

Dear friends,

First of all, let me express my deep gratitude for your trust in electing me as a Chairman of the Athletes Commission. It's an honor and I sincerely appreciated it.

As all of our members are located in different time zones, for better communication between us, I organized a group chat on WhatsApp. Also, we registered our official email, thanks to Mr.Kukaev. Since it's been a month from creating our Commission, we already received some proposals and ideas from chess players. I would like to share some of them with you.

1. Cheating - the most painful topic.

The amount of online cheating increased a lot, so it would be useful to create a base where will be information about cheaters. Sanctions and penalties sometimes are too weak for such a disgraceful act, it will never stop 100% but with stronger penalties, we can reduce it.

In online tournaments, it should be important to use an extra camera (WebCam for example), so it would reduce opportunities to cheat.

Also, it would be great to create a commission of experts who will be part of the Fair Play commission or consult separately on difficult cases. With all due respect to Dr. Ken Regan, there have already been a few occasions when his program has not confirmed the cheating, though all pointed to it. The experts' commission can include at least 10 grandmasters from different countries of different ages who work and analyze a lot with engines.

2. From what we have read and have heard, in the World Youth and European Championship the strongest players of their age, as a rule, don't participate. Accordingly, the prestige of these championships has fallen. The organizers are interested in the number of participants, and nobody cares about the quality. Is it possible to attract the strongest players to participate with prizes? Not necessarily financial, for example: to give the World champion U16 a wildcard to Grand Swiss or an invitation to some strong tournaments.

3. Arbiters.

Last but not least. The level of arbiters is low. 90% of conflicts on the board disappeared because of time control with an increment. It's necessary to raise their knowledge, hold more seminars with an exam, etc. At official tournaments, it makes sense to introduce a kind of scale of arbiters by the participants. If there are no complaints, the arbiter receives a good scale. If there are complaints from many participants, this should affect. It is wrong that the same arbiters continue to judge tournament after tournament only because they have a good relationship with the organizer, and nobody cares about their professional qualities.

In the end of my report, I would like to thank vice-president Anastasia Sorokina for her invitation to join the 1st FIDE Introductory seminar “Chess for children with autism spectrum disorder. How chess can help children with autism”. I hope that in future this project will expand more and more.

Thank you for your time!

Chairman
Saduakassova, Dinara