

WORLD CHAMPIONSHIP FOR SOLVING FAIRY CHESS PROBLEMS (WCSF)

Rules (project)

1. The WCSF is a competition for national teams and individual solvers.
2. It consists of 2 rounds over 1 or 2 day(s). Each round lasts for 2 hours.
3. 8 problems are per round. For each round (for each mentioned stipulation ending in mate, the corresponding stipulations ending in stalemate is also acceptable):
 - #n (with: fairy piece(s) and/or fairy condition(s));
 - h#n (with: fairy piece(s) and/or fairy condition(s));
 - hs#n (with or without: fairy piece(s) and/or fairy condition(s));
 - s#n (with: fairy piece(s) and/or fairy condition(s));
 - ser. {any}#n (with or without: fairy piece(s) and/or fairy condition(s));
 - retro or proof game (with or without: fairy piece(s) and/or fairy condition(s)); and
 - 2 fairy problems with other stipulations (can be from the mentioned above).
4. There is no requirement on the legality of the problems' positions (unless it is said). And problems to be solved should fulfill these requirements:
 - should be presented on printed diagrams;
 - should be on rectangular chess board with side lengths no larger than 8 squares; vertical/horizontal cylinder chess boards and grid chess boards are allowed; and
 - should be originals or, alternatively, little known problems; problems that are not originals should have been published more than 5 calendar years before the competition.
5. Additional recommendations for the problems to be solved:
 - the problems should show a clear theme and a good level of quality and difficulty;
 - in each round, the problems should represent different styles;
 - problems that have been reprinted in FIDE albums should be avoided;
 - not more than one fairy condition per problem and not more than one family of fairy pieces per problem; and
 - the problems should be computer tested as far as possible.
6. The WCSF is organised by a country which is a member of the FIDE and has been appointed by the WFCC (typically during WFCC Congress on Sunday (first round) and on Sunday or Monday (second round)).
7. WCSF is open to all members of the FIDE.
8. WCSF is an official team World championship if teams of at least 7 countries participate. It is an official individual World championship if at least 30 solvers from at least 10 countries participate.
9. The organising country nominates the Director of the WCSF, if possible, before the announcement of the competition. It is recommended that the Director should have a title FIDE Solving Judge or should have experience as a director / judge of at least three solving tournaments.
10. The Director is responsible for:
 - selection of problems to be solved;
 - diagram copies for the competition;
 - keeping the set of selected problems confidential;
 - publication of all fairy pieces and fairy conditions, which can be used during the competition, with examples, at least 6 month before the competition on WFCC website;
 - take care, that these rules should be followed, and
 - if something is not written in these rules the Director should use common sense.

