

World Chess Team Championship

Khanty-Mansiysk, Russia, June 16-26 2017



CHIEF ARBITER'S REPORT

The World Chess Team Championship was held in the Ugra Chess Academy in Khanty-Mansiysk, Russia, from 16th (day of arrival) to 27th (day of departure) of June 2017.

Participants:

10 teams in Women and 10 teams in Open sections (80 players) participated in the World Team and Women World Team Championships.

Team list was:

OPEN	WOMEN
BELARUS	AZERBAIJAN
INDIA	CHINA
CHINA	EGYPT
EGYPT	GEORGIA
NORWAY	INDIA
POLAND	POLAND
RUSSIA	RUSSIA
TURKEY	VIETNAM
UKRAINE	UKRAINE
USA	USA

Schedule:

The Schedule of the Championship that was included in the Regulations was followed without any problems with a slight modification on the last day.

The official opening ceremony and the closing ceremony, as well as the Captains' meeting, were held according to the schedule.

Venue:

The playing hall was established in Ugra Chess Academy building on the second floor and all matches were played there. The playing hall was good, with adequate conditions of light, air conditioning and ventilation. All facilities were provided by the Organizer in the playing venue. There was adequate water, coffee and tea, snacks in the playing hall.

The toilets were pretty close to the playing hall. Smoking area was provided outside of the playing hall, but all players and captains were accompanied by volunteers .

There was a press room where spectators could follow the most important games through screens with analysis of GM Shipov in Russian and GM Miroshchchenko and WGM Anna Rudolf in English.

System of play:

A tournament was played according to the Round Robin System of 9 rounds, according to the FIDE tournament regulations for the event (FIDE Handbook, D II).

Time control:

The time control for each player was 1 hour and 30 minutes for the first 40 moves, followed by 30 minutes till the end of the game, with an increment of 30 seconds per move, starting from move 1. There was a modified zero-tolerance rule (15 minutes before forfeiting a player) and no restrictions for draw offers.

But there were no incidents at all according to the rules and regulations except round 4, when Georgian team was late because of technical issues with a bus. But influence to the results of the games, as games was postponed for 5 minutes by the agreement with the team captain of their opponents (Russia).

Arbiters:

Chief Arbiter: IA Anastasia Sorokina (AUS)

Deputy Chief Arbiter: IA Boris Postovsky (USA), IA Franca Dapiran (ITA)

All arbiters performed their duties relatively fine and I had excellent cooperation from all of them. I would like to express my thanks to Deputy Chief Arbiters IA Boris Postovsky (USA), IA Franca Dapiran (ITA) who did excellent work. In the Arbiters' Meeting that took place on 16th June 2017 at 3pm in Hotel Olympiysky, the tournament regulations were discussed and the Arbiters' duties during the rounds were analyzed in full detail.

All arbiters did their best to fulfill their duties and I have to say that they did very good work.

Anti-cheating measures:

The games were screened every day by Kenneth W. Regan using the same software intended for automatic use as the PGN Screening Tool but taking the manual step of uploading the game files, activating his scripts, and placing the reports in a private viewing area. Regan was traveling in Poland and the Czech Republic but gave reports

every day except after round 5 when he was offline in Cesky Krumlov. The reports identified four players for possible scrutiny but turned up no positive indications of what could be cheating.

Appeals Committee:

The members of the Appeals Committee were:

Chairman: Boris Kutin (SLO)

**Members: Javier Ochoa De Echaguen (ESP)
Valerian Gaprindashvilli (GEO)**

No appeal was submitted.

Games transmission:

All games were played on the electronic boards and transmitted on the Internet through the official website of the event. **Ugra2017.fide.com**

Accommodation:

All participants (players, officials, etc.) excluding the Russian teams stayed in the Olympiysky Hotel. The conditions provided by the hotel were very good, offering good food and very good services and facilities. Russian teams covered their own expenses and stayed in the Taray Hotel.

Captains' Meeting:

The Captain's Meeting took place in the Olympiysky Hotel on 16th of June 2017 at 4 pm. Representatives from 9 teams in men and 9 teams in women sections participated in the meeting. Egypt team arrived on 17th of June in the morning.

During the meeting I announced the tournament regulations (the time control, deadlines for the submitting of the team compositions, no zero tolerance, no restrictions in draw offer rules, the schedule etc.), as well as all other technical details.

A second meeting was also held during the tournament and some Olympiad regulations were adopted, such as Captains not being allowed to leave the playing zone and also to avoid talking to the other section's (Open/Women) captain. All captains co-operated in full with the arbiters.

