



European Draughts Confederation

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Headquarter: Largo Lauro De Bosis n. 15 – 00135 ROME (Italy)

www.europedraughts.org - board@europedraughts.org

Tax Code 96507400586

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Executive Board Meeting n. 8 – 2023, the third one of the Executive Board elected on 05.08.2023

On Thursday, 9th November 2023, at 6.30 p.m., 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), *Tarmo Tulva* (Vice President and Tournament Director - EST), *Glib Ushakov* (Responsible for International Marketing - UKR), *William Docherty* (Member of WCDF, Treasurer, Responsible for Checkers – SCT,UK) *Ester Van Muijen* (Auditor - NED), *Felix Shepel* (Responsible for Draughts - 64 – UKR), *Aare Harak* (Auditor – EST) and *Bellita D. Dottor* (General Secretary - ITA); Rik Keurentjes, excused absence from the meeting.

Agenda:

1. **Opening speech by the President;**
2. **Reading and ratification of the minutes of the General Assembly and Board Meeting 6/2023;**
3. **European Championships and EDC/FMJD Calendars 2024;**
4. **EDC development activities;**
5. **Other various and possible evaluations.**

As for point **1. Opening speech by the President** C.A. Bordini greeted and asked the participants (all the members of the EB were present) for any suggested ratifications with reference to **point 2. Reading and ratification of the minutes of the General Assembly and Board Meeting 6/2023**, previously shared by email, before the beginning of discussion work. All members agreed with the final text.

Then he decided to give the floor to the new participants, William Docherty and Felix Shepel, anticipating **point 4. EDC development activities**. W. Docherty introduced himself as Scottish by birth but living in France. He is a Member of WCDF Board as Treasurer, involved in spreading Checkers in Anglo-Saxon countries and interested in the organization of Checkers and Draughts tournaments. GM in checkers, promoter of Draughts via videos in African countries, he has not a deep knowledge of 10x10 board, but he is very interested in it. Organizing championships is a tough job, but his aim is to spread also checkers in Europe under the aegis of EDC and he will work in order to connect EDC with WCDF (recognized by FMJD) in this path.

F. Shepel took the floor thanking the Board for the nomination and adding that time his words were only introductory.

President C.A. Bordini added that it is the right time to create competitions at European levels, involving many Federations in championships also by other Draughts/Checkers specialities which are played and constantly widespread in several countries. Under the same World and Continental aegis, he strongly hopes in the organization of both European checkers championship and European draught-64 championship in 2024 (as it happened in Italy in 2023).

Glib Ushakov suggested Lithuania or Poland as possible and available countries for draughts-64. M. Pawlowska agreed having spoken about that to Sandra Lauretiene (Vice President of Lithuanian Draughts Federation).

Addressing in particular to G. Ushakov, F. Shepel and T. Tulva, President C.A. Bordini suggested a deep cooperation among them in order to develop the 64-board in Europe, a path that seems to be starting also within FMJD.

Going back to the Agenda, in particular to **point 3. European Championships and EDC/FMJD Calendars 2024**, the President mentioned his participation in the online meeting of the FMJD Executive Council, on Monday 6th November. He realized that trying to create habitual sports events at specific intervals is still hard work but it is possible to foresee concrete implementation from 2025. For the following year 2024 EDC have to fit and look for

the available slots in FMJD Calendar, consequently the President asked the whole Board to make an admirable effort to find any adequate solutions.

On the President's request about the 2024 calendar J. Demasure expressed his positive evaluation about the Dutch ability to organize championships, even involving the media, in particular the TV, as they could do in the recent European Blitz and Rapid Championships in Holland. But unfortunately, in 2024, they will have problems to get an available and large playing room in a school during free school days, as there will be overlapping events linked with World Youth Championships. The optional venue, in a different period of time, does not seem wide enough for a comfortable development of the European Championships.

As for Belgium the difficulty of organizing competitions is based on the absence of sponsors at the moment, probably with a concrete solution in late future years. Then President Bordini remarked the possibility to host the European Classic, blitz and rapid Championships in Italy, e.g. in Chianciano Terme (Tuscany), from 2nd to 10th June, instead of the European Veterans and Under 27 Championships. The place can also facilitate concentration and relax to help the development of good games. These solutions are appreciable but to avoid concentration of events in the same country is accepted as a matter of principle (for example WCV and ECV in the same country) according to decisions taken by FMJD. As a consequence, it will be probable that EC Veterans and U27 will be held in Poland.

The President added that the Italian Draughts Federation (FID) will celebrate the 100 years anniversary after its birth in 2024. His project is to invite all the EB in presence to enjoy the extraordinary event together.

With reference to the auditors' function, being present E. V. Muijen on her first participation, C. A. Bordini specified that they have to check the bank transaction and expenses according to financial rules that EDC has to respect.

As far as the proposal from the Turkish Federation to organize the WC for Youth in 2024 the President will send an email for clarifications.

As for 2025 Draughts Calendar it will be discussed after approval of 2024 Draughts Calendar.

The following EDC Board Meeting was set on 14th December at 18.30 Rome/Berlin/Brussels/Paris time.

At about 7.30 pm., since there was nothing else to discuss, the President thanked the participants for their available time and declared the online meeting closed.

The President of the EDC Board