Call for Entries for the 1996 ICCA Best Annotation Award

Annotation programs should be submitted on disk to David Levy and/or Tony Marsland, complete with full operating instructions in English, to arrive not later than December 31st, 1996 The software on the disk must run under a standard system, such as DOS, MacOS, Windows or Unix
Background information for the previous competitions can be found in previous issues of the Journal and on the ICCA home page URL http //www cs rulimburg nl/icca/

THE 1996 WORLD MICROCOMPUTER CHESS CHAMPIONSHIP

Jakarta, Indonesia
October 9th-16th, 1996

David Levy[1]

London, England

The ICCA is pleased to announce that the 1996 World Microcomputer Chess Championship will take place in Jakarta, Indonesia, thanks to the most generous sponsorship of Gunadarma University The dates are October 9th-16th, with arrival on October 7th and departure on October 17th

Travel and Hotel
The sponsors are generously providing free air tickets for up to 24 participants and officials, either Amsterdam-Jakarta-Amsterdam or Los Angeles-Jakarta-Los Angeles (It will be the responsibility of the participants to make their own way to Amsterdam or Los Angeles) Under the terms of the contract between the ICCA and the sponsors these air tickets will be in our hands at least 1 month prior to the tournament 21 or 22 of the tickets will be allocated to participating programs and 2 or 3 to tournament officials

In addition the sponsors are arranging for vastly reduced prices at a 4-star or 5-star hotel in Jakarta − these rooms will cost the participants US $40 per night per room

Computers
The sponsors are arranging for all PC-based programs to be provided with the loan (free of charge) of a computer (Pentium 100 or faster) These loan computers will all have the same processor speed

Anyone wishing to run on a different type of computer must make their own arrangements, though the sponsors will do their best to liaise with the local office of the manufacturers in order to assist

Anyone who will be bringing their own computer should notify me of the details not later than **September 7th** The sponsors will then contact the customs authorities in Jakarta to expedite the formalities at the airport and to ensure that no customs duty needs to be paid by the participant
The sponsors have indicated that they expect to provide all those who need them with the free loan of 133 MHz P5 PCs

Schedule
The schedule for applications etc is as follows

Saturday August 3rd
All entries must be RECEIVED by David Levy Please note that I shall be away from July 20th until August 3rd and my e-mail service will return to you anything sent between July 20th and about July 27th This means that anyone entering by email must do so and have a confirmation of receipt from me not later than July 19th Any entries made after that date should be duplicated by a snailmail copy to

David Levy, 89, Constantine Road, London NW3 2LP, England or by fax to me at +44 171 482 0672

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[1] 89, Constantine Road, London, NW3 2LP England Email DavidL@intrsrch demon co uk

Wednesday August 7ᵗʰ
All applicants will be sent notification of their entry status This will be in one of the following categories

[a] Entry accepted — free air ticket These tickets will be allocated in the following way The participants will be ranked by the ICCA and the top ranked 20-21 non-commercial entrants will be allocated free tickets If there are any tickets unallocated (i e , if the number of non-commercial entries is fewer than 20-21) then these remaining tickets will be allocated to the commercial participants in descending order of ranking

Please note that, in addition to providing the 24 free tickets, our hosts are TRYING to arrange for a discount for any other participants, spouses, friends etc who may wish to go to the tournament

Please note that a participant accepting a free ticket will probably be depriving another applicant of that ticket, so if you accept a ticket the ICCA expects you to use it. Cancellations at short notice may result in a ticket being wasted.
The ICCA reserves the right to take sanctions against any programming team which accepts a free ticket and then does not use it. These sanctions could include a ban for 1997 and/or 1998 from participation in ICCA events.

[b] Entry accepted — no air ticket Participants in this category will still be able to avail themselves of the US $40 per day room rate in the host hotel

[c] Entry rejected The ICCA will only reject entries from "real" programs (i e , programs which genuinely exist) under exceptional circumstances (such as too many entries for the available space)

Saturday September 7ᵗʰ
Free air tickets should be in the hands of the ICCA

As soon as these tickets have been received by the ICCA I shall notify the appropriate participants of the date, time and flight numbers of their flight to Jakarta Participants should then arrange their own transportation to Amsterdam or Los Angeles, arriving IN GOOD TIME to make the connection Please note that these free tickets will not be subject to alteration and so any participant who does not make the connection will need to make alternative arrangements at their own expense

Sunday October 6ᵗʰ (provisional)
Departure from Amsterdam / Los Angeles

Monday October 7ᵗʰ (provisional)
Arrive in Jakarta

Tuesday October 8ᵗʰ
Set up and testing of computers

Wednesday October 9ᵗʰ
Opening ceremony and first round

Thursday October 17ᵗʰ
Closing ceremony, prizegiving and departure

Entry Fees
There is no entry fee for amateur entries For manufacturers of dedicated chess computers the entry fee is US $4,000 For all other commercial programs the entry fee is US $1,000

Tournament Rules

1. Each entry is a computing system and one or more human operators. A listing of all chess-related programs running on the system must be available on demand to the Tournament Director. Each entry requires at least one full-time operator.

