

OCEANIA CHESS

DEVELOPMENT PLAN

2011 – 2014

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1. EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

- 1.1 The Oceania region excels at almost all outdoor sports activities but chess, which is mainly an indoor activity, is not yet widely recognised as a serious sport. It is noted that FIDE aims to achieve worldwide recognition for chess as a sport but, whilst Australia and New Zealand have longstanding chess traditions, and nearby countries such as Philippines and Indonesia are mad about chess, there is very little chess played in Melanesia, Micronesia and Polynesia. As a result there is enormous potential for chess development in the region.
- 1.2 The administration of chess in Oceania needs more active resources and an improved organisation structure. It is proposed to create an Oceania Chess Confederation (OCC) from 1 January 2011. OCC Members would be the countries that are Members of FIDE Zone 3.6 (currently six). Dependencies and countries from other Zones would be welcomed to join as Associate Members.
- 1.3 It is proposed that a Policy Board consisting of delegates from the member Countries would oversee the OCC. An Executive Committee would be responsible for all day-to-day matters. The OCC Chief Executive would be the FIDE Zone 3.6 President.
- 1.4 Development is planned in many areas, including:
- Major Events and Championships
 - Arbiter and Trainer Education
 - Marketing, Communications and Administration
 - Chess-in-Schools
 - Other Goals established at the 2009 Oceania meeting in the Gold Coast
- 1.5 The proposed Budget for 2011-2014 is included in Appendix III. It is expected that income, in excess of US\$50,000 annually, would be largely derived from Sponsorship and FIDE Assistance.

2. DEMOGRAPHIC BACKGROUND

2.1 Oceania is a geographic region in the South Pacific, which mostly consists of Island countries and dependencies. Australia dominates in both landmass and population. Many of the island nations have relatively small populations. See Appendix 1 for information about the demographics of the region.

2.2 The leisure culture of the region is dominated by outdoor sports activities:

- Australia has hosted two Olympic Games - in Melbourne (1956) and Sydney (2000).
- Sydney (1938), Auckland (1950), Perth (1962), Christchurch (1974), Brisbane (1982), Auckland (1990) and Melbourne (2006) have hosted the Commonwealth Games (and its predecessors).
- The Pacific Games (and its predecessors) exclude participation by Australia and New Zealand. They have been held in Suva (1963), Noumea (1966), Port Moresby (1969), Papeete (1971), Guam (1975), Suva (1979), Apia (1983), Noumea (1987), Port Moresby/Lae (1991), Papeete (1995), Guam (1999), Suva (2003), Apia (2007), Noumea (2011) and Port Moresby (2015).
- The Pacific Mini Games are only for the smaller countries and dependencies. They have been held in Honiara (1981), Rarotonga (1985), Nuku'alofa (1989), Port Vila (1993), Pago Pago (1997), Norfolk Island (2001), Palau (2005), Cook Island (2009) and Wallace & Futuna (2013).

2.3 Rugby League and Rugby Union are two of the region's most popular sports, Rugby Union being the national sport of New Zealand, Samoa, Fiji and Tonga. Rugby League is the national sport in Papua New Guinea (the second most populous country in Oceania after Australia). Association football (soccer) is also popular throughout the region and is the national sport in Vanuatu. Cricket is a popular summer sport in Australia and New Zealand, which are full members of the International Cricket Board (ICC). Fiji, Vanuatu and PNG are ICC Associate Members. The Oceania National Olympic Committees (OCON) is an international organisation that congregates the 17 National Olympic Committees of Oceania.

3. HISTORY OF OCEANIA CHESS

3.1 FIDE Zone 3.6 currently consists of six member countries:

Australia	AUS
Fiji	FIJ
New Zealand	NZL
Palau	PAL
Papua New Guinea	PNG
Solomon Island	SOL

3.2 Australia and New Zealand have long established chess federations but Fiji, Palau, Papua New Guinea and the Solomon Islands are less well developed.

3.2.1 The Australian Chess Federation (ACF) is a federation of member States. Individual chess clubs and players join their State Association, which looks to the ACF to provide national services such as Championships and Ratings. Australia first held its Championship in Melbourne in 1885 and has hosted a number of International events over the years, including the World Junior Championships (1988). It has active clubs and an ongoing national Grand Prix (some fifty weekend tournaments) and regularly sends teams to Chess Olympiads. There is an active Australian Junior Chess League (AJCL) and the Correspondence Chess Association of Australia (CCLA) is a member of the International Correspondence Chess Association (ICCF). The ACF is not a member of the Australian Olympic Committee.

