Mind Sports
Fitness For The Mind

Challenging for the young with high educational value
An active and social lifestyle for the elderly
Sharpening strategic insights for managers
An entertaining pastime for everybody

International Mind Sports Association

* Uniting four federations of the traditional mind sports: chess, bridge, go and draughts
* With over 400 National Associations and close to 100 million players
* Founded under auspices of the General Association of International Sports Federations
* In cooperation with International Olympic Committee and other global organizations

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Contact: José Damiani, President
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HISTORY and OBJECTIVES of the INTERNATIONAL MIND SPORTS ASSOCIATION (IMSA)

SportAccord, Seoul, April 2006

During the Sport Accord Congress, held in Berlin, Germany on 19th April 2005,
* The World Bridge Federation (WBF) represented by Mr. J. Damiani, President
* The International Chess Federation (FIDE) represented by Mr. G. Makropoulos, Deputy President and Mr. D. Jarrett, Treasurer
* The World Federation of the Draught Games (FMJD) represented by Mr. W. Van Beek, Vice-President
* The International GO Federation (IGF) represented by Mr E. Puyt, Vice-President and Mr. R. Yamamoto, General Manager.

met together under the aegis of the General Association of International Sports Federations (GAISF) and decided to constitute the International Mind Sports Association (IMSA) to be registered as non-profit organization in Monaco.

The aim of this Association is to engage in a dialogue with the International Olympic Committee for the organization of the World Mind Games – Intellympiads - to be held in the Olympic cities following the Winter or Summer Games at a time to be mutually agreed.

This project would have the advantage of using the infrastructures already put into place for the Olympic Games and re-utilizing the teams of volunteers. The final objective, beyond the factual, is of course to facilitate the admission of the national federations of these mind sports into their respective National Olympic Committees.

The Association intends to work towards the recognition of the quality of teaching these disciplines lavished on young people and which helps them considerably in their curriculum (career path).

The Association will therefore work in liaison with – in addition to the IOC and the GAISF – UNESCO and the UN, as it is convinced of its capacity to improve the level of education in the world and to participate in a more peaceful entente through the practice of these sports.

The Executive Committee of IMSA is composed of the following members:

President: José DAMIANI – WBF – Bridge
Deputy President: George MAKROPOULOS – FIDE – Chess
General Secretary: Erik PUYT – IGF - Go
Treasurer: Wouter Van BEEK – FMJD – Draughts
Honorary Secretary: Jean-Claude SCHUPP

The Executive Committee has fixed as its objective the organization of the 1st Games for Mind Sports in 2008 for which the number of participants is still to be decided, either a smaller participation (1500 to 2000 participants), or a larger event (4000 to 4500 participants). The different Federations are studying their possibilities and will present their conclusions at the next meeting of the Executive Committee. With regard to the host city, the President has been in contact with China and negotiations are on-going.

On the administrative front, a draft of the Statutes has been submitted to the Ministry for the Interior in Monaco. The reply and the comments of the Ministry should be received by us shortly. It will then be necessary to transmit the Statutes to the Government of the Principality for final approval.

The President met with the President of the IOC, Dr. Rogge and the Director of Sports, Mr. Gilbert Felli who both encouraged President José Damiani to persevere with his endeavours.

The International Go Federation occupies a stand, during SportAccord 2006, in order to promote the four member Mind Sports of the IMSA and to announce our progress towards organizing the first Games in 2008.

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HISTOIRE et OBJECTIFS de L’INTERNATIONAL MIND SPORT ASSOCIATION (IMSA)

SportAccord, Seoul, Avril 2006

Le 19 avril 2005 à l’occasion du Congrès “Sport Accord” à Berlin, Allemagne,

* La World Bridge Federation (WBF) représentée par M. J. Damiani, Président
* La Fédération Internationale des Echecs (FIDE) représentée par M. G. Makropoulos, Deputy Président et M. D. Jarrett, Trésorier
* La Fédération Mondiale des Jeux de Dames (FMJD) représentée par M. W. van Beek, Vice-Président
* L’International GO Federation (IGF) représentée par M. E. Puyt, Vice-Président et M. R. Yamamoto, Directeur Général.


Le but de cette Association est d’engager le dialogue avec le Comité International Olympique pour l’organisation des « World Mind Games » ou Intellympiads dans les cités Olympiques à la suite des Jeux d’Hiver ou d’Été dans un délai à examiner mutuellement.

