

Commission of Chess Journalists (CCJ) meeting

30th September 2018, at 11am

AGENDA

1. Summary of activities
 - Media Regulations
 - Membership
2. FIDE Journalists awards for 2017
3. Miscellaneous

Attendance:

Chairman: G. Makropoulos (GRE)

Secretary: A. Karlovyh (UKR)

Present: I. Vereschagin (RUS), B. Messaoudi (TUN), C. Jun (CHN), R. Madhipoor (IRI), M. Kheir Khah (IRI), H. Gill (BAR), H. Helgoy (NOR), N. Marheim (NOR), M. Kopaczek-Slyzceni (NOR), M. Pahlevanzadeh (IRI), W. Kastner (AUT), F. Koc (TUR), G. Urosevic (SRB), L. Turlej (POL), O. Prohorov (UKR), S. Lputian (ARM), KC Umesh (IND)

Minutes:

The meeting was moderated by Commission Secretary Anastasya Karlovich.

1. The Secretary gave a brief report of the activities in the previous year.

- Media Regulations for the FIDE events are completed and included in FIDE Handbook (Section C.09.). The work on improving the Regulations should be constant and the members are invited to send the proposals. It is necessary to discuss and solve the issue of team captains' wishes to take photos of their respective teams during the Chess Olympiad or other team events, while at the same time protecting the integrity of the event in respect to the ACC rules.

- The number of FIDE accredited journalists with FIDE Membership Cards is nearing 50. The Commission should work to increase the number. Iran is the national chess federation with the most FIDE accredited journalists. The number of journalists accredited by the Organizers of the Chess Olympiad is around 150.

2. The Secretary informed about the Subcommittee decisions on FIDE Journalists awards for the year 2017.

FIDE Journalists award for the best chess news website goes to ChessBase, by unanimous vote of the Subcommittee.

FIDE Journalists award for the best national chess federation website goes to Turkish Chess Federation website, with three votes for and one recusal.

The specially designed prizes were produced by the famous jewelry maker Lobortas House.

For the year 2016 two television houses were awarded - NTV (Russia) and NRK (Norway). For the year 2018 it is proposed to have awards for individuals in more categories. The prototype of such individual prize, also made by Lobortas House, was presented at the meeting.

3. Miscellaneous

Igor Vereschagin spoke about the history of chess journalists associations.

Mehrdad Pahlevanzadeh highlighted that the media is a key to securing the sponsorship and therefore it is important to introduce more journalists to chess. He repeated the suggestion to create a "Telegram" channel for chess. He also added that the media exposure is being measured by the chess organizers and reported back to the sponsors.

Lukasz Turlej noted that the sponsors expect x3-5 of investment returned through media exposure. He suggested that members of the Commission should cooperate to translate the news to different languages and help in distribution of news.

B. Messaoudi proposed to organize seminars to educate chess journalists

Lukasz Turlej said that Polish Chess Federation is trying to push the chess news into mass media. He suggested to make certain payments to media companies specialized for distribution in order to gain greater exposure.

Walter Kastner proposed to create the lists of national press agencies and noted that we should send stories of interest and not dry news.

Goran Urosevic suggested to national chess federations to inform the Commission about their experiences with the local media and the Commission to help in exchange of technology among the national chess federations.

Haydn Gill said that the regular journalists do not want just the games results. We should be able to prepare attractive content for news agencies.

Mehrdad Pahlevanzadeh said we should prepare manuals for regular journalists for them to get acquainted with the chess terms in order to be able to report about our events.

Walter Kastner noted that chess is the only sport where we have more participants in an event than visitors.

Lukasz Turlej said we should change the way we broadcast the top tournaments and instead we should try to approach more target groups, notably the youth and scholastic.

Commission Secretary Anastasya Karlovich thanked the members and guests for attending the meeting and submitting constructive proposals. The meeting was concluded at 12:15.