



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. 7 – 2024, the eleventh one of the Executive Board elected on 05.08.2023.

On Tuesday, 5th November 2024, at 7.30 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), Tarmo Tulva (Vice President and Tournament Director - EST), Jan Ziolkowski (Tournament Director of Veterans - GER), Magda Pawlowska (Technical Director, Responsible for FMJD Calendar - POL), Rik Keurentjes (Chairman of Athletes, Trainers and Referees Commission - NED), Feliks Shepel (Responsible for Draughts - 64 - UKR), Aare Harak (Auditor – EST) and Bellita D. Dottor (General Secretary - ITA).

Invited by the President to participate, even Siep Buurke was present at the meeting. He was appointed as Tournament Manager of FMJD (World Draughts Federation) to establish both nearer communication with national Draughts Federations and to monitor the preparations for world championships and cup tournaments.

Glib Ushakov was excused absence.

Agenda:

- 1. Opening speech by the President (IPACS, TAFISA, IOC, Sport accords);**
- 2. Reading and ratification of the minutes of the previous Board Meeting (n. 6/2024);**
- 3. Europedraughts.org new website;**
- 4. Calendar of European Championships 2025 (see EDC EB Minutes 2/2024) and overlap of FMJD Calendar (determined after)**
- 5. Next FMJD General Assembly;**
- 6. Other various and possible evaluations.**

As for item **1. Opening speech by the President (IPACS, TAFISA, IOC, Sports accords)** C.A. Bordini greeted and thanked the participants and, being the number legal, he opened the discussion on the institutions above. He participated in IPACS General Conference in Rome (IPACS is a body of IOC that supports the common efforts towards transparency against corruption, promoting the culture of good governance in and around sport, together with international sports organizations). Furthermore, he had a cooperative exchange and a meeting with TAFISA (The Association for International Sport for All) about which he had sent an e-mail to the FMJD General Secretary, advising how useful to become a member of it could be. He was also connected online to the Sport Accord General Conference and strongly recalled the importance of cooperating and doing the best you can for getting the IOC recognition. About the next FMJD general Assembly and some changes in the FMJD Statute other members and he himself shared their point of view about both goals.

He then added that he had been deeply disappointed in FMJD for the difficulties in change. Addressing to Mr Buurke (special guest of the Meeting) and to the whole group, C.A. Bordini expressed his bitterness in front of possible and inconvenient coincidences in the two calendars (EDC's and FMJD's) as there had been no comments after the sending of the approved calendar by the European Federation, to which a whole meeting had been dedicated. Besides, even a courtesy phone call was not made to communicate in advance that for some reasons FMJD planned a date that had already been settled for

the European Team Championship. He also emphasized that after the next WC in Cameroon, three out of last four World Draughts Championships took place outside Europe, the main Continent of Draughts. The auspicious and common aim is a clear and respectful cooperation working together. It is not fair even to suspect that somebody feels superior and decides what he wants without communicating it. The vice-president T. Tulva intervened remembering that Estonian Draughts Federation had sent a proposal as a possible organizer of the WC that FMJD did not take, indeed, into consideration. Then Mr Buurke regretted for that. He took the floor and said that those decisions had been made before his assignment. Then he added that cooperation even in sports always takes advantages and that he would have discussed the raised issue the following day. It is always important to maintain good relations and openness to dialogues, in the interest of sports.

After that, in relation to item **2. Reading and ratification of the minutes of the previous Board Meeting (n. 6/2024)** the President asked for additions. There were not any and so the minutes were approved.

Regarding item **3. Europedraughts.org new website**, The President thanked T. Tulva expressing his satisfaction for the new layout and the work well done. T. Tulva emphasized its simple use, cheaper annual cost, the easy insertion of information by him, and that the English translation can be enough, without involving further languages. In the end he thanked B.D. Dottor for her help.

About item **4. Calendar of European Championships 2025 (see EDC EB Minutes 2/2024) and overlap of FMJD Calendar (determined after)**, J. Zioltkowski took the floor and confirmed that the organization of Veterans and Under 27 Championships in Antalya (Turkey), from 5th to 13th April 2025, and work was in progress. C.A. Bordini added that they can count on the precious and direct help from I. Ismajilov, considering that Turkish Federation is not yet recognised by FMJD.

Then further proposals followed: C. A. Bordini mentioned the possibility to organize only one European Championship in Chianciano Terme (Italy). F.I.D. suggested the organization of the EC for Teams but if nobody was going to send a bid for the planning of EC for Youth, the Italian Federation could also try to organize a further championship, despite the 25th Universal Jubilee of the Catholic Church in 2025 and the high season price that must be taken into high and primary consideration in terms of accommodation in a region like Tuscany, near the Vatican State.

M. Pawlowska thought it is currently complicated to imagine having an EC in Poland in 2025, although she will ask the new federal President and other federal Presidents.

Tarmo Tulva recommended the organization of the European Youth Championship in Italy, in August, inviting to ask other federations for the planning EC of Teams.

C. A. Bordini opened the discussion on the European Championship for Checkers-64 and for Draughts-64 giving the floor to T. Tulva. He reminded the group of the probable organization of a tournament from 29th to 4th June in a venue about 160 Kilometres far from Tallinn in Estonia and he hoped the period suited general needs.

R. Keurentjes observed that in June 2025 Dutch players will not be able to participate if the period is already defined. After that the President thanked F. Shepel for his availability and commitment towards Checkers-64.

F. Shepel spoke on the topic involving even T. Tulva. On organizing Checkers 64 events he would suggest a mixture of national draughts, favouring the Brazilian System. T. Tulva reminded how important it is to use the official FMJD rules of game.

As far as item **5. Next FMJD General Assembly** was concerned, C. A. Bordini informed about the general elective Assembly of the Italian Federation at the end of November and the FMJD general Assembly, soon.

Magda Pawlowska talked about the possibility of organizing championships with younger than eight-year-old players and that could be an item in agenda during the next EDC General Assembly.

J. Demasure clearly expressed his opposition to such an opportunity as they need above all training at that age and their draughts competence and knowledge is sport in progress.

A different opinion was supported by R. Keurentjes as he thought that probably some federations agreed and the matter could be discussed in EDC's future agenda.

About item **6. Other various and possible evaluations**, C. Bordini added that challenges are a key part of draughts: from children to adults, from draughts to checkers, trying to do the best.

The following EDC Board Meeting was set on 5th December at 19.30 Rome/Berlin/Brussels/Paris/Amsterdam time.

At about 9.30 p.m. the President thanked the participants for their time and declared the online meeting closed.

The President of the EDC Board