

Sir,

Sub: Award of title/norm to winners of international championships – proposal to modify the rules – reg.

We would like to bring to your kind perusal, the following new rules to be effective from July 1 in awarding the titles of various championship winners:

B. Permanent Commissions

1.0 Requirements for the titles designated in 0.31

1.2 Titles achieved from International Championships:

1.21 As indicated below, a player may gain a title from such an event or, gain a single title result (norm). The requirements in 1.42, 1.46, 1.47, 1.48 and 1.49 apply.

1.23 With the exception of IBCA, ICSC and IPCA, in the continental, regional or other associations' competitions mentioned below, a title or result can be achieved only if at least 1/3 of the member federations participate in the event.

The continental events generally motivate and inspire the youngsters, because the winner or the first three get titles just by winning or by sharing the first place. As per the new rules, winner of a continental or other regional championship is eligible to get a title, only if one third of the member federations participate in the event.

It is afraid that the new rule may deprive the aspiring youngsters a chance to win title at one stroke and make them lose their motivation. The reason is the non participation of several member federations in continental events, as they can not afford to meet their players' expenses due to financial constraints or for some unforeseen reasons. A privilege or right enjoyed by the players so far is denied to them, not for the players' fault.

In continents like Asia, there are many small federations, which do not take part in any continental event for several years. When there is no title or norm at stake, the championship loses the charm. The developing federations will also lose their interest to organise such tournaments and thereby their players are not exposed to international competitions.

In a way, the new rule does not help in promoting the game, especially among the budding youngsters and the organisation of the championships will also become difficult in future.

Hence, we propose that "Article 1.23 under International Title Regulations be deleted"

Thanking you,
Yours sincerely,

D.V. Sundar, Hon. Secretary
All India Chess Federation