

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

ETHICS COMMISSION

Chairman: W. Kelleher (USA)

Present: D. De Ridder (BEL), N. Freeman (BER), H. Hamers (NED), S. Reuben (ENG), W. Stubenvoll (AUT), L. Bellhouse (BAR), M. Schmidt (GER), W. Arns (NED), H. Metzging (GER), C. Krause (GER), K. Deventer (GER), R. Alt (GER), G. Terniger (SWE), H. Elgendy (UAE)

In its meeting on August 20th, the Ethics Commission discussed a number of cases. These include: allegations of fraud in the “Heroes of Chernobyl” tournament, the Kali GM tournament, and the ongoing series of Alushta tournaments. The Ethics Commission regards this as a positive sign that players and organizers are beginning to take seriously the problem of cheating in FIDE tournaments. The commission noted with approval that this problem was on the agenda of the recent meeting between the ACP and FIDE.

However the Commission members agreed unanimously that if FIDE is serious about eliminating fictitious tournaments, and the buying and selling of points, it would have to give more help to the Ethics Commission in investigating cases of malfeasance in tournaments. Specifically this means that the commission needs more power to compel member federations of FIDE to assist the Commission in its inquiries. Therefore, the Commission requests FIDE to update the Ethics Commission statutes to include the following:

Upon 30 days non-response from a member federation of FIDE to an Ethics Commission inquiry, the Ethics Commission may request the FIDE Treasurer to apply appropriate sanctions to the offending Federation.

In addition to helping the Commission do its work, this new statute would be a strong signal to our members that FIDE is serious about eliminating cheating in its tournaments.

As mentioned above, the Commission has received reports about falsified results in the Kali GM tournament in Hungary. The Commission became aware of the problems in this tournament as a result of a complaint by the German Chess Federation against one of the players, IM Miroslav Shvarts, for filing a false GM result from this tournament. Mr Shvarts appeared before the Commission to testify on his own behalf. The Commission also invited Dr. Peter Rajscany, delegate of the Hungarian Chess Federation, to make a statement about his federation’s investigation of the tournament:

1. No arbiter was present at the tournament.
2. Not all the games were actually played.
3. One of the players left after two rounds.
4. One of the foreign GMs was being impersonated by another person.
5. The organizer of the tournament, and the arbiter who signed his name to the final results, were both punished by the Hungarian Federation.

In his defence, Mr Shvarts stated that he was unaware of any of these irregularities, and that he applied for his GM norm in good faith. He also pointed out that the Hungarian Federation had certified his GM norm in this tournament, but later changed its mind. Finally, he stated that if the tournament was really fraudulent, he would have no objection to having his norm annulled.

The Commission has not made a final decision on this case, but is continuing its investigation.

Bill Kelleher, Chairman (signed)

Dresden 20 August 2005