

**NEWSLETTER 44 (October 03, 2011)**

**LETTER TO FIDE CONGRESS BY THE PRESIDENT OF THE  
EUROPEAN CHESS UNION, MR.SILVIO DANAILOV**

**October 3th, 2011  
Madrid, Spain**

**To: World Chess Federation  
Mr. Kirsan Ilyumzhinov  
President  
Executive Board 82 FIDE Congress**



Dear Mr. President,  
Dear Executive Board Members,  
Dear Delegates,

I am writing to you on behalf of the European chess family regarding the forthcoming FIDE Congress in Krakow. Namely, with my colleagues I analyzed the proposed changes, since they are very important for the future of chess, especially from the viewpoint of organization of chess competitions and their further development and growth in number.

In addition, I read very attentively the letters sent to the FIDE Executive Board by the Spanish Chess Federation and the Royal Dutch Chess Federation which are concerned with the proposed changes.

Furthermore, I received a certain number of e-mails and phone calls from the representatives of federations as well as from organizers, arbiters and chess players.

All the phone calls and conversations contains one core in common – a great concern for the future of chess competitions if those proposals are adopted.

With that being said, before to give any explanation, I take this opportunity to make my own proposal:

**I SUGGEST: SINCE THE PROPOSALS IN QUESTION KNOWN AS "REGULATIONS ON REGISTRATION & LICENSING OF PLAYERS" AND "PROPOSAL TO CHARGE RATING FEES DIRECTLY TO ORGANIZERS" ARE NOT DISCUSSED YET, IT'S BETTER TO AVOID TO MAKE A DECISION ON THEM AT THE FORTHCOMING FIDE CONGRESS.**

Namely, as the President of the continental federation, I believe that such changes need to be discussed more broadly reaching clear answers to the following questions - why have these changes been implemented and in which way the chess world will benefit from these changes?

I feel free to make a few comments on the above mentioned:

1. It is evident that, according to the new proposal for registration and the payments for the rated tournaments, the communication with FIDE shifts from the national federations straight to the tournament organizers. I am pretty sure that it brings a great danger, especially for the reason that, according to both the FIDE and the ECU Statutes, our partners are national federations.
2. Knowing the situation in many European countries, I claim that a huge number of organizers do not have knowledge enough to fulfill communication standard with FIDE regarding the rating of tournaments.
3. I am pretty sure that the annual payment of licenses, no matter the amount, would instantly decrease the number of active chess players ready to participate in the competitions even by half, and I believe that the same would happen with the tournaments if the launched proposals would be adopted.

I would like to express my concerns regarding these proposals, for they would cause a significant decrease in the number of chess competitions, or their transformation into unofficial ones - with unrated status. In addition, it might also happen that some national federations will ignore this system.

Dear Mr. President,

Dear Executive Board Members,

I really hope that the common sense will prevail like many times so far, and I believe that now you will find the solution how to avoid a great crisis and danger which might shake the chess motto idea "GENS UNA SUMUS".

**Silvio Danailov**  
President of ECU



Web site: [www.europechess.net](http://www.europechess.net)

## LETTER BY THE ROYAL DUTCH CHESS FEDERATION TO THE MEMBERS OF THE FIDE EXECUTIVE BOARD

To the members  
of the FIDE Executive Board

Proposals Events Commission            11/AZaz/1102/J            21    September

Dear Mr. President, dear Board Members,

It is with great concern that we have taken note of the proposals of the Events Commission for the Executive Board Meeting in Krakow. We feel that the interests of both chess players and chess organizers will be severely harmed if these proposal were to be accepted. And what is more we think that these proposals are a direct threat to the FIDE rating system - a system that is one of the great success stories of FIDE.

Some years ago the expansion of the FIDE rating system to a larger group of players was discussed in the FIDE Congress. At the time, the Presidential Board assured the delegates that the expansion of the rating system would not lead to higher costs for federations or players. Accepting the proposals of the Events Commission to the Executive Board in Krakow would mean a drastic breach of promise. Studying the proposals it becomes obvious that the tariffs are raised dramatically.

Curiously, the proposals lack any explanation on the necessity of these plans. The income and expenses of FIDE in 2010 were balanced, the administrative costs of the rating process are within the limits of the budget and the proposals do not include a higher standard of service. Indeed, a general philosophy behind the plans is lacking, and, while the present financial situation of FIDE seems healthy enough, there are no reasons given for the excessive increase in tariffs.

Please see the attachment for a detailed explanation of the consequences of the proposals. In conclusion, we would like to summarize:

- The proposals will raise the costs for players, organizers and federations excessively.
- The proposals lack any explanation regarding the necessity of these substantial raises in tariffs. Indeed, no coherent vision is presented.
- The proposals will not bring the 'customers' a higher standard of service. The product remains the same, but the prices are multiplied with a factor 2 or 3.
- The proposals will lead to more bureaucracy and administrative complications; money will have to be transferred back and forth between players, FIDE and national federations.

