

2017 World Youth Chess Championships

Report of the Chief Arbiter:

Overview:

The World Youth Championships were held from September 16-26 in Montevideo, Uruguay. A total of 385 players from 53 countries competed for the title of World Champion in the categories of U14, U16 and U18 for both Open and Girls divisions.

The venue was the Sheraton Hotel and most of the games were played in the first floor ballroom. The first 6 boards for each division were played on the 25th floor using DGT boards. The playing areas were slightly smaller than ideal but no problems arose.

Arbiters:

The Chief Arbiter was IA Hal Bond of Canada. The Deputy Chief Arbiters were IA Pablyto Ribeiro of Brazil and IA Jose Martinez of Mexico. Another 13 Arbiters and three assistants were deployed throughout the tournament. They were a cohesive professional team - performing their duties with dispatch and great care. The Arbiter listing is included in the attached files.

Technical Meeting:

During the Technical meeting prior to the first round it was noted that the Appeals Committee members were all from FIDE America. The Chief Arbiter undertook to recruit additional members from Europe and Africa and they were welcomed to the Appeals Committee. There were no appeals from the tournament.

The question of a broadcast delay was raised. In light of the 30 minute forfeit rule for the event, it was determined that broadcast would not start before all players were present.

Also during the Technical meeting the Chief Arbiter requested that players refrain from eating at the board, in light of food allergies for some of the players. Compliance was good but not excellent. No serious problems arose from this issue.

Anti Cheating Hi-lights:

Broadcast of the games was randomly interrupted throughout the tournament. PGNs were created daily and all games were screened by Kenneth Regan. He was in touch with the Chief Arbiter regularly during the event. Some anomalies were noted but no serious problems were revealed during the screening.

Each playing hall was provided with metal detection wands and random checks were conducted from the 5th round onward. Nothing inappropriate was discovered.

Prior to the 4th round on September 19, 2017 an In-tournament complaint was received concerning the possible use of a communication device by one of the players. The case remained open for the balance of the tournament. Despite extra vigilance by the Arbiters, no evidence was found.

During the 5th round on September 20 one of the Arbiters observed a player leaving the playing hall with his satchel, and referring to an item in it when he reached the washroom. The satchel was subsequently removed from the player's possession. The player's Delegate was contacted in order to search the contents of the satchel in his presence. The Delegate was aware of this situation and advised that the player was diabetic and the device was a blood sugar monitor. This was confirmed during the inspection. The situation was described to the opponent and play resumed with minimal disruption.

Results:

The complete results are detailed in the Excel files which form part of this report. The event was rated for the October FRL. The Champions are as follows, along with applicable Titles and Norms that were earned:

U14 Open 1st 10.0, FM Batsuren, Dambasuren, MGL : IM Norm
 2nd 9.0, FM Erigaisi, Arjun, IND
 3rd 8.5, CM Teclaf, Pawel, POL

U14 Girls 1st 9.0, WFM Jishitha, D, IND : WIM Norm
 2nd 8.5, WFM Assubayeva, Bibisara, RUS
 3rd 8.0, WIM Solozhenkina, Elizaveta, RUS

U16 Open 1st 8.5, FM Esipenko, Andrey: IM Title
 2nd 8.5, FM Zhu, Yi : IM Norm
 3rd 8.5, Gumularz Szymon: FM Title + IM Norm

U16 Girls 1st 10.5, WIM Wang Annie, USA
 2nd 8.0, WIM Shuvalova Polina, RUS
 3rd 7.5, Maltsevskaia Aleksandra, RUS: WFM Title

U18 Open 1st 8.5, FM Martinez Alcantara Jose Eduard, PER: GM Norm + IM Title
 2nd 8.5, IM Triapishko Alexandre, RUS
 3rd 8.0, Noboa Kevin, ECU: FM Title + IM Norm

U18 Girls 1st 9.5, WIM Unuk Laura, SLO: WGM Norm
 2nd 8.0, WIM Chitlange Sakshi, IND
 3rd 7.5, WIM Vazquez, Maccarini Danitza, PUR

In closing, I wish to acknowledge the excellent work of IA Sabrina de San Vicente. In addition to her extensive work organizing the tournament, her service as Pairing Officer and DGT Sector Arbiter was exemplary. Deputy Chief Arbiters IA Pablyto Ribeiro and IA Jose Martinez also distinguished themselves at this WYCC.

Respectfully Submitted

Hal Bond

Chief Arbiter

2017-10-02