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Linz, 31 January 2006

To all European Chess Federations

Dear chess friends,

The European Chess Union herewith announces the **European Club Cup 2006** (22nd European Club Cup for Men, 11th European Club Cup for Women). The tournament will be held in Fügen / Zillertal (Austria) from 7 until 15 October 2006. In this letter you will find the most important details concerning the competition. You are friendly asked to read all information carefully.

TOURNAMENT SCHEDULE

October 7		Arrival of participants
October 8	10 a.m.	Captain's meeting
October 8	1:30 p.m.	Opening Ceremony
October 8	2 p.m.	Round 1
October 9	2 p.m.	Round 2
October 10	2 p.m.	Round 3
October 11	2 p.m.	Round 4
October 12	2 p.m.	Round 5
October 13	2 p.m.	Round 6
October 14	2 p.m.	Round 7
October 14	9 p.m.	Closing Ceremony
October 15		Departure of participants

TOURNAMENT RULES

The valid regulations to be followed are the "ECU Tournament Rules" approved by the General Assembly of the European Chess Union.
Each European federation is allowed to take part in this competition. According to the Rules for the European Club Cup participation is open to:

- Tomsk-400 (RUS), the current cup holder in the men's competition
- NTN Tbilisi (GEO), the current cup holder in the women's competition
- two clubs per federation in which a national team championship is organised
- one club per federation in which no national team championship is organised
- Austria, the organising federation, is entitled to enter an additional team
- a third club is allowed to that federation(s) in which a national team championship is organised provided that at least 20 grandmasters and/or players with a FIDE-rating over 2600 have participated in this national team championship.
- one additional club for the federations which are ranked in the first five places of the federation ranking list. For the competition 2006 the federations are Russia, Poland, Bosnia & Herzegovina, Ukraine and Macedonia. In the case that the financial arrears of Ukraine have not been arranged, Hungary will have the right to send an additional club

Remarks

- Regarding the foreigners the ECU Tournament Rules accepted in Bled will be strictly followed.
- The ECC Tournament Rules do not foresee exceptions for players with a given minimum rating.
- Attention is drawn to the fact that this competition is offering the possibility to achieve GM- or IM-norms based on 7 games.
- Prize fund: Men's: For team ranking: 20.000 €; for individual boards: 3.500 €
  Women's: For team ranking: 5.000 €; for individual boards: 1.500 €
- Unpaid entry fees for the European Club Cups 1997 up to 2005
  The Board of the European Chess Union has decided that teams of clubs which did not pay fee(s) of the previous competitions will not be admitted to the European Club Cup unless they pay their debts plus 10% to cover expenses of ECU. Clubs should contact their federation to find out if they are in such position. All clubs entering the coming competition which still have unpaid fees will immediately be notified!
- Moreover no teams of federations which have financial arrears with respect to the European Chess Union will be allowed to enter the competition. At the moment this is the case for the Ukrainian Chess Federation.

NOTICE OF PARTICIPATION

Every federation that intends to participate with one or more teams must inform the organizing committee (see address below) **before June 1, 2006** of its acceptance of the invitation specifying the number of teams.

Copies of the letter of acceptance should at the same time be sent to:

- the Secretary General (Mr. Horst Metzing, Hanns-Braun Strasse, Friesenhaus 1, D-14053 Berlin, Germany; email: info@schachbund.de) **and**
- for the **men's competition** to Tournament Director Dirk De Ridder (A.V.D. Wielelei, 303 / bus 3, B-2100 Antwerp, Belgium, Tel./fax: +32-3-3279194, mobile: +32-477-268112, email: ECU_DirkDeRidder@skynet.be)
- for the **women's competition** to Tournament Director Werner Stubenvoll (Adolf-Schärf-Strasse 9, A-4040 Linz, Austria, Tel./fax: +43-732-245542, mobile: +43-650-2114848, email: werner.stubenvoll@liwest.at)

It is allowed to send the letter of acceptance by email or by fax. The letter of acceptance shall include the full name, address, telephone and fax number, and the email address of the participating club(s).

All entries have to be put forward by the respective federation: entries not supported by the federation will not be accepted!

The basic players' list of a club should be sent to the respective Tournament Director of the European Chess Union **before 15 August 2006**.

If an entry is withdrawn after 15 August 2006 the club or the respective federation has to pay the entry fee to ECU.

IMPORTANT NOTE FOR THE MEN'S COMPETITION

In order to avoid the problem of last-minute team changes that are not in accordance with the ECU Club Cup Tournament Rules each federation has to send a copy of the club list(s) as entered for the respective national team competition.

VENUE

The tournament hall will be in the Festival hall of Fuegen, near to all the hotels (maximum 1000 metres).

ACCOMMODATION

Prizes per person per day in half board	Double Room:	54 €
	Single Room:	69 €
additional fee for full board per person and day		+ 8 €

BOOKING AND PAYMENTS

For accommodation please contact Mr. Hanspeter Haspinger, phone +43 660 5208022, e-mail: hp.haspinger@tsn.at.

The exact number of single and double rooms required has to be sent to the organizers before August 1, 2006.

Payments for accommodation of players, captains and accompanying persons have to be arranged with the organizers in their office.

All payments have to be done before start of round 3 of the tournament.

TRANSPORTATION

The fee for transportation from railway station or airport in Innsbruck is 70 € per car (up to 7 persons) for both ways. From Salzburg or Munich the transportation fee is 200 € per car (both ways).

VISA INFORMATION

Teams or players needing visa are requested to contact the organizer, Mr. Hanspeter Haspinger, before July 31. If necessary teams or players can contact the Tournament Director in order to receive a confirmation of their participation to the competition.

OFFICIAL WEBSITE

Will be announced on the website of ECU (http://www.ecc2006.com)

Looking forward to the participation of one or more clubs of your federation, we remain,
with kind regards,

Dr. Dirk J.A. De Ridder

Werner Stubenvoll