3.2.2 The New Zealand Chess Federation (NZCF) represents clubs and players. New Zealand first held its National Championship in Christchurch in 1879 and has hosted a number of International Championships over the years. It has an ongoing annual Grand Prix (currently sponsored by a major Hotel Group) and has regularly sent teams to Chess Olympiads. The New Zealand Correspondence Chess (NZCCA) is a member of the International Correspondence Chess Association (ICCF). The NZCF is an Associate Member of the New Zealand Olympic Committee.

3.2.3 The Fiji Chess Federation (FCF) represents both clubs and players. It participated in the 1986 Dubai Olympiad and has sent teams regularly to Chess Olympiads since then. It has hosted the Oceania Zone Championships on two occasions, 2002 and 2007. The FCF is a Member of the Fiji Association of Sports and National Olympic Committee.

3.2.4 The Chess Federation of Palau (CFP) hosted its first International Tournament in 2008 and subsequently sent one player to the 2009 Oceania Zone Championships in Australia. Palau joined FIDE in 2009 and will make its first team appearance at the 2010 Chess Olympiad in Khanty Mansiysk. CFP is a member of the Palau National Olympic Committee.

3.2.5 Papua New Guinea hosted its first major tournament in 2001 and has sent teams to FIDE Chess Olympiads since 1970 but there is very little formal chess activity in this mountainous country, which has a significant rural population and enormous transport problems.

3.2.6 The Solomon Islands Chess Federation (SICF) enjoys the benefits of a small chess league in Honiara (on the Island of Guadalcanal) and hosted its first International Tournament in 2009. It sent one player to the 2009 Oceania Zonal in Australia. The SICF joined FIDE in 2010 and is an Associate Member of the National Olympic Committee of Solomon Islands.

3.3 Oceania has held FIDE Zone 3.6 Championships since 1999. The Championships have been dominated by the Australian players:

YEAR	LOCATION	OPEN WINNER	WOMENS WINNER
1999	Gold Coast AUS	IM Vladimir Feldman	WIM Laura Moylan
2001	Gold Coast AUS	IM Mikhail Gluzman	WIM Ngan Koshnitsky
2002	Coral Coast FIJ	GM Darryl Johansen	IM Irina Berezina
2005	Auckland NZL	IM Gary Lane	IM Irina Berezina
2007	Denarau FIJ	GM Zong-Yuan Zhao	IM Irina Berezina
2009	Gold Coast AUS	GM David Smerdon	WIM Arianne Caoili
2011	Rotorua NZL		

3.4 The first Oceania Seniors Championships were held in Christchurch New Zealand in 2010. Winners were FM Brian Jones (Australia) and WFM Vivian Smith (New Zealand).

3.5 FIDE statistics for the region are shown in Appendix II.

3.6 FIDE has a stated aim of getting worldwide recognition for chess as a sport. But there is very little chess activity in the non-member countries and dependencies. These potential FIDE members require visits, education materials and equipment. IA Gary Bekker has made initial contacts with East Timor, Nauru, Marshall Islands, New Caledonia, Samoa, Tonga and Vanuatu.

3.7 There is enormous potential for the development of chess activities throughout Oceania. This potential is not just in the developing countries but also in the opportunities for current member countries to increase their participation and for greater involvement with FIDE.

3.8 In the past, travel within Oceania was mainly by sea. Air travel is now available but relatively expensive. It is the distance and cost of travel that is the main problem. It can take 3-4 hours to fly between major capitals. It is an eight-hour flight to the major cities of Southeast Asia, fourteen hours to Dubai and twenty hours to Europe and the Americas.

