

Meeting of FIDE Historical Committee, 17 and 22 September 2020

Via Zoom, 11:00-12:00 HRS, Lausanne time

Present:

Chairman Willy Icllicki (BEL), Andrzej Filipowicz (POL), Casto Abundo (PHI), Berik Balgabaev (KAZ)

Minutes

A. Honorary Titles

The committee reviewed the honorary titles awarded by FIDE (records based on Golden Book 1924-2016):

Honorary President (All Presidents until F. Campomanes have this title).

Honorary Member (88 persons were awarded this title from 1928 to 2014)

Life Member (60 persons were awarded this title from 1925 to 1974)

Most Esteemed Friend of FIDE (40 companies were awarded this title from 1986 to 2002)

Medal of Merit Awardees (12 persons were awarded this title from 1972 to 1994)

Grand Commander of the Legion of Grandmasters (3 persons were awarded this title in 1999)

Commander of the Legion of Grandmasters (7 persons were awarded this title in 1992/1999)

Grand Knight of FIDE (14 persons were awarded this title 1992/1999)

Knight of FIDE (10 persons were awarded this title in 1999)

The committee recommended continuing three traditional titles of FIDE: Honorary Member and Life Member for individuals and Most Esteemed Friend of FIDE for organizations.

The committee recommended the following criteria:

1. Honorary President

- a. The Committee recommends to continue tradition of granting the immediate past president the title of Honorary President.

2. Honorary Members

Nominees should have a letter of support from his federation. Up to five nominees per year shall be awarded the Honorary Member title. Criteria are:

- a. Candidates should have been active in FIDE for at least ten years;;
- b. Official of national federation for many years;
- c. Current or former officials of international sports organizations such as International Olympic Committee and/or international sports federations.
- d. Current or former Presidents and Chairmen of National Olympic Committees.

3. Life Member of FIDE

Nominees should have a letter of support from his federation. Up to five nominees per year shall be awarded the title of Life Member of FDIE. Criteria are:

- a. Persons who contributed to chess development.
- b. Organizer of official FIDE events or major traditional events.

4. Most Esteemed Friends of FIDE

Up to five nominees per year shall be awarded the title of Most Esteemed Friend of FDIE. Criterion is:

- a. For organizations such as corporate sponsors of official FIDE events and major traditional chess events

5. Chess Oscar

The committee recommended re-establish the Chess Oscar for players, and to include awards for chess journalists. Mr. Iclicki mentioned that there is a sponsor for this gala in Spain. Committee will invite Mohd. Al Mudahka who was appointed by the Management Board, to collaborate on the criteria and the organization of the annual gala for the Oscar.

The committee recommended that the following officials can submit nominations to the FIDE Historical Committee which will submit its recommendation to the FIDE Council or General Assembly.

1. Members of FIDE Council or Management Board
2. Continental Presidents
3. National Chess Federation Presidents

The Committee shall recommended persons for Honorary titles to the General Assembly in December 2020.

B. Golden Book

The Committee recommended digitizing the Golden Book as well on the web site. Dr. Filipowicz volunteered to add photos from his vast collection.

C. Chess Museum

Mr. Iclicki said the only possibility is a virtual museum because of prohibitive costs. Unless the physical museum is in a major city like Moscow or New York, we cannot find investors. Major museums like the Louvre have virtual museums also and you feel as if you are walking inside the real museum. A virtual museum is accessible to everyone.

Mr. Iclicki said he saw similar technology by Judit Polgar for her festival. It can have many sectors not only for museum but for other activities. Such technology will cost much but there can be revenues from exhibitions for private events such as anniversaries, etc. The advantage of a virtual museum is that we do not have to buy exhibits, physical equipment and furniture but only to scan by 3D camera. He it is more economical than a physical museum and there is

possibility of sponsorship. It may take a year to construct the virtual museum and then there will be maintenance cost. A group will submit a business plan describing the project.

D. Other Projects

The Committee noted pending projects such as the updated FIDE Golden Book, FIDE Documentary, etc. to be in time for the 100th Anniversary celebration.

Mr. Balgabaev informed the committee that the FIDE President advised that we should now interview personalities such as Yuri Averbach, Boris Spassky, etc. considering their health and advancing age.

Mr. Iclicki invited Mohd. Al Mudhaka for a brief meeting and will inform the other committee members.

Attested by:

Willy Iclicki
Chairman