



**International Braille Chess Association
Presidential Board meeting - Minutes
Saturday, November 8, 2025 at 10:00 UTC
Zoom**

Present:

Jörgen Magnusson, president
Piotr Dukaczewski, 1st vice-president
Nikos Kalesis, 2nd vice-president
Olivier Deville, secretary
Thorsten Mueller, treasurer

Proposed agenda:

- §1 Opening of meeting
- §2 List of participants and establishment of quorum
- §3 Establishment of agenda
- §4 Reports.
- §5 Pan Americans 2025.
- §6 Upcoming tournaments.
- §7 IBCA coaches and arbiters.
- §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

5 members out of 5 are present. The quorum is established.

§3 Establishment of agenda

Paragraph 8 becomes Magnetic chess sets.

§4 Reports.

Report from Piotr about the Olympiads for Disabled in Astana, Kazhakstan: These Olympiads were announced quite late, and the time for composing teams and registration was rather short. Online registration of the delegation was complicated. The IBCA delegation was composed of four players: Predrag Nikac (Montenegro), Mihail Dacian Pribeanu (Romania), Piotr Dukaczewski (Poland), Julia Salamon (Poland), and one guide and captain, Sorin Lapadatu (Romania). IBCA asked for one more guide, but this was not accepted by FIDE. The hotel was rather far away from the playing hall, but generally the organization of the Olympiads was rather good. The IBCA team got fourth place, which is a good result. FIDE 1, who was actually Russia, won the Olympiads, Poland was second, and Israel third. Every second year, during the main FIDE Olympiads will be organized the Olympiads for people with disabilities. IBCA could think of a qualification system for the next Olympiads, which will be held in Uzbekistan.

Piotr represented IBCA during a meeting with Arkady Dvorkovitch, FIDE President. In Piotr's opinion, it was a very fruitful meeting. Piotr submitted the idea of teaching chess in blind schools in Africa and Asia. FIDE President said that it was a very good idea, and suggested to extend the project to Latin America. FIDE could offer 10 000 euro per year for each continent. Piotr then proposed to send an email to FIDE President with some of our proposals after the topic being discussed by our board. Arkady Dvorkovitch will appoint a person to be in contact with IBCA. He said that it would be very good to tighten cooperation between FIDE and IBCA. Piotr invited Mr. Dvorkovitch to visit our World Team championship in April in Montenegro. Mr. Dvorkovitch replied that he could probably come for one or two days. An official invitation should be sent. Piotr also mentioned the issue of titles for disabled chessplayers. Mr. Dvorkovitch replied that this issue would be discussed again by the titles commission. The meeting lasted about half an hour.

The topic of accessible chess databases could not be discussed with FIDE President, but Jörgen will start discussing it with Bersan Vrioni, who is a skilled C++ programmer.

Jörgen is in touch with Kenya, Zimbabwe, South Africa, Nigeria and Ghana about establishing chess coaching in blind schools, and is planning to travel to Kenya in early 2026.

Nikos comments that this meeting with FIDE President is very positive. Now IBCA has to appoint a team that will cooperate with the person appointed by FIDE President to supervise the project, and finalize a specific proposal. Jörgen, Nikos and Piotr are appointed. A first email will be sent to Arkady Dvorkovitch.

Thorsten reports that our Wise account is active again. We have nearly 38K Euro on our Euro account. and around 1K USD on our USD account. Around 20 countries still haven't paid the annual fee, most of them being inactive members. The board decides to appoint Nikos as vice-treasurer. He will be given full access to our Wise account.

§5 Pan Americans 2025.

Olivier reports that only one player participated under the IBCA flag, a female player from Panama. Players from El Salvador and Dominican Republic were allowed to play under their national flag, even though these countries are not in good standing with IBCA. The board believes that the organizers did the right thing by letting them play. There were 43 players in the blind section, and 12 in the low vision section. The next Panamerican should be held in Brazil in 2026.

The board would like to have more information about how the IBCA America organization works. Contacts will be made with IBCA America officials and member organizations.

§6 Upcoming tournaments.

Asian Individual championship 2026: Pakistan submitted an invitation. The dates would be October 20 to 30. The document is under examination by the IBCA tournaments director.

Individual European championship 2026 (classical and rapid) and Juniors and Women world

championship 2026 in Rhodos, Greece: Invitations will be published soon. The dates are November; 12 to 24 for the Classical championship, November 22 to 25 for the rapid championship, and November 25 to December 5 for the Juniors and Women championship. Individual World championship 2027 and European Team championship 2027: The bidding procedure may be open soon. IBCA president and tournament director are in charge of opening the procedure when they find it appropriate.

§7 IBCA coaches and arbiters.

This point is postponed to a next meeting.

§8 Magnetic chess sets

FIDE supplement about handicapped players does not recognize the use of magnetic braille chess sets. Olivier will draft a proposal to update the FIDE supplement.

§9 Eventual other questions.

Thorsten points out that we should have general tournament regulations on our website, in order to help member organizations when they want to make a bid. The board agrees that it is a good idea. Thorsten is in charge of drafting such regulations, in coordination with the IBCA tournament director.

§10 Closing of the meeting.

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

Olivier Deville
Secretary IBCA