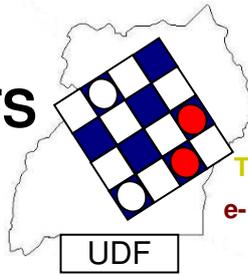


UGANDA DRAUGHTS

c/o P.O. Box 2871
Kampala, Uganda



FEDERATION

Tel.: 0772615770/0772454567/0772672315
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The General Secretary, FMJD

Dear Sir

Re: Status of draughts in Uganda and recommendations to FMJD

Uganda Draughts Federation (UDF) started in 1997, when it got the recognition of Government by getting affiliated to the National Council of Sports (NCS). The game is played by so many people countrywide but in most cases for leisure and recreation purposes. The most common version of draughts played in Uganda is Pool checkers but we also play, checkers, Brazilian, Russian and International draughts. We organise individual as well as club championship for these four draughts versions. Some schools and companies play draughts as well and all the draughts versions have great potential to expand in the country.

The main challenge hindering draughts development in Uganda is shortage of funds. The game is one of those sports disciplines that rarely get financial support from the Government. We lack key necessities such as draughts boards, timers and draughts textbooks. There is limited publicity on radios, televisions and news papers. We can't move to all parts of the country due to financial reasons and therefore a certain section of the draughts players in the country are not even aware of the existence of UDF, CAJD and FMJD. We sometimes fail to honour some of the tournaments on our calendar due to financial constraints. We can't build or afford to hire good training venues and sometimes competition venues which discourage many draughts players from active training. Other than YMCA as our main competition venue, the game is mainly played on shop verandas, barber shops and market places and is associated with low income earners.

It is our wish that FMJD acquires recognition of the International Olympic Committee (IOC) so that it becomes easy for us to have recognition of the Uganda Olympic Committee (UOC) since this can be sources of funding. We suggest that pool checkers gets recognition of FMJD. We request that FMJD pursues the option of all their recognised draughts versions to be part of the Olympic Games. There is a need for all draughts stakeholders worldwide to publicise the game so that more people and countries get to know the existence of FMJD which would in turn boost the membership both at national and international level. FMJD should seek for ways of supporting poor member countries in securing funds for covering travel expenses of International Championships as this is a big challenge to many African countries.

We kindly request FMJD to approach IMSA on our behalf to avail us with a copy of the mind games anthem which we can play during our national events to popularise mind games.

Yours faithfully

Moses Kiwanuka, General Secretary