

e7 10. Qg3 Nc6 11. Nxc6 Qxc6
-0 15 axb5 axb5 16. Bh6 Ne8
f4 Nf6 20. Bh6 Ne8 21. Bf4 b4
g4 Qb5 25. f3 Bf6 26. Rb1 Bd4-
g3 d5 30. Bxb4 dxe4 31. c4 Qf
+ 35 Kc1 Rd4+ 36. Qf2 Nf4 0-1



/ Association of Chess Professionals





Dear chess professionals and aficionados of the game of chess!



Chess is a beautiful and fascinating game that brings pleasure to millions of enthusiasts throughout the world. However, for a number of people chess is not just a favourite hobby, but also a job, a bread-winning profession. The Association of Chess Professionals is an international organization that unites these persons regardless of their nationality, age, sex, social status and other factors.

The newly elected ACP Board started its work on 1 January 2012 and the organization received a powerful urge to progress. A development strategy for the ACP for the next four years was devised and I am sure that the ACP has a great future. We plan, among other things, to strengthen the position of chess professionals, to improve the cooperation of the ACP with corporate sponsors, and to intensify the dialogue between leading players and FIDE. Among the members of the new ACP Board there are not only professional chess players, but also successful managers and marketing professionals, who have wide experience of heading different projects. We have no doubt that the ACP has the skills required to reach a new level of interaction with both sponsors and organizers of tournaments, as well as with members of the ACP.

We love chess and are open to new ideas. The aim of this brochure is to provide information about the activities of the Association of Chess Professionals, to give an insight into the scope and possibilities of the organization and to outline achievements of ACP members.

Let me invite you to take part in the development of chess worldwide along with the Association of Chess Professionals!

Yours Truly,

ACP President

A handwritten signature in blue ink, which appears to read 'E. Sutovsky'. The signature is fluid and stylized, with a long horizontal stroke at the end.

Emil Sutovsky

The ACP in Brief

The Association of Chess Professionals (ACP) is a not-for-profit organisation, whose main purpose is the protection of chess professionals' rights and the practice and promotion of chess worldwide, in particular through the organisation of chess tournaments and other chess events.

The ACP encourages the civil engagement of chess professionals, interacts with national federations, international corporations, government agencies as well as other not-for-profit organizations. Since registration, the ACP has organized 8 tournaments with total prize fund of more than **EUR 500 000**.

The Association of Chess Professionals was founded in **2003**. The ACP headquarters are located in Paris, France.

The annual **General Assembly** is the main governing body of the Association of Chess Professionals. The ACP Board coordinates ACP activities between General Assemblies.

On **1 January 2012**, the newly elected ACP Board began to work under the leadership of the ACP President GM Emil Sutovsky (Israel).



ACP Members

ACP members are experts in all aspects of chess related activities. The world's top players and renowned journalists, tournament organizers and the most respected arbiters and trainers have joined the ACP in order to make the professional chess world a better place.

At the beginning of 2012 the ACP united over **750 chess professionals** from **73 countries** worldwide and this number is constantly increasing. Russia, Ukraine, Germany, France, Italy, Israel and the United States lead the rankings in terms of number of members. The membership

female rate amounts to 20%.

Chess players with the title of International Master (IM, WIM) or International Grandmaster (GM, WGM) have the right to join the ACP. Chess players who do not have an international title and other chess activists (trainers, arbiters, organizers, teachers, chess journalists, chess clubs presidents), but can prove that chess is an important part of their professional activities are eligible to apply for ACP membership, but their application is subject to Board approval.

Top chess players are members of the ACP



World Champion
GM Viswanathan Anand
(India)



GM Levon Aronian
(Armenia)



GM Boris Gelfand
(Israel)



GM Vasyl Ivanchuk
(Ukraine)



GM Vladimir Kramnik
(Russia)



GM Hikaru Nakamura
(USA)



GM Judith Polgar
(Hungary)



GM Teimour Radjabov
(Azerbaijan)

The ACP Board

The main governing body of the Association of Chess Professionals is the annual General Assembly, who elects the ACP Board. The ACP Board coordinates the ACP activities between the meetings of the General Assembly.

