

*79th FIDE Congress
17-25 November
Congress Centre, Dresden, Germany*

**Titles and Ratings Committee
MINUTES
17 November 2008**

Chairman: Dr. De Ridder (BEL)

Present: W. Stubenvoll (AUT), A. Filipowicz (POL), M. Markkula (FIN), R. Alt (GER), P. Pisk (CZE), A. Kusina (POL), P. Nikolopoulos (GRE), I. Vereschagin (RUS), A. Burstein (ISR), M. Hermida (MEX), C. Birtz (LUX), T. Tikkanen (SWE), N. Faulks (BER), C. Krauze (GER), M. Bratosevic (CRO), J. Sakotic (MNE), B. Kelleher (USA), M. Abdul Rahim (UAE), S. WIJESURIYA (SRI), N. Freeman – Treasurer, S. Reuben (ENG), E. Park (KOR), P. Karol (SVK), C. Abundo (PHI), F. Dapiran (ITA), A. Vardapetian (ARM), M. Pahlevanzadeh (IRI), Dr. H. Elgendy (EGY), R. Gibbons (NZL), L. Mazouz – FIDE, F. Campomanes – FIDE, B. Waithe (BAR), I. Botvinnik (RUS), E. Androni (GRE), G. Oganessian (ARM), V. Tsorbatzoglou (GRE), E. Price (RSA), G. Van den Bergh (RSA), D. Jarrett - FIDE

REPORT:

1. Title applications

The applications have been checked in advance by Dirk De Ridder and Mikko Markkula. The final decision about Nana Dzagnidze was forwarded to QC.

Sebastian Siebrecht: one norm is not valid because the average rating of the opponents was too low. Mr. Krauze pointed out that in the Organizers Handbook, published by Stewart Reuben, this minimum average was not published and he was forced to accept the norm according to the wording in that book.

Mikko Markkula informed that since 1998 the average rating is valid and the tournament in question was organized in 2005. Finally the recommendation to QC is „no“.

2. Elite-GM

On proposal of Stewart Reuben an additional title should be established, where all limits for norms and rating are 200 points higher than for GM. This could make it easier and less expensive organizers for high level tournaments.

The chairman raised the principal question if a new title is needed. As the majority of the committee members was not in favour the recommendation to QC is „no“.

Casto Abundo proposed that some high level tournaments should be called “Elite Tournaments” or “Grad Slam Tournaments.”

3. Honorary Grandmaster

The committee agreed the proposal to delete this title.

4. Direct titles

The proposal was to award direct titles only in World and Continental Championships. According to existing rules 2/3 of the points in a sub-zonal tournament is sufficient for an IM title.

Honorary President Campomanes informed, that the old idea of FIDE was to, give a title to all winners of a zonal tournament. At that time only seven zones existed.

After a long discussion the chairman summarized, that zonal tournaments should be kept with a direct title, not sub-zonal tournaments. The 2/3-rule should be deleted.

This summary was recommended to the QC.

5. Direct titles in Youth Championships

The idea of a minimum number of federations present in a Continental Youth Championship was supported. QC should decide about the number.

6. Changes in title regulations

- round robin and double round robin tournaments should be accepted for norms if the playing schedule is submitted to FIDE at the start of the tournament at the latest
- at least 1/3 of the participants in a title tournament should have the corresponding title, minimum 3 players
- the necessary TPR for a norm should be 2600 / 2450 / 2400 / 2250
- unrated titled players should count for title norms 2400 / 2300 / 2200 for GM / IM / FM, and 2250 / 2150 / 2050 for WGM / WIM / WFM; QC to decide on lower figures
- the question if untitled players with a rating +2300 should be counted as titled players was forwarded to QC
- the number of players of whom the minimum rating may be increased to achieve a norm should be decreased to 1
- the minimum rating according to 1.46c should be decreased by 50 points
- for norms coming from Continental Men or Women Championships 7, 8 or 9 games out of 9 rounds should be sufficient for a norm
- the minimum rating average of a tournament should be raised to 2400 / 2250 / 2200 / 2050
- title norms should be counted to have not more than 13 games, except coming from World or Continental Championships
- all necessary data for a title norm have to be reported in TRF
- the application for a title should include the e-mail address of the applicant
- in the FIDE Regulations the wording "rating floor" should be used instead of figures.

7. Rating Regulation

- the K-factor should be increased to 25, after doing a test on tournaments played since 2005
- Mikko Markkula proposed to include rapid games in the FRL by using a "weighting factor"; the committee disagreed and the recommendation to QC is "no"
- the 350 point rule should be raised to 400 points. Geurt Gissen proposed to abolish the whole rule, because it is protecting only strong players; the majority was in favour and it will be recommended to QC

- games of rated players against unrated players should be counted; if an unrated player has met at least 3 rated opponents and achieved one point out of these games a TPR could be the basis; it will be recommended to QC
- the proposal to increase the minimum number of games for the first rating will be recommended to QC “no”
- for a first rating all games should be counted to come from one tournament, abolish the current weighting system
- the proposal to have only one rating procedure for round robin and swiss tournaments was rejected by the committee
- the proposal to revise art. 10.21 – 10.25 and to avoid asymmetric results was rejected by the committee
- only pre-registered tournaments should be accepted for rating
- in case there is a tournament not pre-registered there should be an additional fine
- the proposal to increase the number of rating periods to 6 was recommended “yes” to QC
- Stewart Reuben proposed to lower the rating floor to 1200 from 1 July 2009; this proposal was recommended “yes” to QC

8. Miscellaneous

Nick Faulks raised the problem with Myanmar players and proposed to delete 200 points of the rating of all players by 1 January 2009. The chairman pointed out, that some of these players already had been penalized by 100 points.

Stewart Reuben proposed to create a sub-committee to deal with this case. Casto Abundo proposed to consult a lawyer before taking a decision. The committee agreed.

Dirk De Ridder
Chairman

Werner Stubenvoll
Secretary