Team Compositions:

The team compositions were submitted by the captain's everyday in the morning, by bringing team composition submission list to the Deputy Arbiters. Afterword's Chief Arbiter collected all forms and add team composition to swiss manager. Pairings was published every day before 11 am, last day at 23.30

Opening and Closing Ceremony:

The Opening Ceremony took place in Ugra Classic Theater. A musical cultural program, which included traditional dances and songs, was presented to the audience.

Governor Natalia Komarova, FIDE Vice President Boris Kutin, and FIDE Vice President Andrey Filatov were invited on stage to formally open the events..Other FIDE officials including FIDE Vice President Javier Ochoa, FIDE CEO Geoffrey Borg, Deputy Governor Kalzov and President of Ugra Chess Federation Vassily Filipenko and other key people from Khanty Mansiysk were present.

During the Ceremony the drawing of numbers for both events took place.

The Closing Ceremony took place in Ugra Classic Theater.

FIDE President Kirsan Ilumzhinov, and President of Ugra Chess Federation Vassily Filipenko awarded the prizes and closed the event, FIDE Officials and a number of other people participated in the Ceremony.

It was appraised that the ceremonies were held at the most professional level, and I would especially like to underline the organization of the awarding ceremony which was very good.

Prizes:

In the Women's Championship, Russia took 1st place, 2nd place is China, and 3rd place was Georgia. (full results attached)

In the Open Championship China took 1st place, 2nd place is Russia, and 3rd place was Poland.

Each member of the winning teams (players, reserve and captain) received gold, silver and bronze medals, trophies and diplomas.

Final rankings:

Women Section

Rank	Team	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	MP	Pts.
1	RUSSIA	*	3	2½	3	3	3½	2	3	2	3½	16	25½
2	CHINA	1	*	3½	2	2	3	3	2½	2	3	13	22
3	GEORGIA	1½	½	*	2	2½	2	3	3	3	4	12	21½
4	INDIA	1	2	2	*	1½	2½	2½	2½	3	3	12	20
5	UKRAINE	1	2	1½	2½	*	2	2½	3	2½	2½	12	19½
6	POLAND	½	1	2	1½	2	*	2	2½	3½	3½	9	18½
7	UNITED STATES	2	1	1	1½	1½	2	*	2	2	3½	6	16½
8	VIETNAM	1	1½	1	1½	1	1½	2	*	2½	4	5	16
9	AZERBAIJAN	2	2	1	1	1½	½	2	1½	*	4	5	15½
10	EGYPT	½	1	0	1	1½	½	½	0	0	*	0	5

Open Section

Rank	Team	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	MP	Pts.
1	CHINA	*	2½	2½	2½	2	2½	3½	2	3½	3½	16	24½
2	RUSSIA	1½	*	3	2½	2	2½	3	4	3	3½	15	25
3	POLAND	1½	1	*	2½	1½	3	3	2½	2½	3	12	20½
4	INDIA	1½	1½	1½	*	2	2½	2½	3½	3	2½	11	20½
5	TURKEY	2	2	2½	2	*	2	1½	1	2½	3	10	18½
6	UKRAINE	1½	1½	1	1½	2	*	2	2½	3	2½	8	17½
7	BELARUS	½	1	1	1½	2½	2	*	2	3½	3½	8	17½
8	UNITED STATES	2	0	1½	½	3	1½	2	*	2½	3	8	16
9	NORWAY	½	1	1½	1	1½	1	½	1½	*	2½	2	11
10	EGYPT	½	½	1	1½	1	1½	½	1	1½	*	0	9

Organization:

All the members of the Organizing Committee put their best efforts so that the competition be held at the highest level. All of them put their best efforts so that all the necessary details would function perfectly. I would like to underline the great cooperation I had with the Tournament Director Sergey Timoshenko, who was one of the key persons in organization.

Recommendations :

A number of items which were missing in the regulations had to be interpreted based on previous experience and it is recommended that FIDE World Championship and Olympiad Commission put the following changes in place to facilitate compliance with future regulations :

1. Zero tolerance in whatever format is desired by the WCOC;
2. Draw offers or no requirement;
3. Captain's "rights" to include clear indication regarding their duties and behavior in and out of the playing venue;
4. Anti Cheating regulations were non existent and again Olympiad practice was called on but even that requires some clarifications;

Conclusion:

The World Chess Team Championship, held in Khanty-Mansiysk, Russia, was organized at the highest level and good standards for this event. All requirements mentioned in the FIDE Handbook for organizing this top-level chess Tournament, were completely fulfilled. I would like to mention that all players and captains showed great sportsmanship and excellent fairplay throughout the whole event.

I would also like to thank very much the FIDE Deputy President Georgios Makropoulos for giving me the opportunity to be the Chief Arbiter in this very important chess event. It was a great honor for me.

Khanty-Mansiysk, June 27, 2017

IA Anastasia Sorokina
Chief Arbiter
WCTC&WWCTC 2017