

THE 5TH WORLD MICROCOMPUTER-CHESS CHAMPIONSHIP

To be held in Amsterdam, The Netherlands
September 7 to September 15, 1985

Amsterdam will host the 5th World Microcomputer-chess Championship sponsored by the World Trade Center (WTC). The WTC will provide many facilities as part of the inaugural ceremonies of its new location which will house the tournament (from September 7 to September 15, 1985).

THE ORGANIZING COMMITTEE

The organizing committee, Computer Chess Federation Amsterdam, was founded by the 'Initiative Committee Amsterdam', a well-established civic group. The Computer Chess Federation Amsterdam, in which Mr. Louwman and Mr. Ten Have are involved as organizers, has only recently asked the CSVN (Computer Schaak Vereniging Nederland) to formulate the exact rules for participation in the tournament. This implies that the ICCA has not been able formally to sanction the tournament so far. However, the organizers may be expected to comply with the ICCA Presential requests as published in the report on the Glasgow occasion (Vol. 7, No. 4, pp. 203-209). In his discourse, Prof. Newborn, ICCA President, remarks: 'I can only conclude the question is extremely complex and really best avoided by not having the ICCA sanction commercial events'. This implies that the ICCA's preference is for one group in which the title 'World Microcomputer Chess Champion 1985' will be awarded to the winner of the group (in accordance with the rules of play still to be settled). Although the organizing committee is fighting against the clock, they have provided us with some information which we reproduce below.

THE ORGANIZATION

The tournament will be an eight-round Swiss-system tournament for approximately 30 participants. (The organizers have (had?) under consideration two groups: a. Commercial programs, about 28 participants; b. Non-commercial programs, about 12 participants). The conditions for the programs according to the provisional proposals of the committee read: 'participants should be chess-programs whose playing codes are executed by a single available one-chip microprocessor and/or personal computer systems, but no bit-slice machines. Participating teams are expected to bring their own hardware which must be present in the tournament hall'.

In a first draft proposal, the organizing committee has suggested the entry fee to be \$ 500.-- for each commercial computer (program); there will be no charge for non-commercial programs. Any company may participate with at most three different computers. A special prize will be presented to the team of three computers with the best total result.

THE TIME SCHEDULE

The opening ceremony will take place on Saturday, September 7, 1985 at 11.00. The Lord Mayor, Mr. Ed van Thijn, is expected to open the tournament. The opening will be followed by a lunch for participants and invited guests.

Round 1 will be held on Saturday, September 7 from 14.30 to 22.30, rounds 2-7 on September 8-11 and September 13-14 from 14.00 to 22.00; September 12 will be free. Round 8 will take place on Sunday, September 15, from 10.00 to 18.00. The closing dinner and ceremony is planned on September 15, at 18.30.

WHOM TO CONTACT

The organization of items such as Tournament Bulletin, Tournament Director, Commentator, etc. is still in progress. A list of hotels with special discounts near the World Trade Center Amsterdam will be provided when applying as a contestant or as a visitor.

For entries and for any further information, please contact

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The International Chess Master for Composition, Jac Haring, has furnished the Organization Committee with a wonderful chess composition, a mate-in-two - in fact three mate-in-twos -, which are hard to solve for ordinary chess programs. These problems will be revealed as soon as the organizing committee will have arranged the relevant details. The deadline for entries is August 1, 1985.

The major part of the information above has been provided by Mr. J. ten Have and Mr. J. Louwman. The Editor is glad to publish this announcement while disclaiming personal responsibility for the details provided.



Photo by
L. Lindner

The Glasgow glamorous. The micro-victors
of yesteryear with their prizes