



Arbiters Commission



Recommendations for approval by
the 3rd FIDE COUNCIL 2023
(online, December 11th - 17th, 2023)

The present report presents the ARB Commission's activity, the list of FIDE Arbiters' Training Seminars, norms achieved and title and accreditation recommendations for approval by the FIDE Council.

The period covered is between July 17th, 2023 and November 18th, 2023. It was prepared in collaboration with Nebojsa BARALIC, Secretary of the Commission.

Note: other activities of the FIDE Arbiters' Commission are regularly reported on <https://arbiters.fide.com>

1) ARB ACTIVITIES IN THE PERIOD BETWEEN TWO FIDE COUNCIL MEETINGS

During the period between July 17th, 2023 and November 18th, 2023 in FIDE Arbiters Commission (ARB) we:

- Organized an in-person meeting of Councillors (together with Chairman and Secretary of ARB) in Dubai from 1st September to 4th September 2023, attended also by Chief Operating Officer, Ms. Sava Stoisavljevic. During the meeting the two main topics Panels of Arbiters for 2024-2025 and Stipend Regulations, were discussed. Two ZOOM calls were organized with the presence of the FIDE President Mr. Arkady Dvorkovich and representatives from GSC and EVE commissions. Regarding the Panels – the meeting opened the procedure of establishing panels as well as criteria for selection of arbiters into these panels. For Stipend regulations both GSC and EVE presented their proposals and arranged further steps on how to proceed. We are grateful for the support from FIDE and UAE chess federation (especially Mr. Mahdi Abdulrahim) for organizing the meeting and covering the costs of the transport and stay.
- Continued the process of licenses and upgrading the classes of arbiters, for this Congress the biggest number of applications is sent to FIDE Council for approval. It is a good sign, that people are interested in becoming arbiters on all levels, starting as National arbiters (licenced by FIDE), and improving as FIDE Arbiters and finally International arbiters. It proves that the system of Arbiters Categories and Panels is working well.
- Prepared the list of arbiters selected into 4 panels (green, blue, red and yellow) for 2024-2025. Even though some arbiters expected to be appointed to a higher panel, we did not receive any complaints. It is true, that some arbiters asked for an explanation, but mostly about the procedure and not the selection of arbiters itself.

- Worked on Stipends regulation, organized several meetings mostly with EVE, trying to find a good balance between interest of arbiters for increased stipend and interest of organisers. There are still some topics open and will be subject to further communication (how to deal with local arbiters, how to evaluate rest days).
- Disciplinary subcommittee has already decided two cases. In both cases, there were no appeals, so these decisions are final and are published on the ARB webpage. Meanwhile there are two other cases still in progress. Together with Councillors we carefully consider and evaluate the complaints against arbiters. If we find any potential breach of rules by an arbiter, we forward the case to disciplinary body.
- In 2024 we would like to focus even more on Education of arbiters. We plan to start the Refresher courses for all arbiters. Of the same importance are IA seminars. For the last two years these seminars were postponed, but we consider it useful to start with them in 2024, first under the supervision of ARB. Educational team and especially their leader Alex McFarlane prepared material for IA courses, in ARB we need to prepare material regarding financing of these courses, to propose participation fee and stipend for lecturers.
- In 2024 we wish to present a new Arbiters Manual before the 2024 Olympiad in Budapest, Hungary. On the Arbiters manual will work not only members of ARB, but we included also other FIDE Commissions, both the Technical Commission and Rules Commission. They will join this project and their members will be a part of the team led by IA Rathinam Anantharam. Also, this way we want to continue in the process of good cooperation among FIDE commissions, as we are part of the same FIDE family.
- Developed our webpage and communication with arbiters via social media, especially Facebook. New articles about FIDE regulations and role of arbiters are presented in Arbiters' Corner.
- The team led by Chanda Nsakanya prepares interviews with arbiters focusing on topics useful to all of us, which include - how to prepare as an arbiter for any chess event, how to avoid making mistakes, how to cooperate in a team and how to solve problems.
- To improve the knowledge of arbiters, all Chief Arbiters from World events are asked to write a short article about the event, mostly focusing on problems they had to deal with during the event, how they solved it and also to explain their reasoning.

Goals to be achieved in the next period:

- Finalize the Proposal of Stipend Regulation and present it to the Management Board. After approving this regulation all arbiters will know in advance the conditions for participating, therefor the documents should be clear without vague provisions.
- Prepare project of IA Seminars and ask for approval by FIDE, so arbiters can get an IA norm as a requirement of becoming an IA.
- Present Refresher courses first inside ARB and if accepted, present it to FIDE,
- Continue the process of licenses and classes of arbiters, with the support of FIDE IT team make it more automatic.
- Continue and keep the high level of FA seminars, delete those lecturers who have been less active, and make a way for new lecturers.
- Propose arbiters for World Events, with respect to gender, geographic areas as well as to give a chance to new and suitable arbiters.
- Work on other topics that arise during this period.

