

SportAccord 2010

FIDE again exhibited at the SportAccord Convention, which was held in Dubai from April 26th to 30th. SportAccord brings together all parts of the Sports' Community, including the IOC, International Sport Federations, media, suppliers and venue hosts. It is also the venue for many Annual Meetings of Sports' bodies.

This was probably the most successful year for the FIDE stand with many visitors from the whole sporting spectrum. The FIDE representatives were the Women's World Champion, Alexandra Kosteniuk, Berik Balgabaev, the FIDE President's Personal Assistant, Mahdi Abdul Rahim, Technical Secretary of the Arab Chess Federation and David Jarrett and Polina Tsedenova from the Secretariat. Distinguished guests on the stand included Jean-Laurent Bourquin, IOC Sports Senior Manager, and Bora Milutinovic, football coach. Both played games against the Women's World Champion. Chess sets were distributed to visitors.

The FIDE Executive Director, David Jarrett, was re-elected as Auditor at the Annual Meeting of the Association of Recognised International Sports Federations. The IOC briefed members on the way forward for the acceptance of new sports to the Olympic Games programme and this includes a questionnaire on federation activity similar to the exercise in 2007. WADA clarified some issues on anti-doping testing.

The SportAccord Annual meeting dealt with the transfer of the organization from Monaco to Lausanne. There were several presentations, including various multi sport games that are being promoted under the SportAccord brand.

Alexander Kosteniuk, Berik Balgabaev and David Jarrett met with the IOC representatives in an interesting and constructive meeting. There was an exchange of information and discussion on FIDE activities.

Several meetings were held with the other members of IMSA. SportAccord brought a proposal for a multi games event in 2011 for elite players of the IMSA federations. This is being studied. Also a Marketing Company brought a proposal for a Mind Games along similar lines to Beijing for the year 2012 and this is also being looked into. IMSA is moving forward with a request for recognition by the IOC. Negotiations are at an early stage and several areas of concern have been highlighted by the IOC. These will be addressed by IMSA members and a response determined.

SportAccord 2011 will be held in London.