75th FIDE Congress Calvia, Mallorca, Spain 21-31 October 2004

Date: 25 October 2004

Ethics Commission

Chairman: William Kelleher

Present: Nigel Freeman (BER), Christian Krause (GER), F. Campomanes (PHI)

The Ethics Commission received a complaint from Phillipine chess players alleging financial malfeasance on the part of the Secretary General of the National Chess Federation of the Phillipines. The commission must decide whether of not to accept this case.

Unfortunately, this case highlights certain contradictions in the FIDE Statutes. The complaint against the Secretary General of the NCFP cites Article 10, 2.2.1 of the FIDE Statutes, which states in part that the Ethics Code can be applied for, "Fraudulence in the administration of any FIDE or national federation office."

On the other hand, Article 01, 1.2 of the FIDE Statutes states that FIDE, "observes strict neutrality in the internal affairs of the national chess federations.

In the past we have considered this neutrality clause to be the overriding principle. Therefore we suggest that Article 10, 2.2.1 be amended to read, "Fraudulence in the administration of any FIDE office or national federation office that affects other member federations."

Christian Krause (GER) also gave compelling evidence concerning a fraudulent tournament that was run in Hungary in order to provide a norm for a certain German player. The Hungarian Federation has already punished the arbiter of this tournament. The Ethics Commission plans to take action against the player who received the fraudulent norm.

William Kelleban