2. The chess-playing code of a participating program must execute on a single, generally-available microprocessor. The Tournament Director has the right to demand that a computer be opened for inspection in order to verify that this is the case.

3. Participants are required to attend an organizational meeting in the tournament hall on October 9th (time to be advised) for the purpose of officially registering for the tournament. Any questions about the rules will be resolved at that meeting.

4. The tournament will be an 11 round Swiss-system event.

5. The following titles will be awarded at the tournament:

   [a] 1996 Absolute World Microcomputer Chess Champion — for the overall winner of the tournament.

   [b] 1996 World Microcomputer Amateur Chess Champion — for the highest placed entry by a team made up entirely from amateur programmers.

   [c] 1996 Dedicated Chess Computer World Champion — for the highest placed entry by a dedicated chess computer.

   The order of finish will be determined by the total number of points earned. In the event of a tie for any of the titles a one-game play-off will be organized between the tied programs. If more than 2 programs are involved in the tie the play-off game will be between the two programs which have the best tie-break scores (see below). The rate of play for a play-off game will be decided by the Tournament Director, bearing in mind the time available to play the game. If the play-off game is drawn then the tie-breaking method will be used to determine the winner of the title. The first tie-break will be by sum of opponents' scores. If there is still a tie it will be broken on the basis of the sum of the respective programs' cumulative scores after each round (i.e., score after round 1 + score after round 2 + ... + score after round 11).

6. Unless otherwise specified, rules of play are identical to those of "human" tournament play. If a point is in question the Tournament Director has the right to make the final decision.

7. The rate of play will be 30 moves in the first hour and 40 moves in each subsequent hour. After 6 hours elapsed time the Tournament Director has the right to adjudicate a game using the presumption of perfect play.

8. An operator may ask the Tournament Director to stop clocks at most twice during a game because of technical problems. The operator can ask the Tournament Director for permission to restart the program. When restarting after a failure of any kind, the operator must reset all parameters to their values at the time the game was interrupted. Clocks must be restarted after at most a fifteen-minute delay.

9. An operator error made when starting a game or in the middle of a game can be corrected only with the approval of the Tournament Director. If an operator enters an incorrect move, the Tournament Director must be notified immediately.
   Both clocks will be stopped. The game must then be backed up to where the error occurred. Clocks will be backed up to their settings when the error occurred using whatever information is available. Both sides may then adjust program parameters with the approval of the Tournament Director. The Tournament Director may not allow certain parameters to be changed, e.g., the contempt factor.

10 Each team must position their computer monitor in such a way that the opponent has a good view of it An operator can only (1) type in moves and (2) respond to requests from the computer for clock information If an operator must type in any other information it must be approved ahead of time by the Tournament Director The operator cannot query the system to see if it is alive without permission of the Tournament Director

11 A team must receive the approval of the Tournament Director to change from one computing system to another

12 Each game is played on a chess-board and with a chess clock both provided by the Tournament Committee

13 At the end of each game, each team is required to hand in a game listing to the Tournament Director

14 At least one member of every programming team must be a current (1996) member of the ICCA and have paid the membership fee for 1996 An ICCA official will be collecting membership fees from anyone who has not yet paid

ENTRY FORM

1996 WORLD MICROCOMPUTER CHESS CHAMPIONSHIP

Name of program

Author(s) of program

(Please list authors' names in the order in which you wish them to appear in any printed material about the tournament Note that an entry may be submitted only by one of the authors of a program)

Name and address for correspondence

Affiliation (university, company, etc)

Work tel   Home tel

Fax number   E-mail address

Estimated rating

Basis of rating

INFORMATION ABOUT THE COMPUTER

(Please describe the computer you wish to use Please indicate if you would like to use one of the loan PCs provided by the sponsors)

Manufacturer of computer and model

RAM required: ....

Disk space: ....

O/S and any additional information: ....

INFORMATION ABOUT THE PROGRAM

Language(s): ....

Nodes searched per second: ....

Size of openings book: ....

Does your program use endgame databases? (if so, please discuss them briefly.) ....

....

Who will come to Jakarta and operate your program? ....

....

DESCRIPTION

Please provide a 100-word description of your program for use by the ICCA and the local host organization.

AMATEUR STATUS

Do you consider your entry to be an amateur entry? If so, please justify your claim. ....

....

CLOSING DATE FOR ENTRIES

All entries must be received not later than **August 3rd 1996** in order for them to be considered for free air tickets. Any entries received after that date may still be accepted for the tournament at the discretion of the ICCA but free air tickets will only be available if not already allocated to participants who entered by August 3rd.

Entries should be sent to David Levy:

By e-mail to: DavidL@intrsrch.demon.co.uk

Please send a copy e-mail to: tony@cs.ualberta.ca

By post to: David Levy, 89, Constantine Road, London NW3 2LP, England.
By fax to: +44 171 482 0672. Telephone enquiries: +44 171 485 9146.

Reminder
Please note that I shall be away from July 20th until August 3rd and my e-mail service will return to you anything sent between July 20th and about July 27th. This means that anyone entering by email must do so and have a confirmation of receipt from me not later than July 19th. Any entries made after that date should be duplicated by a snailmail and/or fax copy.