All active members of the ACP have the right to be elected and to vote for the candidates to the **ACP Board**. Members of the Board are in constant contact with each other using all possible means of communications and discuss most matters in writing. However, a live Board Meeting is also convened whenever required (generally on a monthly basis).

All important decisions are subject to a voting procedure. In most cases decisions are taken with a simple majority of votes; however, some crucial decisions require a majority of 2/3 of votes.

The main activities of the ACP Board include the following:

- Creation of innovative projects for the development of professional chess;
- Management of the ACP tournaments and their media coverage;
- Fundraising for the ACP projects;
- Development and implementation of new projects for the popularization of chess;

- Negotiations with FIDE, ECU, other continental chess unions, national federations;

- Informational support and review of requests from the ACP members;

- Monitoring of the information field and development of recommendations for the regulatory practice improvement within the chess community;

- Regular updates of the ACP Tour ratings;

- Design and implementation of opinion polls and studies for developing recommendations for organizers of tournaments,

- Organisation of the General Assembly meetings etc.

The ACP Board is an **international team** that consists not only of chess professionals but also successful managers with experience of heading projects both in business and civil activities. The ACP Board members are united by the primary goals of the organization: to protect the rights of members of the chess community, and to develop and popularize the game of chess all over the world.

Starting from 1 January 2012, the newly elected ACP Board began to work under the leadership of the ACP President GM Emil Sutovsky (Israel).

The ACP Board



ACP President

Emil Sutovsky —
International Grandmaster

Born 1977, based in Holon, Israel. Sutovsky is an active top-chess player for many years. In January 2012 he reached the highest ranking of his career of 2708. His highest position in the rankings was 17th in the world. Emil Sutovsky is the 2001 European Champion as well as a winner and a prizewinner of more than 100 international tournaments. Among his most significant titles there can be listed: World Champion Under-20 (1996), the best overall result at the European Team Championship (2003), winner of the strongest open tournament in the history (Aeroflot 2005, inscribed in the Guinness

Book of Records) and the best overall result at the 2010 Olympics. Participant in three knock-out World Championships (1997, 2000, 2001) and four FIDE World Cups (2005, 2007, 2009, 2011).

Emil Sutovsky played for the Israeli team in seven World Chess Olympiads from 1996 to 2010. In the 2010 he won the Olympic gold medal, achieving the best result in the history of Chess Olympiads (TPR - 2895). Sutovsky is considered one of the most creative players of our time because of his vibrant uncompromising play style.

After winning the European Championship in 2001 Sutovsky temporarily withdrew from the academic study of economics and management, focusing on his chess career. In 2007 Emil became the manager of the World Cup winner Gata Kamsky and got deeply involved in chess management. Since 2009, Emil is a member of the FIDE World Championships and Olympiads Commission.

Emil has an extensive experience in participating at television and radio programs, is the author of over a hundred publications on the topic of chess in the specialized and mainstream media. He speaks five languages. Besides chess, Sutovsky is serious about trivia games (participated in many trivia tournaments and TV programs) and classical singing (bass baritone). Emil Sutovsky is a member of the ACP Board since 2008. As of 1 January 2012 he is the ACP President.

The ACP Board



ACP Board Director

Yuri Garrett —

International Organizer

Born 1969, based in Rome. FIDE International Organizer and award-winner chess author, publisher and manager, Yuri Garrett holds a degree in Italian language

and culture and worked for many years as professional translator, also at EU level. He acted for almost a decade as Head of International Affairs of one of the two official Italian accountancy bodies, holding seats at both IFAC and FEE committees, and currently

cooperates with a major Italian law firm specializing in international company law.

As of 2002 he is CEO at Caissa Italia, the leading Italian chess publishing company, and has organized or directed over 30 international tournaments among which the world renowned Reggio Emilia round robin, the Rocca di Papa rapid chess tournament and the Porto Mannu Open. He is a regular contributor to chess magazines such as Torre & Cavallo and Europe Echecs. Yuri has acted, among other things, as manager for GMs Fabiano Caruana and Daniele Vocaturo and speaks four languages. Among his other interests there are music, movies, sports and, as you would expect from an Italian, wine and food!

