



GENS UNA SUMUS

FÉDÉRATION INTERNATIONALE DES ÉCHECS

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THE RULES COMMISSION

Subject: Laws of Chess re-write process – Rules Commission integrated
Report to the FIDE Council

Summary:

A. Laws of Chess re-write.

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The Rules Commission updates the honourable Council regarding the drafting job with the following scheme (and subsequent comments).

STAGE	DELIVERABLE	CONTENT	DRAFTED	FINALISED	FORECAST
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Analysis	Documented	done	done	done	done
	Final Report	done	90%	90%	End of July

Design	Documented	done	done	done	done
	Final Report	done	80%	80%	End of July

Rewriting	Introduction	done	80%	80%	August
	Law 1	done	done	done	done
	Law 2	done	done	done	done
	Law 3	done	done	done	done
	Law 4	done	done	done	done
	Law 5	done	done	done	done
	Law 6	done	done	done	done
	Law 7	done	done	95%	September
	Law 8	done	done	95%	September
	Law 9	done	done	90%	September
	Law 10	done	done	90%	September
	Law 11	done	done	90%	September
	Law 12	done	done	95%	September
	Law 13	done	90%	80%	September
	Law 14	done	done	done	done
	Law 15	done	80%	70%	September
	Law 16	done	70%	70%	September

As it can be seen in the scheme, the job has now come to the final stages.

The current forecast is to have a final text by the end of September, where a final text means a full draft ready to be submitted and discussed for the approval by the appropriate bodies.

Even if theoretically a draft may be ready for the 2025 GA, assuming it would happen in December as in the previous odd years, the timeline looks hasty and there is a danger to have a short time for the due consideration, given the importance of the Laws of Chess.

It seems more careful then, having a draft by September but postpone the approval to the 2026 GA in order to have more time to examine it with any relevant stakeholders and eventually find hidden bugs.

Albeit most of the proposals have already been discussed with major commissions which were integrated into the task force, additional feedback from other FIDE organs and possibly National Chess Federations during the Congress and during a timeframe when the draft may be made public will permit to reach a general consensus and offer a more comprehensive text.

There is also an extra benefit that in such way, a draft may be discussed during the 2025 Congress (ideally, in the RC meeting) where we can get feedback about it.

This way would also allow a reflection on the appendices, which are now not included in the current drafting job.

Unless instructed otherwise, the RC will proceed in such way.

Venice, dated on today, July 9th, 2025

IA Stéphane Escafre, Chairman
IA Marco Biagioli, Secretary

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'MB', written in a cursive style.