Ce projet aurait pour avantage d’utiliser les infrastructures réalisées pour les Jeux Olympiques et de faire revivre les équipes de bénévoles. L’objectif final, au-delà de l’événement, est bien de faciliter l’admission des fédérations nationales de ces différents sports de l’esprit à leurs Comités Nationaux Olympiques.

L’Association entend œuvrer pour la reconnaissance de la qualité de l’enseignement de ces disciplines prodigué aux jeunes et qui les aide considérablement dans leur cursus.
Elle entend donc travailler en liaison, au-delà du CIO et de l’AGFIS, avec l’UNESCO et l’ONU convaincue qu’elle est de sa capacité à améliorer le niveau d’éducation dans le monde et participer ainsi à la promotion de la paix à travers la pratique de ces sports.

Le Comité Exécutif de l’IMSA se compose des membres suivants :

Président : José DAMIANI – WBF – Bridge
Deputy President: George MAKROPOULOS – FIDE – Echecs
Secrétaire Général : Erik PUYT – IGF – Go
Trésorier : Wouter Van BEEK – FMJD – Dames
Secrétaire Honoraire: Jean-Claude Schupp

Le Comité Exécutif s’est fixé l’objectif d’organiser les 1ers Jeux des Sports de l’Esprit en 2008 avec une participation qui reste à définir, soit une participation réduites (1500 à 2000 participants, soit une participation plus importantes (4000 à 4500) personnes. Les Fédérations participantes étudient leurs possibilités et présenteront leur conclusion lors de la prochaine réunion du Comité Exécutif. En ce qui concerne la ville organisatrice, le Président a pris des contacts avec la Chine et les négociations sont actuellement en cours.

Sur le plan administratif, le projet de Statuts a été soumis au Ministère de l’Intérieur à Monaco. La réponse et les commentaires du Ministère devraient nous parvenir dans les meilleurs délais. Il restera donc à les transmettre au Gouvernement de la Principauté pour accord final.

Le Président a rencontré le Président du CIO, le Dr. Rogge et le Directeur des Jeux, Mr Gilbert Felli qui ont encouragé le Président José Damiani a persévéré dans son entreprise.


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The Founding Members of the International Mind Sport Association (IMSA)

The IMSA was founded under the auspices of the General Association of International Sport Federations. The Founding Declaration of the IMSA was also signed by Acting President of the GAISF, Mr. Hein Verbruggen and the Secretary General, Mrs. Christine Dominguez.

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<tr>
<th>International Go Federation</th>
<th>FMJD</th>
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<tr>
<td>This Oldest Game Beginning with Nothing Endless Universe</td>
<td>Draughts is an elimination game where one player tries to capture all the pieces of the opponent on a board with 100 squares.</td>
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<td>Go is a territory game, where each player tries to surround the largest part of the board by strategically placing their black or white stones on the intersections.</td>
<td>The FMJD, World draughts federation, was founded in 1947 by four federations, France, the Netherlands, Belgium and Switzerland. Its main purpose was to regulate the competition on the world championship. From this early start, the FMJD grew to close to fifty participating national federations it has as present, more than 25% of which are countries in Africa. Recently the FMJD has become a member of the GAISF. The FMJD membership is part of a more general movement towards integration of mind sports in the regular sports arenas, a development that in the vision of the FMJD is to be lauded.</td>
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<th>FIDE</th>
<th>World Bridge Federation</th>
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<td>The Royal Game of Chess. Originally the game of kings, chess today is a sport for all. Sixteen white pieces battle against 16 black pieces on a board of 64 squares.</td>
<td>Bridge is a contract game where teams try to outwit each other based on information collected during the bidding stage.</td>
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<td>Founded in Paris on 20 July 1924, the World Chess Federation (Fédération Internationale des Échecs - FIDE) is the supreme body responsible for the organisation of the game globally. There are 158 national federations in membership covering all continents. The FIDE was recognized by the IOC in June 1999 as an International Sports Federation. In 2005 the FIDE became full member of the GAISF. Apart from the organisation of World Championships, FIDE has an active programme for assistance to chess developing countries. Emphasis is also given to the benefit of chess as part of the education system.</td>
<td>The World Bridge Federation (WBF) was formed in August 1958 by delegates from Europe, USA and South America. The WBF is recognised by the IOC as International Sports Federation in 1999. In 2000 the WBF became full member of the GAISF. The WBF has shown strong and steady growth and its membership now comprises 125 National Bridge Organisations (NBOs) with approximately 1,000,000 affiliated members who participate actively in competitive bridge events (locally, nationally and internationally). Based on many positive aspects of bridge the WBF promotes it as sport for young and old.</td>
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