

QC Councillors' meeting

Warsaw 11th & 12th April 2012

Chairman Nigel Freeman

Secretary Nick Faulks

Present Stewart Reuben, Andrzej Filipowicz, Werner Stubenvoll, Michalis Kaloumenos, Walter Brown, Bartek Macieja, David Jarrett

Remembrance of Mikko Markkula

Rating system, consideration of Ratings Experts' recommendations.

The discussion was brief, and these were accepted. WS, who was not at the earlier meeting, agreed that some experimental work should be done using Alec Stephenson's Glicko version. A committee will be established to take this forward, working closely with the Elista office.

The fact that GM Sadler had appeared in the top 20 on AS's test run was considered very serious and (with all due respect to Sadler) likely to bring the system into early disrepute. Clearly the parameters will need some adjustment.

Proposals of ICF and/or CIS

No further details had been provided. We need data from the Israeli federation and details of tournaments where the CIS rating system has been applied.

Other possible changes for 2013. Fees (RR v Swiss, etc). Time controls. Laws to be followed. Long team events. Reg 13.3.

Fees are not a matter for QC decision, but we will liaise with the FIDE Treasurer. It was agreed some parts of the fee structure look anomalous, and these should be ironed out.

It was agreed that tournaments in which a 5 second delay or increment is used will be accepted for title norms while this issue receives further discussion.

Tournaments in the US which promise title norms are now believed to be playing under FIDE Laws. The USCF will be encouraging to participate in discussions of possible changes to the Laws.

Long team events at present require a lot of work to check, which MK has said he is willing to do. Clearer rules must be established.

It does not seem that players with no national federation are using 13.3.

Rating system, current issues. Tournaments improperly reported. Late registration and reporting. Fees. Rapid and blitz ratings.

There was long discussion of recent games where both players have been defaulted and the result reported for rating as a loss for both sides. There was a split vote among the councillors as to whether FIDE should rate the games in this way. The Chairman of the meeting took external advice before casting his vote, which was that the games should be rated 0-0. NF expressed the view that this interpretation rendered any scientifically based rating system meaningless.

The solution to all matters relating the speed and accuracy of tournament reporting was felt to be financial penalties. We must be sure that our requirements do not make it impossible for ratings officers to perform their tasks properly.

We shall be provided with test data relating to rapid and blitz ratings well before the first list on 1.7.12.

Titles system, current issues. Interpretation of 1.42g. Schiller system. Signing and stamping of reports.

1.42g is at present vague. It was suggested that a pairing system might be recommended, but none of the commercial software was considered to be ideal.

We need to know more about the details of the Schiller pairing system, tournaments using it will be approved on an individual basis.

All reports must be signed, Elista should return any which are not. Stamping is not important.

Titles system, future changes to direct results. NF proposal to Krakow meeting, attached.

There was sympathy with the general structure outlined in the NF document, but detailed consideration was deferred.

Rating Regulations

NF distributed a copy of the current regulations (attached), with possible changes for discussion. Many were of a technical nature, and were marked for approval.

1.2 The majority view was that games played to a first time control at a point other than move 40 should continue to be excluded from rating.

3. Wording will be adjusted to allow for shorter games at lower rating levels. These will allow more games to be played in one day.

6.4 It was proposed, and passed by a majority vote, that in Swiss and teams events, games between rated and unrated opponents should be rated for both players. A method of doing this must be found. This applies also to 6.5.

7.13 The special treatment of official FIDE events will be retained.

7.14f is considered to be of value.

7.14g will be removed.

Day 2 morning

Titles regulations, future changes to norm requirements. Time controls.

Other matters. Tie-breaks. Anti-cheating.

Title Regulations

NF distributed a copy of the current regulations (attached), with possible changes for discussion.

1.11 "Laws to be followed" is a very major issue, and will be discussed in conjunction with other commissions for a decision in Istanbul. It was agreed that no reference to the FIDE calendar is required.

1.13 The majority view was that FM/CM ratings should apply only to those which appear on a published list.

1.14 The decision as to whether to retain 1.14, relating to permissible times controls, is difficult and will be made in Istanbul. It was agreed that the following changes would be improvements.

A. Allow 5 second delay or increment in conjunction with existing no-increment controls. NF wondered whether this would lead to so many variations that the whole point of 1.14 would be in question. Perhaps 5 minutes should be reduced from the starting time in these cases.

B. The seven hour option should be the time control used in the WC final stages.

C. 120'/30' should be removed, and 90'+30" might be replaced with 100'+30".

There are problems in tournaments where some games are played with mechanical clocks.

1.16 MK said that the rating regulations regarding long events need to be clarified. The title regulations should be consistent with these.

1.24 It was agreed that this should be removed.

Discussion of direct titles was deferred.

1.42e The principle was confirmed, but the wording can be improved.

1.42f should apply only to Swiss and Team competitions.

1.45 The proposed changes were considered reasonable.

1.46a There should be consistency with the rating regulations. It should be the responsibility of tournament organisers to discover the ratings of players.

1.46d Remove second sentence.

1.49 These tables should be removed, as they are also covered in 1.71. NF felt that all of the tables should be removed, since they can be obtained from the other regulations, SR believed they are useful.

1.50 There was support for the idea that the number of games should be raised from 27 to 30. It was suggested that one Swiss norm should be required, but this was considered too radical.

It was agreed that old norms, perhaps defined as pre-2000, should have to be registered before some future date, perhaps 1.7.13, or they would be lost.

1.6 NF felt the summary serves no purpose, and has led only to confusion. Others believed it is of value, but it will be redrafted as an index to the regulations.

1.81 TRF files should be uploaded within 15 days, rather than 30.

Players regularly complain about tie-break rules used to decide qualifications, titles or prize money, and it has been suggested that the QC should establish a standard method. The majority view was that this would be helpful, and some method will be proposed.

Anti-cheating (both game fixing and outside assistance) is an increasingly serious issue, and the QC should be involved. We shall liaise with other commissions.

A phone call was made to Vladimir Kukaev in Elista to answer some points which had arisen during the meeting.

Are tournament results ever submitted by paper nowadays? No.

How long would it take to set up a parallel Glicko system? One week.

When should be the cutoff time for submission of reports? Midnight Elista time.

Have any games been rated 0-0 or 0-1/2? Yes, a few. Some councillors were surprised that the QC had been given no indication that this had been taking place.

Why do some records on the title applications page show the player's highest rating as zero, or some incorrect number? He was unaware of this glitch, MK will provide examples.

The Secretary left the meeting at this point.

The only matter discussed subsequently was the proposed EGM title. SR's detailed regulations remain open to consideration, but the debate was restricted to the structure of an ACP questionnaire to its members on this issue.

Nick Faulks, Secretary