

## **ANNUAL REPORT – FIDE MEDICAL COMMISSION (2019)**

The Medical Commission undertook several activities in line with its key mandate and Key Performance Indicators, as prescribed by FIDE, during the 2019 reporting period. Some of the key highlights include the following:

The Medical Commission held 5 meetings via skype, during 2019. The Medical Commission's proposed annual face-to-face (in-person) meeting could not take place because it was not approved by FIDE. The meeting was postponed to March, 2020.

The FIDE anti-doping guidelines were updated on the FIDE website to bring them in line with the latest requirements of WADA, including updating the Therapeutic Use Exemption (TUE) application process and template.

The latest WADA banned substances list and guidelines were shared with the top 100 rated players via email.

The Medical Commission successfully registered with the ADAMS platform and signed the 2019 ADAMS User Agreement (ADO) on behalf of FIDE.

The Medical Commission successfully placed the top ten highest rated men and top 5 highest rated women on the out-of-competition doping testing list and the affected players were notified via the FIDE office, this is in line with the WADA requirements.

The Medical Commission, in partnership with the relevant National Anti-doping Organisations (NADOs) successfully carried out doping control tests at several major International Chess events around the world, including:

1. World Chess Team Championships: Astana, Kazakhstan
2. The World Cup: Khanty-Mansyisk, Russia
3. The World Rapid and Blitz Championships: Moscow, Russia

The Medical Commission plans to undertake more doping control tests during the year 2020 reporting period.

Some of the challenges encountered during the doping control tests included:

1. Some players were still unfamiliar with the doping control procedures and found them tedious.
2. Some top players found the doping control process disruptive to their routine
3. Some players took long to complete the doping control process mainly due to inadequate urine samples or urine samples that were too dilute.

However, on average the doping control procedure took about 30 minutes per player and most players understood the importance of doping control and all players were fully cooperative with the process. No player failed the doping control tests so far.

In light of some of the challenges identified above, the Medical Commission undertakes to make sure that there is more player education during the year 2020 about the importance of doping control and the process involved thereof.

The Medical Commission attended the WADA Symposium in Laussane, Switzerland from 13th to 14th March, 2019. The symposium focused on the new World Antidoping Code and its associated International Standards Review.

The Medical Commission successfully completed the Short Term and Long Term Education Plan, whose implementation shall commence during the first quarter of 2020. This is also in line with the requirements of the World Anti-Doping Agency and the Medical Commission's plan of action.

In summary, some of the Main Successes and Key Highlights during 2019 included the following:

1. Successfully carrying out doping control tests at major international FIDE events
2. Updating the FIDE Handbook with the latest WADA guidelines and requirements
3. Successfully placing the top players on the out-of-competition testing lists and promptly informing them
4. Completion of Medical Commission's Short Term and Long Term Education Plan
5. Working harmoniously with the FIDE office to carry out the mandate of the Medical Commission.
6. Successfully registering with ADAMS and signing the 2019 ADAMS User Agreement (ADO) on behalf of FIDE
7. Sending the top 100 players the latest WADA banned substances list and the latest WADA guidelines.
8. Successfully holding the required number of meetings (albeit without the face-to-face meeting)
9. Operating within the annually allocated budget.

Some of the main challenges and areas of improvement for the year 2020 include the following:

1. Holding of education sessions on all the 4 continents – targeting mainly chess players, coaches and administrators.
2. Having a dedicated webmaster for the medical commission to keep the FIDE website fully updated on the activities of the medical commission, including pictures and news, as well as any latest developments and updates and news from WADA.
3. Hosting the first face-to-face meeting of the medical commission.
4. Coming up with a player's charter as far as doping control is concerned – which will be a highly informative tool to educate the players on all aspects of doping control.

Signed:

Dr Marape Marape BA MB BCh BAO MPH PhD  
Chairman: FIDE Medical Commission