

Report of QC Chair to FIDE Council December 2023

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1. List of RUS/BLR under FID

According to FC decision <https://www.fide.com/news/2119>, for the purposes of applying Article 1.4.2 of the FIDE Title Regulations, players from Russia/Belarus playing under the FIDE flag temporarily replaced in a simplified procedure according to the following FC decision <https://fide.com/news/1618> are considered to be a foreign player with a status of the original federation.

QC requested FIDE and the list of such players is published on FIDE website available for Organizers and Arbiters that need to identify their original Federation in order to invite players/sign title norms.

The list can be found here: <https://ratings.fide.com/transfers.phtml> second tab "FIDE flag players".

2. K factors correction

During a review of the FIDE Rating System, it was discovered that there was a discrepancy between how a player's K-factor changes upon reaching 30 games, and how a player's K-factor changes upon reaching a certain rating level. This has now been corrected to make the changes to a player's K-factor consistent. This change took effect for the September 2023 Rating List, and ratings have been recalculated with the

correct code. It is not possible to amend earlier rating lists as these could affect title and norm calculations from previous events.

When does a player's K-factor change:

- If a player's K-factor is changed due to reaching 30 games, this change will take effect for any tournaments rated after the 30-game total is reached.
- If a player's K-factor is changed due to reaching 2400, this change will take effect for any tournaments rated after the 2400 rating is published.
- If a junior player's K-factor is changed due to reaching 2300, this change will take effect for any tournament rated after the 2300 rating is reached.
- If a player's K-factor is changed due to a player reaching 18 years old, this change will take effect for any tournament rated after 1 January of the year following the player's 18th birthday.

Changes in a player's K-factor are not reversible, and remain in place, even if a player's subsequent rating falls below the cut-off for the change.

3. Players not able to find a federation or not registered for international championships

Several countries register players for international championships only if they played in national championships. At the same time, there are many cases where players live abroad and cannot travel to their original country for these purposes.

They also cannot change the federation to the federation of their residence, because the national federation requires citizenship.

QC understands that there are several circumstances (federations' internal regulations or other reasons) in which the players are not allowed to be registered in certain tournaments.

In those cases, there is a need for the players to be included and give them the opportunity to play chess.

We suggested to enable Continental flags (ECU, CCA, ACF, and ACC flag) for such cases, and the players would be allowed to play in Continental and World events.

Continental flag would not count as a foreign player for norm purposes.

4. QC Meeting 30 September

An online meeting was held on September, 30 between Members of our Commission.

The Chairperson listed a number of current issues that QC is dealing with.

Current rating and title investigations, and possible changes to regulations were discussed.

Current Rating and Title Investigations:

- It was agreed that if the federations do not supply information required for further investigation, FIDE QC should unrate those events under investigation.
- The QC Secretary will draft a letter to be sent to all Federation Ratings Officers explaining the expectations that FIDE QC has with regards to the submission and non-submission of rated events, with a particular emphasis on checking the legitimacy of reported events and norms.

Possible changes to regulations:

- The draft of Direct Titles table has been updated to reflect recent decisions regarding the awarding of direct titles for Continental Amateur, World Cup and Associated Bodies.
- The Regulations for Titles have been updated to include suggestions from Konstantinos Gkizis and to reflect recent changes in the awarding of Direct Titles for Arab Individual events and Regional Junior events.

5. Public discussion about rating changes

In July, FIDE shared Jeff's proposals and invited the chess community to express their thoughts on the proposals and send their comments, suggestions, ideas, and mathematical calculations to the Qualification Commission.

<https://fide.com/news/2538>

The announcement was a success and we received +150 emails. Some of them were short messages, while others were more detailed responses containing mathematical calculations.

Each response was looked at, and formed part of the discussions that the FIDE Qualification Commission had on this matter.

The vast majority of the messages supported the proposed changes.

Other suggested changes were related to increase/reduce or have multiple k-factors and increase the number of games required to obtain an official rating.

While we could not incorporate all suggestions into these proposed changes, FIDE QC

may revisit the submissions in the future as part of their ongoing review into the operation of the FIDE Ratings System.

Some of the specific comments that Jeff thinks are most useful advice toward things FIDE could be considering for the near future were added into his document.

QC would like to thank everybody for their contribution to this process.

6. Ratings Meeting with Jeff Sonas 7 October

Jeff Sonas reviewed all the opinions and analyzed the suggestions provided by the chess community.

He was invited to a QC meeting to present his recommendations after reviewing all the emails. He presented new document with more analysis on certain topics based on the suggestions received:

- #1. Recommended compression amount
- #2. Has the deflation reached the Grandmaster level yet?
- #3. Should we expect a compression to cause inflation?
- #4. Should we revert the 400-point-rule to its earlier form?

Jeff Sonas concluded that, independent of any other decisions, we should revert the 400-point-rule to its pre-2022 state, where any rating difference larger than 400 Elo points would instead be treated as a difference of 400 Elo points.

7. QC Meeting 21 October

Another QC meeting was held on 21st October. The topics were:

- 1) Discussion on the issue of changes to the FIDE Rating System.

QC agreed that the changes proposed for Standard ratings should be applied to Rapid & Blitz too.

We should continue with periodic analysis to monitor the functioning of the rating system.

QC is presenting the final version of the rating regulations changes to the FIDE Council for approval.

- 2) We discussed the situation of certain players where they are not allowed to participate in international championships if they don't play their national championships.

In several cases, they live abroad and cannot travel to their original country for these purposes.

They also cannot change the federation to the federation of their residence, because the national federation requires citizenship.

We would like to solve their situation and include them in the chess world.

3) Improvements to the Table for Direct Titles and the FIDE Title Regulations were discussed.

8. Table for Direct Titles

We were working on the table for Direct Titles. It was updated and it is being presented to the FIDE Council for its approval.

We are also adding some clarifications at the end of the table on how to deal with special cases.

9. Changes on FIDE Title Regulations

The FIDE Title Regulations were updated and they are being presented to the FIDE Council for approval.

10. FIDE Transgender Registration Regulations - Implementation

The QC Secretary will draft a FAQ on this matter to be published on the QC website after agreement by QC and FIDE Executive.

11. Title Applications

We are submitting our recommendations on title applications.

11.2023

Sabrina de San Vicente

QC Chair