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**Read the text and answer the questions that follow.**

**Draughts Match Nearly Triggers Diplomatic Incident**

Not widely reputed as a game of **belligerence** and **bellicosity**, women’s draughts almost sparked a diplomatic incident between Warsaw and Moscow after a Polish official removed a Russian player’s flag during a world championship match.

Damian Reszka, the president of the Polish draughts federation, apologised following outrage on Russian social media, but said organisers had no option but to comply with international sporting rules barring Russians from competing under their flag.

Russia’s Tamara Tansykkuzhina, a six-time world champion, went on to lose the round on Tuesday to Poland’s Natalia Sadowska. The two are competing for the nine-game world title in Warsaw until 3 May, with Sadowska currently ahead.

The president of Russia’s Olympic committee called the **intervention** a “gross mistake”, while Kremlin spokesperson Dmitry Peskov blamed Tansykkuzhina’s defeat on the flag move, saying she had lost “largely due to that incident”.

The official who removed the flag, Jacek Pawlicki, told Reuters news agency organisers were “really under pressure and we were afraid”, adding that it might have been a good idea to “turn the cameras off” so the incident was not broadcast.

“There’s this position on the board called *zugzwang* – which means there’s no good move to make,” Pawlicki said. “And that’s what we had yesterday, a ***zugzwang****.*” He added: “I’m sure that many Russians are upset, and for that I am truly sorry.”

The World Anti-Doping Agency (Wada) banned Russian athletes from competing under their national flag at major international events until December 2022 after finding Russia had not complied with its rules on lab testing to detect illegal doping.

Wada confirmed to Reuters it had requested action over the flag, but said it had neither “asked nor intended” for it to be removed during an actual match. “The manner in which it was removed is not a question for Wada,” it said.

In solidarity with her opponent, Sadowska **subsequently** removed her Polish flag. Reszka said the Polish draughts federation would have risked being excluded from Wada if it had not acted. “Such was the need of the moment,” he said.

**Answer the following questions:**

**Exercise 1: Put the events in order.**

Russia’s flag was removed from the table during a draughts match. \_1\_

Russia had been found guilty of cheating. \_5\_

The Russian Olympic committee president complained. \_4\_

The Russians had cheated. \_2\_

The Russian player lost that round. \_3\_

The Polish opponent removed her flag. \_6\_

**Exercise 2:** Match the word (6-10) with its definition (A-D).

1. Belligerence \_a\_
2. Bellicosity \_e\_
3. Intervention \_c\_
4. Zugzwang \_d\_
5. Subsequently \_b\_
6. aggressive or warlike behavior.
7. afterward
8. bolloxed
9. the action of becoming intentionally involved in a difficult situation, in order to improve it or prevent it from getting worse
10. the behaviour or manner of someone who wants to fight

**Exercise 3:** Put the correct word (7-11) in the space to complete each sentence. You may have to change the form of the word. There is **one word you do not need**.

1. Repeated **intervention** in the currency markets failed to prevent the currency's value falling.
2. He was so popular with the students that he **subsequently** became Rector of the University.
3. The reaction of those attending the debate ranged from wild enthusiasm to outright **belligerence**.
4. I had no direction to turn! I had been **bolloxed** by a master.