11. Each team consists of 2 or 3 solvers. Each team member simultaneously competes in the individual championship.
12. All countries are entitled to enter one team, the organising country 2 teams. All countries may send one further solver for the individual championship as well. A country may nominate one more solver from extra categories (juniors, women, seniors) out of this quota..
13. A country and individuals mentioned above must notify the organiser of their intention to participate not later than 3 months before the competition; unless in the organiser's announcement a later date is given.
14. The rules for the eligibility of participating solvers (whether team members or individual nominees) shall be the same as for FIDE over-the-board events.
15. Each country must notify the names of all solvers participating on its behalf in writing to the Director or the person nominated for this purpose by the Director or WFCC not less than 12 hours before the competition starts. If required, the notification must include all documents according to the FIDE rules for establishing the eligibility of the participants. The WFCC or the person so nominated is responsible for determining the eligibility of participants. Teams and/or solvers may be admitted at a later time at the discretion of the Director.
16. A solver may use the chess board(s) by the organiser, or his/her own. The use of all electronic or technological aids which can help in solving is forbidden as well as any other kind of unfair behaviour. The Director's rights and duties are to prevent any irregularities and to penalize them if necessary.
17. A solver must write the solutions only on the sheet provided by the Director. Solvers are allowed to write their solutions on the backside of the solving sheets as well.
18. The solutions are to be written in algebraic notation in the following way:
 - in direct mate problems: all moves in all variations of full length which defend against the threat, including the threat if it is of full length, except the last move of black and the mating move (if there is no threat at all or an existing threat of full length is not written, all variations of full length are to be given);
 - in selfmate and helpselfmate problems: all moves except the mating move in all variations of full length which defend against the threat, including the threat if it is of full length (if there is no threat at all or an existing threat of full length is not written, all variations of full length are to be given);
 - in helpmate and other type of problems: all moves; and
 - in all fairy chess problems, including retro problems, it is enough for the solver to write the moves without any explanations.
19. In problem(s) for which more than one single solution is indicated the solver has to give all requested single solutions for a complete solution.
20. If a problem turns out to have 1 or more unintended solution(s), these are equally valid as the intended solutions.. The correct and complete solution or cook of a problem scores 5 points.
21. An incomplete solution scores fewer points. Incorrect or incomplete variations or single solutions score 0 points. If more than the required number of solutions for a particular problem is written, it is enough that one of the solutions is incorrect for the solver to score 0 points for this problem. If more than one continuation following a defence (or more than one threat) is written, it is enough that one of them is incorrect for the solver to score 0 points for this variation (threat).
22. The Director must determine the distribution of points for a solution (i.e. for different variations, moves or single solutions) before the competition starts. For a problem(s) with more than one solution the distribution of points should be indicated on the solving sheet.
23. If a problem has no solution, 0 points are awarded for this problem and all solvers get the full time score in this round.

24. If a move is written incorrectly or ambiguously, no points are given for the respective variation or solution. If, however, the Director is sure that the correct move was intended, the same number of points are given for variation or solution as if the move had been written correctly.
25. During the solving a solver may leave the solving room only with the permission of the Director and accompanied by the Director's assistant.
26. When a solver hands over the solving sheet, the Director's assistant immediately writes the elapsed time on the solver's solving sheet. The solving time is rounded up to the next minute (i.e. when the last minute starts solvers get full time). After handing in the solving sheet, the solver has no right to make any change to the solutions. The solver should leave the room and may not return until the round is ended.
27. The Director announces "half time", "10 minutes left", "last minute" and "full time - stop writing" in each round. After the announcement of the last minute, all remaining solvers remain seated until their solving sheet has been picked up by a Director's assistant. After full time has been announced, no changes to the solving sheets are allowed.
28. For the team result in each round, the scores of the 2 best solvers of a team for this round are taken in consideration. The points of all rounds will be totalled, as well as the respective solving time (in minutes).
29. For the individual score, the points a solver achieves in the different rounds will be totalled, as well as the solving time. A solver with 0 points in a round scores the full time for this round.
30. The number of points determines the ranking. In the event of a tie on points, the solver or team with the shorter total solving time will be ranked higher.
31. Participants must be informed of the official solutions with a distribution of points of a round immediately after the end of that round. The results of the rounds must be announced in written form as soon as possible.
32. If a problem has proved to be incorrect (cooks, duals, no solution) this must be announced as soon as possible including the respective distribution of points.
33. The Director has to publish preliminary results as soon as possible. Any protests must reach the Director in written form not later than 12 hours after preliminary results are published. The Director is allowed to accept protests out of time. If the Director cannot be found, a protest should be handed to any of the Director's assistants or a protest remark is to be made on the announcement board (or by given email address). Protests have to be given by the individual solver.
34. The Director's task is to deal with any protests and to settle disputes. The Director decision, along with argument, is to be given in written form.
35. Objections to any decision by the Director must be made in writing and must reach the Director within one hour of the announcement of the decision. Such objections shall be dealt with by a jury consisting of three neutral persons nominated by the WFCC. The majority decision of the jury (in written form with the argument) is final.
36. These rules are published on the WFCC website. All the other information related to the competition should be published on the official organiser's website at least 24 hours before the start of the first round (registration, start of the rounds, preliminary results, timetable for protests, final results, prize giving, etc.).