

87th FIDE Congress

Commission for World Championships and Olympiads

Baku, Azerbaijan

8th September 2016, 20:00-22:00

Chairman: G. Makropoulos (GRE)

Secretary: I. Gelfer (ISR)

Members: G. Mastrokoukos (GRE), H. Elgendy (EGY), E. Dervishi (ALB), E. Sutovsky (ISR)

Observers: I. Gelfer (ISR), G. Wastell (AUS), K. Bonham (AUS), E. Grivas (GRE), G. Borg (MTL), I. Merenzon (Agon), B. Balgabaev (FIDE)

MINUTES

Mr. Makropoulos opened the meeting informing the body that all items relating to the Commission were discussed within the members of the Commission, reported to the Executive Board, will be discussed, where necessary in the General Assembly. They all appear in the Agenda under the relevant point (5.20).

Mr. Makropoulos added, however, that he would like to discuss the proposal of the FIDE Vice-President, President of the Russian Chess Federation A. Filatov, regarding the World Championship.

Mr. A. Tkachiev from the RCF presented some arguments in favour of the proposal, which were answered by members of the Commission.

Concluding the debate it was unanimously decided to postpone any decision on this proposal until the next Executive Board subject to the Russian CF showing the support of substantial number of Grandmasters out of 30 top, and provided the Russian CF submitting of more necessary details concerning several organizational and legal factors.

Georgios Makropoulos

Deputy President



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№ 598

06 September 2016 г.

Dear Sirs,

You need to make a decision regarding the RCF proposal to modify the world championship cycle. This proposal has already come under heated discussion. Before you vote on the issue, I would like to substantiate the advantages of this proposal and dispel any concerns you might have.

To be brief, the essence of our proposal is very simple. We are suggesting providing the chess world with an additional opportunity that will help popularise our sport and attract new sponsors. This is a quite clear opportunity; moreover, historically, it existed in chess for many years, until 1948. I am talking about the possibility of challenging the world champion to a title match.

let me state straight away that this possibility in no way cancels out the existing title match cycle, which would remain in force; it is a matter of adding not subtracting something. The world champion could be challenged only until the contender is decided and known. In other words, during the period between the world championship match and the challengers' tournament. So any concerns about the existing cycle are unfounded. Any chess player would still be able to take part in competing for the world champion title.

Now let us talk about the possibility of challenging the world champion without going through the selection process. It is important that the champion is not obliged to accept the challenge. If the competitor or the proposed financial terms are not to his liking or if the champion's sponsor contacts do not permit a game with such a contender, the champion simply rejects the challenge. This is the first filter facing the contender who wants to take advantage of the possibility of playing a "commercial" game. The second potential filter is FIDE itself. If the International Chess Federation is opposed to the match for some reason, the FIDE resident may veto it. And, finally, such a match may be rejected by Agon, which has been charged by FIDE with conducting the entire cycle, if for some reason the match would hamper the sports selection process. So there are three filters facing a "commercial" match, if required.

If, however, there are no reasons for refusal, everyone stands to gain. The champion plays chess and earns money. FIDE gets new sponsors and replenishes its budget, which might be used, among other things, for holding the sports selection. The fans see an additional match, which is the most interesting competition in the chess world. The world media are more keen to write about just such matches and a "commercial" match provides an opportunity to promote chess even more. These are really substantial advantages and there are no grounds for ignoring them.

Consequently, our proposal has on its side additional opportunities for commercialising and popularising chess, as well as common sense and historical tradition. I hope, dear Delegates, that you will accept the RCF proposal and vote to amend the way the world championship cycle is played.

Respectfully,
Andrey Filatov,
President of the RCF, Vice President of FIDE



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September, 11 of 2016
Baku, Azerbaijan

To FIDE President Mr K. Ilymzhinov
The General Assembly of 87th FIDE Congress

Dear Mr. FIDE President, distinguished members of the GA, delegates of the 87th FIDE Congress!

In March of this year, the Russian Chess Federation has appealed to the FIDE Presidential Board with a proposal to modify the cycle of the World Chess Championship. Since that, our proposal has been discussed many times and everyone had enough time to form an opinion. The viewpoint of the RCF outlined in the first letter with details of the potential benefits from accepting the proposal.

In this letter, I turn to you with an urgent request. This item (RCF Proposal, Annex 44) is in the Agenda of the 87th FIDE Congress. I want the delegates of the Congress have the opportunity to express their attitude to our proposal by procedure of voting. The General Assembly should make the final decision, whether positive or negative.

Yours faithfully,

Andrey Filatov
FIDE Vice-President
President of the Russian Chess Federation



中国国际象棋协会
CHINESE CHESS ASSOCIATION

Baku Azerbaijan

September 9, 2016

Attn.: Chairman of FIDE Commission for World Championship&Olympiads

Mr. Georgios Markropoulos

Ref.: Proposal from Chinese Chess Association on the changing of the current system of Women's World Championship

Dear Mr. Markropoulos,

Chinese Chess Association would like to draw your kind attention to our proposal on the current system of Women's World Championship.

We suggest that the system of knockout World Individual Championship should be changed to the Women's World Cup. The champion of Women's FIDE Grand Prix plays against champion of Women's World Cup. And the winner will challenge the reigning Women's World Champion of Women's World Championship Match.

We hope that you can kindly consider and approve the above mentioned proposal in the General Assembly of 87th FIDE Congress in Baku.



Sincerely yours,

Ye Jiangchuan

Vice President of Chinese Chess Association