

77<sup>th</sup> FIDE Congress  
Chess for the disabled

**Report**

Chairman: Gerry Walsh (ENG)

Present: Michele Visco( ICSC), Debowska Teresa(IBCA), Dukaclewski Piotr(IBCA), Bernard Rykard (IBCA),Bieluczyk Bogdan (IPCA),Ciszewsky Dariusz (IPCA)

The Chairman welcomed all the disabled representatives present here today for the meeting on Chess for the disabled. He is very glad to say that this is the 1<sup>st</sup> Olympiad with the presence of all the three forms of disability gathered together (IPCA, IBCA and ICSC). He is also pleased to say that on the current agenda the possibility to remove disabled people from the tournament is not mentioned.

The Chairman advised that the next Olympiad will take place in Dresden (DH) in 2008 and he stated that maybe there will be the chance to organize special Olympiads for the disabled. This fact raised the curiosity of the representatives of the three groups who asked if they will be removed by the non-disabled tournament. The Italian President of ICSC suggested, if the project became a real project, to change the name of this event in "Paralympic of Chess".

Regarding the budget, Mr. Walsh remarked that although also this year entry fees and title fees have been covered, there are still some problems with funds destined to disabled groups. Last year no funds were allocated and in the future the situation seems no better. Some representatives of IBCA remarked that maybe one of the best solutions to find allocations for the next Olympiad was to include in this project big sponsors. The Chairman welcomed this request answering that he will discuss this topic with the Dresden organizers.

The Chairman talked also about the situation of Chess in Schools where there is fervid activity . Despite this, there are always troubles concerning funds and the organization of the Chess game at school ( recruitment of skilled coaches, supply of good chess sets etc... ) in order to encourage young people to do this discipline. For this reason ,in schools where there are special needs for disabled , Braille chessboards can be provided.

The representative of IBCA and Mr. Walsh also suggested that one of the best way to encourage young people was to promote links among these schools . This bond could be very important for the creation of a real web site useful also for the organization of future tournaments or championships.Mr Walsh was also very pleased to tell that a new group of disabled players made up of twelve deaf- blind people was born and that an individual championship from 19 July to 02 August 2008 will take place in Switzerland. The Cairman reminded also the delegates that a ratin could be achieved in 7 rounds.

Gerry Walsh Chairman

## **IPCA REPORT**

### **Report on IPCA activities in the period from 2002 to 2006**

In the IPCA, the following countries are represented:

Belorussia  
Czech Rep.  
Finland  
France  
Hungary  
Iceland  
Jordan  
Lithuania  
Macedonia  
Poland  
Russia  
Serbia  
Slovakia  
Sweden  
Ukraine

In 2002, an IPCA Congress was held in Chrabine, Czech Rep. where Mr. T. Bieluczyk (Poland) was elected President, Mr. Ulman remained Honorary President of IPCA.

There was, simultaneously, a World Chess Olympiad for the Disabled Chess Players, in which 60 players participated, Igor Yarmonov (Ukraine) coming first.

The IPCA team took part in the 35<sup>th</sup> World Chess Olympiad in Bled (Slovenia).

In 2003, there was an IPCA Olympiad in Poland (Bialowieza), where 65 players participated, Andrei Obodchuk (Russia) becoming champion.

After the Olympiad, an IPCA World Cup took place in Chrabine (Czech Rep.) with 50 players, Medich (Croatia) coming first.

In 2004, there was an IPCA Olympiad in Chrabine (Czech Rep.) with 60 participants, Andrei Obodchuk (Russia) becoming champion.

Then the same year the IPCA team participated in the 36<sup>th</sup> World Chess Olympiad in Mallorca (Spain), coming 57<sup>th</sup>.

In 2005, an European Championship of IPCA was held in Vistola (Poland) with 60 participants, Stalislav Mikheev (Russia) coming first.

There was also a Team Championship of IPCA, the Russian team coming first.

In 2006, the IPCA team is taking part in the 37<sup>th</sup> World Chess Olympiad in Turin.

Now IPCA is going to be involved in teaching chess to disabled children. In order to make it possible, IPCA is currently looking for sponsors to get funds to open schools for disabled children.

At present, the age of IPCA players is between 40 and 60.

Now there are two such schools: one in Bielostok (Poland) run by Mr. Bieluczyk and the other in Tomsk (Russia) directed by Mr. Usoltsev.

The most important project of IPCA for all countries is teaching and training young children (both disabled and not). We believe that it is especially important for the disabled children, as it makes life more interesting and meaningful for them.