- The proposals will erode the FIDE rating system, since many tournaments that are now rated will drop out for financial reasons. Likewise, many chess players will not buy a license and will not be rated in the future.

In the interest of the global chess community, we call on the members of the Executive Board of FIDE to turn down these proposals of the Events Commission in the meeting in Krakow.

Yours sincerely,  
ROYAL DUTCH CHESS FEDERATION (KNSB)

Eddy Schuyer  
President KNSB

Herman Hamers  
FIDE Delegate KNSB

### **Discussion of the proposals of the Events Commission**

Unfortunately, the proposals contain no comparisons between the costs of the present situation and the proposed situation. When we do make these comparisons, the following substantial raises come to light:

#### **Proposal to charge title fees directly to title holders – annex 33P (amounts in euro)**

Title	Amount now	Amount proposed	Adm. Cost	Disbursed	Net amount	Raise in %
Grandmaster	330	500	100	200	400	21
Int. Master	165	300	100	120	280	70
FIDE Master	70	200	100	80	220	214
Cand. Master	50	100	100	40	160	220
Int. Arbiter	100	300	100	120	280	180
FIDE Arbiter	50	200	100	80	220	340

Please note that it is the national federations which are disbursed, while the title fees have to be paid directly by the players and arbiters. So, if federations do not, in turn, disburse their members then the increase is even more disproportionate. The administration costs can be raised to € 150 when the application is received after the deadline and to € 200 if the application is submitted after the commencement of the Meeting/Congress. These amounts have to be paid by the title holders, but their application has to be checked by the federation and the fee must be refunded through the federation. In the proposal no reasons are given why an increase of hundreds of per cents are proposed, and, indeed acceptable.

#### **Regulations on registration and licensing of players – annex 33D (amounts in euro)**

Costs for player	Now	Proposed
Registration fee	0	10
License fee for 1 year	0	30
License fee for life	0	500

It is obvious that many chess players will not be willing to pay these license fees. However, if an organizer inadvertently accepts a player without a valid license, the organizer shall be penalized € 50 for every infringement. As a consequence many chess players will not be rated any longer, and many organizers will prefer not to have their events rated. Every year 40% of this amount will be refunded to the federations; federations which require financial assistance receive a larger refund. FIDE takes over the administrative work that national federations are doing now in registering their players, but for a substantially higher amount.

**Proposal to charge rating fees directly to the organizers - annex 33O**  
(amounts in euro)

Type of time control	Registration	Swiss system	Other - per section/category/group
Normal	100	7	300
Rapid	100	4	200
Blitz	100	2	100

For a late Rating Report at any stage, a surcharge of 50% shall be levied.

The cost now is € 1 per player in a Swiss tournament. So the charges are raised sevenfold! Again any explanation is lacking. For groups there is at the moment a price (in euro) per category for registration fees.

Category 0 to 3	50
Category 4 to 7	100
Category 8 to 10	150
Category 11 to 14	200
Category 15+	300

Also in the rating procedure the costs are raised enormously. 40% of the rating fees will be disbursed to the federations. This does not change the cost explosion and will only lead to more administrative red tape. On top of this all the treasurer proposes to remove the ceiling on tournament fees, which now stands at € 15.000. See annex 5. The costs for reporting tournaments in active countries will thus rise sky-high. Again it is obvious that many tournament organizers will no longer report their tournaments to FIDE. This in turn means a serious erosion of the FIDE rating system.

**Regulations on seminars and title award for organizers - annex 33C**

The proposal is that a tournament can only be reported by an International Organizer (IO). The costs for the IO's will according to the proposals be raised (amounts in euro). It is questionable whether organizers will be willing to pay these fees to FIDE.

Costs IO	Now	Proposal
Seminar (once)	-	250
Title fee (once)	100	150
License fee (every 4 years)	-	100

## LETTER BY THE SPANISH CHESS FEDERATION TO THE MEMBERS OF THE FIDE EXECUTIVE BOARD

To the members of the FIDE Executive Board Madrid 21<sup>st</sup>  
September 2011

Dear President and Board members,

The Spanish Chess Federation (SCF) had read with concern some of the proposals included in the next FIDE Executive Board agenda.

