



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. 8 – 2024, the twelfth one of the Executive Board elected on 05.08.2023.

On Thursday, 5th December 2024, at 19.30, 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), Tarmo Tulva (Vice President and Tournament Director - EST), Jan Zioltkowski (Tournament Director of Veterans - GER), Magda Pawlowska (Technical Director, Responsible for FMJD Calendar - POL), Ester Van Muijen (Auditor - NED), 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). Bart Stegemen was excused absence.

Agenda:

- 1. Opening speech by the President;**
- 2. Reading and ratification of the minutes of the previous Board Meeting (n. 7/2024);**
- 3. Calendar of European Championships 2025;**
- 4. Next FMJD General Assembly;**
- 5. Other various and possible evaluations.**

As for item **1. Opening speech by the President**, C.A. Bordini greeted and thanked the participating Members. The legal number was guaranteed and before any other discussion his priority idea was to open the meeting with a personal comment on the twice cancellation of the World Blitz Amateurs by FMJD, pointing out that such a decision negatively affected the Draughts World.

About item n. **2. Reading and ratification of the minutes of the previous Board Meeting (n. 7/2024)**, he apologized for the late sending, expecting, however, any further additions to them, that were quickly communicated for definite approval. He even thanked the general secretary for her cooperative help.

Regarding item **3. Calendar of European Championships 2025**, the President opened the discussion on the Agreement of Blitz and Rapid Championships already planned in Brussels (Belgium) in May 2025, thanks to J. Demasure's precious availability. Personally involved, he took the floor reassuring that the whole organization was under control in terms of transport, accommodation and reservation for organizers, referees and athletes, having high hopes for a large participation of delegations from different countries. In a short time, even the Rules and Regulations were going to be complete. What really worried him was the absence of sponsors at that moment. The President intervened. They both, together, would have evaluated any extraordinary contribution, taking into consideration even the in and out percentages involved.

About the European Calendar in details for next year, Jan Zioltkowski confirmed the organization of Veterans and Under 27 Championships in Antalya (Turkey), counting on I. Ismajilov's essential help. The Agreement and Rules and regulations are quite ready and will be shared with the Executive Board before being published and sent to the Federations.

About the European Team Championships, J. Demasure and other Board Members are ready to contact any potentially available organizer. One of the problems concerns the dates, considering that the previous period defined by EDC for the European Team Championships was overwhelmed by FMJD

calendar, without even any simple courtesy request. The President expressed his disappointment about that. In addition, even M. Pawlowska, Tarmo Tulva, R. Keurentjes together with C. A. Bordini were going to collect information, to check and have a look at the evolution of FMJD calendar, which still misses too many precise dates of future Championships in 2025. Ultimately it seems that the European Team Championships may be planned in the first week of September or at the beginning of October.

On the above topic a long conversation followed, analyzing periods, months, weekends to be involved in future Draughts Championships, with the general need to decide any event as soon as possible, working together and finding a solution, taking due account of school holidays in the European countries to guarantee the widest sports participation of students.

About the organization of the European Youth Championships in Chianciano Terme (Italy) in August 2025, everything was work in progress in terms of prices, venues and accommodation, even depending on availability of facilities in the Jubilee time, with some details about the playing room. The president Bordini was confident to share quite definite details by the next Board meeting.

J. Demasure anticipated the willingness and availability from the Dutch Federation to host the European Classic, Blitz and Rapid Championships in Hijken (The Netherlands), in 2026, during the school holidays. President C. A. Bordini was ready to send the EDC guidelines of the EC event to the potential organizer of those championships soon.

About the European Championship of Draughts-64, F. Shepel took the floor saying that he had previously sent Rules and Regulations to FMJD about Draughts-64, but he had got no reply. Addressing M. Pawlowska he kindly asked her to investigate the matter. Also R. Keurentjes and T. Tulva shared their thoughts about that, focusing on the aspect concerning the players who had played draughts-64 under IDF (no longer recognized by FMJD, consequently to the Russian/Belarusian critical question) and now suspended by the official activities of FMJD (and then also of EDC).

President C.A. Bordini and vice-president T. Tulva were going to write a letter addressed to FMJD requesting that highly skilled players in draughts-64 will be allowed to participate in the European Draughts-64 Championship in 2025, under any conditions, so that they can find umbrella under EDC and then FMJD. The organization of such a championship will be fundamental.

The discussion on the European Checkers Championship was postponed to the next Meeting, hoping in W. Docherty's live participation.

As far as item n. **4. Next FMJD General Assembly** was concerned, a meeting was going to be planned soon, but circumstances suggested that FMJD GA 2024 could be skipped.

About item **5. Other various and possible evaluations**, the following EDC Board Meeting was set on 30th January 2025, at 19.30 Rome/Berlin/Brussels/Paris/Amsterdam time.

At about 21.00 the President thanked the participants for their availability and time, declaring the online meeting closed.

The President of the EDC Board
Carlo A. Bordini