



European Draughts Confederation

Founded in Tallinn on 13.08.1998 – Recognized in Trieste on 16.11.2021

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Executive Board Meeting n. 2 – 2024, the sixth one of the Executive Board elected on 05.08.2023

On Thursday, 22nd February 2024, at 18.30, the **Executive Board** met online by means of Zoom Video Conferencing Application, in the presence of *Carlo A. Bordini* (EDC President - ITA), *Johan Demasure* (Deputy Vice President and Director of Youth and Under 27 Tournaments - BEL), *Jan Zioltkowski* (Tournament Director of Veterans - GER), *Magda Pawlowska* (Technical Director, Responsible for FMJD Calendar - POL), *Ester Van Muijen* (Auditor - NED); *Rik Keurentjes* (Charman of Athletes, Trainers and Referees Commission - NED) and *Bellita D. Dottor* (General Secretary - ITA); *Tarmo Tulva*, *Glib Ushakov*, *Aare Harak*, *William Docherty*, *Felix Shepel* and *Bart Stegeman* excused absences from the meeting because of working, playing or refereeing commitments.

Agenda:

1. Opening speech by the President;
2. Reading and ratification of the minutes of the previous Board Meeting (n. 1/2024);
3. European Championships and EDC/FMJD Calendar and Agreements 2024;
4. Proposal about European Primary School Championship;
5. Other various and possible evaluations.

About point **1. Opening speech by the President** C.A. Bordini greeted the participants and thanked them for their presence.

Then he opened the discussion on **point 2. Reading and ratification of the minutes of the previous Board Meeting (n. 1/2024)**, with deep thanks to Johan Demasure for his French translation. As there were no replies the text was approved.

As for point **3. European Championships and EDC/FMJD Calendar and Agreements 2024** the discussion started on the contested and openly debated issue around the possible overlapping of draughts events, even if for half a day or a few hours, that practically create obvious difficulties in getting to competition venues by private or public means of transport. After Johan Demasure, Jan Zioltkowski and Rik Keurentjes took the floor in the debate mentioning past critical coincidences, C.A. Bordini focused once more on the urgent need to establish fixed and usual periods of time in a year, when the same specific and recurring championships are planned and organized. Such a clear planning would offer full freedom to each player and club to choose the competition they want to participate. Starting from the next EDC meeting in March the topic will be part of the agenda, to define some yearly periods of time when specific championships will take place in 2025: for Veterans, for Teams, for the World Cup and so forth, and he trusted, as always, in a mutual cooperation with FMJD Members.

Magda Pawlowska also shared her suggestions on the topic and after that Rik Keurentjes carefully checked Dutch and Salou plans in 2025, in order to avoid any coincidence. After further discussions and on the proposal of President C.A. Bordini the EDC Board shared the following indicatively periods and dates to set as a basic chronological organization of championships in the EDC and FMJD General Calendar 2025:

- EC Veterans and/or Under 27 → from 7th to 13th April, 2025 (as the recurring annual frequency of them occurs in the first or second week of April, depending on Easter time);
- EC Blitz and Rapid, in Brussels (Belgium) → from 10th to 11th May, 2025;
- EC Teams → from 8th to 15th June, 2025 (the recurring annual frequency occurs in the second week of June);
- EC Youth → from 1st to the 10th August, 2025 (being the first decade of August the usual annual frequency);

- Other reserved and/or optional dates (e.g. in case of U27 separated from the Veterans) → from 1st to 7th September (in the week around the first Monday of September).

Other evaluations were shared about the possibility to host, maybe in the future, Youth and Under 27 together, as preferred from the EDC Athletes and Trainers Committee) and also to introduce the category of the 'New Stars' in the European Championships, with consequently a shorter duration of the Youth Championship.

Magda Pawlowska made herself available to prepare statistics about the championships played in the past years and in what periods. In addition to that she will write an email with all the suggested time proposals for championships in 2025, to be discussed in the next FMJD meeting.

As regards point **4. Proposal about European Primary School Championship**, Tarmo Tulva, predicting his absence, had expressed his opinion in advance in an email, read by all the Members: firstly, it is difficult to verify if the students come from the same school, risking the organization of a Team Championship for Youth similar to the one in the European Youth Championship, and secondly you do not find a suitable time slot in the Draughts Calendar. Other thoughts were shared but always in agreement with T. Tulva's view points, adding that EDC can take into consideration only proposals coming from the Federations.

About **point 5. Other various and possible evaluations** the President reminded those present of the exceptional celebration connected with the 100 Years Anniversary of the Italian Draughts Federation which was born in Milan on 27th February 1924.

There were also other exchanged opinions about prizes in tournaments for young players. Situations are different in the different European countries: there are nations whose players participate in a significant number and other nations whose players are very limited in number, without sponsors and accompanying parents. In general, the President suggested to share this eventuality during the bi-yearly General Assembly.

The following EDC Board Meeting was set on 21st March at 19.00 Rome/Berlin/Brussels/Paris/Amsterdam time.

After clarifying communication involving translations into different European languages among the participants, at about 20.30, since there was nothing else to discuss, the President thanked everyone for her/his available time and declared the online meeting closed.

The President of the EDC Board