2) FIDE ARBITERS SEMINARS

In the period from July 17th, 2023 and November 18th, 2023 twenty-one (21) FIDE ARBITERS' SEMINARS were organized in the following places and dates, under the auspices of FIDE. For all of them, report and results have been published on the FIDE website:

- 1. Antofagasta, CHILE, 11 – 15 July 2023**
6 participants from 2 Federations,
- 2. Zaragoza, SPAIN, 13 – 16 July 2023**
7 participants from 2 Federations,
- 3. Korumdu, KYRGYZSTAN, 16 – 18 July 2023**
15 participants from 2 Federations,
- 4. 137th Internet Based Seminar, GUAM, 27 – 30 July 2023**
20 participants from 7 Federations,
- 5. 136th Internet Based Seminar, PERU, 28 – 30 July 2023**
17 participants from 6 Federations,
- 6. Casablanca, MOROCCO, 2 – 6 August 2023**
20 participants from 1 Federation,
- 7. Ostfildern, GERMANY, 10 – 13 August 2023**
18 participants from 3 Federations,
- 8. 138th Internet Based Seminar, PHILIPPINES, 24 – 27 August 2023**
20 participants from 1 Federation,
- 9. Mamaia, EUROPEAN CHESS UNION, 6 – 11 September 2023**
11 participants from 3 Federations,
- 10. 139th Internet Based Seminar, ASIAN CHESS FEDERATION, 9 – 12 September 2023**
19 participants from 6 Federations,
- 11. 140th Internet Based Seminar, PANAMA, 23 – 25 September 2023**
20 participants from 10 Federations,
- 12. Mexico City, MEXICO, 23 – 27 September 2023**
5 participants from 1 Federation,
- 13. Brisbane, AUSTRALIA, 27 September – 05 October 2023**
7 participants from 3 Federations,
- 14. Dubai, UAE, 28 September – 02 October 2023**
20 participants from 4 Federations,
- 15. 141st Internet Based Seminar, PHILIPPINES, 30 September – 3 October 2023**
22 participants from 7 Federations,
- 16. Indore, INDIA, 13 – 15 October 2023**
20 participants from 1 Federation,
- 17. 144th Internet Based Seminar, 28 – 31 October 2023**
17 participants from 10 Federations,
- 18. Coimbatore, INDIA, 03 – 05 November 2023**
22 participants from 1 Federation,
- 19. Toronto, CANADA, 10 – 12 November 2023**
10 participants from 1 Federation,
- 20. 143rd Internet Based Seminar, Confederation of Chess for Americas, 10 – 12 November 2023**
22 participants from 19 Federations,
- 21. 148th Internet Based Seminar, CANADA, 13 – 18 November 2023**
19 participants from 3 Federations,



Map 1 – Seminars reported for the 3rd FIDE Council 2023

A few statistics (based on received reports to date):

337 arbiters from 57 Federations took part in 21 seminars.

330 arbiters took part in the exam.

241 arbiters passed the exam and achieved FA Norm (*see Appendix A for the full list*).

3) APPLICATIONS TO BE VALIDATED BY THE COUNCIL

Incomplete applications at the time of reporting were skipped for now and postponed to the next report for recommendations to the FIDE Council.

That means that only *Approved* and *Rejected* applications will be listed as recommendations below.

a) RECOMMENDATIONS FOR IA AND FA TITLE APPLICATIONS

For the 3rd FIDE Council 2023, the Arbiters' Commission received 317 applications for Arbiters Titles. 118 IA, and 199 FA title applications were submitted for consideration by the Commission. 269 applications are approved, 39 rejected, and 9 postponed to the next Council.

Appendix B contains the recommendations of the Arbiters' Commission for the IA and FA title applications that have been submitted for approval by the 3rd FIDE Council 2023.

b) RECOMMENDATIONS FOR ARBITERS' CLASSIFICATION UPGRADES

For the 3rd FIDE Council 2023, the Arbiters' Commission received 18 applications for Arbiters' classification upgrades:

- 2 category A
- 2 category B
- 14 category C

15 applications are approved and 3 rejected.

Appendix C contains the recommendations of the Arbiters' Commission for the upgrades of the Arbiters' classification that have been submitted for approval by the 3rd FIDE Council 2023.

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CHAIRMAN
FIDE ARBITERS' COMMISSION