

A. Administrative Subjects

04. Electoral Regulations

Approved by the 2012 General Assembly

1. The Presidential Ticket

1.1 The Presidential ticket shall be six persons, at least one of whom must be a woman. Nominations on the Presidential ticket shall specify the proposed nominees for the offices of FIDE President, Deputy President, General Secretary, Treasurer and two Vice Presidents.

1.2 Nominations for the Presidential ticket and Continental Presidents must reach the Secretariat at least three months before the opening of the General Assembly. Each ticket must be nominated by at least five member federation Presidents. A President of a federation is entitled to nominate only one Presidential ticket. A person nominated on a Presidential ticket cannot also run on a Continental ticket.

1.3 Each Presidential Candidate shall present to the Secretariat the following documents within the deadline in Article 1.2: (a) the names of the persons included on the Presidential ticket with their positions (b) nominating letters by at least five federation Presidents (c) letters of confirmation of acceptance from each person on the ticket.
The Secretariat will acknowledge receipt of the documents to each Presidential candidate.

1.4 The Secretariat will announce the Presidential tickets on the FIDE website the day following the deadline in Article 1.2 above and will ensure that the listing of all nominees is included in the agenda sent to all member federations prior to the Congress.

1.5 The elections for the Presidential ticket shall be held prior to all other elections.

1.6 On the day of the elections, the candidate for President of each Presidential ticket will have a maximum of fifteen (15) minutes on stage to present their programme. The order of appearance shall be decided by the drawing of lots.

1.7 In case one member of a Presidential ticket becomes incapable to run for the election (death, illness or similar serious reasons), he/she can be replaced on the Presidential ticket within 20 days after the unexpected event, but at the latest until the day before the election. All other conditions concerning the nominations are applicable. In case of doubt, the ELE shall make a decision.

2. Other elections

2.1 Following the Presidential ticket election, the elected President will declare and justify the proposed number of appointed Vice Presidents with voting rights on the Presidential Board to be covered under the financial regulations for an initial term of four years. The General Assembly shall confirm or reject this proposal. In case of rejection, the General Assembly shall decide the number of nominated Vice Presidents but with a minimum of 2.

2.2 Then the General Assembly shall adjourn and the Continental Associations shall convene to elect their Continental President and Continental Deputy President. During this adjournment, nominations for FIDE elected positions, including elected Vice Presidents, shall be made to the Secretariat.

2.3 Upon conclusion of all Continental Association elections the General Assembly reconvenes and takes note of the appointments of the Continental Presidents and Deputy Presidents.

2.4 The General Assembly shall elect the same number of Vice Presidents as the President will appoint. After the election the President will announce the names of his appointed Vice Presidents, which will be confirmed by the General Assembly. If a President's nominee is rejected by the General Assembly, the President may propose a different candidate for confirmation by the General Assembly.

In addition the President may nominate no more than 4 Honorary Vice-Presidents to serve on the Presidential Board for a 4-year term.

1. the persons so nominated by the President as Honorary Vice-Presidents shall be chosen based on their personal merits and service to FIDE and shall be confirmed by the General Assembly.
2. The Honorary Vice-Presidents shall have non-voting positions on the Presidential Board.

2.5 A defeated candidate from a Presidential ticket may accept nomination for any elected office, except on a Continental ticket.

2.6 Nominations for the position of Vice President, to be elected by the General Assembly, must be supported by at least three federation Presidents. A President of a federation is entitled to nominate only one candidate. For other elected positions, nominations shall be made to the Secretariat by delegates of the Congress.

2.7 Members of the Verification Commission, the Ethics Commission and the Constitutional Commission are all elected after the Vice Presidents.

3. Electoral process

3.1 To secure a fair and impartial electoral process, three scrutineers, a chairman and two members, shall be appointed for the elections by the General Assembly immediately after the roll call on the first day of the General Assembly. The scrutineers preside over the electoral process for elections of the Presidential tickets and elected Vice Presidents. Any representative of a member federation not running for a position on the Presidential Board may nominate a candidate for scrutineer. Each scrutineer shall be elected individually by the General Assembly by a show of hands. The person receiving the most votes shall be appointed Chairman. The scrutineers cannot be nominated or elected for any Presidential Board position in that election.

3.2 Preceding the elections, there shall be a roll-call, in alphabetical order, to establish the number of votes possible.

3.3 Ballot papers shall be prepared for the elections, with the names of the candidates if there is more than one for a given office. The Chairman of the scrutineers shall initial each ballot before distribution.

3.4 Each Presidential candidate is entitled to appoint one observer for the counting of the ballots.

3.5 During elections, each federation shall be called in alphabetical order to place its ballot in the ballot box, which shall have a slot on top, shall be openly visible to the General Assembly from all sides and shall be separated from any other object. The procedures of voting will be announced by the scrutineers at the meeting.

