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FMJD CHECKERS SECTION



9 August 2021

2021 Calendar of WCDF Events

The spread of Covid-19, now with Delta variant, continues to present challenges to resuming checker tournaments, although regional tournaments have resumed in many places. We hope everyone is staying healthy and safe!

I owe an update about the World Qualification / Women & Youth World Championship situation. We previously advertised dates for October 2021 (later becoming December 2021). More recently, we found it necessary to postpone the Scarpetta-Moiseyev independent-challenge 3-move world title match scheduled for July 2021 at ICHF due to air travel restrictions. It appears these ongoing air travel restrictions, which prevent checker players from several countries from flying to USA, will not resolve anytime soon. This list of affected countries includes the United Kingdom, the 26 Schengen nations in Europe without border controls, Ireland, China, India, and South Africa. Therefore, the WCDF Exec has voted to **postpone 2021 WCDF checkers events in USA**. This includes the 3-Move World Qualifier / Woman & Youth World Championship, Scarpetta-Moiseyev Independent Challenge match, and Kondlo-Bernini World Title Match. While there is desire to keep the World Qualifier event in Tulsa for 2022, WCDF is open to receiving bids from alternate venues in the event the USA travel restrictions go long-term. (We will re-evaluate the situation in October.) The 3-Move USA National in Tulsa, Oklahoma will still play on November 29-December 2 for those who are able to come by November. The Prize Fund will be over \$32,000.

11-man Ballot Update

We have 11-man Ballot style matches being negotiated involving current 11-man ballot world champion Alex Moiseyev. Alex Holmes placed second at the recent July 11-man ballot National in Vidor, TX and can challenge Alex Moiseyev to an 11-man ballot match. More details to be announced.

New On-Line Competitions

The **SDA International Zoom Competition 2021** began on March 14 and extended for almost 3 months. The event was organized by the Scottish Draughts Association with special thanks to Donald Oliphant and William Docherty. Event offered prize money and was sanctioned by WCDF. Sixteen competitors were split into round-robin groups of four (as in World Cup football) based on ratings, and the top 2 finishers in each group advanced to higher groups. Overall, players competed in 9 two-game rounds, one round per week, virtually using Zoom software so that each player could see their opponent and board. Event was 3-move style with untimed games. Congratulations go to Alex Moiseyev who took first place on Sonneborn-Berger tiebreaker points over Sergio Scarpetta.

GROUP A	Name	Country	Pts (Rds. 7-9)	S-B	Prize
1	Alex Moiseyev	USA	8	40	£500
2	Sergio Scarpetta	ITA	8	38	£350
3	Shane McCosker	IRE	5		£250
4	John Chappell	USA	3		£200
GROUP B					
5	Richard Beckwith	USA	9		£190
6	William Docherty	FRA	7		£160
7	Danny Oliphant	SCO	4	24	£140
8	Tanya Zaitseva	UKR	4	22	£130
GROUP C					
9	Alex Holmes	USA	10		
10	Patrick Parker	USA	7		
11	Ady Harper	SCO	4		
12	John Jolliff	ENG	3		
GROUP D					
13	Kent Layne	BAR	10		
14	Dennis Pawlek	THA	9		
15	Tony Gallagher	ENG	3		
16	Keith Foubister	SCO	2		

I have added a new section to the WCDF calendar for online play, which has gained popularity during pandemic, or for those who have difficulties attending tournaments due to travel and cost concerns. With thanks to Iqbal Ahmed of PCDA, weekly "quick-play" events are being staged on playok featuring players from Russia, Uganda, Pakistan, India, South Africa, UK, Scotland, Estonia, Japan, Ukraine, Barbados, USA, Kenya, Italy, Uzbekistan and Czech Republic. There is a new annual "World Cup" online competition in GAYP planned for August 22 (winner gets a friendly challenge from Alex Moiseyev!)

With best regards,

Richard Beckwith

Richard Beckwith
WCDF President