



Annex 01

# FÉDÉRATION INTERNATIONALE DES ÉCHECS

Recognized by the International Olympic Committee

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## QUESTIONNAIRE

for national Federation applying for FIDE Membership

1. Exact name of the chess Federation : Ulster Chess Union .....

..... Year founded : 1932 .....

2. Postal address : c/o Apt 5, 23 Ava Avenue, Belfast, BT7 3BN, Northern Ireland.....

.....

Telephone : 00442890644089 ..... Telefax : .....

E-mail : [michael.waters@barlibrary.com](mailto:michael.waters@barlibrary.com) / [www.ulsterchess.org](http://www.ulsterchess.org) .....

Telex : ..... Cable Address : as above .....

3. Full name of President (Chairman) : Mr David McAlister.....

4. Full name of Executive Director (General Secretary or other full-time official) : Honorable Secretary – Mr Drew Ferguson .....

International Director – Mr Michael Waters .....

5. What is (are) your national language(s) ? English .....

Which of the following FIDE languages\* do you prefer and what is your second choice ? 1.English ..... 2.French.....

*\* English, French, German, Spanish, Russian, Arabic and Portugese are FIDE languages. FIDE Minutes are published in English.*

6. How many individual members (players) do you have ? 198 .....

How many competitions for individuals did you have last year ? 30.....

How many of these were for players under 16 years of age ? 9 .....



- Name your National individual champion : Mr Tom Clarke .....
7. How many affiliated clubs do you have ? 13 .....
- How many team competitions do you organize in a year ? 5 .....
8. Are you the only national organization for chess in your country ? Yes....
- Name others (if any) : None .....
9. Name your player(s) with FIDE titles (if any) : Mr Brian Kelly IM & Mr Mark Orr are eligible to play for Northern Ireland, should they elect to do so. ....
10. What is the name of your official chess magazine (if any and please enclose a copy) ? None we do have a website [www.ulsterchess.org](http://www.ulsterchess.org) .....
11. Will your Federation have the opportunity to take part in the activities of FIDE (for example, to organize international tournaments, send representatives to official FIDE competitions) ? Yes .....
12. Do you receive any government support ? No .....
- If yes, give details, stating cash subsidy given last year or recently ?.....
- .....
- What government department is in charge of chess ? The Northern Ireland Office .....
13. Does your country have a National Olympic Committee that is affiliated to the International Olympic Committee ? Yes .....
14. What is your relationship with your National Olympic Committee ? There are no formal relations .....
15. Do you receive any subsidy from your National Olympic Committee ? No
- If yes, give details, stating cash subsidy given last year or recently ?.....
- .....
16. Are there restrictions on membership in your Federation (on national, political, racial, social or religious grounds or on account of sex) ? No....
17. Does your Federation acknowledge the Status of FIDE and develop



activities in accordance with the Statutes ? Yes.....

18. Is your country an independent state with its own constitution ? Yes .....

If not, is it fully autonomous in the administration of sport ?.....

Is your country a member of the United Nations, or do you have an Observer status in the United Nations ? (If so, state year) Yes, 1945.....

Does your country have a national flag and national anthem ? Yes.....

19. Are there in principle restrictions for issuing visas to foreigners ? No .....

20. Do you have a copy of your Federation Statutes or Constitution ? Yes ....

If yes, please forward a copy with this questionnaire.

Are your Statutes approved by your government ? No .....

If so, by which government entity ? .....

National Chess Federation Authorized Official :

Name : Mr Michael Waters.....

Position : International Director & Director of Coaching, Ulster Chess Union

.....

Signature : *Michael Waters* ..... Date : *13th February 2006* .....



## Constitution of the Ulster Chess Union

1. The name of the Union shall be, "The Ulster Chess Union"
2. The objects for which the Union is established are:-
  - a) to encourage the study and practice of chess in Ulster;
  - b) to administer the playing of chess in Ulster
  - c) to arrange for the participation of Ulster chess players in British and Irish chess meetings and contests
  - d) to act as the supreme governing body for chess in Northern Ireland,
  - e) to affiliate to other chess organisations, and in particular the World Chess Federation (FIDE), in its role as the supreme governing body for chess in Northern Ireland,
  - f) to be responsible for the representation of Northern Ireland in International chess contests and meetings.
3.
  - a) Affiliation to the Union shall be open to all chess clubs in Ulster
  - b) Each affiliated club shall be entitled to send one nominated delegate to any meeting of the Union
  - c) In addition, each affiliated club shall be entitled to send further delegates in the ratio of one nominated delegate for every ten members registered with the Union to any meeting of the Union.
  - d) The Ulster Secondary Schools Chess Council shall be entitled to send one nominated delegate to any meeting of the Union.
  - e) Each nominated delegate shall have the right to one vote at any division.
  - f) Additional registered members of affiliated clubs may attend any meeting of the Union but shall not be entitled to vote.
4.
  - a) The officers of the Union shall be five members elected at an Annual General Meeting namely:-
    - i. a President,
    - ii. a Vice President,
    - iii. an Honorary Secretary,
    - iv. an Honorary Assistant Secretary,
    - v. an Honorary Treasurer.
  - b) Each officer shall have the right to one vote at any division
5.
  - a) Any question, other than a vote on an amendment to this Constitution, arising at any meeting of the Union shall be decided by majority vote.
  - b) No person shall be entitled to cast more than one vote at any division.
  - c) Notwithstanding anything stated to the contrary in this Constitution, the President, or in his absence the Chairman of the meeting, shall have a casting vote in the event of a tied vote.
6. The fees and subscriptions due to the Union shall be those sums which the Annual General Meeting shall from time to time determine.
7.
  - a) The Annual General Meeting of the Union shall be held each year not later than the month of October, and shall be convened by the Honorary Secretary.



