

## Rules Commission Report 22 December 2019

Chairman: Mahdi Abdulrahim of the UAE, Honorary Chairman: Ashot Vardapetyan of Armenia, Secretary: Mehrdad Pahlevanzadeh of Iran Councilors: Stephane Escafre of France, Mike Hoffpaur of the USA, Hassan Khaled of the Egypt

Rules Commission members and chairman were appointed by FIDE president at beginning of the year 2019 and since that time there were 1 meeting in year 2019 in Dubai, United Arab Emirates, 8 - 9 April 2019. - Minutes of the meeting was published on the Rule Commission website and also sent to FIDE office and it's attached to this report.

- According to the commission activity plan, some tasks were distributed to members of the RC.
- Also, several E-Mails and questioned answered by the rules commission include suggestions, questions and comments from players and Arbiters.
- RC actives on the Social Medias as Instagram, YouTube, Twitter, Facebook, and enter data on the new webpage of Rules Commission and is ready to launch.
- The RC members have produced several videos, and we are still working on extracting more of them in various languages such as English, French, Arabic and Russia for better understanding of new or confusing rules.
- Address of website of rules commission is **rules.fide.com**; on **Facebook**: [http://www.facebook.com/FIDE\\_rules](http://www.facebook.com/FIDE_rules), on **YouTube**: <http://www.youtube.com/fiderulescomissison>, **Instagram**: [http://www.instagram.-com/FIDE\\_rules](http://www.instagram.-com/FIDE_rules); on **Twitter**: [http://www.twitter.com/fide\\_rules](http://www.twitter.com/fide_rules)
- Rules commission has very good co-operation with other commission as Arbiters and WOM Commission.
- We have been working with the Arbiters' Commission on the issues related to the rules to develop a new edition of the Arbiters' Manual)
- In the attachment there is report of the meeting of the rules commission and also

the list of VIDEOS and print of the new face of Rules Commission webpage and other social media pages.

- Rules commission has plan to make another meeting in the year 2020 in March or June 2020 to discuss points and get ready for the next FIDE Congress in Moscow Olympiad 2020.
- Taking into account that the FIDE seminars are organized mainly for the applicants for getting new arbiters' titles and that the arbiters from all continents participate in the Olympiads, the Rules Committee plans to organize Refreshing Courses for the International and FIDE Arbiters during the Moscow Olympiad in several languages, (at least English and Russian).
- We already made 10 videos in English, and so for Arabic language.
- The 2020 budget for the Rules Commission:
- We are applying from FIDE management to increase to the 2020 budget of RC in order to produce more media material and videos in other languages such as German, Portuguese and Spanish. In addition to holding two meetings of the RC.

Mahdi Abdulrahim  
Chairperson  
Rules Commission

# Rules Commission Meeting Dubai, United Arab Emirates 8 - 9 April 2019

**Chairman:** Mahdi Abdulrahim of the UAE,

**Honorary Chairman:** Ashot Vardapetyan of Armenia,

**Secretary:** Mehrdad Pahlevanzadeh of Iran

**Councilors:** Stephane Escarfe of France and Mike Hoffpauir of the USA and guest Casto Abundo of the Philippines, Asian Chess Federation Executive Director

## **1. Chairman's Remarks and Welcome Address:**

The Chairman Mahdi Abdulrahim welcomed all presents and looked forward to a productive meeting. He asked the members to bring more material for teaching and to clarify rules for players and arbiters. He emphasized that all decisions that will be made during this meeting will be discussed at the next meeting of the Rules Commission during the FIDE Congress.

## **2- Tie-Break Systems**

The Commission pointed out that the tie break system was under the Rules Commission in previous years and FIDE should clarify that the Rules Commission shall continue to be in charge of the FIDE Competition Rules.

Rules Commission approved the suggestions of FIDE Management board to apply the following tie break system and shall define parameters for the application of AROC.

## **Proposal for the individual Swiss tie-break system**

The Swiss tournaments being part of the World Championship Cycle should use the following tie-break criteria in order of priority:

- Average Rating of Opponents Cut 1 (AROC 1)\*
- Buchholz Cut 1\*\*;
- Buchholz;
- Direct Encounter
- Drawing of lots.

\* Average Rating of Opponents, excluding the lowest-rated opponent.

\*\* Buchholz score reduced by the lowest score of the opponents.

It is also recommended to apply 400 ratings points rule for calculation and also we should recommend to the programmers to add 400 rating points option to their Pairing software's.