3.6 Each ballot paper shall contain all the names of the candidates. If possible, a list with the candidates for each office shall be circulated before the elections. Each delegate votes for up to the maximum possible number of vacant positions. If they vote for more, then the ballot is not valid. Valid votes are those where a mark has been made within the box on the ballot paper. Marks such as 'x', 'v' or '+' are acceptable.

3.7 For all elections a majority of the votes cast, not counting abstentions, shall be required. If there is a tie, the voting is repeated until the tie is broken.

If three or more persons are nominated for the same offices or office, the candidates that receive 50% plus one of the votes cast, are elected on the first ballot. Thereafter, the candidates receiving most votes on the second ballot are elected to the vacant number of offices. If there is a tie, the voting is repeated until the tie is broken. The election procedure for the Continental offices will follow the regulations in each Continent.

3.8 The election procedure for the Zonal Presidents will follow the regulations of each zone.

3.9 Each Continental Association shall have the right to elect 4 members from the Continent to the Executive Board,. This election shall take place in accordance with the Continental Association regulations.

3.10 All FIDE officials will enter duty upon the close of the General Assembly at which they were elected or appointed.

4. Election conditions

4.1 Elections shall be held immediately after the consideration of the report of the FIDE President and that of the Treasurer on the first day of the General Assembly.

4.2 All elections and appointments are valid for a period of 4 years unless otherwise specifically stated. If the FIDE Congress in the election year is held before or after the 4-year period expires, the term of office is equally shortened or prolonged.

4.3 For all positions that are not elected according to point 1 and 2 in the Electoral regulations or according to FIDE Statutes or regulations, the FIDE President nominates a candidate and such candidate is subject to confirmation by the General Assembly. The General Assembly confirms a candidate based on the regulations in Article 4.7 of the Statutes. If a President's nominee is rejected by the General Assembly, the President may propose a different candidate for confirmation by the General Assembly. Such appointed officials have no voting rights on the General Assembly, Executive Board or Presidential Board. Any vacancies of nominated Commission Chairmen may be filled by the Presidential or Executive Boards.

4.4 Any change in the Electoral Regulations will come in to effect on the last day of the General Assembly after the closing of the meeting.

4.5 Any complaint regarding eligibility of Presidential tickets or members of the tickets must be addressed to the Electoral Commission (ELE) in writing and copied to the Secretariat within two weeks following the official announcement of the Presidential tickets by the Secretariat on the FIDE website. Any other complaint regarding election conditions must be addressed to the ELE in writing within two weeks following the event which gives rise to the complaint and copied to the Secretariat. The Electoral Commission must issue a reasoned decision in English in writing to the complainant within 10 days of its receipt of the complaint.

4.6 The Electoral Commission has competence to deal with complaints arising from all elections (see Statutes section 8)

5. Proxies

5.1 A proxy can be assigned to a delegate of a member-federation only by written authorisation.

5.2 All proxies must be registered at the Secretariat two weeks before the opening session of the General Assembly. After this deadline, further proxies will not be accepted until the register is reopened. In election years the register will be reopened when elections have been concluded. In non-election years the register will reopen after the opening roll call for a quorum.

5.3 The Electoral Commission shall convene 10 days before the Congress under the Chairmanship of the Chairman of the Constitutional Commission. The Electoral Commission shall establish the legality of the proxies. It will examine the proxies presented for verification. The register will then close and the list of those entitled to vote at the General Assembly shall be sent to all member federations and published at the Congress venue the next day. When the list of proxies has been published, federations have 5 days to lodge an appeal to the General Assembly and this appeal shall be discussed in the General Assembly immediately after the quorum is established.

5.4 Valid proxies can be re-assigned to a new delegate by the person to whom they have been assigned, up to 17.00 on the day before the opening of the General Assembly. In particular, but not exclusively, this procedure may be used by those persons that have been given more than one proxy. Every representative is permitted to represent, besides his own, only one additional federation in the General Assembly. Whenever the register of delegates is reopened, all existing proxies can be re-assigned or new proxies accepted.

5.5 At the opening of the General Assembly, the Electoral Commission reports on the proxies. A roll call to confirm there is a quorum, will then take place.

For a proxy to be valid, it must be signed by any of the following accredited officials of the federation: President, Delegate or General Secretary of the federation. This will be based on the latest official notification from the federation as shown on the FIDE website. The proxy can either be an original or a copy of a letter (photocopied, sent by fax or scanned email). No other formal elements are necessary for the validity of the proxy. Where two or more proxies are received and there is a conflict, the order of precedence shall be as follows:

1. Proxies received from the President
2. Proxies received from the Delegate
3. Proxies received from the General Secretary

Where the order of precedence is established and there is still a conflict, the most recent fax, letter or scanned email shall be deemed to be valid.