



# FINAL REPORT

## Zone 4.2 Individual Chess Championships 2019

Dates Held :4<sup>th</sup> to 12<sup>th</sup> May, 2019

Venue: The Shaza Hotel  
Mombasa, Kenya



# Introduction

The 2019 Zone 4.2 African Individual Chess Championship was held at the Shaza in Mombasa, from 4 May (arrival) - 12 May (departure). The tournament attracted 45 participants from 11 countries with the open section having 31 participants and the ladies section 14 participants. This was the highest turn up in the history of zone 4.2 championship especially in relation to number of federations represented.

## VISA ISSUE

Chess Kenya had to deal with a few challenges and the biggest of them was acquiring visas for players from Eritrea, Somali and Somaliland. Eritrea do not have a Kenyan embassy and therefore couldn't be able to apply for visa.

We want to thank the immigration department for coming through for us in helping us to acquire the important documents so that our visitors could come into the country.

## ARRIVAL OF PLAYERS

Two players from Seychelles were the first to arrive in Kenya after they landed on May 3, one day before the event. The team paid for their early accommodation and were picked from the airport by the hotel's transport.

On May, 4 a bulk of the players arrived at the venue and were able to attend colorful opening ceremony held at the tournament's venue.



Players enjoying local traditional dance during Opening Ceremony

## TECHINICAL MEETING

Technical meeting was held on 5<sup>th</sup> from 10am -12pm. Some of the issues that were discussed were:

### **Changes on schedule of game schedule and meals timetable**

the organizers were requested to adjust the timetable to accommodate players who are Muslim. It was mentioned that Muslim players were fasting and will require to take meals at 1600hours,2200hours and 0400hours. This therefore led to adjustment to start games at 1000hours in the morning and 1900hours in the evening. Organizers also made special arrangement for Muslim players to be served with food at requested time.

### **Tournament rules**

The chief Arbiter went through the rules and were generally accepted. There was slight amendment of the tie break to conform with world championship cycle as communicated.

### **DGT Boards**

The organizers mentioned that they have nine DGT boards for live transmission of the games. It was agreed five are given to open section and four to ladies' section since they are fewer.



Participants following keenly proceedings of technical meeting

## Actual Tournament

The tournament's Egyptian top seed GM Ahmed Adly (2618) and former World Junior Champion won 7 and drew 2 games to amass 8/9 points to be declared the winner, bagging the coveted slot of representing Zone 4.2 at the Chess World Cup 2019 (a 128-player single-elimination chess tournament) to be held in Khanty-Mansiysk, Russia from 9 September to 2 October 20.



*GM Ahmed Adly*

The Ugandan duo of FM Haruna Nsubuga (2213) and IM Arthur Ssegwanyi (2353) each garnered 7.5/9 points but were separated by tie-break to finish as 1st and 2nd runner-up respectively. His outstanding performance earned FM Nsubuga 1st International Master (IM) norm and US\$ 687 as IM Ssegwanyi pocketed US\$ 562 .



*FM Haruna Nsubuga*





*IM Arthur Ssegwanyi*

Egypt's GM Abdelrahman Hesham (2421) finished in 4th place with 6.5/9 points after drawing with GM Adly in round 5 and losing to IM Ssegwanyi in round 6 and FM Haruna in round 8. He was awarded US\$ 300 for his efforts as Uganda's veteran CM Bob Bibasa completed the podium finish in 5th place with 6/9 points, getting US\$ 200 .



*GM Abdelrahman Hesham*

GM Essam El Gindy (2443) from Egypt was forced to withdraw from the tournament after his surprise loss to Kenya's Mehul Gohil (2062) in the fifth round citing poor health. He ruefully watched from the sidelines as the winners were feted with cash prizes and glittering trophies.



*GM Essam El Gindy*





*Mehul Gohil*

In the Ladies section, Uganda's WFM Ivy Amoko (1838) won 8 games in a row after her round 1 defeat to her compatriot WCM Shakira Ampaire (1632) to finish with 8/9 points and be crowned champion, as well as earning the Woman International Master (WIM) title.

In a show of might from the Egyptian contingent, Alaa Moataz (1830) and WFM Sohalya Abdelmenaem (1837) tied on 6.5/9 points apiece but settled for the 1st and 2nd runner-up positions, separated by tie-break, and took home US\$ 300 and US\$ 200 respectively.



*WFM Sohalya Abdelmenaem*

Sudan's FM Abdalla Mohamed Abdelazeez (2139) and GM Hesham were joint 1st in the blitz event with 8.5/9 points apiece as FM Nsubuga triumphed in the rapid event with 6/7 points. Kenya's former national champion WCM Joyce Nyaruai (1647) was the best lady.



