

# WPF Report

**1<sup>st</sup> Jan to 31<sup>st</sup> Mar, 2020**

**WSPC 2020:** The WPF has reached a decision on the 2020 Championships. The decision is that the Championships have been postponed. We do not know more details as of now as the 2020 organizers as well as the (newly approved as reported below) 2021 organizers are exploring different options for future events. All options are currently on the table except cancellation of China's and Canada's opportunities to host.

**New Members:** We welcome two new members to the WPF, Mathematics Education Clinic (Klinik Pendidikan MIPA) from Indonesia and Mongolian Intellectual Development Center-IQ, NGO from Mongolia. Their details can be found on the WPF Website Members page.

**WSPC 2021:** After some extensive discussions in the Board, with constant communication with the potential organizers, a vote was held among members and the proposal to hold the Championship in Toronto was approved. The voting results are given at the end.

**Financial Aid of 2019:** There was some investigation into the financial aid granted to India and how it was used. The Board noted that the process of granting it was conducted fairly and within the criteria set. India's member representative noted that it is not conventional process to conduct such an investigation after the fact and that other countries receiving aid haven't been subjected to this process but divulged the information anyway. The board was happy with the information divulged and everything was decided to be fair.

**Financial Aid moving forward:** Considering the WPF's budget situation, there is not a concrete decision yet on the immediate continuation of the Financial Aid program.

**GP Emails:** This year, there were some issues with Mailchimp, the software we use to send emails, and also with the number of registered accounts which now exceeds what a free plan allows. Rather than sending mails to some and not others, we have stepped up social media promotion of the GP rounds, and they are now promoted on Facebook, Instagram as well as Twitter on the official WPF handles.

For next year we are planning an enrolment form for participants. Please circulate this information to your communities, and have them enrol when the time comes, if they are interested in receiving emails.

**Sudoku & Puzzle GP Authoring:** The process followed for countries to apply for authoring a GP round was, as always, done via email to the members. If you wish to author a round in subsequent years, please note that to your member representative.

**ASC 2020:** ASC 2020 was conducted successfully in Hyderabad, India in January, and a detailed report prepared by the organizer, along with results and other details, were shared to members and updated on the WPF website.

**Rules & Regulations:** Two proposals regarding the first topic of the WPF Rules and Regulations restructuring were sent to Members. The WPF is looking for a general consensus on these proposals. More topics will be shared going forward, and after the consensus is formed for all topics we will prepare another official draft of the Rules and Regulations for a final vote.

### **What Is A Sudoku report:**

Tom Collyer sent in the final version of the report. The WPF sincerely thanks him for his efforts, and also everyone else who contributed to the formation of the report.

Vladimir and Prasanna are reviewing past WSCs to see how they fit within the report and the WPF will then analyse the results and move forward on any potential actions, including but not limited to a potential breakdown of percentages of different categories provided by the report that a WSC should ideally target having.

### **Miscellaneous additions:**

- There was further discussion on the feasibility of a European Championship and a World Junior Championship but nothing concrete is there to report yet on these fronts. On the World Junior Championship Will and Prasanna noted the concern that it should not be a one-off event like 2015 again, and we should only commit to something if we have a concrete plan of regularity that is inclusive of many countries.
- There was a letter of protest about activities conducted by a WPF member. This letter was discussed, and the WPF Member was notified with some pointers. However, since the WPF largely allows its members to conduct activities in their own countries as they see fit, and there wasn't sufficient information pointing to any form of misconduct, formal action was not deemed necessary.
- There has been discussion about possibilities for the 2020 GP since an offline final isn't possible. The prevalent thought as of now is to announce the winner after 8 rounds, but we will make a formal announcement on the topic soon.
- There was some feedback given to the GP Directors and others involved in the GP, both by members as well as by the WPF Board, and these have all been taken into consideration and are being worked on where possible.
- The WPF Director's job description was again asked by a Board Member and Prasanna explained what work is being done on each portion of it.
- Membership fee invoices were sent to all members. Personal Membership invoices will be sent by the end of April.
- There were some questions posed to the Board on whether Board members need to provide reports and it was clarified that all the reports being provided right now are sufficient and any further information can be asked of the board in correspondence.
- This quarter was dominated by discussions of the 2020 Championships and what to do with the situation. It has also been noted that the 2021 Asian Sudoku Championships were also planned to happen in China and a decision may be required later in the year for that event too. We hope that everyone can support us on what may be some difficult decisions moving forward.

### **Voting Results for WSPC 2021 Proposal (20 Members voted):**

Yes: 15, No: 4, Abstain: 1

### **Countries that voted:**

Bulgaria, China, Czech Republic, Estonia, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, India, Indonesia, Iran, Italy, Japan, Latvia, Netherlands, Romania, Serbia, Switzerland, Turkey, USA