These proposals are summarized in the annexes of the Executive Board agenda with the following numbers:

5: "Proposal to remove ceiling on tournament fees"

[http://www.fide.com/images/stories/NEWS\\_2011/fide\\_news/Agenda\\_and\\_Annexes\\_2011/Annex\\_5\\_-\\_Proposal\\_of\\_Treasurer\\_to\\_remove\\_ceiling\\_on\\_tournament\\_fees-Annex\\_5.pdf](http://www.fide.com/images/stories/NEWS_2011/fide_news/Agenda_and_Annexes_2011/Annex_5_-_Proposal_of_Treasurer_to_remove_ceiling_on_tournament_fees-Annex_5.pdf)

33 O : "Proposal to charge rating fees directly to organizers"

[http://www.fide.com/images/stories/NEWS\\_2011/fide\\_news/Agenda\\_and\\_Annexes\\_2011/Annex\\_33O\\_-\\_Proposal\\_to\\_charge\\_rating\\_fees\\_directly\\_to\\_the\\_Organisers.pdf](http://www.fide.com/images/stories/NEWS_2011/fide_news/Agenda_and_Annexes_2011/Annex_33O_-_Proposal_to_charge_rating_fees_directly_to_the_Organisers.pdf)

33 D: "Regulations on Registration & Licensing of Players"

[http://www.fide.com/images/stories/NEWS\\_2011/fide\\_news/Agenda\\_and\\_Annexes\\_2011/Annex\\_33D\\_-\\_Regulations\\_on\\_Registration\\_Licensing\\_of\\_Players.pdf](http://www.fide.com/images/stories/NEWS_2011/fide_news/Agenda_and_Annexes_2011/Annex_33D_-_Regulations_on_Registration_Licensing_of_Players.pdf)

The current situation of global economical crisis is well known. It is a problem that affects specially the European Union and that it is particularly strong in some of its countries member as Spain.

One of the direct consequences of the crisis has been the decreasing of the number of international Chess tournaments held in many countries (I'm talking about our own experience in Spain) as well as a failure in the total number of players attending the events and even a decreasing in the total number of affiliates in some regions.

For that reasons, the SCF considers unsuitable any proposal tending to increase the cost already borne by the chess players and considers unacceptable the proposal of Annex 33 D.

The SCF neither considers appropriated the proposal of charging rating fees directly to the organizers.

According to the Annex 33 O, the Organizer must register the event directly in FIDE four months in advance. Moreover a charge of (high) rating fees (7 € per player in classical chess tournaments) is also proposed, something that we consider absolutely out of place ignoring the economical difficulties supported by many chess players all over the world as well as for many Chess Federations, Organizers and Chess players.

Besides that in some countries as in Spain an authorization from the Sport Ministry is needed to bid or held any international sport event and makes impossible for the Organizers to register any event by themselves. We can also add another practical difficulty because many rated events are organized by local or regional Federations also subjected to their own political regulations.

The proposal of Annex 33 O is frontally colliding with the political reality and regulations of many countries, in this case Spain, and for the mentioned reasons we consider that shouldn't be approved as well as the Annex 5 proposal regarding to remove the ceiling on tournaments fees.

Yours sincerely



Javier Ochoa de Echagüen

President of the Spanish Chess Federation

## THE TEAMS OF ST. PETERSBURG CHESS FEDERATION AND AVS ARE THE NEW EUROPEAN CHESS CLUB CHAMPIONS



The teams of St. Petersburg Chess Federation and AVS are the new European Chess Club Champions. The 27<sup>th</sup> European Club Cup for men and 16<sup>th</sup> European Club Cup for women was held on September 24<sup>th</sup> to October 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2011 in Rogaska Slatina, Slovenia. The Championship was played under the Swiss system in 7 rounds with time control 90 minutes for 40 moves+30 minutes for the rest of the game+ increment of 30 seconds per move, starting from move one.

The total prize fund of the tournament is 50.000 EURO.

The team composition of the champions, **St. Petersburg Chess Federation** - GM Peter Svidler (RUS), GM Nikita Vitiugov (RUS), GM Sergei Movsesian (ARM), GM Zahar Efimenko (UKR), GM Vadim Zvjaginsev (RUS), GM Ildar Khairullin (RUS) and GM Maxim Matlakov (RUS).



**The Champions from St. Petersburg Chess Federation**



**The Champions from AVS**



### Final Ranking-MEN-first 15 positions

Rk.	FED	Team	+	=	-	TB1	TB2	TB3
1	RUS	Saint-Petersburg Chess Federation	6	1	0	13	32	177
2	AZE	SOCAR	6	0	1	12	32	159
3	CZE	G-Team Novy Bor	5	1	1	11	32	154
4	RUS	Ekonomist SGSEU Saratov	5	1	1	11	31	162
5	RUS	SHSM-64	5	1	1	11	30	178
6	GER	OSG Baden Baden	5	1	1	11	29	185
7	BIH	Bosna Sarajevo	5	1	1	11	27	178
8	RUS	Ugra	5	0	2	10	30	160
9	ARM	Mika	5	0	2	10	28	178
10	UKR	A DAN DZO & PGMB	5	0	2	10	28	171
11	RUS	Tomsk-400	5	0	2	10	27	184
12	SLO	ZSK Maribor	5	0	2	10	26	147
13	ITA	Libertas Nereto	4	1	2	9	23	160
14	ISL	Bolungarvik Chess Club	4	1	2	9	22	161
15	BUL	Naiden Voinov	4	1	2	9	22	151