*WFM Joyce Nyaruai*



## Closing Cereremony

The Closing ceremony was graced by the Chess Kenya (CK) President Benard Wanjala and the Zone 4.2 President Omer Abdalla Omer Deab from Sudan who was the guest of honor and also presided over the colorful awards ceremony. Uganda's Chess Federation (UCF) President Emmanuel Mwaka was also in attendance.

The championship was broadcast live on Follow Chess and LiveChess courtesy of Terrian Chess Academy.



*GM Adly reveives his prize from*



*Proud Bob Bibasa of Uganda receiving his prize*



*Team Egypt!*



*Some of the prizes*

## **Payment for cash prizes**

All prizes were settled in full and distributed as follows

### **Cash Prizes Open Section**

	Amount
1.GM Ahmed Adley (Egypt)	\$1,000
2.Haruna Nsubuga (Uganda)	\$687
3.Arthur Ssengwanyi (Uganda)	\$563
4.GM Abdelrahman Hesham (Egypt)	\$300
5. Bob Bibasa (Uganda)	\$200

### **Ladies Section**

1.Ivy Clair Amoko	\$500
2.WFM Abdelmenaem Sohayla	\$300
3.Moataz Alaa	\$200

## **Arbiters Payment-Fees and ticket refunds**

All arbiters were paid as per appointment terms and reimbursed air tickets in full

1.Kisuze Stephen- Chief Arbiter (Uganda)	\$1250
2.Amar Eltahir Suliman (Sudan)	\$800
3.Stephen Ouma (Kenya)	\$600
4.Joy Wangare (Kenya)	\$450



<b>Income and Expenditure for African Zone 4.2</b>	
<b>Income</b>	Amount(\$)
Total collections-Accommodation	7,821
-Entry fees	4,481
Fide grants	10,000
Entry fees for open and blitz	407
Total Income	22,709
<b>Expenditure</b>	
Accommodation	21,762
Prize money (Open and ladies)	3,819
Prize money(blitz and rapids)	489
Arbiters fees and refunds	3,106
Video and Photography	560
Media	407
Pick up and drop for visitors and local team	611
Open day at Healer Park in Mombasa (transport and entry fees)	204
Trophies	305
Hire of DTG boards- Githinji	275
Hire of DTG boards – Kidula	204
Receipt books and recording sheets	163
Tags and tournament advertising materia	244
Wandera	204
Rodah	204
Miscellaneous	102
<b>Total Expenditure</b>	32,658
Deficit bridged by Chess Kenya	(9,949)

## Challenges

1. Finances was of course one of the biggest challenges we had. In my estimation, we needed about €10,000 from sponsorships to be able to run the event successfully but we did not get this money hence forcing us to spend all our national federation resources including borrowing from the league account to settle the bills
2. It was unexpected to have special arrangement for Muslim players fasting. It was a challenge to convince the hotel to make adjustments.
5. One of the players from Somali was a nuisance and at one time was kicked out of the event. We however reinstated him after he partly paid part of his dues. I recommend that this particular player be barred from taking part in ACC events and his federation be advised to sanction him. The same player was nearly involved in a scuffle with another from Somaliland and we thank the arbiter for handling the matter well

## RECOMMENDATIONS

- 1) The hosting country should strive hard to secure sponsorship to supplement the FIDE grant and fees collected. This implies that as ACC we should give hosting countries good notice to do so. The expenses involved are so heavy and can easily embarrass the hosting federation if not financially stable to absorb some costs.
- 2) In order to cut costs, we should ask African Chess Confederation (ACC) to cut down on the number of arbiters they bring to events that attracts players of about 50 and below. One important point noted is consideration of Arbiters from different language speaking. It was a huge asset to have an arbiter from Sudan who was able to solve cases involving Arabic speaking countries such as Egypt, Somalia, Djibouti, Somaliland, Eritrea. This should be encouraged in all continental events.
- 3) It should be clear before starts as to who is responsible for payment of stipend for ACC officials like head of appeals committee etc. Mr. Omer from Sudan had been convinced Chess Kenya were to pay his \$850 stipend.

On behalf of Chess Kenya, I would like to thank ACC and FIDE for giving us the opportunity to host the event, we gained valuable experience that will be very useful in our future endeavors.

We look forward hosting even bigger events in future

Yours Sincerely,  
CHESS KENYA FEDERATION



Benard Wanjala  
PRESIDENT