experience for the each event organised. He has mentioned that some one could organise a 17<sup>th</sup> category round robin tournament, or a national youth chess championships with 1,200 participants or a very big open tournament, but it does not mean that he/she may organise a good world youth chess championships. The problems, skills to solve problems, the experience are very exclusive and different for this event. It is very difficult and it needs special experience to host and deal with 2000 people coming from more than 70 countries. Therefore, for the future, the lesson is to share experience and include future organisers every year to carry skills for the forthcoming events.

He has mentioned how the tournament was granted in 2000, in Istanbul to Mr.Touze, and this was the biggest mistake. He has also proposed that during the event there should be inspections and observations, official people representing FIDE (maybe paid by FIDE) to check conditions premised with the official bidding, and written in the contract.

After so detailed discussions, acting chairman proposed following steps to be reported as resolution to FIDE EB.

1. All decisions accepted by EB about this issue, will be valid even for the events granted by 2006.
2. ECU Youth Regulations and bidding procedure, could be used temporarily till FIDE creates own bidding procedure, and draft contract for this event.
3. Only national federations may make official bid for this event to FIDE, even the organiser is private person. Official bid must come through national federations to FIDE.
4. As Chess Olympiad granted every two years, organising country, institution or World Youth Chess Championships, respecting that are on the same level as a big event like Olympiad, should be decided by General Assembly. The floor proposed that candidates after passing official bidding procedures, should be eliminated down to three and among these three candidates, the organiser should be elected by General Assembly, like it is done for Olympiad.

5. A reasonable bank guarantee with a very clear contract must be prepared when the tournament is granted. Organiser should guarantee *'what you see is now, is what you will get when it will be done in 3-4 years'*.
6. Except the countries have bad reputation with visa issues, like EB banned temporarily some of FIDE members in 74<sup>th</sup> FIDE Congress in Halkidiki, the rest of members will be guaranteed visa by organisers.
7. Accommodation quality and food quality will be defined as minimum standards in bidding procedure. There will not be dormitories or hostels provided by organisers. The standards will be described with the number of toilets, and showers shared by a number of beds in rooms.
8. Committee anonymously accepted and expressed that invited players will be given at least the quality of food and accommodation which are sold to extra participants. Chairman has reminded that in the last years it started to become as a bad custom that invited players being given bad conditions since they stay as guest, and extra people being given good conditions since they pay. All invited players, are national winners, for the sake of chess, they have to be treated properly, and should be given at least the same conditions for extra participants.
9. Committee underlined that participation of invited players to World Youth Chess Championship does not mean a favour of organisers; it is a right of invited players. On the contrary, participation of extra participants has the lower priority for any case.
10. Committee has agreed that official FIDE inspectors will be present during the tournament in the venue and will check the conditions promised by the official contract signed before granting event to organisers.
11. Foods will be served only in the premises participants stay. There will not be a vehicle distance between restaurants and hotels. The distance between the playing hall and hotels should be reasonable and must be taken high priority when bids are inspected.
12. A temporary proposal to FIDE is to promote future events on the institutional level for erasing bad memories of participants of Balfort. Committee reminds that *'this bad experience should not make world chess to forget many good experiences of previous events'*. Committee hopes that this is the last bad experience chess people faced for the youth event, and will be a good lesson not to repeat it in future.

A-N. Yazici (in Chair) (signed)