



European Draughts Confederation

EDC Protocol Number: 15/2021/ Deeds
Date: 16th March, 2021,

Executive Board Meeting n. 2 - 2021 of the Executive Board elected on 03.08.2019

Google Meet, February 28th, 2021.

At 18.00, with the presence of *Carlo A. Bordini* (EDC President – ITA), *Johan Demasure* (Vice President Vicary- BEL), *Ingrida Drukteynite* (Vice President - LIT), *Tarmo Tulva* (EST), *Jan Zioltkowki* (GER), *Uladzislau Splendzer* (BLR), elected as members of EDC Board, and *Milena Szatkowska* (General Secretary) and *Rik Keurentjes* (Trainer member of EDC Athletes and Trainer Committee), checked the legal number, the EDC Executive Board started working with the following

Agenda:

1. Opening speech by the President
2. Trend of the Covid's pandemic in progress and travel restrictions
3. Selection Tournament for World Championships 2021: requests, proposals, possibilities and official name (e.g. "European Cup – valid as European Qualification for WC21")
4. Other European Championships 2021 (Youth, Teams, Veterans)
5. EDC new Statute: suggestions/proposals received
6. Other various and possible evaluations

In the opening speech, the EDC President thanked the participants for having postponed the Meeting on Sunday 28th because of the bad travel connection he had the day before. Carlo Bordini summarize about the trend of pandemic in Europe, the new complications caused by the new variants of Covid-19 and the travel restrictions for reason unlike than work and heath fields, especially from Countries of extra Schengen's area to intra – Schengen, that need special applies from the National Government. Other comments came out from the member of the EDC Board, then considering completed point 1 and 2, the EB started discussing about point **2. Selection Tournament for World Championships 2021: requests, proposals, possibilities and official name.**

The Vice-President Johan Demasure informed the Board about the three organizational candidacies received, from the federations of Belgium, Poland and Italy, concerning the European Qualifying Tournament for the WC21. The Italian's proposal had to be considered valid only in case that there was not any other candidate. The EB therefore switched the discussion on the two remaining proposals.

After wide evaluations, the Board preference went to the Polish Draughts Federation's proposal, with accommodation costs cheaper than Belgian one, from 9th to 16th May. Then the Board asked to Johan Demasure to verify and specify, on behalf of EDC, the conditions of allotment, of Polish proposal, to the EDC indicated criteria. Especially with reference to the number of rooms available, price per person per day full board in single room, journey, number of participants, Covid testing (local availability and cost), masks and face shields, accessibility, etc.

To the Polish Federations will be also specified that, due to the current new threat of a third wave, the possibility remains that there is no permission to organize or that several countries will not be allowed access to Poland. The chance that we have to cancel the tournament remains very current.

The Board therefore shared the thought that without the possibility to participate and reach the EQT venue for every player of European Countries, the tournament will not take place and the qualification for the WC21 will be drawn by the EDC list. A list for which EB has fought remarking the EDC competence for 20 European players (open/women), and that considers also Federations, while for instance FMJD list is based only on the rating of active players (with 50 games from 2018 to 2020).

The president, then, introduced the topic of the EDC list, about which there have been various (not so nice) requests sent by GMI Edvard Buzinskij and the Lithuanian Federation. First of all, it was highlighted the great work done by VP Johan Demasure and that only one of all European draughts players complained about the list. Underlining the sportsmanship of the European draughts players and that many blazoned players, excluded from the qualification by the list, because of lake of games played in last 3 years, who accepted an evidently extraordinary, but necessary, criteria to define a list in this critical time, due to the pandemic.

The Board analysed the games played from Edvard Buzinskij, only 22 in the period 2018-2020, one of the few players with games, 6, during 2020, with zero games in 2019, and 16 in 2018.

After that all the board members expressed their thoughts on the request of Mr. Buzinsky and the Lithuanian Federation that asked to bring back to 2017, the games played valid for the list, the EB voted to keep or change the EDC list for the WC21 already approved. With 5 votes in favour and one against (Ingrida Drukteynite), the EB agreed to maintain the criteria already determined and the published list.

The EB then discussed **point 4 - European Championships 2021 (Youth, Teams, Veterans)**. The EDC Vice President and TD Youth, Johan Demasure, remembered the already given assignment of EC Youth that will be hold in Belarus, in the beginning of August. The Belarus Draughts Federations will send information as soon as possible, but probably venue should be Pinsk. If there will be no possibilities to hold the EC Youth, because of Covid, then it was decided that the experience of online European Youth tournaments 2020 will be repeated.

About the EC Teams (classic, blitz and rapid), which should be hold this year together with EC individuals blitz and rapid, the President Carlo Bordini spoke about the proposal of the Italian Draughts Federation to organize them in Italy, in Tuscany, (as in 2019), according to the EDC criteria, presumably from 4th to 10th October.

Currently no proposal and perspective about EC Veteran, for which there is still time.

As previously determined by the EB, all the championships will be organized only if the condition of Covid-19 really permits it, even about the travelling restrictions. Safety of the players comes first.

Then the **point 5 - EDC new Statute: suggestions/proposals received** was discussed, and the President Carlo Bordini briefed the Board about the proposals and comments received from Vladislavs Vesperis, Chairman of the executive Board Latvia Draughts federation, thanked for the cooperation. All the proposals sounded of good sense to improve the Statute. The aim is to define a final draft a couple of months before the next EDC General Assembly, in October together with EC Teams.

The EB had already set a new EDC Meeting on 20th March 2021 at 19.00 (Italian Time), considered the deadline to decide about the effective possibility to hold the European Qualifying Tournament for the World Championship 2021.

At the 20.20, since there was nothing else to discuss, the President thanked the participants for their time, and closed the EB Meeting.

The President of the EDC Board

Carlo A. Bordini

