

# **2013 FIDE WOMEN'S WORLD CHESS CHAMPIONSHIP MATCH**

**USHENINA, ANNA (UKR) - HOU, YIFAN (CHN)**

10 – 23 September 2013, Taizhou, China

## **CHIEF ARBITER' S REPORT**

Dear Mr. President,

I submit my report for the 2013 FIDE Women's World Chess Championship Match between Anna Ushenina (UKR) and Yifan Hou (CHN), which was held in Taizhou, China, from 10 to 23 September 2013.

The Chinese Chess Association, in cooperation with the China Medical City and the Taizhou Municipality, was the organizer of the match.

I arrived in Taizhou on September 9, two days before the scheduled start of the match.

The Players' Meeting was held on September 10 and both players and their representatives participated.

During the Meeting were discussed some details of the regulations and both parties had no problem, regarding the regulations of the match.

On September 10 the Opening Ceremony took place in the China Hall of Chunlan Taizhou Hotel.

The Vice President of the Chinese Olympic Committee Mr. Xiao Min, the FIDE President Mr. Kirsan Ilyumzhinov, the Mayor of Taizhou Municipality Mr. Xu Guopping and the President of the Chinese Chess Association Mr. Yang Junan welcomed the players, the FIDE Officials, the Officials of the Chinese Chess Association, journalists and many people.

During the Ceremony the drawing of colors was done. The FIDE Vice President Mr. Chu Bo had to choose between two red boxes, having inside the names of the players. He chose Hou Yifan's name, which had to choose her color first from two pink boxes, having inside one white and one black Queen. Hou Yifan chose the black Queen and started game 1 of the match with black pieces.

The final inspection took place on September 10, after the Opening Ceremony.

During the inspection all facilities, that the Organizers provided, were tested and found satisfactory (the playing area, the chessboard and the pieces, the table and the chairs of the players, the lighting on the stage, the ventilation and the air conditioning, the rest areas of the players, the rest rooms, e.t.c) and according to the contracts both players had signed.

The playing venue of the match was the "China Hall" of the Chunlan Taizhou Hotel in Taizhou. In the Hall there were chairs for about 50 persons.

The behaviour of the audience in general was quite good and there was no disturbance for the players during the games.

The seventh game of the match was played in "Splendor Hall" of the Chunlan Taizhou Hotel, because the "China Hall" was used for a wedding.

The playing halls and their environs met the requirements of the FIDE Regulations for the Organisation of Top Level Tournaments.

They were no objections from the participants concerning the tournament halls, facilities, accommodations, ceremonies, etc.

The organizers provided, free of charge, coffee, tea and soft drinks, fruit, chocolates, sandwiches etc. for the players and principals.

The time control for each game was 90 minutes for the first 40 moves and 30 minutes for the rest of the game, with an increment of 30 seconds per move, starting from move 1.

The games were played using DGT's electronic clock and electronic board approved by FIDE.

The match should be played over ten (10) games, according to the regulations, but it was decided on seven (7) games.

The first game started on Wednesday, September 11, at 15:00.

After every two games, there was a day rest, according to the regulations.

The colors were reversed after game 4.

The individual results were:

|          |                         |   |       |
|----------|-------------------------|---|-------|
| Game 1:  | A. Ushenina - Hou Yifan | : | 0 - 1 |
| Game 2:  | Hou Yifan - A. Ushenina | : | ½ - ½ |
| Game 3:  | A. Ushenina - Hou Yifan | : | 0 - 1 |
| Game 4:  | Hou Yifan - A. Ushenina | : | ½ - ½ |
| Game 5:  | Hou Yifan - A. Ushenina | : | ½ - ½ |
| Game 6:  | A. Ushenina - Hou Yifan | : | 0 - 1 |
| Game 7:  | Hou Yifan - A. Ushenina | : | 1 - 0 |
| Game 8:  | A. Ushenina - Hou Yifan | : | -     |
| Game 9:  | Hou Yifan - A. Ushenina | : | -     |
| Game 10: | A. Ushenina - Hou Yifan | : | -     |

The final result of the match was: **Hou, Yifan – Ushenina, Anna: 5.5 - 1.5**

No tie-break games were played.

**According to this result GM Hou Yifan (CHN) became the new Women's World Chess Champion.**

The members of the Appeals Committee were:

Jorge Vega (GUA) (Americas Continental President), as Chairman

Nizhar El Haj (LBA) (FIDE Vice President), as member and

David Jarrett (FIDE Honorary Member), as member

No appeal was submitted during the match.

Ali Nihat Yazici (TUR) (FIDE Vice President) was the FIDE Observer.

The two (2) Arbiters of the match were:

Chief Arbiter : IA Panagiotis Nikolopoulos (GRE)

Deputy Arbiter : IA Carol Jarecki (BVI)

During the match, beyond their usual duties regarding the controlling of the game, the Arbiters had some extra duties, concerning the obligation to prevent any manner of cheating or unfair advantage to either player.

During the playing session the players were allowed to stay in their rest areas, which were close to the stage and visible to the Arbiters and spectators.

When a player was going to the toilette, always the Arbiter was following her, while during the game at least one Arbiter was always present in the playing hall.

No incidents happened during the match.

I would like to express my thanks to my colleague IA Carol Jarecki, because she did a very good job and we had an excellent cooperation during the whole match.

The Organizers provided score sheets according to the specifications provided by FIDE. The original score sheets have been delivered to Athens FIDE Office.

There was no printed bulletin provided by the Organizers.

The players attended the Players' Meeting.

There was no need to call any additional Players' Meeting during the match.

After Game 5 there was a doping control for both players.

Immediately after the end of the game the Arbiter, together with Mrs. Jana Bellin, FIDE Medical Commission's Chairperson, escorted both players to the room where the control took place.

Dr. Bellin was in charge and there were no problems during the procedure.

The players attended the Opening and Closing Ceremony, the official receptions and press conferences.

Both players were available for post-game press conferences, immediately after each game.

Both players noted the requirements of FIDE Regulations in respect of their appearance at all times during the match.

Only photographers and camera crew expressly authorized by FIDE and the Press Officer worked in the playing venue.

Flash was used only during the first five (5) minutes.

On September 23 the Closing Ceremony took place in the "China Hall" of the Chunlan Taizhou Hotel.

The Vice President of the Chinese Olympic Committee Mr. Xiao Min, the FIDE Vice President Nizar El Haj, the general Secretary of the Chinese Chess Association Mr. Ye Jangchuan, FIDE and Chinese Officials and members of the Taizhou Municipality, journalists and many people were present.

### **Final remarks:**

The 2013 Women's World Chess Championship Match was successful in all aspects.

The event attracted a big attention and interest, not only in China but also in all over the world.

Congratulations belong to all who worked for the success of this event and especially to the Chinese Chess Association and the Taizhou Municipality, who succeeded to organize this match in an excellent way.

Congratulations belong to both players as well, because they showed a really great sportsmanship and an absolute fair play.

Mr. President, I also would like to use this opportunity and thank you for my appointment as Chief Arbiter of this chess event as it was a great pleasure for me to cooperate with the Chinese Chess Association.

Respectfully,

IA Panagiotis Nikolopoulos

Chief Arbiter

2013 FIDE Women's World Chess Championship Match.

The following files are submitted:

- pairings and results
- final standings
- cross table
- rating statistics