The Norwegian Chess federation

Oslo, 16th of October 2023

STATEMENT REGARDING NEW REGULATIONS RELATED TO GENDER AND PARTICIPATION

The Norwegian Chess Federation object to the process leading up to the new regulation regarding changing gender in the FIDE registry and participation for trans women in women's tournaments.

The Federation understand that the new regulation is temporary and agree that measures should be taken to avoid misuse of registered gender. However, we react strongly to the apparent haste leading up to the regulations being adopted. For example, the Women's Commission were only given 24 hours to respond to the suggested rules, the federations had next to no warning. This contributes to unnecessary disruption and restrictions, and cannot be considered a good, healthy democratic process. Before introducing regulations such as this, touching on values and people's rights, FIDE should make sure that all different parts of the organisation have a chance to be heard. Even for temporary regulations as is the case in this instance.

It is important to make sure that no one misuse the option to change their registered gender in the FIDE-system, in order to obtain unjust advantages. The regulation that state that in order to change your registered gender, you need to show proof of legal gender change according to the national laws, should be sufficient to this affect. At least as a temporary measure. Forbidding people who have genuinely changed their gender to participate in certain tournament classes, even temporary, is unnecessary, intrusive and too restrictive.

The Norwegian Chess Federation

Norwegian Chess Federation proposes to FIDE General Assembly to approve resolution below:

The General Assembly strongly recommend the Council to review the Transgender Registration Regulations and to amend it, in order to avoid any discrimination and unfair preferences as well as unnecessary exclusion of any players, at any time.