3.9 There have been two Zone Presidents for Oceania since 1998:

1998-2002 Graeme Gardiner (Australia)

2002-2010 Gary Bekker (Australia)

3.10 It is anticipated that Brian Jones (Australia) will be elected as President FIDE Zone 3.6 in November 2010.

4. ORGANISATIONAL DEVELOPMENT

- 4.1 Oceania chess development has been seen mainly as the responsibility of one person, the FIDE President for Zone 3.6. Indeed, Gary Bekker has made substantial progress during recent years but much more can be achieved with a better structured organisation. It is therefore proposed to create an Oceania Chess Confederation (OCC) from 1 January 2011.
- 4.2 It is recommended that OCC Statutes should be drafted and approved by the end of 2010 based on the following principles:
- 4.2.1 OCC Members would be national chess federations who are Members of FIDE. Each OCC member would nominate a delegate to the OCC Policy Board;
 - 4.2.2 Dependencies and other countries who are not members of FIDE would be welcome to join as OCC Associates;
 - 4.2.3 The OCC Chief Executive would be the FIDE Zone 3.6 President, as elected at the FIDE Asia Continental Assembly;
 - 4.2.4 An OCC Executive Committee, chaired by the Chief Executive, would be responsible for day-to-day OCC management activities.
- 4.3 It is recommended that the first meeting of OCC should take place in Rotorua, New Zealand, in January 2011 (during the 2011 Oceania Zone Championships). This meeting should confirm the Executive Committee membership and budget.
- 4.4 The draft OCC Budget for 2011-2014 is included in Appendix III.
- 4.5 The Chief Executive should determine the location of the OCC administrative offices.

5. EVENTS

- 5.1 Zone Championships. It is proposed to continue with biannual FIDE Zone 3.6 Open and Women's Championships, preferable with formal FIDE funding arrangements. These are of course qualifying events for the FIDE World Cup, which is part of the World Championship cycle.
- 5.2 Oceania Open Championships. It is proposed to introduce annual Oceania Open Championships from 2012 onwards.
- 5.3 Oceania Seniors Championships. It is proposed to continue to hold Oceania Senior Championships annually. These are of course qualifying events for the FIDE World Seniors Championships.
- 5.4 Oceania Junior Championships. It is proposed to introduce annual Oceania Age Group Championships from 2012. It is envisaged that FIDE would approve the awarding of FIDE Candidate Master and/or other titles for the winners of the Oceania Junior Age Group Championships.
- 5.5 Oceania Teams Championship. It is proposed to introduce annual Oceania Teams Championships from 2014, possibly as part of the introduction of chess to the South Pacific Games.
- 5.6 To achieve the above it will be necessary to support the recruitment of Organisers throughout Oceania. Current International Organisers are:

FIDE INTERNATIONAL ORGANISERS
IO Paul Spiller (New Zealand)
IO Brian Jones (Australia)
IO Graeme Gardiner (Australia)
IO Dr Virgilio De Asa (Fiji)

6. ARBITERS

- 6.1 Oceania has very few experienced arbiters. Many of our FIDE Arbiters are inactive and were awarded their titles before examinations were introduced. Most are in need of training to become up-to-date. The current FIDE qualified Arbiters are:

FIDE INTERNATIONAL ARBITERS	FIDE INTERNATIONAL ARBITERS
IA Gary Bekker (Australia)	IA Bob Gibbons (New Zealand)
IA Roland Eime (Australia)	IA Peter Stuart (New Zealand)
IA Dr John Frew (Australia)	IA Chris Wright (New Zealand)
IA Evelyn Koshnitsky (Australia)	IA Rupert Jones (PNG)
IA Jason Lyons (Australia)	IA Peter Parr (Australia)
IA Susan Margan (Australia)	IA Kevin Perrin (Australia)
IA Maurice Needleman (Australia)	IA Cathy Rogers (Australia)
IA Anastasia Sorokina (Australia)	IA Manuel Weeks (Australia)
IA Alan Thomas (Australia)	IA Charles Zworestine (Australia)

FIDE ARBITERS	FIDE ARBITERS
FA Graeme Gardiner (Australia)	FA Shaun Press (PNG)
FA Garvin Gray (Australia)	FA Jashint Maharah (Fij)
FA Craig Hall (New Zealand)	FA Krishneel Nair (Fij)
FA Bruce Pollard (New Zealand)	

- 6.2 It is proposed to actively recruit and train FIDE Arbiters throughout the region.
- 6.3 It is proposed to conduct Arbiter Training courses regularly during 2011-2014. The Oceania Budget includes for one arbiter course each year.

