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Sent: Sunday, July 26, 2026 8:07 PM
To: FIDE Office <office@fide.com>; Directory FIDE Office <directory@fide.com>
Cc: Koos Stolk <kstolk@schaakbond.nl>; Voorzitter KNSB <voorzitter@schaakbond.nl>; Jeroen Bosch <jbosch@schaakbond.nl>; Lasse Ostebo Lovik <loviklasse@gmail.com>; Andy Howie <andy@akhowie.co.uk>; jonathan.oconnor@protonmail.com <jonathan.oconnor@protonmail.com>
Subject: KNSB proposal for the agenda of the FIDE General Assembly (Samarkand, September 2026) — inclusion of gender designation "X" in the Rating Database

Dear FIDE Office / Dear Polina,

On behalf of the Royal Dutch Chess Federation (KNSB), and in accordance with Article 2.4 of the General Assembly Internal Rules, I hereby request that the following proposal be placed on the agenda of the General Assembly to be held in Samarkand in September 2026. The reasons for the proposal are set out in the text below.

The KNSB considers this a matter that merits the consideration of the General Assembly, and we would welcome the opportunity for it to be discussed there.

Kind regards,

Vincent Geeraets

On behalf of the Royal Dutch Chess Federation (KNSB)

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PROPOSAL: Inclusion of the gender designation "X" in the FIDE Rating Database

Submitted by the Royal Dutch Chess Federation (KNSB)

The KNSB requests that FIDE add the gender designation "X" to the FIDE Rating Database, alongside the existing "M" and "F".

In the Netherlands it is possible to have the gender "X" officially registered and displayed on official documents such as a passport. The Netherlands Olympic Committee likewise supports the registration of non-binary athletes. On this basis the KNSB has already included "X" in its own national rating administration, and a number of our members have requested to have their gender recorded as "X" rather than "M" or "F" on their FIDE profile - something that is currently not possible.

This is, in the first place, a matter of accurate registration: it allows FIDE's records to reflect a legally recognised fact about the players concerned. Beyond that, it is a question of how FIDE recognises its members. Enabling this registration would signal that all players are acknowledged as full members of the FIDE family - a gesture that carries little cost but real meaning for the people it concerns.

This proposal concerns registration only. It is expressly not intended to alter any of FIDE's existing gender regulations, and in particular does not affect eligibility to play in women's events (as specified in the FIDE Transgender Registration Regulations, <https://handbook.fide.com/chapter/TransgenderRegulations>).

The Irish Chess Union, the Norwegian Chess Federation and Chess Scotland support bringing this proposal before the General Assembly.

The KNSB therefore requests that the General Assembly consider and approve the inclusion of "X" in the FIDE Rating Database, and instruct the relevant FIDE body to implement it.