### Final Ranking-WOMEN

Rk.	FED	Team	+	=	-	TB1	TB2	TB3
1	RUS	AVS	6	0	1	12	19	106
2	ROU	AEM Luxten Timisoara	5	0	2	10	18	101
3	ARM	Mika	5	0	2	10	18	98,5
4	FRA	Cercle d'Echecs de Monte-Carlo	4	1	2	9	19	96
5	RUS	SHSM-RGSU	4	1	2	9	17	85,5
6	ITA	CS R. Fischer Chieti	4	0	3	8	14	74,5
7	SRB	BAS	3	1	3	7	14	87
8	RUS	Giprechtrans	3	1	3	7	13	103
9	TUR	Anatolia	3	0	4	6	11	80
10	SLO	ZSK Maribor	2	0	5	4	8	84
11	NOR	Oslo Schakselskap	1	0	6	2	5	82

The team composition of the Champions from **AVS** was: GM Antoaneta Stefanova (BUL), GM Kateryna Lahno (UKR), GM Viktorija Cmilyte (LTU), WGM Natalija Pogonina (RUS) and IM Mariya Muzychuk (UKR).

The best players on 1<sup>st</sup> Board was: GM Antoaneta Stefanova (AVS) and GM Teimour Radjabov (SOCAR).



Official web site: <http://ecc2011.sahohlacnik.com>



## THE RUSSIAN TEAMS FOR THE FORTHCOMING EUROPEAN TEAM CHESS CHAMPIONSHIPS ARE READY

The Russian teams for the forthcoming European Team Chess Championships are ready.

The men's team composition is: GM Sergey Karjakin, GM Alexander Grischuk, GM Peter Svidler, GM Alexander Morozevich and GM Ian Nepomniachtchi. Head coach of the team is: GM Alexander Riazantsev.



**GM Sergey Karjakin**



**GM Nadezhda Kosintseva**

The women's team composition is: GM Nadezhda Kosintseva, GM Tatiana Kosintseva, IM Valentina Gunina, GM Alexandra Kosteniuk and WGM Natalija Pogonina. Head coach is: Yuri Dokhoian.

Official web site: <http://russiachess.org>



## THE POLISH TEAMS FOR THE EUROPEAN TEAM CHESS CHAMPIONSHIPS ARE READY

The Polish teams for the European Team Chess Championships are ready.

The men's team will be represented by: GM Radolsaw Wojtaszek, GM Bartosz Socko, GM Kamil Miton, GM Mateusz Bartel and GM Bartlomiej Macieja. Coach is: Michael Krasenkow.

The women's team will be represented by: GM Monika Socko, WGM Joanna Majdan Gajewska, WGM Karina Szczepkowska-Horowska, WGM Jolanta Zawadzka and WIM Katarzyna Toma. Coach is Mark Matlak.



**GM Radolsaw Wojtaszek**



**GM Monika Socko**

*Pictures from Chessdom.com*

Official web site: [www.pzszach.org.pl](http://www.pzszach.org.pl)

## THE UKRAINIAN TEAMS FOR THE FORTHCOMING EUROPEAN TEAM CHESS CHAMPIONSHIPS ARE READY

The Ukrainian teams for the forthcoming European Team Chess Championships are ready.

The composition of the men's team is: GM Vassily Ivanchuk, GM Rulsan Ponomariov, GM Alexander Moiseenko, GM Zahar Efimenko and GM Pavel Eljanov.



**GM Vassily Ivanchuk**



**GM Kateryna Lahno**

The composition of the women's team is: GM Kateryna Lahno, IM Anna Ushenina, IM Mariya Muzychuk, IM Inna Gaponenko and GM Natalia Zhukova.

Official web site: [www.ukrchess.org.ua](http://www.ukrchess.org.ua)



## GARRY KASPAROV VS. NIGEL SHORT IN BLITZ MATCH



*Photo © Omar Oskarsson*

Garry Kasparov and Nigel Short will play against each other in a blitz match on October 9<sup>th</sup>, 2011 in Luevene, Belgium. The match will consist of 8 games with time control 5 minutes+3 seconds increment. It celebrates the 5<sup>th</sup> jubilee edition of YourNextMove, the Belgian initiative to promote chess and to support children between 6 and 12 years old.

On October 11<sup>th</sup>, Tuesday, Garry Kasparov will play the traditional YourNextMove simul against businessmen, politicians and children.

Web site: [www.yournextmove.be](http://www.yournextmove.be)

