

Report of The FIP Revenue Commission to 76th FIP Congress in Jakarta, Indonesia on 11 August 2020

The FIP Revenue Commission is pleased to provide a report of our activities since the last FIP Congress of 2018.

THE COMMISSION BUREAU

In the Meeting of the FIP Revenue Commission in Taipei, October 2016, the Bureau of our Commission was elected as follows: Chairman **Ralph Ebner** (Germany), Secretary **Jukka Mäkinen** (Finland), and Bureau Members **Károly Szücs** (Hungary, FEPA Representative), **Ronald E. Leshner** (USA, FIAF Representative) and **Darryl Fuller** (Australia, FIAP Representative).

Webmaster **Francisc Ambrus** (Romania) has continued to manage our active and comprehensive website www.fip-revenue.org.

We have constantly encouraged the FIP Member Federations to nominate a Revenue Delegate. At the moment we have 63 Delegates whilst 29 Federations have yet to nominate a Delegate.

UPDATE OF THE REVENUE GUIDELINES

Together with the other FIP Commissions, the Revenue Commission joined a FIP project of Guidelines harmonization in 2017. Our Commission felt updating the Revenue Guidelines most important, not least due to the fact that the Revenue SREV and Guidelines were approved soon after establishing the class in 1991 and never updated since, nearly 30 years.

In the harmonization process in 2018, the Guidelines were completely revised and rewritten. Characteristically, the material of Revenue philately exhibits is especially diverse and, moreover, all types of Revenue exhibits, with differing approaches and treatments, are shown in this class. To emphasize these characteristics and to further open the class to certain material regarded as having border-line status (under the current revenue definition), the Commission Bureau unanimously agreed on two major reforms to be done.

Firstly, the Guidelines extend the definition of Revenues to include non-government revenues where a fee is paid. They are called "fee and credit stamps of private organisations" (ref. Article 1). This change expands the class and allows the inclusion of material that has been on the margin of Revenue philately, but deemed worthy of inclusion.

Secondly, the guidelines more clearly define that a Revenue exhibit can have any approach an exhibitor wants to develop. Beside the most popular "Traditional" type of revenue exhibiting, the Guidelines now encourage to other approaches as well, such as "Fiscal history" and "Subject-based" exhibits. Exhibitors have used all these approaches previously but now they have been clearly described in the Guidelines (ref. Articles 2.1.1. to 2.1.3. and 3.3.4. to 3.3.6.)

Overall, the new Guidelines underline that fact that the Revenue class is the one with the most potential for new and innovative approaches and treatments, as well as for new, undiscovered areas in philately.

The proposed new Guidelines were sent to our Delegates on 1 November, 2018. They were introduced, discussed and unanimously voted for in the Commission meeting on 1 December, 2018 in Bangkok,

Thailand. However, as a quorum of less than 25% of Delegates were present, a new vote, with at least 25% of Delegates present is necessary.

The new vote is planned to be held in the next meeting of the Revenue Commission in London, during the FIP Exhibition London 2020, on Wednesday 6 May at 2:00 pm-4:00 pm.

"WORLD OF REVENUES" SALON HELD IN ESSEN, 2019

Together with the German Society for Fiscal Philately "Arbeitsgemeinschaft Fiscalphilatelie im BDPH e.V." and International Stamp Fair Essen, the FIP Revenue Commission organised a Revenue Salon "World of Revenues" in Essen, Germany, on 9-11 May, 2019.

This international exhibition, devoted solely to fiscal philately, was a great success. It took place with a non-competitive basis with 72 exhibits participating worldwide. The size of the exhibition had to be increased from the expected 200 to the actual 315 frames. With these high numbers, "World of Revenues" was presumably the largest revenue exhibition ever arranged. Instead of points and medals, every exhibitor who wished, got an exhibit evaluation by a group of experienced jurors.

Exhibitors were invited to display revenue the way they feel they should be collected and shown in the frames, free of rules and expectations. "World of Revenues" proved that many exhibitors have enthusiasm to try new ideas and new approaches. Such personal acts of exploration are important for the progression of our class.

The "Traditional" approach, with revenue stamps or revenue stamped paper itself as the storyline, was popular, as usual. Some new innovations were shown, such as an exhibit treating a single printing method applied in numerous Indian Princely States. Many exhibits delighted with the "Fiscal history" approach. They were based on a certain type or selected types of revenue, or by stamp duty rates and Acts. A range of fiscal history exhibits dealt with a selected region or town, let us call them, for example, fiscal home district exhibits. They take a similar approach to the postal history of a town, city or region. The newest "Subject-based" approach was represented by exhibits telling historical or fictional stories developed with revenue material. Additionally, a couple of Open philately exhibits were shown, in both of them the philatelic side was mostly or entirely selected from fiscal philately. While this "Open" approach does not fit within the revised Guidelines for Revenues, it does offer a new approach to Open philately.

A vote of the best exhibits was arranged. Visitors were encouraged to select three exhibits in three different categories as follows: a) the three most impressive exhibits; b) the three exhibits with the highest historical importance; and c) the three most innovative exhibits. The winners of each category were awarded prizes. As the lucky winner of whole the exhibition, with highest number of votes in all categories was summed together with visitors voting **Jenny Banfield** (New Zealand) with her "*Taxed from the Cradle to the Grave*" the best in show.

REVENUE SEMINARS

A Revenue Seminar was arranged during the FIP Exhibition Thailand 2018 in Bangkok on 1 December, 2018, with **Ralph Ebner**, **Ronald E. Leshner** and **Darryl Fuller** as speakers.

At "World of Revenues" Salon in Essen, Germany, a Seminar was arranged on 9 May, 2019, with three speakers: **Ralph Ebner**, **Jenny Banfield** and **Oscar van der Vliet** (the Netherlands).

At Stockholmia, the International celebration of the 150th anniversary of the Royal Philatelic Society London, in Stockholm, Sweden, a Revenue Seminar was held on 1 June, 2019. Beside the host of the Seminar, **Jukka Mäkinen**, the speakers were **Ralph Ebner** and **Jenny Banfield**.

THE AWARDS DATABASES

The complete database of all FIP Revenue exhibits with their awards has been updated after every FIP Exhibition by Secretary **Jukka Mäkinen**. The database is complete since the FIP Revenue Class was established as an Experimental Class in 1988 at FINLANDIA-88 held in Helsinki. The most recent list can be freely downloaded from our website.

The first version of a similar list of Continental FEPA, FIAF and FIAP Exhibition Awards is ready, too, but needs still a lot of work to become complete.

23 January, 2020

On behalf of The FIP Revenue Commission Bureau,

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