

Fédération International des Échecs



World Chess Federation

Fair Play Commission

Bologna, 12 July 2021

Honourable members of the Fide Council,

the past three months saw a surge in FPL activities, especially on the side of FPPs, Fair Play Panels that overview both online and over the board tournaments. The focus of the Commission has therefore shifted from standard setting and prosecuting to building experience for this very sensitive task. We believe this to be a very positive development, since it shows that FPL activities are finally at the core of Fide's prevention strategy.

The restructuring and rewriting of FPL Procedural Rules was also heavily impacted by this turn of events, and new ideas have been devised to try to speed up and streamline the process leading to the sanctioning of lesser fair play violations. While it is clear that there is no such thing as a "minor" violation when cheating is involved, it is also true that not all violations have the same "weight". Therefore a "slimmer" system has been devised, with a new body called "FPL Judicial Body" that will be called to sanction these lesser violations, albeit with limited power (bans up to 3 months only). This procedure will mainly be triggered by a FPP or FPO Report.

The FPL Procedural Rules also provide for the introduction of the roll of Fair Play Lecturers and Fair Play Specialists. In time, only FP Specialists will qualify for FPP or FPO positions, and only FP Lecurers will qualify for delivering FP training.

The FPL Procedural Rules have been submitted for approval.

It should be noted that Mr. Frode Merkesvik withdrew from the Commission.

The Commission also stresses the importance for Fide:

- a) to finalize agreements (and payments) with Prof. Regan and the University of Buffalo.
- b) to take all necessary steps to guarantee that the Online Screening Tool is finally implemented.

It is useless, we believe, to stress how critical these two steps are for Fide's present, not to speak of the future. Having said this, it is a fact that Fide top executive are now fully aware of the situation and are working hard to make both things happen. FPL believes this should be a top Fide priority more than ever.

Of course, the usual prosecuting activities are routinely under way.

Lastly, FPL Chair filed the application for the EU Erasmus+ programme to obtain funding for the online screening tool. Results are expected in November. While there is no certainty that the grant will be awarded, no path should be left unbeaten in the quest for the Online Screening Tool .

FPL Secretary
Yuri Garrett