



**International Braille Chess Association  
Executive Board meeting - Minutes  
Saturday, March 8, 2025 at 14:00 UTC  
Zoom**

**Present:**

Jörgen Magnusson, president  
Piotr Dukaczewski, 1st vice-president  
Nikos Kalesis, 2nd vice-president  
Olivier Deville, secretary  
Thorsten Mueller, treasurer  
Johannes Grib, continental representative of Africa  
Marilyn Bland, board member  
Harrison Nyaga, board member  
Jose Maria Saponara, representing Fernando Daza, without voting rights

**Absent:**

Fernando Daza, continental representative of America, represented by Jose Maria Saponara  
James Infiesto, continental representative of Asia, internet was down at James' place  
Vladyslav Kolpakov, continental representative of Europe  
Nomin Erdenebat, board member

**Proposed agenda:**

§1 Opening of meeting  
§2 List of participants and establishment of quorum  
§3 Establishment of agenda  
§4 Upcoming tournaments:  
We discuss upcoming tournaments in 2025 and 2026.  
Olympiad,  
World Championship  
Junior's and women's Worldchampionships 2026  
Team world Championship, Pakistan wants to organize it.  
Eventual other events  
§5 Reports:

We share information since last board meeting.

§6 IBCA member of Canada.

The presidential board recommends to provisionally exclude Braille Chess Canada and to accept the proposal from AQJEHV to become new member of IBCA, see attached files.

§7 Revision of the statute in order to make it possible to accept more than one organization per country as member of IBCA.

§8 Eventual other questions

§9 Closing of the meeting

§1 Opening of meeting

Jörgen Magnusson, president, opens the meeting and welcomes the participants.

§2 List of participants and establishment of quorum

8 members out of 12 are present. The quorum is reached.

§3 Establishment of agenda

Paragraph 8 becomes: Membership application of Barbados

§4 Upcoming tournaments:

Olympiads in Serbia: 30 players will be tested by an ophthalmologist before rounds 2, 3 and 4.

Classical and Rapid World championships in Poland: The preparation of the event is in progress.

Panamerican: The event will be held in Colombia during the last week of October.

Juniors and Women's World championship 2026: No bid has been received so far.

World Team championship 2026: A bid has been received from Pakistan. The Executive board highly appreciates Pakistan's eagerness to organize events, but believes that it is too early to give the organization of such a big event to a very new IBCA member. Having a chance to meet Pakistani officials during the upcoming events (Olympiads and World Championship) would be a first step.

§5 Reports:

Jörgen and Johannes are working on having 100 chessboards sent from India to South Africa.

Jörgen is working on tutorials for ChessCli, and another software that can read diagrams from pdf files.

Thorsten mentions the existence of a website called ChessVision IA : <https://chessvision.ai/>

Thorsten reports that we have around 34 K Euro on our bank account.

Johannes reports that the African network is growing: he has contacts with Uganda, Ghana and Nigeria.

Marilyn is having connections with Barbados, and will visit this country on March 15. Barbados has 5 visually impaired players and a sighted chess coach. Some other Caribbean countries are also showing interest in developing chess for the blind.

§6 IBCA member of Canada.

Braille Chess Canada, the association that represents Canada to IBCA, has no activity, and the players are not getting any information about upcoming IBCA events from this association.

Therefore, the Presidential board proposes to temporarily exclude Braille Chess Canada. This proposal is approved by the Executive board by unanimous vote. This decision will have to be approved or disapproved by the next Congress.

IBCA received a membership application from AQJEHV, a well established Canadian organization run by blind chessplayers, with more than 30 active members. The Presidential board proposes to accept AQJEHV as a provisional member. This proposal is approved by the Executive board by unanimous vote. This decision will have to be approved or disapproved by the next Congress.

§7 Revision of the statute in order to make it possible to accept more than one organization per country

At the moment, according to the Statutes, there can only be one organization per country. Allowing more than one organization per country might be useful as an exception, like in Poland or Mexico. The vote at the Congress would then be divided by the number of organizations, e.g. half a vote if there are two organizations in the same country. Jose Maria Saponara thinks that this change of statutes would help solving conflicts in several Latin American countries. The Executive board unanimously appoints Jörgen and Piotr to work on a draft of new Statutes, that will be submitted to the next Executive board, for revision and improvements.

§8 Membership application of Barbados

IBCA received a membership application from Barbados. The Executive board unanimously approves to grant Barbados the status of provisional IBCA member till the next Congress.

§9 Eventual other questions

Piotr reports that Julia Salamon from Poland, who won the Juniors World championship in Bangalore, did not receive her FIDE Master title yet. Nikos will help solving this issue.

§10 Closing of the meeting

No one asking to speak, the president closes the meeting.

Olivier Deville  
Secretary IBCA