

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

**Arbiters' Council
MINUTES
18 November 2008**

Chairman: P. Nikolopoulos (GRE)

Present: W. Stubenvoll (AUT), M. Markkula (FIN), A. Kusima (POL), M. Abdul Rahim (UAE), A. Filipowicz (POL), A. Burstein (ISR), O. Solakoglu (TUR), I. Botvinnik (RUS), I. Vereschagin (RUS), I. Bolotinsky (RUS), O. Tovchyga (UKR), R. Alt (GER), A. Bustman (POL), R. Machalova (BLR), Z. Nedev (BUL), C. Nsakanta (ZAM), S. Murimi (ZIM), D. Sedgwick (ENG), S. Kizova (SRB), K. Deventer (GER), F. Dapiran (ITA), D. De Ridder (BEL), H. Elgendy (EGY), H. Khaled (EGY), A. Vardapetian (ARM), H. Bond (CAN), C. Jarecki (IVB), K. Pekar (SVK), E. Pirein (PUR), M. Bratocevic (CRO), R. Anantharam (IND)

REPORT:

Chairman Pan. Nikolopoulos welcomed all participants. 11 of the 20 members of the Arbiters' Council are present.

0. FA and IA title applications were reviewed by a committee consisting of Messrs. Nikolopoulos, De Ridder, Markkula, and Stubenvoll. In a number of cases scrutinizing was difficult since TRFs were incomplete. If a title is awarded "conditional" it means that the Arbiters' Council awaits additional information from the applicant's federation.
1. Arbiters Seminar Reports. The results of the Dresden 2008 seminar have to be added when presenting the report to the Qualification Commission.
Referring to article 4.7 Mr. Sedgwick asks why participants from China, Greece and Russia can achieve the FA title directly since these federations are capable to organize a lot of tournaments. The Chairman replies that in previous FIDE Congress in Antalya after a joint proposal of Mrss. Leong, Markkula, Nikolopoulos and Filipowicz, the EB had awarded FA titles to all participants in the Seminars who succeeded (over 80%) in the Examinations Test and that direct awarding of the FA title will not be possible in next Congresses due to the change of the regulations. Mr. Vereshagin proposes to make a new pool of questions taking into account the new law of chess. This pool of questions should be divided into different topics.
2. Amendments on FA/IA titles regulations. Mr. Leong requests that a positive result at Arbiters seminar can still result to the FA title. Mrs. Jarecki believes that experience in several tournaments is more important than a seminar. Mr. Leong replies that a seminar can be organized together with a tournament in order to get experience. However, in several cases nothing might happen during such tournament.
Mr. Sedgwick asks if a national seminar can also be valid to achieve a FA norm. Mr. Stubenvoll thinks that national seminars can have the status of FIDE-seminars after checking the level of such seminar by the Arbiters Commission.
Mr. Markkula asks for a maximum validity period for seminars.
Mr. Vardapetian indicates that the level of a lecturer is very important for the quality of a seminar.

The Chairman puts for voting the two proposals regarding the norms coming only from International or from National Seminars as well.

First voting: international seminars: 9 votes
national seminars: 2 votes

The Chairman puts for voting the two proposals regarding the number of tournaments (three or two) necessary for awarding the title of FA.

Second voting: 3 tournaments: 6 votes
2 tournaments: 5 votes

Conclusion: the FA title can be achieved being arbiter at three tournaments and after successfully passing the exam at a seminar.

3. The regulations for the training of the arbiters are approved.
4. A number of amendments are made to the regulations of the classification of arbiters. The new Arbiters Commission has to submit the initial list by the GA 2009.
5. New format for the Arbiters Commission & Budget. Mr. Leong informs the meeting about the new format of the commissions.
New lecturers can be added after appointment of the new chairman of the Arbiters Commission. The 2008 budget of 3000 € was not completely used. For 2009 a budget of 5000 € is proposed to organize 5 seminars.
6. Miscellaneous.
The case of the Moroccan arbiter case is closed.
The European Chess Union will organize an arbiters' seminar in Berlin from 15 until 18 January 2009; lecturers are IAs Dirk De Ridder and Werner Stubenvoll. The Arbiters' Council decides that this seminar can lead to a FA norm.

Panagiotis Nikolopoulos
Chairman

Dirk De Ridder
Secretary