

Minutes
Social Action Commission
Tallinn, Estonia
2 October 2013
09:00-13:00

Chairman and Secretary: Beatriz Marinello (USA), Robert Katende (UGA)

Councillors: Thomas Luther (GER)

Members: Erick Hernandez (ESA)

Observers: Andrei Korobeinik (EST), Stephen Kisuze (UGA), Jerry Nash (USA), Margaret Murphy (ISV), Tony Rich (USA), Adam Dzwonkowski (POL), Russell Smith (TTO), Rupert Jones (PNG), Hesham Elgendy (EGY), Tshenolo Maruatona (BOT)

Social Action Chess (SAC) Commission Report

Tallinn, Estonia

The Social Action Commission (SAC) held a meeting at the 84th FIDE Congress General Assembly in Tallin, Estonia on the 2nd October 2013.

AGENDA:

1. WELCOME REMARKS FROM CHAIRPERSON
2. INTRODUCTION OF MEMBERS
3. PRESENTATION
4. MATTERS ARISING & REACTIONS
5. WAY FORWARD
6. CLOSING

MEMBERS PRESENT:

1. IM BEATRIZ MARINELLO (USA) Chairperson
2. MR ROBERT KATENDE (UGA) General Secretary.
3. GM THOMAS LUTHER (GER)
4. MARGARET MURPHY (USVI)
5. ADAM RWONKOODI (POL)

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6. ERIC HERNANDEZ (ESA)
7. TONNY RICH (USA)
8. ELGENDY HESHAM (EGT)
9. TSHENOLO MARWATONA (BOT)
10. RUSSELL SMITH (TTO)
11. RWJOLEI
12. KISUZE STEPHEN (UGA)
13. JERRY NASH (USA)
14. ANDREI KOZOBEIHIN (EST)

WELCOME REMARKS

The meeting started at 9:04 am and the chairperson welcomed members to the meeting.

INTRODUCTION OF MEMBERS

The Chairperson introduced the commission members. Thereafter, she requested everyone to introduce themselves.

PRESENTATION

The Chairperson read the report of the commission meeting that took place in New York from June 26th – 29th 2013.

Mission

The Social Action Commission "SAC", is dedicated to using chess as a tool for social improvement. The objectives and the mission aim to insert chess into society, which will ultimately make chess more popular across the globe.

SAC is to advocate for the use of Chess as a tool for social change through action as;

- As an equalizer for gender, social & Economic development.
- For life skills, ethics and good character development.
- To reach out to Children at Risk including those in refugee camps and impoverished communities
- To prevent illnesses connected with brain aging and advocate for brain fitness.

Website

The website is currently designed in English and it is being translated in both Spanish and Russian. It shall eventually be translated in Arabic.

The Website was visited and navigated through on the projector; the chairperson explained the objectives and the mission of the Social Action Commission including the biography of the commission members.

It was suggested at the meeting that the commission should send mostly reports to the national federations.

Impact of social Action Chess

A video, showing how social chess has impacted lives of Street and Slum Children in Uganda, Africa was shown in the meeting. It was about a young girl (Phiona Mutesi) in Uganda. This young girl comes

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from the Social chess program that was started and being run by the Social Action Commission Secretary; Robert Katende and her inspiration story has been written into a book entitled "The Queen of Katwe"; whose rights, have been bought by Disney to make a non-fiction movie! And it the chess that acted as an equalizer to bring this social change in not only her life but, her entire family.

Projects

The SAC commission is determined to launch a research on how Chess helps prevent Alzheimer and other illness associated with aging.

The Commission is determined to bridge the gap between female and male Chess players by piloting the Smart Girl programs. The programs have already been initiated in Uganda (although still on a small scale) and two others are to roll in Kuwait and Chile.

MATTERS ARISING & REACTIONS

The members commended the formations of the Social Action Commission; because little if, any has been done in the Social Chess aspect and the work is enormous. All the objectives are noble and that SAC should be working in liaison with the Social Projects Commission. More people pledged to work and support the Social Action Commission.

The commission Secretary was greatly acclaimed for the Social Action Chess programs in his Country (Uganda) because it is something he does on a full-time basis and has gained much experience in that area of using Chess for Social impact both on the individual players and their communities.

Several members expressed interest to support the SAC commission. Eric Hernandez volunteered to spear-head the project for the elderly people in his country, El Salvador.

SAC commission is to work on the reports and also prepare newsletters that shall be translated in at least two languages for now and also be posted on the website. This shall create more awareness besides updating members.

WAY FORWARD

Members were requested to submit reports concerning social chess impact and any other information that can help create awareness to help people around the globe realize the potential Chess has for social aspects.

The next Commission meeting is to be in New York, USA in the month of June 2014 and members were encouraged to turn-up for that meeting when called upon; to attend the meeting.

There being no other matters, the meeting was adjourned at 12:45 pm

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Chairperson
Beatriz Marinello

General Secretary
Mr. Robert Katende