

**FIDE ARBITER' COMMISSION MEETING**  
**Athens, 30th of June 2012**

Present: Takis Nikolopoulos (chairman), Dirk De Ridder (secretary), Mahdi Abdulrahim, Klaus Deventer, Werner Stubenvoll (members), Nigel Freeman (FIDE Executive Director), Michalis Kaloumenos (member of the FIDE Qualification Commission, observer)

**1. IA and FA Title Applications**

The IA and FA title applications sent by Elista Office were discussed.

During the discussion of the applications it became clear that it is necessary to discuss the validity of a tournament which is FIDE rated but which has no rated players, especially if this is a continental or world event.

**2. FA Titles and norms from FIDE Arbiters' Seminars for approval**

Some statistics of the FA Seminars since the Krakow FIDE Congress are presented. The dates for a seminar during the 2012 Olympiad are fixed.

**3. Internet based FIDE Arbiters' Seminar**

Arbiters' Commissions Chairman has good experience with this type of seminars, for example the one organized by the commission for women. He proposes the Arbiters' Commission to organise, in cooperation with the Continental Presidents, one such seminar per continent per year, with the expenses to be covered by the Commission's budget.

**4. Amendments of the Regulations (Handbook chapter B.05)**

Since Rapid and Blitz tournaments will be rated by FIDE it is proposed to change article 3.8 with a minimum of 9 round and 30 players for a FA norm. In addition article 4.6e will be changed.

The minimum number of 100 players for a Swiss tournament (exception of 4.6.d of article 5.2 of the regulations for the titles of Arbiters) shall not be changed

The commission is of the opinion that a two year period is sufficient (question of IA Filipowicz) but to change "international chess event" into "FIDE rated event". Article 1.3 of the Regulations of the classification of the Arbiters will be rewritten.

"Period" will be redefined into "at least every two years"

The condition to change for "Continental Rapid and Blitz Championships" for the promotion of category from C to B is postponed until these tournaments become more regular in all continents.

The proposal for a new article 3.2.4 and 3.3.4 will be discussed later when the classification system is revised (question of Mr. Sielicki).

In order to avoid any misunderstanding the Krause file and the IT3 file the number of categories of arbiters will be changed into three: chief arbiter, deputy chief (maximum 2) and arbiters.

Classification of arbiters: for B category round robin tournaments will be counted if the average rating is above 2600 (2400 for women), for C category 2500 (2300 for women). There should be at least 10 participants (or 6 in a double round-robin) in the event.

ARB commission proposes to change the wording in article 4.1.c of the "Training of the Arbiters" from "System of games" into "Type of tournaments"

## **5. Update of the List of Lecturers**

One received proposal was discussed: Sultan Al Taher (UAE)  
Mikko Markkula passed away and his name will be removed from the list.

## **6. Classification of the Arbiters**

Werner Stubenvoll gives an overview of the applications for a category upgrade. Some candidates are put on hold since they belong to a non-service federation. Werner Stubenvoll will produce the new list for approval in the Istanbul Congress.

## **7. Proposal for the Arbiters' Stipends in FIDE Events**

After the 2011 Krakow FIDE Congress a subcommittee (Nikolopoulos, Krause, Bond, Leong and the four continental presidents) made a survey of all tournaments in the world. 10% will be charged from all World events, Continental and Zonal Individual Championships; for these events FIDE proposes the stipends for the chief and deputy chief arbiter. Tournaments with no possibility to achieve norms shall not be charged, those in which norms can be achieved will pay 100 €, except category 16 or higher who will pay 200 €.

From the amounts received 30% will be returned to the continents.

## **8. License for Arbiters**

Immediately after the 2011 Krakow FIDE Congress all federations were informed about the proposal to introduce a license for arbiters. Only in April 2012 the Dutch Federation send a letter with to proposal to withdraw the license system.

An inactive arbiter who will pay for the license fee will immediately be transferred to the list of active arbiters. In the case that he will not be active in at least two tournaments in the following two years he will be transferred back to the inactive list.

Upon introducing the license system a list of infringements should be produced: when one of these infringements is made by an arbiter he will be put back one category for a period of six months.

## **9. FIDE Arbiters' Commission website**

The FIDE Arbiters' Commissions website includes a new manual for DGT Excel clocks. PowerPoint files of all items delivered at FIDE Arbiter Seminars will be put on the website in all FIDE languages.

## **10. Arbiters' Manual**

Werner Stubenvoll produced an article dealing with Titles and Ratings since Mikko Markkula passed away. The chapter regarding Tournament Rules has to be rewritten after taking into account the changes accepted in the Istanbul 2012 General Assembly. Thereafter the final editing of all topics will be made by ARB Secretary Dirk De Ridder.

## **11. Regulations for events for Disabled**

Arbiters' Commission is of the opinion that there are sufficient rules in the current Laws of Chess to deal with disabled chess persons. There are also no specific rules for title norms necessary.

Arbiters' Commission supports the idea of organizing seminar dealing with "arbiters for disabled persons" and will give its full cooperation.

The definition of a "disabled" should be made by an international organisation and not by a national chess federation.

## **12. FIDE Arbiters' Commission Budget for 2012-2013**

The 2013 budget will be finalized during the Istanbul 2012 FIDE Congress after discussion with the FIDE treasurer.

## **13. Arbiters' Awards**

Al Ain 2012 FIDE Presidential Board introduced the idea of Arbiters' Awards.

Arbiters' Commission proposes to nominate Svi Bar-Shira (ISR), Yuri Averbakh (RUS), Phil Haley (CAN) and Lembit Vaheasaar (EST) for this award.

## **14. Other issues**

After the Plovdiv incidents regarding draws (Bulgaria 2012, European Individual Championships) the FIDE World Championship Commission has forwarded a number of questions to the European Chess Union. Arbiters' Commission will wait for the answers before discussing this issue in the Arbiters' Commission.

It is proposed to introduce a new form called IT4 called "Chief Arbiters' Report Form" which would be obligatory for each FIDE rated tournament. In this way the Arbiters' Commission will know all remarks made by Chief Arbiters and his decision taken in all possible incidents.