7. TRAINERS

- 7.1 Oceania has very few qualified trainers. Many of our trainers are players who moved into training roles to teach chess in schools. Many have not obtained FIDE certification and are in need of training to become up-to-date with professional training methods. The current FIDE certified Trainers are:

FIDE SENIOR TRAINER
FST Ian Rogers (Australia)

FIDE TRAINER
FT Irina Berezina (Australia)
FT Vladimir Feldman (Australia)
FT Javier Gil (Australia)
FT Daniela Nutu-Gajic (Australia)
FT Leonid Sandler (Australia)
FT Anastasia Sorokina (Australia)
FT Brett Tindall (Australia)
FT Ewen Green (New Zealand)
FT Robert Smith (New Zealand)

FIDE INSTRUCTOR
FI Joseph Tanti (Australia)
FI William Lynn (New Zealand)
FI Victor Wang (New Zealand)
FI Vivian Smith (New Zealand)
FI Bruce Wheeler (New Zealand)

- 7.2 The Oceania region currently has no FIDE National Instructor (NI) or Development Instructor (DI).

- 7.3 It is proposed to actively recruit and train FIDE Trainers throughout the region.

- 7.3 It is proposed to conduct Train the Trainer courses regularly during 2011-2014. The Oceania Budget includes for one course for Trainers/Instructors each year.

8. MARKETING AND ADMINISTRATION

8.1 Communications

- 8.1.1 A new Oceania Chess website www.oceaniachess.com should be launched in January 2011.
- 8.1.2 Chess Columns in Oceania Newspapers should be introduced in 2011.
- 8.1.3 Quarterly Media Releases should be introduced in Oceania in 2011
- 8.1.4 Quarterly Newsletters should be introduced in Oceania in 2011

8.2 Sponsorship

- 8.2.1 Potential sponsors and Government supporters of chess in Oceania should be approached in January 2011

8.3 Chess in Schools

- 8.3.1 A chess-in-schools program should be introduced in Oceania from 2011 onwards. One possible related project is to host a World or Asian Schools Championships in 2014.

8.4 Oceania Logo

- 8.4.1 A new Oceania Chess logo should be introduced in 2011.

8.5 Contact Details

- 8.5.1 The office of the Oceania Chess Confederation should be selected by the FIDE President Zone 3.6.

8.6 Recruitment

- 8.6.1 It is planned to visit two to three prospective new members each year. Free chess equipment will be distributed as necessary. The aim is to recruit one new full member each year. This is subject to finance – see Appendix III.

9. OTHER DEVELOPMENT GOALS

- 9.1 Starter kit for emerging federations. It is understood that this \$10,000 project (to provide netbook computers and software) was approved by CADEC in 2010 but no official notification or monies have been received.
- 9.2 National Olympic Committee Membership. This project is ongoing.
- 9.3 Funding from FIDE, CACDEC and Asian Chess Federation. The status of all earlier proposals and requests for funding is to be determined and reviewed.
- 9.4 Participation in FIDE events. Oceania members will be encouraged to increase their involvement with FIDE events at all levels. This includes sending players to Asian Individual and Team Championships, Asian Cities and Olympiads.
- 9.5 Chess equipment for emerging federations. It is proposed to continue with the task of delivering chess sets, clocks, books and other materials to potential members throughout the region.
- 9.6 FIDE Fees. It is recognised that for the smaller federations, the costs of FIDE membership is relatively high. It is proposed to find ways to make federations financially self-sufficient by assisting with fund-raising activities, both inside and outside of FIDE.

APPENDIX 1 – OCEANIA DEMOGRAPHY

AUSTRALASIA

REGION	AREA (km ²)	POPULATION	DENSITY	DEPENDENCY		CAPITAL
Australia	7,686,850	22,028,000	2.7		AU	Canberra
New Zealand	268,680	4,108,037	14.5		NZL	Wellington

MELANESIA

REGION	AREA (km ²)	POPULATION	DENSITY	DEPENDENCY		CAPITAL
Fiji	18,270	856,346	46.9		FIJ	Suva
Papua New Guinea	462,840	5,172,033	11.2		PNG	Port Moresby
Solomon Islands	28,450	494,786	17.4		SOL	Honiara
East Timor	14,600	1,200,000	82.2			Dili
Vanuatu	12,200	240,000	19.7			Port Vila
New Caledonia	19,060	240,390	12.6	FRANCE		Noumea

