

International Correspondence Chess Federation

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Report to the 2019 Congress Direct Entry Program

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Dear Chess friends,

1. Introduction

I am pleased to submit my second report as Entry Commissioner to the 2019 ICCF Congress regarding the Direct Entry Program. The period of this report will be through to 31st December 2018.

2. Direct Entry Program

The Direct Entry Program enables players to register for ICCF events subject to holding the appropriate qualifications for that event by making a payment through PayPal. Unfortunately, some countries are not part of the Direct Entry Program; I sincerely hope that they join as soon as possible.

The Program benefits from the automation of the process for entries on the webserver. This process is being continually reviewed to seek possible improvements, and I extend my thanks to all those involved in ensuring this system works so efficiently.

I am pleased to report that the Direct Entry Program has now received over 21,000 eligible entries. The program has received an average of about 198 entries per month.

3. Information about the Direct Entry Program

From January to December 2019, there were 2373 entries for ICCF tournaments registered, that is 6.50 entries per day.

4. Rejected entries

Unfortunately, there are occasions when the Direct Entry Office has to reject entries, and this can occur for a variety of reasons. Delegates are kindly requested to remind those players within their Federation of their need to be qualified to enter the event of their choice. The qualification criteria for the various events appear on the webserver. It would save the players' disappointment and the Direct Entry Office a lot of work if the number of rejections could be dramatically reduced. Thank you for your cooperation.

5. Appreciation

I wish to thank:

- All Tournament Organisers for their continued support of the Direct Entry Office and the Programme.
- All National Federations with whom the Direct Entry Office has had contact for their cooperation.

Especially many thanks to Austin Lockwood for his work to upgrade the registration system

It has been an honour to serve the ICCF as Entry Commissioner.

Thomas Biedermann Entry Commissioner