ACP General Secretary

Bartłomiej Macieja —

International Grandmaster

Born 1977, based in Warsaw. Grandmaster since 1999. National champion of Poland in 2004 and 2009, many times National Champion of Poland as a member of a team. European Champion 2002, 5-times European Team Vice-Champion. Participant of World Championships (1999, 2000, 2001, 2004). Participant of World Cups (2002, 2005, 2007). Highest rating: 2653, Highest World Position: 40 (1 January 2004). Macieja studied Physics at Warsaw University.

He was one of the ACP Founders, ACP Secretary General (2004-2007). President of



Polish Players' Council since 2003, Member of FIDE World Chess Championship Committee (2005 – 2009), and a member of FIDE Rules and Tournament Regulations Committee (2005 – 2007, since 2009). Macieja was named one of "Persons of a year" (2000) by the largest Polish newspaper "Gazeta Wyborcza" as well as one of Top 10 sportsmen of Warsaw (2000, 2002). Hobbies: sports, brain games, physics, computers.

The ACP Board



ACP Treasurer

Pavel Tregubov —

International
Grandmaster

Born 1971, based in Paris. Grandmaster since 1994. European Champion 2000, Russian Team Championship Winner 1999, three times French Team Championship

winner, winner of the “Pivdenny Cup 2008”. Pavel is a high-level manager in charge

of international relations for the French Chess Federation as of 2011.

One of the original founders of the ACP in 2003 and creator of the ACP Tour, Pavel has been in the ACP Board ever since. He was also ACP President and Board Director at different times. His activities also included the organization of the four ACP World Rapid Cups in Odessa (Ukraine) and the ACP World Women Rapid Cup in Konya (Turkey) in 2008. Pavel speaks three languages and plays actively tennis and football. His main hobbies are literature and movies.

ACP Board Members



Olena Boytsun —

Women International Master,
International Organizer

Born 1983, based in Kyiv. International Economist by education (Dnipropetrovsk National University 2004, Oxford University

2007), Olena works currently as the Marketing Director of the Ukrainian Chess Federation. She also heads the International Cooperation Commission of the UCF.

Olena has more than 8 years of marketing experience that she gained working as Marketing and Development Director of a large Ukrainian agro-industrial holding. She was the ACP General Secretary (2008-2010) and has more than 70 publications in chess and mainstream media. Since 2008 she is a member of the FIDE Events Commission and develops personal blog MarketingChess.com. Olena is also a novelist and is heavily involved in international publishing processes. She speaks five languages. Olena is the **Development Director** of the Association of Chess Professionals.

ACP Board



Sergey Movsesian —
International Grandmaster

Born in 1978, based in Prague. Sergey was a member of the gold-medal winning Armenian team at the World Team Chess Championship in Ningbo 2011. European Blitz Chess Champion 2002, Sergey is also the

winner of many international tournaments. In 1999, Movsesian reached quarterfinals of

the FIDE World Chess Championship in Las Vegas. After being born in Tbilisi in Georgia, Sergey moved to his family's fatherland, Armenia, then lived in the Czech Republic and played for Slovakia, and since 2010 he is a member of the Armenian national team. Sergey speaks eight languages. Participant of four Chess Olympiads (2 times for Czech Republic, 3 times for Slovakia). His highest rating is 2751 (January 2009). In 2011, he was awarded the Khorenatsi medal for the significant contribution of chess development in Armenia. Sergey is a Member of the ACP Board since 2008.



Evgeniy Najer —
International Grandmaster

Born in 1977, based in Moscow. International grandmaster since 1999. In 2000 Evgeniy graduated from the Russian State

Academy of Physical Culture in Moscow (speciality: game of chess). Evgeniy is a certified chess trainer. The winner of large open tournaments (Czech-Open-1996, Capella-la-Grande-2004, MoscowOpen-2007,

World Open 2008, 2009). Participant of the ACP Cup finals in 2008 and 2009. In the last years Evgeniy combined his professional playing career with training activities. In 2009, he was a second of Gata Kamsky in the Candidate Match against Topalov. Since 2012, Evgeniy works as a trainer of the Women's national team of Russia. In 2011 Evgeniy was a member of the grandmaster's team who won the match against the team of experts in the trivia game "What? Where? When?". Hobbies: active sports (football and tennis).



