

87th FIDE Congress 2016 in Baku
Systems of Pairings and Programs Commission

Agenda for the meetings

1. Approval of the new wording of the Dutch Rules

The regulations approved last year in Abu Dhabi (dubbed 2017-rules), along with all their related amendments, were completely reworded in order to simplify them (see Annex-1).

Although a clarification regarding double-floaters was introduced in the quality criteria, no modifications were made to such approved rules. Hence, what was requested last year (change the definition of topscorers in order to let the arbiter define a percentage different from 50%) is postponed to the next cycle of modifications (foreseen in 2019 or later).

Explanatory appendices will be prepared during the year to clarify some aspects of the newly reworded 2017-rules.

2. Report on methods of accelerated pairing

The Commission made a performance review on the accelerated systems presented in 2015 at the Congress and added some considerations on its own related to new findings. A complete report will be presented at the Congress.

The goal was to identify which accelerated systems could be proposed to the Qualification Commission, and let the latter indicate which ones are acceptable in title tournaments.

Such systems will then be defined into the pairing rules, and the endorsed programs will have to implement them.

3. Endorsement/Re-Endorsement strategy for 2017-rules

Decisions to take: when to end the current endorsement (2013-rules), when to run the new endorsement procedures, when to allow the use of the newly (re)endorsed programs.

4. Amendments to the endorsement rules (section C.04.4 of the handbook)

4.1 *Variation of the error ratio in FE-1 (which is currently 1 wrong round for 10 test tournaments)*

4.2 *Endorsement rules for web-based programs*

4.3 *Language for the interface (should a provision be introduced in the rules saying that any endorsed program has to present at least one interface in English?)*

5. Amendment to General Handling Rules (section C.04.2)

Proposal to add a provision in the General Handling Rules to prevent the arbiters from changing the pairing-number(s) in the tournament after the fourth (or the third) round has been paired (ratings can be changed, but the modification of the pairing numbers should not be automatic - only after an arbiter's request, and the program must impede this request if made at a not-appropriate time).

6. Wording clarification in the Basic Rules (section C.04.1)

Rule C.04.1c is referred to players in the round, not in the tournament.

7. New candidates for endorsement

The following programs were presented for endorsement.

■	SWIPS	swips.sk	SWIPS Team	Slovakia
■	ChessManager	chessmanager.com	Maciej Cybulski, Tomasz Zyniewski	Poland
□	Swiss Sys	swissys.com	Thad Suits	U.S.A.
□	ChessArbiter Pro 2016	chessarbiter.com	Polish Chess Federation	Poland

The ones marked with a black square are web-based programs, so no analysis is performed on them until proper rules are defined (see item 4.2).

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8. Team pairings rules

The Commission will define a team-pairing system and present it at the next Congress (2017).

This system will ideally be a superset of the Olympiad Team Pairing System (the only one currently defined in the FIDE handbook), in the sense that it will contain specific pairing options that will support the choices made by the Olympiad Team Pairing System (in other words: the Olympiad Team Pairing System will not be touched).

9. Restructuring of Section C.04

Following the proposal made last year regarding the removal from the main list of FIDE approved Swiss systems the ones for which there are no endorsed programs, the new structure could list, in order:

- 4.1 Basic Rules*
- 4.2 General Handling Rules*
- 4.3 FIDE Dutch*
- 4.4 FIDE Dubov*
- 4.5 FIDE Accelerated Systems*
- 4.6 FIDE Teams*
- 4.7 Endorsement Process*
(or in an appendix 4.A, in order to have a fix reference to be used in the title-regulations)
- 4.8 Other Pairing Systems*
Use of these systems is deprecated until there is a FIDE endorsed program that will support them.
 - 4.8.1 Lim*
 - 4.8.2 Burstein*

10. Miscellaneous

The Commission has to monitor how the Qualification Commission operates regarding the compulsory use of an endorsed program for tournaments valid for FIDE titles and norms. Last year, the QC agreed to add a new provision to the International Title Regulations valid from July 1st, 2017: In individual Swiss competitions, in which norms were achieved, the pairings will be verified by an endorsed pairings-checker (see C.04.4.4). The proper use of an endorsed program for the pairings of the tournament is recommended.


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(Chairman)