



**ICCF-EUROPA  
ZONAL  
DIRECTOR**

## **THE INTERNATIONAL CORRESPONDENCE CHESS FEDERATION**

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## **ICCF CONGRESS 2011**

### **REPORT OF THE ZONAL DIRECTOR FOR EUROPE**

#### **European Team Championships**

At the moment, there are just 6 games remaining in the Final of the 7<sup>th</sup> E.T.C., which started on the 31/12/2008. Three teams (Slovakia, Slovenia and Israel) could, mathematically, still win the Championship, while Italy is waiting for these last results to know where it will finish (from 2<sup>nd</sup> to 4<sup>th</sup>).

Only 5 games are still running in the Semi-finals of the 8<sup>th</sup> E.T.C., which started on the 26/07/2009; Slovenia, Estonia, Croatia, Switzerland, Sweden, Italy, Russia, Slovakia, Belarus and England (as best 4<sup>th</sup> finisher) are already qualified for the Final, but it will be necessary to wait the end of the remaining games, both in 7<sup>th</sup> E.T.C. Final and in 8<sup>th</sup> E.T.C. Semi-finals, to know who will be the other qualifying teams (Romania, Germany, Czech Republic and Poland are hoping...).

The 8<sup>th</sup> E.T.C. Final will start at the beginning of 2012, to avoid the clash with other important ICCF tournaments.

The Semi-finals of 9<sup>th</sup> E.T.C. began on 15.07.2011 with 34 teams divided in 3 preliminary groups (T.D. Karel Glaser -CZE-)

#### **European Individual Championships**

The 7 groups of the Semi-finals of 68<sup>th</sup> E.I.C. (began on 31/12/2009 on ICCF webserver) are still ongoing.

The Final of 67<sup>th</sup> E.I.C. began on 1.07.2011 with 15 players (4 GM, 6 SIM and 2 IM). T.D. of both tournaments is V.I. Myakutin (RUS).

### **Harro Otte Memorial**

The Final of the Harro Otte Memorial (national team tournament for players with a low ELO) played on ICCF webserver, is quite over. The winning team, with a large advantage on the opponents, is Slovenia. Slovakia, Germany and Czech Republic are fighting for the second and third place.

### **Gerhard Radosztics Memorial**

The Semi-finals of this postal national team tournament for players with a low ELO, started on the 15/05/2009, and is still ongoing. Approximately 88% of the games are over. England, Spain and Italy are already qualified to the Final. I hope to be able to start the Final at the beginning of 2012.

### **Thor Løvholt Memorial**

The three Semi-finals of this web-server national team tournament for medium-rated players was started on 9/01/2011. 29 National Federations entered this competition; and a team from Cape Verde was invited to play. The T.D's are Ian M. Pheby (ENG), Andrew Dearnley (ENG) and Karel Glaser (CZE). Many thanks to Neil Limbert (ENG) who perfectly organizing this tournament.

### **Witold Bielecki Memorial**

This national team tournament for players with a low ELO (the second edition of "H. Otte Memorial") was due to start in Spring 2011. However, it wasn't possible due to the need to avoid clashing with the European Postal Cup and ICCF Jubilee Postal Tournament.

I'll propose at ICCF-Europa Meeting in Järvenpää to start this tournament at the beginning of 2012.

### **Promotional tournaments**

The European Tournament Director L. Madonia (ITA) informs us that in 2010 he started 11 postal groups (4 "M", 4 "H" and 3 "O") with a total of 93 players, just 2 tournaments and 10 players less than in 2009. In the first 5 months of 2011, 4 postal groups have been started with 28 players.

In 2010 the E.T.O. started 26 promotional webserver tournaments (8 "M", 4 "H" and 14 "O") with a total of 214 players, while in 2009 the started tournaments were 27, with 221 players. The first 5 months of 2011 have an excellent trend: 19 webserver groups with 164 players have been started.

### **European Postal Cup**

92 players from 15 countries entered this postal tournament. 23 teams of 4 players started to play at the beginning of July 2011 in 3 Preliminary Groups (T.D.: M. Hömske -FRA-). I think such a large participation can be considered a great success for postal play in Europe.

## **Interzonal 2010**

As usual, ICCF-Europa entered three teams in this important tournament, which started on 27.12.2010. The 24 European players come from 24 different countries. Unfortunately, I could not insert any player from 7 other Federations who also sent a candidate player. The European Team Captains are G. Sapundijev (BUL), A. Yeremenko (UKR) and A. de Blois Figueredo (ESP).

## **“Rochade 5171 20<sup>th</sup> Anniversary” Team Tournament**

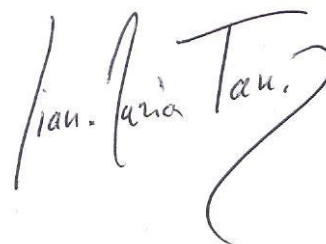
“ICCF-Europa Yellow Team” is fighting for a podium finish, while our “Blue Team” is also having good results.

## **Financial matters**

The Finance Director, Carlos Flores Gutiérrez, oversaw the 2010 Accounts, which has been checked by the Auditor, George Pyrich. It shows the economic situation of ICCF-Europa to be blossoming and this will be presented to the European Delegates during our yearly meeting.

Finally, I’d like to thank all the friends who are helping me: the Deputy Z.D. S. Ja. Grodzenskij (RUS), the Finance Director C. Flores Gutiérrez (ESP), the European Tournament Director L. Madonia (ITA), the Auditor G. Pyrich (SCO), the President of the Appeal Instance R. Wikman (FIN), the webmaster G. Ruggeri Laderchi (ITA), the Tournament Directors T. Klauner (LUX), V. I. Myakutin (RUS), I. M. Pheby (ENG, who also acts as Team Captain), L. Tinture (FRA), L. Lahdenmäki (FIN), J. Ryška (CZE), M. Hömske (FRA), Andrew Dearnley (ENG) and Karel Glaser (CZE), the Team Captains G. Sapundijev (BUL), A. de Blois Figueredo (ESP), A. Yeremenko (UKR), D. Korže (SLO), the Delegates and the “contact men” of the National Federations: without their valuable help my work would not be possible and the European correspondence chess players couldn’t enjoy their hobby:

**THANK YOU VERY MUCH !**



Torino, 27.06.2011.

Gian-Maria Tani  
ICCF Zonal Director for Europe