

Report of QC Chair to FIDE Council October 2025

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1. Swiss Ratings

The Swiss Chess Federation is on their way to change from Swiss Rating to FIDE-Rating in the same way Spain did a couple of years ago, and convert their national ratings to FIDE ratings for the players who don't have one.

The main steps will be the following ones:

- Stop Swiss Rating as per 31st December 2025.
- Keep the (frozen) rating for national purpose, mid-term, as qualification or selection criteria.
- For all SUI players not having a FIDE-Rating as per 1st January 2026, there will be a Conversion of the Swiss Elo rating (calculated per 31.12.2025) as an initial FIDE-Rating as per 01.01.2026.
- Now, there is a small difference of only 9 Elo points in the mean value of the distributions. It will be updated later this year. There will be players who already have a FIDE-ID but no initial rating and there will be players who don't even have a FIDE-ID.

2. Titles for Disabled (DIS-QC)

There is a proposal to incorporate to Direct Titles table the Continental Disabled, Continental Disabled U20, and Olympiad for People with Disabilities.

Based on previous discussions concerning World events, and the approach QC takes to World and Continental titles, these are the suggested titles:

Continental Individual Disabled (single event for all players with a disability)
=1st FM (Max 3)
Silver, Bronze CM

Continental Under 20 Disabled (single event for all players with a disability)
Gold, Silver, Bronze CM

Disabled Olympiad
65% - Min 7 games

Women titles would be awarded under the same criteria for equivalent events.

DIS Commission agrees on the proposal.

3. Cooperation between Commissions (ARB-QC)

ARB asked for help and support for the preparation of new edition of Arbiters Manual 2026.

As there were not many changes in FIDE Regulations from 2025 edition, they will focus to add some comments where including some explanations could be useful.

Shaun Press will collect suggestions from QC members regarding our Regulations.

4. “Fast classic” time control valid for Standard Rating

The pilot project introducing tournaments with shorter time controls that will count toward the standard rating list was approved.

Current requirements:

Under existing regulations, the minimum time control for a game to be rated as standard depends the players’ ratings, assuming the game lasts 60 moves:

If at least one player is rated 2400 or higher: 120 minutes per player

If at least one player is rated 1800 or higher: 90 minutes per player

If both players are rated below 1800: 60 minutes per player

Pilot events:

As part of the pilot project, two tournaments for players 2400+ were played with a time control of 45 minutes plus a 30-second increment per move:

-Qatar Cup (September 7–13)

-QCA Training Center September Tournament Classical (September 25–27)

Another one will be played in November:

-Women’s World Team Championship (November 17–24)

These events follow standard-rating rules, but with specific conditions:

- No title norms are possible
- Organizers may not schedule more than two rounds per day

5. Targeted amendment to Rating Regulation

The amendment was designed to ensure the fairness and integrity of the FIDE rating system and provide a level-playing field for all top-rated players. The change applies to players rated 2650 and above.

The amendment addresses the application of the 400-point rule.

The rule stated that a difference in rating of more than 400 points shall be counted for rating purposes as it were a difference of 400 points. There were no restrictions of how many times it could be applied during a single tournament.

Effective as of 1st of October, The wording in FIDE Rating Regulations changed to include the following, given here in bold:

“8.3.1 For each game played against a rated player, determine the difference in rating between the player and their opponent, D.

A difference in rating of more than 400 points shall be counted for rating purposes as though it were a difference of 400 points, **for players rated below 2650. For players rated 2650 and above, the difference between ratings shall be used in all cases.**”

6. Workshop for Rating Officers

The Management Board asked the Qualification Commission to organise a workshop for Federation Rating Officers, during which the Policy on Rating and Titles would be addressed, along with other relevant topics.

The workshop was held on October, 11th. It was well attended, with over 40 federations represented. The workshop ran for 2 hours and consisted of three main sections.

QC Chair Sabrina de San Vicente covered FIDE Titles Policy. Topics included requirements for title events, the process for applying for titles and how QC manages the approval process.

QC Secretary discussed the FIDE Rating System. Topics of interest included recent changes in rating regulations, how QC receives and implements suggestions on changing the rating system, and how QC investigates complaints concerning the conduct of events.

QC Member Cristobal Vega Adorno went through the use of the FIDE Rating Server (FRS). Subjects included correct registration of events, adding new players, and demonstrating extra functionality that the FRS provides to federations.

At the end of the meeting there was a short time for questions from the attendees and explanations from the presenters.

7. Rating Survey

QC together with GSC a survey was launched to understand player's opinion regarding the minimum number of rated games per year required for a player to be considered as an active player.

Also, after how many years without playing would be reasonable to consider a player retired.

The survey was directed to the top 100 players plus the top 50 female players.

8. Inactive Federations

While FIDE encourages as many chess events to be rated as possible (assuming such events follow all FIDE regulations), there are sometimes issues with events that are not registered, or when they are not submitted for rating.

The usual cause of failing to submit or register an event, or failing to register players, is that the Federation has ceased to operate correctly, or the Federation's rating officer is unable to carry out their duties.

Possible solution:

Where a federation fails to submit events or fails to register players for a period of 2 months, and fails to respond to a request to do so from the FIDE Qualification Commission, QC can nominate a suitable person to act as the FIDE Rating Officer for that federation, until the situation is resolved. Such a nomination must be approved by the FIDE Council.

9. Title Applications

We are submitting our recommendations on title applications.

10.2025

Sabrina de San Vicente

QC Chair