Evgeniy Romanov —
International Grandmaster

Born 1988, based in Kaliningrad. Youth champion of Russia, Europe and the world in different age categories.

International Grandmaster since 2007. In 2009 he graduated in International Law at the Immanuel Kant University of Kaliningrad. Currently Evgeniy is pursuing his PhD at the St. Petersburg University of Economics and Finance and also is representing the interests of CSC LLC "Locomotive".

ACP Activities

The ACP Tour

The ACP Tour is a unique system that unites more than 70 international chess tournaments annually all over the world.

The main idea of the ACP Tour is to encompass the most important chess tournaments regardless of their format in a unified **12-month season**. Participants in the events receive points according to the rating system developed by the ACP. Chess players who earn the highest number of points during the ACP Tour season are eligible to participate in the ACP Cup. The ACP Cup winner is declared the winner of the ACP season.

Only the most significant international competitions and the strongest national leagues are involved in the ACP Tour. Players earn points only for their personal performance and team results are not counted. The number of games played and other factors are also taken into account.

Similar models for determining the level of seasonal performances are successfully used in tennis and golf, but in chess the creation of a unified system has been hampered by the fact that the major tournaments vary considerably in format, and are performed with different time controls. The Association of Chess Professionals however managed to develop and implement a balanced system for computing the rankings, which received recognition among professionals and organizers.

The first ACP-Tour started on **1 July 2004** and ended **30 June 2005**. At the end of the 7th edition (2010-2011), the ACP Board decided to delay the 8th edition of the ACP Tour so that its season coincides with the beginning and the end of the calendar year. This will make it easier for organizers, participants and sponsors to plan their participation in the Tour, apart from streamlining administrative and organizational aspects of the ACP Cup.



ACP Tour – Benefits for organizers

- 1 The tournament becomes a part of the prestigious international system of the ACP Tour.
- 2 For members of the ACP, tournament inclusion in the ACP Tour becomes one of the key factors for deciding about participation.
- 3 The ACP provides additional opportunities to spread information about the tournament and its results.

ACP Tour – Benefits for players

- 1 Chess player gets the results of an objective system, which allows the calculation of performance in the tournaments of various formats throughout the season.
- 2 A member of the ACP does not depend on fluctuations of Elo-rating of FIDE, because the results of only one season are taken into account, and there is no annual savings.
- 3 Any member of the ACP has a chance to earn the right to take part in the ACP Cup.
- 4 As a result of the recent agreement with FIDE, the winners of the ACP Tour will get a place in the World Cup and the Candidates tournament.

| ACP Tour | Season | Winner |
|----------|-------------------------|----------------------------|
| 1st | 01.07.2004 -30.06.2005 | Vishy Anand (India) |
| 2nd | 01.07.2005 – 30.06.2006 | Levon Aronian (Armenia) |
| 3rd | 01.07.2006 – 30.06.2007 | Dmitriy Yakovenko (Russia) |
| 4th | 01.07.2007 – 30.06.2008 | Vasyl Ivanchuk (Ukraine) |
| 5th | 01.07.2008 – 30.06.2009 | Levon Aronian (Armenia) |
| 6th | 01.07.2009 – 30.06.2010 | Vasyl Ivanchuk (Ukraine) |
| 7th | 01.07.2010 – 30.06.2011 | Vasyl Ivanchuk (Ukraine) |
| 8th | 01.01.2012 – 31.12.2012 | - |



ACP Activities

The Women ACP Tour

The introduction of a separate rating for female events (ACP Women Series) became an important development of the ACP Tour. The following types of events are included in the calculation:

- Individual women only competitions;
- Tournaments that are already included in the ACP Tour, and where both male and female are entitled to participate;
- Team competitions.

