

2017 FIDE Arbiters' Commission Councilors' Meeting 21-24 April 2017, Reykjavik, Iceland

Harpa Hall

MINUTES

Attendees:

Takis Nikolopoulos	(GRE)	[FIDE Arbiters' Commission Chairman]
Aris Marghetis	(CAN)	[FIDE Arbiters' Commission Secretary]
Mahdi Abdulrahim	(UAE)	[FIDE Arbiters' Commission Councilor]
Jesus Mena	(ESP)	[FIDE Arbiters' Commission Councilor]
Anantharam Rathinam	(IND)	[FIDE Arbiters' Commission Councilor]
Werner Stubenvoll	(AUT)	[FIDE Qualification Commission Chairman, FIDE Arbiters' Commission Member]
Omar Salama	(ISL)	[FIDE Arbiters' Commission Member]

1) IA and FA Title Applications:

1a) The Titles' Subcommittee of the FIDE Arbiters' Commission will check and submit recommendations for all IA and FA title applications that will be sent by the Federations for approval by the next 2017 Executive Board Congress.

1b) It was discussed the problem with the Arbiters' Licences that still exists, since a number of Federations still are sending title applications of non licenced Arbiters. These applications are rejected. After proposal of the Events Commission, the 2017 Athens FIDE Presidential Board took the following decision:

"When a tournament has been submitted including no licensed arbiters, the Chief Arbiter shall be suspended for 6 months from any tournament and the FIDE account card of the hosting federation shall be charged automatically with 500 euro. If the same Arbiter or federation repeats the same violation in a period of 2 years, the sanctions will be doubled: 1 year of suspension for the Arbiter and 1000 euro penalty for the federation."

2) FA Titles from FIDE Arbiters' Seminars:

2a) The lists of National Federations who belong to the list of the Federations that are eligible to have Direct FIDE Arbiter titles, according to the article 3.10 of the regulations for the titles of Arbiters, are being reviewed and are being reduced. The resulting FIDE Arbiters Commission's recommendations will be presented to the 2017 Executive Board Congress.

3) Amendments of the Regulations:

3.1) Regulations for the Titles of Arbiters:

3.1. a : Article 2.1.3: It was clarified that for the International Arbiter title, players from at least 3 Federations should have participated in the tournament that belongs to 4.6.d. case. For FIDE Arbiter title, players from at least 2 Federations should have participated in the tournament that belongs to 4.6.d. case.

3.1. b : Article 4.6.d: Alex MacFarlane's (SCO) proposal to account for chess "festivals" that include multiple concurrent events, was accepted.

3.2) Regulations for the Classification of the Arbiters:

3.2. a : There were numerous proposals to override existing regulations (sometimes for just one arbiter), and/or to change regulations that would have to be changed by FIDE (i.e. adding languages). All such proposals were naturally rejected.

3.2. b : Article 3.4.3: Alex MacFarlane's (SCO) proposal to account for chess "festivals" that include multiple concurrent events, was accepted.

3.3) Regulations for the Training of the Chess Arbiters:

Refer to Section 8 below: Arbiters' Training Project

3.4) Anti-Cheating Guidelines for Arbiters:

3.4. a The Arbiters' Commission is waiting for updates from the Anti cheating Committee.

4) Update of the List of Lecturers:

4a) The Arbiters' Commission supports the application of IA M.S. Gopakumar (IND). A recommendation will be submitted for approval by the next FIDE Congress.

5) Classification of the Arbiters:

5a) Werner Stubenvoll reported that there were received from federations 28 requests for upgrading their Arbiters in higher Category. It was recommended to accept 19 of them and to reject 9 of them. The FIDE Arbiters' Commission discussed and confirmed all of these recommendations. The 19 supported requests will be included in the FIDE Arbiters' Commission recommendations to the 2017 Executive Board Congress.

5b) Werner Stubenvoll reported that FIDE now has **9371** licenced arbiters. Of these, 6641 are Arbiters of National Level and 2730 are titled arbiters (1272 of them have the title of International Arbiter and 1458 have the title of FIDE Arbiter).

6) Arbiters' Magazine:

6a) The 4th issue (February 2017) was presented.

6b) The 5th issue is planned to be published at the end of September 2017 and will include a summary of changes (1st July 2017) to the Laws of Chess. Any proposed cases should be submitted before end of July 2017 to IA Aris Marghetis, Secretary of the FIDE Arbiters' Commission.

7) Arbiters' Manual:

7a) The Arbiters' Manual is being updated to correspond to the changes (1st July 2017) of the Laws of Chess, Swiss Rules, Titles and Ratings regulations, etc. Specific tasks have been undertaken by the Councilors of the Commission. It is expected to be published on the FIDE Arbiters' Commission website until the end of June 2017.

8) Arbiters' Training Project:

8a) Secretary Aris Marghetis reported on this initiative. After Baku, an initial draft proposal was issued in January 2017, to the members of the Arbiters' Training Project. Several members provided valuable insights, resulting in a draft project plan. At this meeting of the FIDE Arbiters' Commission the priorities of all deliverables were discussed and confirmed. The Arbiters' Training Project will now continue with specific milestones and a full report will be submitted for discussion in the FIDE Arbiters' Commission Meeting of the next FIDE Congress.

9) Other:

All proposals that were received by individuals and federations were discussed thoroughly and answers will be sent to everyone by the Secretary of the Commission.

Chairman Takis Nikolopoulos closed the Meeting thanking once more the Icelandic Chess Federation, its President Gunnar Bjornsson, the Icelandic Arbiters' Commission Chairman and Member of the FIDE Arbiters' Commission IA Omar Salama and IA Kristjan Orn Eliasson, Member of the Icelandic Arbiters' Commission, for the excellent organization of the meeting and the great hospitality they provided to all participants of the Meeting.

Respectfully,

**Takis Nikolopoulos
Chairman
FIDE Arbiters' Commission**

**Aris Marghetis
Secretary
FIDE Arbiters' Commission**