

**WORLD CHECKERS/DRAUGHTS FEDERATION
MINUTES OF GENERAL ASSEMBLY,
KNIGHTON, 23 SEPTEMBER 2015**

1. Present Richard Beckwith (ACF, President), Ian Caws (EDA, Treasurer), John Reade (EDA, Secretary), Carlo Bordini (FID), Nadiya Chyzhevska (UDF), Vitala Doumesh (KNDB), John Jolliff (EDA), Lubabalo Kondlo (MSSA), Igor Martynov (IGDD), Frank Moran (IDA), Wynell Neverson (BDA) Colin Price (BCDF), Anatoli Yatsenko (UDF), Graham Young (SDA).

2. Apologies for Absence Amangul Beriyeveva (TDF), Bashim Durdyev (TDF).

3. Opening of Meeting Richard Beckwith opened the meeting at 7.35 PM.

4. Minutes of General Assembly 2014 Were distributed and approved, with the exception that Resolution 1 was deleted since the orld Cup has replaced the European Cup as a WCDF event.

5. Matters Arising None.

6. Secretary's Report John Reade reported as follows.

(i) 3-Move Qualifying Tournament 2014 Was won by Lubabalo Kondlo. The Women's event was won by Nadiya Chyzhevska.

(ii) Men's 3-Move Challenge Match 2015 Between Michele Borghetti and Lubabalo Kondlo was won by Michele Borghetti 6-1-28 so Michele Borghetti retains the title.

(iii) GAYP Qualifying Tournament 2015 Was currently in progress.

(iv) Events 2016 There would be 3 WCDF events in 2016, namely, the Men's GAYP Challenge Match and the World 3-Move Qualifiers. Bids were invited to host these events. The closing date for an expression of interest of making any bids would be 1 December 2015.

7. Treasurer's Report Ian Caws reported as follows.

All present received a copy of the current Balance Sheet which showed that the Bank Interest has remained low in accordance with the current low bank rates. Dividends have have stayed consistent and form the basis of any prize money. Sport Accord provided a generous amount towards the Beijing Tournament which was a flag carrier for our game. We are not in the business of making money but for the first time in years we have a surplus of almost £200.

8. President's Report Richard Beckwith reported as follows.

Checkers participated for the second time in the Sport Accord WMG, held December 13-19 in Beijing China. Michele Borghetti (Italy) won the Gold medal in a playoff over Sergio Scarpetta. The four players competed for a prize fund of \$8500 (via FMJD) and had their travel and accommodation expenses paid. Checkers played alongside 10x10 draughts, bridge, go, chess, and xiangqi.

Checkers began the first World Cup in 2015, and we are presently half way through the stages of events. The season-long race awards points to top finishers of selected international events.

We recently witnessed the 3-move world title match between Michelle Borghetti (Champion, Italy) and Lubabalo Kondlo (Challenger, South Africa). World title match coverage has come a long way in 5 years. I commend the many Sponsors, hotel staff, WCDF Vice President Carlo Bordini, and the many FID organisers who

prepared this match and provided local and internet publicity. The internet Livestream was entertaining to watch alongside live comments from the likes of Sergio Scarpetta, Alex Moiseyev, and many others. I thank Alan Millhone for travelling overseas to referee. I congratulate both players for reaching this stage, and especially the match winner, Michele Borghetti.

I also recognise other WCDF board members, women's world GAYP & 3-move champion Nadiya Chyzhevska, and the many delegates and local promoters, webmasters, checker authors, and bulletin editors who generously gave of their personal time during the past year to ensure that the game of Checkers has been organised, advertised, and promoted to a high level. Their efforts are very much appreciated.

I wish to acknowledge those who made the Welsh Open, World Qualifier, and Women's World Championship possible this week: John Morgan and his family and local sponsors, John Reade, Graham Young, Ian Caws, and the English Draughts Association for help with the venue.

9. Proposals

(i) 20 August 2015 (Proposed Ian Caws, seconded John Reade) That associations paying their affiliation fee to the WCDF a month in advance of the Qualifying Tournament should receive a discount of 10%. Carried.

(ii) 20 August 2015 (Proposed Ian Caws, seconded John Reade) That the Ladies' World Champion should automatically be nominated by the WCDF for the Ladies' World Championship. Withdrawn.

10. Other Business Graham Young proposed that any association affiliated to the WCDF should be allowed to include their national tournament in the World Cup. Carried.

11. Closing of Meeting Richard Beckwith closed the meeting at 9.05 PM.

John Reade, Secretary WCDF. (26 September 2015)