Due to the fact that at present the number of women only events is limited, these tournaments are automatically included in the calculations. However, for the ACP Tour events organizers should submit the application themselves.

The Women ACP Tour is a unique system

for motivation and involvement of women chess players in the global chess processes. The first season of the Women ACP Tour started on 1 July 2007. At the end of the first season in November 2008, the winner, Victoria Cmilyte received a special prize and cash award, as well as the participants who placed second and third. Starting from 2009, the participants of the Women ACP Tour are eligible to take part in the Women ACP Cup, a competition that is similar to the annual ACP Cup.

The fifth season of the Women ACP Tour, just as the eighth ACP Tour, begins on the 1 January 2012 and ends on 31 December 2012.



| ACP Tour (Women) | Season | Winner |
|------------------|-------------------------|--------------------------------|
| 1st | 01.07.2007 – 30.06.2008 | Victoria Cmilyte (Lithuania) |
| 2nd | 01.07.2008 – 30.06.2009 | Antoaneta Stefanova (Bulgaria) |
| 3rd | 01.07.2009 – 30.06.2010 | Tatiana Kosintseva (Russia) |
| 4th | 01.07.2010 – 30.06.2011 | Nadezhda Kosintseva (Russia) |
| 5th | 01.01.2012 – 31.12.2012 | - |

ACP Activities



The ACP Cup

The ACP Cup is a rare example of a high-level chess tournament, the participation in which is determined by a strict qualification system.

The ACP Cup is generally organized as a knock-out tournament with rapid time control. Rapid chess requires players to exhibit concentration, fast

response time and stress-control qualities, and therefore makes the game dynamic and, in particular, suitable for TV broadcasts. Also, games are broadcast on the Internet and on big screens for the audience in the hall.

The best chess players of the world take

part in the annual ACP Cup. Unlike other super-tournaments, a radically new concept is applied: to determine the best chess player of the season based on the results of the strongest tournaments in the world. The winner becomes the ACP Champion. The minimum prize fund of the ACP Cup is USD 100 000.

In different years the participants of the ACP Cup were such famous GMs as Vasyl Ivanchuk, Boris Gelfand, Peter Svidler, Alexander Grischuk, Sergey Karjakin, Alexander Morozevich, Pavel Eljanov, Teimur Radjabov, Peter Leko, Alexei Shirov, Vugar Gashimov, Sergei Movsesian, Hikaru Nakamura, Viorel Bologan, Etienne Bacrot and others.



Sergey Karjakin

| ACP Cup | Dates | Place | Format | Winner |
|---------|--------------|-----------------|---|------------------------------|
| 1st | January 2007 | Ukraine, Odessa | Knock-out –system, 16 participants (16 best of the ACP Tour 2004/2005 and 2005/2006) | Peter Leko (Hungary) |
| 2nd | January 2008 | Ukraine, Odessa | Knock-out –system, 16 participants (13 best of ACP Tour 2006/2007 + 3 nominees of organizers) | Teimur Radjabov (Azerbaijan) |
| 3rd | May 2009 | Ukraine, Odessa | Knock-out –system, 16 participants (13 best of ATP Tour 2007/2008 + 3 nominees of organizers) | Boris Gelfand (Israel) |
| 4th | May 2010 | Ukraine, Odessa | Knock-out –system, 16 participants (13 best of ACP Tour 2008/2009 + 3 nominees of organizers) | Sergey Karjakin (Russia) |

ACP Activities

During the ACP Cup, the ACP Board organizes a number of events for promoting chess, including special events for children, lectures, simuls etc. During the fourth ACP Cup in May 2010 a roundtable on the

topic "Popularisation of the game of chess: experience, perspectives, plan of action" was organized, a unique event which gathered representatives from both the chess world and business structures.

The ACP Women Cup

The Women ACP Cup, by analogy with the ACP Cup, is the final tournament of the Women ACP Tour. Women chess players with the best results in the season are eligible to participate in the Women ACP Cup and compete for the title of the Women ACP Champion. Generally, the Women ACP Rapid Cup is a round robin rapid chess tournament with 12 participants.