### 3. Deadline to submit new proposals.

Rules commission suggests setting a deadline of 45 days before FIDE Congress 2019 and also persist that the proposals shall receive via National Chess Federations.

### 4. Proposals:

A: Chairman Mahdi Abdulrahim suggested changing the penalty for making an Illegal move in Rapid games to just one (1) minute as it is in for Blitz since the time control of Rapid games are closer to Blitz Games than Standard Games.

To Add new Article after A.1 in the Appendix:

<b>Appendix A: Rapid Chess</b>	
A.2	The penalties mentioned in Articles 7 and 9 of the Competition Rules shall be one minute instead of two minutes.

**B: Proposal to avoid several possible problems that illegal move precede to the checkmate move can proceeds:**

Rules Commission suggests changing Article 5.1.1 to:

<b>Article 5: The completion of the game</b>	
5.1.1	The game is won by the player who has checkmated his opponent's king. This immediately ends the game, provided that <del>the move</del> his last & previous moves producing the checkmate position were in accordance with Article 3 and Articles 4.2 – 4.7.

**C: Proposal to limit the number of draw offers that a player can give to 3 times in a row to avoid disturbing the opponents.**

<b>Article 9: The drawn game</b>	
9.1.2.1	A player wishing to offer a draw shall do so after having made a move on the chessboard and before pressing his clock. An offer at any other time during play is still valid but Article 11.5 must be considered. No conditions can be attached to the offer. In both cases the offer cannot be withdrawn and remains valid until the opponent accepts it, rejects it orally, rejects it by touching a piece with the intention of moving or capturing it, or the game is concluded in some other way. <u>A Player Can not disturb his opponent by repeating draw offers more than 3 times in a row.</u>

**D: Proposal to remove Article: 9.1.2.2 since the same matter described in Article 8.1.5**

<b>Article 9: The drawn game</b>	
9.1.2.2	The offer of a draw shall be noted by each player on his scoresheet with the symbol (=).

**E: Proposal to maximum possible number of moves to return back to 10**

## Article 7: Irregularities

7.5.1 An illegal move is completed once the player has pressed his clock. If during a game it is found that an illegal move has been completed:

7.5.1.1- If the illegal move played before not more than 10 moves of white and black, the position immediately before the irregularity shall be reinstated, Articles 4.3 and 4.7 apply to the move replacing the illegal move. The game shall then continue from this reinstated position.

7.5.1.2- If the illegal move played before more than 10 moves of white and black the game shall continue from the last position.

7.5.1.3- If it's not possible to understand how many moves played after illegal move, the game shall continue from the last position.

## F: Play with 2 hands should be avoided in all kind of completion of the game

## Article 5: The completion of the game

5.1.1 The game is won by the player who has checkmated his opponent's king. This immediately ends the game, provided that the move producing the checkmate position was in accordance with Article 3 and Articles 4.12 – 4.7.

5.2.1 The game is drawn when the player to move has no legal move and his king is not in check. The game is said to end in „stalemate“. This immediately ends the game, provided that the move producing the stalemate position was in accordance with Article 3 and Articles 4.12 – 4.7.

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## 5. Rules Seminars:

It was suggested to conduct Rules Seminars for Arbiters who want to receive the International Arbiter Title and also for Lecturers and International Arbiters to take refresher courses by the Rules Commission.

## 6- Hand Book Structure

The commission suggested giving a better classification for the FIDE Handbook and to complete the previous proposal of Secretary Tomasz Delega, but most important point is to place Laws of Chess inside the General Rules Section.

## 7. Online registration in all kind of L1, L2 and L3 tournaments

It's recommend to FIDE use a kind of online registration for all kind of L1, L2 & L3 tournaments to avoid player's withdrawal possibility on purpose to join other tournaments.

## 8. Question Received:

Regarding several E-Mails received the only few ones accepted as relevant to the Rules Commission:

- part 2 & 3 of E-Mail from WGM Danara Sadvakasova on behalf of Mr. Vlad Tkachiev about make a standard system for giving warning to the players by giving Yellow and Red cards decided to work more on them and give a complete proposal for the next meeting of the commission.

- Proposals of Roberto Ricca postponed, till the time that commission has the clear responsibility for tie break systems.

**9. General Remarks:**

It's recommend to Zero Tolerance rule be persist as the default time control.  
Also it's recommended to try to make Smoking forbidden in L1 FIDE Events.