MICRONESIA

REGION	AREA (km ²)	POPULATION	DENSITY	DEPENDENCY		CAPITAL
Palau	458	19,409	42.4		PAL	Melekeok
Federated States	702	135,869	193.5			Palikir
Guam	549	160,796	292.9	USA		Hagatna
Kiribati	811	96,335	118.8			South Tarawa
Marshall Islands	181	73,630	406.8			Majuro
Nauru	21	12,329	587.1			Yaren
Northern Marianas	477	77,311	162.1	USA		Saipan

POLYNESIA

REGION	AREA (km ²)	POPULATION	DENSITY	DEPENDENCY		CAPITAL
American Samoa	199	68,688	345.2	USA		Pago Pago
Cook Islands	240	20,811	86.7	NZ		Avarua
French Polynesia	3,961	257,847	61.9	FRANCE		Papeete
Hawaii	28,311	1,283,388	72.8	USA		Honolulu
Samoa	2,944	179,000	63.2			Apia
Tonga	748	106,137	141.9			Nuku'alofa
Tuvalu	26	11,146	428.7			Funafuti
Wallis and Futuna	274	15,585	56.9	FRANCE		Mata-Utu

APPENDIX II – FIDE PLAYER STATISTICS

RANK	COUNTRY	GM	IM	ALL TITLES	FIDE RATED	ESTIMATED # PLAYERS *
57	Australia	4	18	82	1465	10,000-30,000
78	New Zealand	1	6	30	348	2,000-6,000
126	Papua New Guinea	0	0	2	10	100
144	Fiji	0	0	6	27	100
147	Solomon Islands	0	0	0	6	100
151	Palau	0	0	0	13	50

- = Excludes school children

GRANDMASTERS	WOMEN GRANDMASTERS
Zong-Yuan Zhao (Australia)	Daniela Nutu-Gajic (Australia)
Ian Rogers (Australia)	
David Smerdon (Australia)	
Darryl Johansen (Australia)	
Murray Chandler (New Zealand)	

INTERNATIONAL MASTERS	WOMEN INTERNATIONAL MASTERS
George Xie (Australia)	Arianne Caoili (Australia)
Stephen Solomon (Australia)	Biljana Dekic (Australia)
Igor Goldenberg (Australia)	Alexandra Jule (Australia)
Gary Lane (Australia)	Nancy Lane (Australia)
Mark Chapman (Australia)	Laura Moylan (Australia)
Guy West (Australia)	Ngan Phan-Koshnitsky (Australia)
John-Paul Wallace (Australia)	Lynda Pope (Australia)
Leonid Sandler (Australia)	Anne Slavotinek (Australia)
Vladimir Feldman (Australia)	Anastasia Sorokina (Australia)
Mirko Rujevic (Australia)	Narelle Szuveges (Australia)
Irina Berezina (Australia)	Sue Maroroa (New Zealand)
James Morris (Australia)	Marany Meyer (New Zealand)
Aleksandar Davidovic (Australia)	
Javier Gil (Australia)	
Mikhail Gluzman (Australia)	
Shane Hill (Australia)	
Robert Jamieson (Australia)	
Aleksandar Wohl (Australia)	
Russell Dive (New Zealand)	
Paul Garbett (New Zealand)	
Anthony Ker (New Zealand)	
Benjamin Martin (New Zealand)	
Vernon Small (New Zealand)	
Puchen Wang (New Zealand)	

APPENDIX III – PROPOSED OCEANIA BUDGET 2011-2014 (US\$)

	2011	2012	2013	2014
INCOME				
Membership Fees	2,000	3,000	4,000	5,000
Sponsorship	25,000	30,000	35,000	40,000
FIDE Assistance	25,000	30,000	35,000	40,000
TOTAL	\$52,000	\$63,000	\$74,000	\$85,000
EXPENSES				
Zone Championships	10,000	0	10,000	0
Open Championships	0	10,000	10,000	10,000
Seniors Championships	2,000	2,000	2,000	2,000
Junior Championships	0	10,000	10,000	20,000
Arbiter Seminars	5,000	5,000	5,000	5,000
Train the Trainers	5,000	5,000	5,000	5,000
Marketing	5,000	5,000	5,000	7,500
Administration	5,000	5,000	5,000	7,500
Equipment	10,000	11,000	12,000	13,000
Travel	10,000	10,000	10,000	15,000
TOTAL	\$52,000	\$63,000	\$74,000	\$85,000