

# **AGENDA**

## **for the FIDE ARBITERS' COMMISSION MEETING in FIDE CONGRESS**

**Abu Dhabi, 1-9 September 2015**

- 1. Arbiters' Commission Councilors' Meeting Minutes (Dubai, 7-9 August 2015)**
- 2. IA and FA Title Applications.**
  - Recommendations for the GA.
- 3. FA titles from FIDE Arbiters' Seminars.**
  - Recommendations for the GA.
- 4. Amendments of the Regulations.**
  - Regulations for the titles of Arbiters (Wales Chess Union proposal)
  - Regulations for the classification of the Arbiters
  - Regulations for the training of the Chess Arbiters.
- 5. Update of the List of Lecturers.**
  - Recommendations by Federations.
- 6. Classification of the Arbiters.**
  - Lists of Arbiters per Categories for approval in the Congress
- 7. Arbiters' Magazine.**
  - Presentation of the first issue.
- 8. FIDE Arbiters' Commission's Budget for 2015-2016.**
- 9. Report of the Disciplinary Subcommittee.**
- 10. Others**
  - David O' Connell's proposal
  - David Sedgwick's proposals
  - Various cases



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3<sup>rd</sup> June 2015

To: Mr Nigel Freeman (Executive Director, FIDE)  
Mr Takis Nikolopoulos (Chairman, FIDE Arbiters' Commission)

Dear Sirs ,

The Welsh Chess Union wishes to propose the following regulation change for the consideration of the Arbiters' Commission and of the Executive Board at Abu Dhabi Congress 2015.

1. The age qualification for licensing a "National Arbiter" is reduced to 16;
2. The age qualification for awarding the title FIDE Arbiter is reduced to 18;
3. The age qualification for awarding an International Arbiter title remains at 21.

In this way there would be a natural progression between the three levels.

We would therefore suggest that the Arbiter Title Regulations should be amended as follows:

1. Regulation 2.1.3 Applicants for the title of IA/FA must be at least 21 years old.  
Delete.
2. Insert new Regulation 3.11:  
The minimum age for the award of the FA Title shall be 18 years.
3. Insert new Regulation 4.12:  
The minimum age for the award of the FA Title shall be 21 years.
4. Regulation 6.2.2 The licence fee for National Arbiters is valid for life.  
Insert new first sentence:  
The minimum age for the award of a National Arbiter's Licence shall be 16 years.

Yours sincerely,

Adrian Davies  
Executive Director – Welsh Chess Union

**Kevin O'Connell**

To

'Takis Nikolopoulos' arismarghetis@rogers.com

Jun 5 at 12:45 PM

Dear Takis & Aris

Notation - long form (e2-e4)

This is a subject that I would like to see discussed by your Commission.

I am concerned that the long form of notation could be 'outlawed'.

This follows on from a careful reading of the current Laws of Chess and discussions with others.

Long form notation is especially important for CiS - it is a cornerstone, largely because it is much easier for children to acquire than the short form. It has other advantages for them as well and we use it in all of our curricula, publications & teaching materials.

It is clear (to me) that it was always intended that either long form or short form be valid.

Takis agreed with me on this and he thought that the current rules definitely permitted long form.

However, a careful reading at least suggests that short form is the only legal and valid form (and that is certainly Geurt's opinion - he believes that long form **is outlawed**).

So, I hope that your Commission will discuss this and come to a recommendation that the wording of the section of the Laws relating to notation be modified specifically to include and allow the use of long form notation.

I have written to Ashot & Sevan along the same lines.

Best regards

Kevin

David Sedgwick 4

To

Takis Nikolopoulos

May 14

Dear Takis,

Thank you for again allowing me to submit comments for the consideration of the Arbiters' Commission Councillors' Meeting and thank you for giving me an extended deadline of today by which to do so.

I should like to begin by wishing you and all the members of the Commission a successful four year term of office.

### 1. Olympiad Arbiter Appointments

In my equivalent comments last year, sent to you on 4th June 2014, I said:

"During the next year I plan to devote some time to preparing possible Regulations governing the selection of Olympiad Arbiters, with a view to my proposals being submitted to the FIDE Congress 2015."

The Councillors' Meeting kindly acknowledged these comments as follows:

"The Arbiters' Commission gratefully accepts any proposal regarding Regulations for the appointment of arbiters in the Olympiad."

Unfortunately I have not been able to make a great deal of progress on this in the last eleven months, so I am deferring further comment until 2016.

### 2. Regulations for the Titles of Arbiters - Age Limits

I raised this issue two years' ago and I attach the letter which I sent to you at that time.

The Commission did not feel able to accept my suggestions and I would not normally have returned to the subject so soon.

However, I have been given to understand that the Welsh Chess Union will be submitting a formal proposal on this subject for the consideration of the Presidential Board at the Dubai Congress. They would like to nominate the young Welsh arbiter Thomas Thorpe, who is mentioned in my letter, for appointment as an FA once he has completed his norms, which is likely to be during the next twelve months. As the Regulations stand, they will be unable to do so as he is under the age of 21.

I would therefore respectfully request the Councillors and the Commission to reconsider the matter, especially the proposal to reduce the minimum age for the FA title to 18.

### 3. Form IT3

In our recent discussion about this form, you said that you had asked the FIDE Elista Office a year ago to redesign it.

In the absence of a response from Elista, please could I suggest that the Arbiters' Commission take on the task. My suggestions for the concluding section are that that it should read as follows:

Present Wording:

1st Deputy Chief Arbiter
If more than 20 players 2nd Deputy Chief Arbiter
If more than 70 players 3rd Deputy Chief Arbiter
If more than 120 players 4th Deputy Chief Arbiter

Proposed Revised Wording:

1st Deputy (Chief) Arbiter
2nd Deputy (Chief) Arbiter, if any
3rd Deputy Arbiter, if any
4th Deputy Arbiter, if any

Footnote: Where an event has more than one category of Deputy Arbiter, for instance Deputy Chief Arbiters, Section Arbiters and Match Arbiters, please give details on [Form X]

I have removed the numbers (20, 70 and 120) because they do not appear to accord with the numbers specified in Regulation 2.1.1

Form X could be the new form designed by Güran Ünal, or a revised version of it.

#### **4. GM Wesley So Episode**

I understand that the Presidential Board are seeking the views of both the Arbiters' Commission and the Rules Commission about the episode which resulted in GM Wesley So being forfeited in Round 9 of the US Championships.

I should like to state that in my view the decision of IA Tony Rich was totally correct. I do not allege any wilful misconduct on the part of GM So. However, the notes which he was making were not irrelevant to the game; they were of a motivational nature. As such, they were prohibited by the Laws and to my mind that is as it should be. He had been given two previous warnings and I consider that the loss of the game in progress was the only appropriate penalty for a third infraction.

I should make it clear that the opinions that I have expressed are mine and mine alone, not those of the English Chess Federation or of any other organisation or person.

#### **5. Application for Category Upgrades**

I am in the process of preparing applications for category upgrades for the following English arbiters:

IA Lara Barnes to Category B  
IA David Eustace to Category C  
IA Sean Hewitt to Category B

I expect to be able to submit the formal application to you within the next two to three weeks.

Regards,

David