- b) An annual report and audited statement of accounts shall be presented by the Honorary Secretary and Treasurer respectively for adoption to this meeting.
  - c) The agenda of the meeting shall be drawn up by the Honorary Secretary but may be altered by the meeting itself.
8. a) In order to summon an Extraordinary General Meeting of the Union, three of the officers or twenty or more players registered with the Union shall give written notice to the Honorary Secretary that they wish such a meeting be convened.
- b) The Honorary Secretary, on receipt of such notice, shall convene the meeting.
9. a) This Constitution shall not be altered except at a meeting of the Union specially called for the purpose.
- b) In order to summon such a meeting of the Union, three of the officers or twenty or more players registered with the Union shall give written notice to the Honorary Secretary that they wish such a meeting be convened, and give written notice of the amendments they propose.
- c) The Honorary Secretary, on receipt of such notice, shall convene the meeting.
- d) A two-thirds majority of those present and entitled to vote at the meeting shall be necessary before any alteration may be carried.
10. a) In convening any meeting of the Union, the Honorary Secretary shall send a note of the time and place of the meeting, and the nature of the meeting to:-
  - i. the Secretary of each affiliated club,
  - ii. the Secretary of the Ulster Secondary Schools Chess Council,
  - iii. the four other officers of the Union,at least two weeks in advance of the meeting.
- b) In addition, the Honorary Secretary shall inform the Secretary of each affiliated club of the number of registered delegates the club shall be entitled to send.
11. No vote at any meeting of the Union shall be valid unless seven people, entitled to vote at the meeting, are in attendance at the time of the vote.
12. The Union shall have the power to appoint such Committees as it may consider necessary, and may delegate all or any of its powers to such Committees

as amended 15th June 2005  
in Special General Meeting

signed: Drew Ferguson  
Hon. Secretary



02 FEB. 2006



# Ulster Chess Union

25<sup>th</sup> January 2006  
Belfast, Northern Ireland

Dear President Ilyumzhinov and Fide Board

The Ulster Chess Union, the representative body for Chess in Northern Ireland, seeks to join Fide and actively participate in International Chess.

We request that you place our application before the next General Assembly at the Turin Olympiad, and set out herein our qualifying criteria in accordance with the Fide Handbook.

The Ulster Chess Union is the only body that has organised chess across Northern Ireland and has done so since 1932. The Ulster Chess Union is just a little older than Fide!

Northern Ireland is recognised by the United Nations and while not a separate signatory to the General Charter became a member when the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland became a signatory to the convention on 24 October 1945. None of the Countries of the United Kingdom are separate signatories to the United Nations General Charter. In international law Northern Ireland is both a Country and a territory within the United Kingdom.

In athletics and the Olympic movement in particular Northern Ireland's sports persons compete on behalf of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland. Northern Ireland's previous Olympic Gold Medallists include Dame Mary Peters (Munich 1972). In other sports such as football the different countries that make up the United Kingdom compete as separate teams. Northern Ireland, Wales and England all played in the same qualifying group for the 2006 World Cup, Germany. Some sporting federations such as Rugby choose to play as part of an All-Ireland team.

Until recently the Ulster Chess Union has not sought to organise a Northern Ireland team in Chess Olympiads or other International Chess tournaments. We have however sent nominees to the annual British Chess Championships and previous Commonwealth Championships. Many individual players play in the Irish Chess Championships to determine the National Champion of Ireland. Players born in Northern Ireland are entitled to citizenship of both the United Kingdom and Ireland.

The Ulster Chess Union has maintained close ties with other governing bodies in the British Isles. However, unlike Scotland and Wales it was never part of the British Chess Federation. The Ulster Chess Union is a member of the British Isles Co-ordinating Committee and as such is one of the signatories to the agreement governing the current British Championship. The Ulster Chess Union has until recently been affiliated to the Irish Chess Union. Consequently until now Northern Ireland chess players have represented Ireland in international competition. Following a change to the Ulster Chess Union's Constitution in June 2005 the Ulster Chess Union is now mandated by its members to assume responsibility for the international representation of Northern Ireland in chess.



We trust that you will treat this letter as our application to join Fide, and if any further information is needed we will be glad to be of assistance. Attached is a copy of the Ulster Chess Union's Constitution. We look forwarding to receiving and completing any necessary questionnaire. Specifically I should state that there is no National Law obliging the Ulster Chess Union's Constitution to be approved by a State authority within our Country (2.2 Fide Handbook).

In the event of there being a Presidential or Executive Board meeting before the Turin Olympiad we would be obliged if that Board considers our provisional admittance.

Best Wishes and looking forward to hearing from you.

Yours sincerely

*Michael Waters*

Michael Waters  
Barrister at Law  
International Director of the Ulster Chess Union

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