

**13<sup>th</sup> Chess Olympiad for Blind & Visually Impaired Players**

**October, 18 - 29, 2008**

**Hotel «APOLLONIA», Ammoudara - Crete**

**Hellenic Sports Federation for Persons with Disabilities**

**Co-organizers: Heraklion Prefecture & Municipality of Gazi**

**Under the auspices of I.B.C.A. & Secretariat General of Sports**

**Event Sponsors:**

**Ministry of Transportation & Communications, Greek National Tourism Organization,  
Hellenic Post**

**Press Release 10/25/2008**

The 6<sup>th</sup> round of the 13<sup>th</sup> Chess Olympiad for Blind & Visually Impaired Players was especially competitive. After a fascinating game, the Russian team succeeded to win the former Olympic Winner team of Poland (score 2,5 - 1,5). Consequently, Russia, who has 3 points difference from the second teams, is heading now towards the Gold Medal. At the 7<sup>th</sup> round Russia will play against the powerful team of Ukraine, Poland against Germany and Spain against United Kingdom. All the above mentioned teams, at this point, are at the second place. So, there is an exquisite interest in which teams finally will gain the silver and bronze medal.

The Mayor of Gazi, Mr. Georgios Markogiannakis, visited the playroom and discussed with members of the National Teams and especially the Greek Delegation. Mr. Markogiannakis talked with great esteem about the chess players and congratulated the H.S.F.P.D. President, Mr. Georgios Foundoulakis as well as Mr. Nikolaos Kalesis, Competition Manager and Mr. Dimitrios Kefalas, Media Responsible for the excellent organization.

During the I.B.C.A. Congress yesterday, the following three Greek Arbiters were honored - for the first time - with the title of I.B.C.A. Arbiter: Mr. Nikolaos Kalesis, Mr. Dimitrios Kefalas and Mr. Elissaios Vlachos. This is a great recognition on behalf of I.B.C.A. It is, also, worth to notice that only 29 persons from all over the world are honored with this title.

It is really impressive and encouraging the fact that the visitors of the 13<sup>th</sup> Olympiad's web site are more than 13.000 (at the 7<sup>th</sup> day of the competition). In the web site you can find not only press releases, greetings, pairings results and statistics but also interesting news, photos and the chess games per day. The chief of the web team is Mr. Ioannis Gkoumas.