The first Women ACP Cup was held in Konya, Turkey, from 30 November to 4

December 2009 in collaboration with the Turkish Chess Federation. The winner was the 12th Women World Chess Champion Alexandra Kosteniuk.

The second Women ACP Cup will be held in Tbilisi, with the largest prize fund for a round robin rapid event in history (the general prize fund is USD 40 000, the first prize is 10 000 USD). Among the 12 participants there are three world chess champions and six Olympic champions: Alexandra Kosteniuk, Maya Chiburdanidze, Antoaneta Stefanova, Tatiana and Nadezhda Kosintseva, Katerina Lahno, Nana Dzagnidze and other top players.

| ACP Cup (Women) | Dates | Place | Format | Winner |
|-----------------|------------------|------------------|---|------------------------------|
| 1st | 30.11-04.12.2009 | Turkey, Konya | Round tournament, 12 participants (8 best participants of the ACP Tour 2008/2009 +1 ACP nomination+ 3 organizer nominees) | Alexandra Kosteniuk (Russia) |
| 2nd | 18-21.02.2012 | Georgia, Tbilisi | Round tournament, 12 participants (8 best of the ACP Tour 2009/2010 and 2010/2011+ 4 organizer nominees) | - |

ACP Activities

The official ACP website —

<http://chess-players.org>

The official ACP website was launched on 4 August 2003. More than 1700 articles in both English and Russian were published over the last 9 years. The authors in most cases were members of the ACP. The website is also used for:

- web-based surveys, regularly conducted among the ACP members on both current and strategic issues,

- publication of the results of the ACP Tour,
- online meetings of the General Assembly of the ACP etc.

In early 2012 the official website of the Association of Chess Professionals has undergone extensive reorganization and modernization by the ACP Board, which significantly improved the efficiency of the ACP.

Twitter – http://twitter.com/ACP_Chess

The ACP Board uses Twitter as a useful tool for short announcements or news.

The Facebook group –
[ACP - Association of Chess Professionals](#)

The ACP Group in Facebook is open for both chess professionals and chess amateurs.

The ACP Newsletter

ACP members regularly receive the ACP Board Newsletter. The Newsletter is sent out via e-mail in order to inform members about current activities of the organization, to establish stable communication between members and the Board, as well as to clarify the official position of the ACP Board on relevant issues.



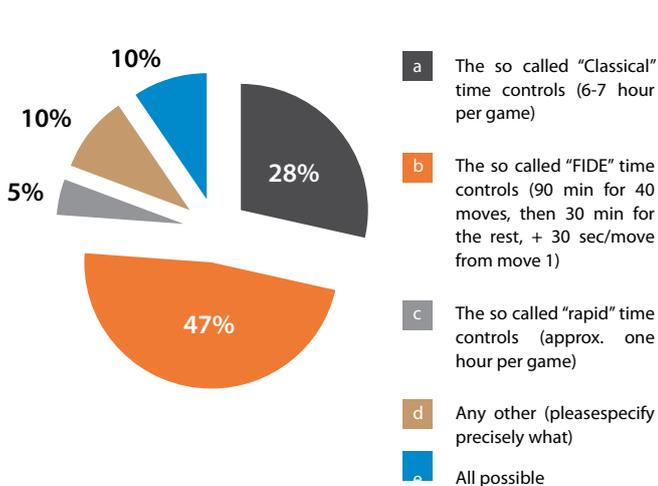
ACP Activities

Opinion polls

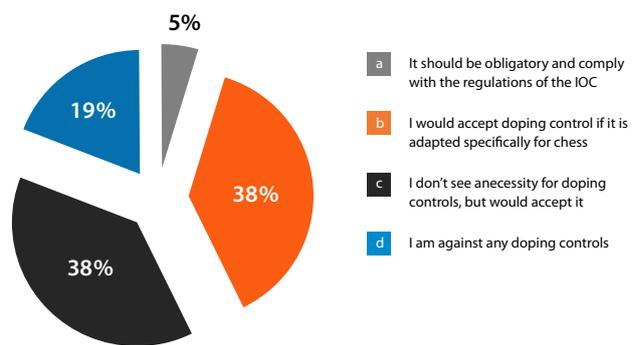
The ACP Board systematically collects the opinions of chess professionals on the most important moments of their careers. Opinion polls can involve both a small number of respondents (e.g., a group of professionals asked about specific problems), and a large group of players. The ACP Board developed an extensive database of contacts. Open questions encourage respondents to develop their own recommendations and therefore to be involved into the legislative processes directly related to their professional activities.

