



**International Braille Chess Association
Executive Board meeting - Minutes
Saturday, July 11, 2026 at 14:00 UTC
Zoom**

Present:

Piotr Dukaczewski, 1st vice-president
Nikos Kalesis, 2nd vice-president
Olivier Deville, secretary
Thorsten Mueller, treasurer
Johannes Grib, continental representative of Africa
Kishan Gangolli, board member
Marilyn Bland, board member
Harrison Nyaga, board member
José Maria Saponara, secretary IBCA America, without voting rights

Absent:

Fernando Daza, continental representative of America
James Infiesto, continental representative of Asia
Mahendra Galani, continental representative of Europe

Proposed agenda:

- §1 Opening of meeting
- §2 List of participants and establishment of quorum
- §3 Establishment of agenda
- §4 Preparations for Congress
- §5 Upcoming tournaments
- §6 Reports
- §7 Membership application of Greenland
- §8 Eventual other questions
- §9 Closing of the meeting

§1 Opening of meeting

Piotr Dukaczewski, 1st vice-president, opens the meeting and welcomes the participants.

§2 List of participants and establishment of quorum

8 members out of 11 are present. The quorum is established.

§3 Establishment of agenda

The proposed agenda is approved by the board.

§4 Preparations for Congress

Following the death of Jörgen Magnusson, IBCA must choose a new president. Elections will take place during the congress to be held on October 15, at the European Championship in Greece. In accordance with the statutes, the deadline for submitting candidacies is set at 60 days before the Congress—that is, August 15.

The Executive board decides to support the candidacy of Marilyn Bland.

Bersan Vrioni (Italy), contacted by Piotr, has agreed to join the Executive board, if approved by the Congress. He will also chair the technical commission.

§5 Upcoming tournaments

Women's and junior world championship, European individual championship in October in Greece: everything is going smoothly so far, and some players have already registered.

Asian Championship: IBCA had decided to cancel this event due to the uncertain situation regarding the Pakistan Blind Sports Federation. Now that the conflict between the two factions has been resolved, Pakistan is authorized to host the championship in late October or November.

Panamerican Championship: the event will take place at the Paralympic Village in São Paulo, Brazil, from October 18 to 23. A high-quality event is expected.

European Team Championship in Benidorm, Spain: the event is scheduled to take place in April 2027. The exact dates will be announced as soon as possible.

Individual world championship 2027: no official bid has been received to date.

§6 Reports

Kenya: Harrison reports that, hopefully, all administrative issues with the registrar will be resolved soon. Chess training for blind kids is continuing in schools.

Team World Championship in Montenegro: Piotr reports the participation of 22 countries from four continents. The organization was excellent, with a great excursion and a high-quality hotel and playing hall. For the first time, we were able to welcome the team of Kenya.

Noctie: The company has confirmed that JJörgen paid the full cost of this application (approximately 90,000 euros). The company is currently working on the application and needs more time to test it

Jörgen was in close contact with DGT to improve the functionality of DGT Echo clocks. Jose Maria would like to know if these clocks will be upgraded soon, particularly to allow the use of languages ??other than English. Piotr will try to obtain information on this matter from DGT.

FIDE Chess Olympiad for People with Disabilities: Pulvett will not play due to a passport issue.

The team will therefore consist of Nikac, Dukaczewski, Dacian Pribeanu, Veronika Racis, and Michal Racis. Sorin Lapadatu will serve as captain and head of delegation.

§7 Membership application of Greenland

Greenland has submitted a membership application to the IBCA secretariat. As Denmark has raised no objections and all documents appear to be in order, the Executive board agrees to grant Greenland the status of provisional member.

§8 Eventual other questions

No questions.

§9 Closing of the meeting

No one asking to speak, the 1st vice-president closes the meeting.

Olivier Deville
Secretary IBCA