

76th FIDE CONGRESS
Dresden, Germany
17-24 August 2005

QUALIFICATION COMMISSION

Chairman: M. Markkula (FIN)

Present: D. De Ridder (BEL), P. Nikolopoulos (GRE), W. Stubenvoll (AUT), M. Shadarevian (QAT), C. Abundo (PHI), A. Burstein (ISR), G. Gijssen (NED), R. Mochalova (BLR), E. Polihroniade (ROM), R. Alt (GER), N. Divinsky (CAN), C. Krause (GER), R. Tanner (USA), W. Kelleher (USA), S. Reuben (ENG), A. Kostyev (ISCU), A. Filipowicz (POL), F. Campomanes (FIDE), I. Vereshchagin (RUS), G. Oganessian (ARM), J.G. Quezada (MEX)

1. Reports of the Committees

Titles and Ratings Committee

Committee Chairman Dr. Dirk de Ridder gave his written report and pointed out that the Karpov-Istratescu Match should be rated with payment of the fee by the organizers; approving the title of Darja Kaps (SLO). The QC agreed to lower the rating floor to 1400 on 1st January 2006 in order for there to be fewer unrated players in the Olympiad.

Arbiters Council

Council Chairman P. Nikolopoulos submitted the report of the Arbiters Council. Dr. Filipowicz pointed out spelling errors in their Arbiters names..

Organizers Committee

Committee Chairman S. Reuben submitted his report.

2. Unplayed Games

The QC decided that both players should make a move in order for a game to be rated and valid for titles.

Mr. Vereshchagin recalled that Calvia QC decided to have a column in the form to specify which games are selected for the title norm in cases of 1.46.

3. Amendments to regulations (possible here if urgent action needed).

The Chairman reported that the k factor was decided in the past by top players to be sure that they do not drop down fast in the ratings. However, he pointed out that the low K factor of 10 has helped steady the rating against inflation.

QC Chairman M. Markkula and Titles and Ratings Committee chairman Dr. Dirk de Ridder were appointed to get discussions on proposal for changes to the regulations. Mr. Abundo said the QC has a page on the FIDE site which can be used for this purpose.

Dr. Filipowicz suggested studying rating trends of title applicants.

4. On proposal by Mr. S. Reuben, seconded by Mr. W. Kelleher, the QC unanimously passed the following resolution:

“The QC disagrees with the actions of the PB in delaying the award of the GM title to Mr. Svirjov without informing the Chairman for some weeks. Thus the QC requests that the PB informs the QC Chairman in timely fashion of any changes to his decision.”

5. Report of Continental President Khalifa Al Hitmi

Mr. Al Hitmi said that he tried to get interviews and statements for the Alushta tournaments in the past five to six years. He said that his trainer in Qatar, Mr. Kayumov got his GM title in two Alushta tournaments in one month's time, and his son followed and got his GM norm also in Alushta. Mr. Al Hitmi said he questioned other people but unfortunately two other crises diverted him from his investigation. He said many players spoke to him and he understood their desperate need sometimes for money.

He said the accusation is serious and his feeling is that there is a lot of cheating. Many players spoke to him and that it was better to go after the buyers than sellers because there are many sellers. Mr. Al Hitmi said that some got their GM titles then disappear because they cannot play well in tournaments afraid they will be beaten badly. And after they lose rating points, they go back to Alushta to get more rating points.

QC Chairman M. Markkula pointed out that he listed all players in Alushta and some players have an erratic record and that mostly foreigners did well in Alushta.

Mr. Khalifa said he sent a WGM, his trainer GM Kayumov and others to Alushta to investigate.

Mr. Khalifa continued that he finds it a huge problem for many years but Alushta became famous for this. He said that we should take measures that this should not happen anymore.

He said we cannot close our eyes, but we should avoid scandal and ruin reputations and waste time and money. But we should have some mechanism to protect the rating and title system. Mr. Al Hitmi said that FIDE took drastic action in the case of Myanmar and urged FIDE to do the same now.

On proposal by Mr. F. Campomanes, to either pass all or none, the QC recommended approval of pending applications for the GM titles of Igor Svirjov (EST), Mark Paragua (PHI), Alexander Obukhov (RUS), Roman Ovetchkin (RUS), Vladimir Rogovskz (UKR), and WGM title applications of Nelli Aginian (ARM) and Siranush Andriasian (ARM).

Titles and Ratings Committee Chairman Dr. Dirk de Ridder expressed serious concern about the problem and said that we need more careful monitoring of tournaments and that FIDE should send monitors to these tournaments. He proposed to take sanctions against Arbiters and others in proven cases of fraud.

6. Case of Mr. Kolkin

Mr. Christian Krause submitted the case of Mr. Kolkin who had a record of reducing his rating points to win low category tournaments.

Mr. Markkula said that the case shall have to be studied for the next meeting.

7. Proposal from GMs in Montreal to change regulations

On the proposal to change title regulations, Dr. A. Filipowicz and S. Reuben insisted that we should not change regulations now but only in 2008. Mr. Krause said that while this is true, we should change the practice of having only three GMs in big tournaments. It was agreed to start the study for possible change of regulations in Turin after gathering more data and facts. The list of RR tournaments with 15 or more players was distributed at the Titles and Ratings Committee meeting.

8. Titles for winners of Schools Championships

QC Chairman said that he and the QC were not informed of the CM titles promised by the organizers to the players. Mr. P. Nikolopoulos said that he was the Arbiter of this competition and vouched for the strength of this tournament.

9. Improving the monitoring of tournaments

QC Chairman asked for ideas from the body. Among suggestions were live broadcast of games for GM title tournaments, sending a FIDE Observer, mandatory pre-registration of tournaments, Monitor rating trends, publish statistical record of titles per tournament.

10. Sanctions against Arbiters

The QC awaited the decision of the Ethics Committee on the Hungarian tournament case for possible revocation of the International Arbiter title.

11. Handbook Regulations

Title Regulations B.01 and Rating Regulations B.02 were circulated to the Titles and Ratings Committee meeting as attached.

12. Additional Title applications

A number of late title applications were approved as attached.

On proposal of the Chairman, the QC agreed that when the condition has been achieved for titles approved conditionally, the decision of the QC Chairman is final.

Mikko Markkula (signed)
Chairman
Qualification Commission