All opinions help the ACP Board to develop recommendations for improving the quality of management in the chess world. One of the largest surveys of the ACP became a project implemented in early 2009 in cooperation with the chess website Chessbase.com. Respondents were top chess players. They answered several questions regarding the World Chess Championship cycle. The results of this survey were circulated to members of the FIDE Presidential Board in March 2009 and were taken into account when making decisions on administrative and regulatory changes in the FIDE Handbook.

What time controls should be used for chess tournaments in general?



What do you think about doping control?



Only 1 respondent believes that doping controls should be obligatory and comply with the regulations of the IOC. 8 people (38%) don't see a necessity for doping controls, but would accept them, while other 8 players would accept doping controls if they are adapted specifically for chess. 4 respondents are against any doping controls in chess.

Blitz Internet Tournaments

The ACP organizes closed Internet blitz tournament exclusively for its members. The minimum prize fund for such events is EUR 5000. They are usually held on a platform of web-partners of the ACP (for example, the server Playchess.com, owned by ChessBase

GmbH). These tournaments can be confined to a specific date or season of the year (for example, ACP Christmas Blitz Tournament) or to be organized in a specific format (for example, women online tournament). As a result of the agreement with FIDE, the ACP got the right to conduct the 2012 World Internet Championship.

ACP Activities

The ACP in Media

The activities of the ACP always attract attention of both chess and mainstream media. The ACP Board pays particular attention to the cooperation with international press. Chess related TV projects are one of the priorities of the ACP development.

The “Golden Blitz” TV Project

In cooperation with the international cable channel “NTV +” (Russia) the ACP aired a chess program of a new format — “Golden Blitz”. Two blitz tournaments with the participation of top grandmasters were broadcast live for two days.

The “Golden Blitz” was won by the 16th FIDE World Champion Ruslan Ponomarev and the 12th Women World Champion Alexandra Kosteniuk.



The «Golden Blitz» project was the first “chess reality show” on television and has shown that chess is a dynamic and telegenic game interesting for a large audience of viewers.

Total broadcasting time was more than 10 hours live. “The ACP Golden Blitz” DVD was released featuring the results of the TV project.

The ACP has continued cooperation with both “NTV +” and other international TV channels. Thus, ACP Cups have a high level of coverage, including live broadcast on television.

Information about the ACP and its activities appeared on the following media platforms:

Television — TF1, France 2 (France) Eurovision (International) WDR, ZDF (Germany) ORT, NTV, Canal Sport, TV6 (Russia), numerous channels in Switzerland, Italy, Hungary, Israel, Ukraine etc.

Radio — France Info, France Inter (France) New Life (US) Ekho Moskvyy (Russia) stations in Germany, Switzerland, Ukraine, Italy, etc.

International press — Le Monde, Le Figaro, Le Point, Libération, Agence France Presse (France) The International Herald Tribune, The New York Times, The Washington Post, Associated Press (USA) The Daily Telegraph, The Times, Reuters (UK) Der Spiegel, Frankfurter Allgemeine, Sueddeutsche Zeitung, DPA Press Agency (Germany) Kommersant, Soviety Sport, Sport-Express, Izvestia, The Moscow Times, Itar-Tass Press Agency (Russia) Tages Anzeiger, Neue Zürcher Zeitung, La Tribune de Genève (Switzerland) El Pais (Spain), The Hindu (India), etc.

ACP Activities

The round table «Popularisation of the game of chess»

On 29 May 2010 the ACP organized the round table “Popularisation of the game of chess: experience, perspectives, plan of action”, which is up to present the only event of its kind in the chess world. Participants in the discussion were representatives of the ACP and FIDE, grandmasters, chess managers, representatives of business structures etc.

