

Lausanne, 30 April 2021

Mr. Janek Mäggi

President

Fédération Mondiale du Jeu de Dames (FMJD)

Via email: janek.maggi@powerhouse.ee

Dear Mr. Mäggi,

While I am still waiting for a response to my proposal to meet and clarify this matter, I want to express WADA's utmost surprise and disappointment to see that the FMJD had elected to publish the following statement on its website.

Concerning the incident related to the Russian symbols removal at the World Title Match in Warsaw

Prior to the match (on 23 of April 2021) the FMJD requested the organizers in Poland to comply with the WADA demands following the RUSADA case. Despite a lot of efforts by the organization, there were apparently some leftovers that were not taken care of. The office of Mr. Banka, director of WADA demanded by phone to the organizers on Tuesday afternoon (on 27 of April) that a Russian flag visible on the table in the live stream should be removed without any delay. When asked whether that could be done after the game was being played WADA still demanded that immediate action was taken or heavy repercussions would fall upon FMJD. For a small federation such as FMJD, it left us no choice and Mr. Pawlicki organizer and former FMJD board member removed the flag. This caused a psychological shock with the player from Bashkortostan (Russia) and she lost the game through a blunder. FMJD would have wished to stay out of the conflict between WADA and RUSADA causing so much anger with sportsmen and women all over Russia. Unfortunately, we had no choice and we very much regret that this issue was blown up to such large proportions.

This statement is at the very least inaccurate and misleading.

We have been liaising with the FMJD since the end of January with regards to the implementation of this Court of Arbitration for Sport (CAS) Award. And from day one, it has been extremely challenging to receive any clear response, not least a clear commitment from your organization to recognize and implement the consequences provided in this decision in a compliant manner in the context of FMJD World Championships. The FMJD Council even went as far as putting on record in the minutes of its 31 March 2021 Council that it *"does not find this decision appropriate"* and that it would *"ask (WADA) to ease the sanctions"*.

I shall remind you here that in light of Article 24.1.9 of the [World Anti-Doping Code](#) and Article 9.5.1 of the [International Standard for Code Compliance by Signatories \(ISCCS\)](#), CAS

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decisions are applicable worldwide and shall be recognized, respected and given full effect by all Code Signatories, including your organization.

This attitude led to the start on Friday 23 April of the FMJD Women's World Title match in a clear non-compliant manner, despite our request to correct the identified non-conformities nearly a day prior to the beginning of this event. Our request remained ignored by the FMJD, and the match continued for another three full days until we had to contact on Monday 27 April the organizer of the event to correct these non-conformities. WADA did not intend and did not ask for the flags to be removed during the match. The manner in which they were removed is not a question for WADA. WADA's sole intention was to ensure the correct implementation of the CAS decision, which clearly should have been carried out by the FMJD prior to the start of the event.

I sincerely hope that you will acknowledge that this situation has gone too far, because of the lack of willingness from the FMJD to comply with the requirements of a decision it is bound to, not the mere intention from WADA to adhere to its monitoring role.

And I furthermore hope that we can now count on the full commitment of the FMJD to respond to our various requests in a timely manner and implement this decision in the same way all other Code Signatories do.

Yours sincerely,



Sébastien Gillot

Director, European Office and International Federation Relations

cc. Mr. Olivier Niggli, Director General, WADA
Ms. Laetitia Zumbrunnen, Senior Manager, International Federation Relations, WADA
Mr. Stephan Fox, President, AIMS
Mr. Yuriy Chertok, General Secretary, FMJD
Mr. Aare Harak, Treasurer, FMJD
Mr. Harry Otten, Director, International Relations, FMJD
Mr. Daniele Macali, Tournament Director, FMJD
Mr. Renato Capurro, Anti-Doping Officer, FMJD