



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. 1 – 2026, the twenty-first one of the Executive Board elected on 05.08.2023.

On Tuesday, 27th January 2026, at 07.30 p.m., the Executive Board met online by means of Zoom Video Conferencing Application, in the presence of *Carlo A. Bordini* (EDC President - ITA), *Tarmo Tulva* (Vice President and Tournament Director - EST), *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), *Rik Keurentjes* (Charman of Athletes, Trainers and Referees Commission - NED), *Ester Van Muijen* (Auditor - NED), *Felix Shepel* (Responsible for Draughts - 64 – UKR) and *Bellita D. Dottor* (General Secretary - ITA).

Agenda:

1. Opening speech by the President;
2. Reading and ratification of the minutes of the previous Board Meeting (n. 8/2025);
3. EDC Calendar 2026:
 - 3.1 EC Veterans 2026 cancelled and starting alternation WC and EC Veterans from 2026;
 - 3.2 European Youth Championships 2026;
 - 3.3 European Championship of Draughts-64 2026;
 - 3.4 European Championships Classic, Blitz and Rapid (already assigned);
4. Other various and possible evaluations.

Before opening the meeting on the Agenda, the President C.A. Bordini wanted to deal with a matter of primary importance: some distorted and manipulated news were linked and circulated on the web immediately after the successful and friendly FMJD-CAJD African Draughts Summit in Marrakech (Morocco). The President expressed a clear and heartfelt speech that was unanimously shared by all participating Members. He said that beyond any provocative attitude to defame the very transparent action and research of diplomacy of the new FMJD Council that he belongs to, the EDC Board reaffirms its full support for Ukraine and the Ukrainian people, expressed over the youth athletes, and reiterates its clear condemnation of the Russian invasion and the ongoing war, which has caused senseless human casualties and destruction.

In addition, the Board even reiterates that the values of peace, freedom, respect for international law and human dignity are fundamental principles for any European sport and for any Draughts event.

Any dialogue or contacts undertaken in an institutional context do not alter, weaken, or call into question our official position against the war and in favour of peace.

EDC remains committed to acting in line with FMJD and IOC guidance, European values and the responsibility that any sports expression has towards society, while rejecting any form of manipulation or misinterpretation of its action.

Now, there is no doubt about the denied possibility to Russian and Belarusian draughts players to participate in the European Draughts Championships 2026.

Only after such fundamental and involving clarification the Board paid attention to the Agenda.

In relation to item **2. Reading and ratification of the minutes of the previous Board Meeting (n. 8/2025)**, already sent to the Board by email with some changes, they were approved without any further additions or modifications.

Before developing all points in item 3, the discussion focused on item **3.3 European Championship of Draughts-64 2026**, whose Rules and Regulations are ready thanks to the cooperative work between T. Tulva and F. Shepel. They will be sent and shared soon in their last version by T. Tulva, after some changes. The President confirmed, once more, the organization of the above Championship, by the Italian Draughts Federation together with the European Draughts Confederation, in Misano Adriatico (Rimini), during/close to the Italian GGS (the School Youth Games), planned from 14th to 17th May 2026. Moreover, FID will cover the costs for the playing room and full board accommodation for up to three referees for four days, while travel reimbursements and salaries for the referees, cups, medals and other costs will be covered by EDC that will cash the fees.

About the European Championship of Checkers, planned in Foggia as a corollary of the World GAYP Title Match, from 8th to 13th November 2026, that the Italian Draughts Federation will organize under the patronage of the European Draughts Confederation and the World Draughts Checkers Federations, all costs will be born by FID that will cash the fees.

With reference to item **3. EDC Calendar 2026**, due to the renunciation of the ones who had proposed for 2026, it is taken the definite decision to alternate the organization of the World and European Championships for Veterans, starting with the World one in 2026 (even year), while the European one will be organized in 2027 (odd year) and so on, as already shared during the General Assembly 2025.

As for **3.4 European Championships Classic, Blitz and Rapid (already assigned)**, activities are underway to define the details of the Rules and Regulations, especially for the logistics section and the agreement.

Regarding item **3.2 European Youth Championships 2026**, while waiting for more detailed information from I. Ismaylov on a possible organization of them in Turkey, M. Pawlowska and T. Tulva will get busy to find availability in their countries (Poland, Estonia). The objective question is not only the costs of accommodation but also the travel costs that players must cover, which are sometimes more impactful than the accommodation itself. From the side of the involved organizers, it is also important to take into consideration their job and part of the costs, the obtainability of referees, requested in a high number for such a draughts event and other aspects underlined by J. Demasure, M. Pawlowska and T. Tulva.

C. A. Bordini expressed his appreciation for every effort in finding a solution, by the date of the next Board Meeting.

Opening the discussion on the World Cup Championships by FMJD, generally organized far away, the President would like to send an email, on M. Pawlowska and R. Keurentjes' proposal, even shared with the Board, to establish some common conditions that could guide the choice of places in the world in terms of distance and costs, to favour the participation of most players.

The President thanked them for their availability.

On the wake R. Keurentjes thanked M. Pawlowska for her constant work with Ms. L. Turiy and contribution to the organization of recurring Draughts Tournaments.

As for item **4. Other various and possible evaluations**, no topics were proposed and discussed.

The next Board Meeting was set for 3rd March, at 07.30 p.m., Rome time.

At about 20.18 the President thanked all the Members for their time and availability, declaring the online meeting closed.

The President of the EDC Board
Carlo A. Bordini