The main results of the round table were practical applications for improving chess marketing strategy at the international level. The following suggestions were adopted:

- To develop a separate rating list for rapid chess; (FIDE implemented rapid

chess ratings on 01.01.2012)

- To develop a detailed description of the possible event package for chess promotion (simuls, blindfold games, seminars, informal meetings with a chess player etc);

- To organize a team of professional managers who wouldn't deal with the promotion of certain tournaments, but would promote the game of chess in general;

- To develop an informational handbook containing Public Relations information for chess professionals, managers, national federations as well as for mainstream media journalists and the public at large with an interest in chess.



ACP Activities

The ACP and FIDE

The ACP cooperates with FIDE as regards the protection of the rights of chess professionals. Since the inception of the ACP, negotiations with FIDE brought, among others, the following results:

- Representatives of the ACP became members of several FIDE commissions;
- Winners of the ACP Tour got the right to participate in the FIDE World Cup;
- The ACP got the right to organize 2012 ACP World Rapid Cup, 2012 Women's

World Rapid Championship and 2012 World Internet Championship.

- Time control negotiations led to the establishment of unified formats;
- Representative of the ACP was one of the members of the Appeal Committee at the FIDE World Cup (2007);
- Consultations on the doping control and anti-cheating measures are held;
- FIDE takes into account the results of surveys conducted by the ACP among chess professionals.

The ACP and national chess federations

The ACP Board effectively collaborates with national federations. The ACP has experience of organizing tournaments in cooperation with the chess federations of Ukraine, Turkey, Georgia; negotiations

with the federations of Azerbaijan, Israel and other countries are ongoing.

The chess federation of France and Turkey are collective members of the ACP.

Why do professionals join the ACP?

- 1 Members who are also chess players are automatically enrolled in the ACP Tour. The ACP Tour is a yearly tournament circuit administrated by the ACP, which includes the world's most important tournaments. Players who take part in these events gain points according to a ranking system devised by the ACP. Once the yearly season is over, the best players are qualified for a final event, called the ACP Cup. The winner of the ACP Cup is also the ACP Champion.
- 2 The ACP is very active in discussing regulations with FIDE and continental organizations, and its success in this field is to the benefit of the chess community as a whole.
- 3 The ACP is preparing a number of tournaments (including ACP internet events), open exclusively to ACP members.
- 4 The ACP is negotiating with national chess federations and world leading companies for organizing activities under the aegis of the ACP and for raising funds for ACP projects.
- 5 The ACP offers assistance to its members on various legal issues.
- 6 All ACP members can participate in ACP polls on key topics of the chess life. Poll results are then made public, possibly with an accompanying Position Paper, thus influencing the policymakers at the highest levels.
- 7 ACP successfully protects the rights of chess professionals.
- 8 The ACP acts as a mediator between players and organizers and proved successful in reducing conflicts.



Contact information

Please refer general questions to the ACP Board at info@chessprofessionals.org

For questions regarding sponsorship and collaborations with the ACP, please, contact the ACP President Emil Sutovsky at president@chessprofessionals.org

The ACP uses the following bank account for donations and membership fee transfers:

IBAN (International Bank Account Number): **FR49 3000 2004 8200 0000 5750 J46**

BIC (Bank Identifier Code): **CRLYFRPP**

Bank: **Credit Lyonnais**

Account holder: **ACP**

Address: **9 rue de l'asile Popincourt, 75011 Paris, France**



The photos are by Olena Boytsun, Andreas Kontokanis, Boris Bukhman, Maria Emelianova as well as from the ACP archive

Prepared by Olena Boytsun (olena@marketingchess.com) for the Association of Chess Professionals © 2012



Association of Chess Professionals

. e4 c3 2. Nf3 d4 3. Bb3 b5 8. 0-0 Be7 9. Qf3
12. Re1 Bb7 13. a3 Rd8 14. a4
17. Ra7 Ra8 18. Rxa8 Bxa8 19.
22. Na2 Nf6 23. Bh6 Nh5 24.
27. Kh1 Bxb2 28. Bd2 Nf6 29.
34. Qxf5 fxc4

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