



# ARBITERS' COMMISSION (ARB)

Changes in Regulations for Arbiters

(FIDE Council Meeting, December, 4<sup>th</sup> 2020)

Three regulations for arbiters are submitted for amendments at the FIDE Council Meeting on the 4<sup>th</sup> December 2020:

- FIDE Handbook B06: Regulations for the Titles of Arbiters
- FIDE Handbook B06 Annex 1 & 1a: Regulations for Training of Chess Arbiters
- FIDE Handbook B06 Annex 2: Regulations for the Classification of Chess Arbiters

The proposed changes are the result of hundreds of hours of work to design a framework, to introduce new concepts and refine existing processes, to finally write and review the new version of the regulations. This work was done in team and involved members of the ARB Commission, and collaboration with other actors from the FIDE Council, the FIDE Office, the FIDE Finance Manager, the FIDE Legal Advisor, the FIDE PDC. We would like to thank all of them for their important contribution in producing the document submitted to vote!

This document is a complement to the 20-page regulations document and highlights the changes, compared to the current versions published in the FIDE Handbook. The key changes are listed on this page and I invite those who are interested in more explanations to see them in the pages below.

## **Executive Summary of Changes**

In accordance with the vision previously shared with the FIDE President and Council:

- Compliance with the New FIDE Charter
- Comprehensive training regulations for Arbiters:
  - \* New training courses for the IA Title, Refresher courses and World Event Preparation
  - \* New Lecturer Training Programme (LTP)
- English as mandatory language in IA level of training
- New logic for the active/inactive status of arbiters: attendance of a refresher course every 4 years
- Introduction of tournament categories in line with arbiter categories
- Split of the 5-year period to reach category A (1 year to C, 2 years to B, 2 years to A) and harmonization of the requirements between levels
- Cleaning of the existing regulations by the addition of definitions and harmonization of structure

Gens una sumus!

Strasbourg, November 13<sup>th</sup> 2020

IA Laurent FREYD

Chairman

ARB Commission

## Details of ARB Regulation Changes

For each document, we grouped items by type of change.

For a single type of change, items are sorted in order of appearance in the regulations and identify the corresponding article.

For any further clarification, please ask the FIDE Arbiters' Commission Chairman and Secretary.

### 1) B06 - Titles

This document is the “entry point” for regulations about the Arbiters' Commission and details the working of titles.

Overview of changes:

- Adaptation to the new FIDE Charter
- Clarification and adaptation of existing concepts
- Harmonization of the structure between articles on IA and FA
- Alignment with FIDE Financial regulations
- Introduction of new concepts related to the new training regulations

#### a) Adaptation to the new FIDE Charter

This section is about compliance with the new FIDE Charter.

The whole **Article 1** is updated to correspond to the new regulations:

- *General Assembly replaced by FIDE Council*
- *Date of effect for changes January (every year) instead of July (every 4 year)*
- *Composition of the commission updated*
- *Decisions possible by online voting*

#### b) Clarification and adaptation of existing concepts

This section is about concepts which already existed in the current regulations, but needed to be cleaned.

**Article 2** is reorganized for better clarity on the presented concepts:

- *Format and type were mixed concepts, complicated to follow → Replaced by systems (the same word as on the FIDE Rating Server): easier for federations, arbiters and the commission to link regulations with practice (Art. 2.1.2).*
- *Clarified definitions of World/Continental, International and National levels (Art. 2.1.5).*
- *Reduced the number of players required for a norm certificate in Swiss from 50 to 25 (Art. 2.1.6a).*
- *Clarified the cases when the Chief Arbiter is requesting a norm (Art. 2.1.7), introducing the concept of a supervisor evaluating the performance.*

**Article 3** is cleaned to remove the wording “FIDE Official Language”

*Replaced the concept of Official FIDE Language by the list of languages currently in use: Arabic, English, French, German, Portuguese, Russian and Spanish (Art. 3.3)*

#### c) Harmonization of the structure between articles on IA and FA

This section is about improving consistency between 2 articles that expect a similar structure:

- *Added Fair Play to the list of subjects to be known by arbiters (Art. 3.1 and 4.1)*
- *Followed as much as possible the same numbering for equivalent concepts between IA and FA*
- *Introduced generic requirements (Art. 3.8 and 4.8), followed by more restrictive requirements*

*(Art. 3.9 and 4.9) for better clarity on the maximum number of norms per application*

- *Integrated Team events at title level with distinct requirements between IA and FA (Art.3.9.a and 4.9.a)*

d) Alignment with FIDE Financial regulations

This section is about removing redundancy between elements written in the FIDE Financial Regulations (Article 3.4) and the present regulations:

- *Changed deadline from 60 days to 45 to be aligned with Financial regulations (Art. 5.5)*
- *Moved articles related to the payment of license (Art. 6) to the Financial regulations and only kept a reference to the Financial regulations.*

e) Introduction of new concepts related to the new training regulations

This section is about adding new elements into the regulations. At the present time, this is only the new type of seminar introduced to become and IA:

- *From July 1<sup>st</sup> 2022, require a norm from IA Certification Seminar for the IA Title (Art. 2.1.1 and 4.7).*

*Note: due to Covid, the start date may have to be reviewed.*

## 2) **B06 Annex 1 - Training**

This document merges former Annex 1 (FA Seminars) and Annex 1a (FA Online Seminars) and broadens the scope of the text to the implementation of the whole framework for the education of arbiters.

### a) **Clarification and adaptation of existing concepts**

This section is about concepts which already existed in the current regulations but needed to be cleaned. Some elements were listed without being defined, some concepts were not applicable and are now adapted to actual practices.

*Working languages (Art. 1.2):*

- *Aligned with title regulations (no more “FIDE Official Language”).*
- *Make English the only language to be used whenever the level IA is concerned.*

*FIDE Lecturer accreditation (Art. 2.1.2) valid for 4 years, renewable on condition, instead of tacit renewal.*

*Inactivity of Lecturer (Art. 2.2.2) also include participation in tournaments as an arbiter.*

*Expectations from assistant lecturers seeking a lecturer norm (Art.3.1.1) which were not specified:*

- *Specified the active participation in the seminar with a minimum teaching time*
- *Requested the preparation of training material*
- *Requested the preparation of exam questions*

*FA Seminars remain the same, except that the duration is expected to be adapted to the local curriculum for National Arbiters. In case the seminar is not in English, an extra hour shall be planned to cover chess terms in English (Art.4.1.1.2).*

*Clarifying the formats of seminars (Art. 5.1) and maximum capacity (Art. 5.1.4) for the quality of teaching.*

*Changed from Continental Organizations to FIDE Affiliated Organizations from the FIDE Directory (Art. 5.2) to better correspond to reality (e.g. AIDEF or Arabic Countries organizing an FA seminar).*

*Application deadline for seminars reduced from 4 months to 1 month (Art. 5.2.2) to be aligned with actual practice from organizers.*

*Clarified that fees may not be waived, however collaboration with PDC may provide financial support to some populations (Art. 5.2.3.2).*

*Clarify that evaluation of trainees shall be submitted immediately with the Lecturer’s report from a seminar (Art. 5.2.6).*

### b) **Introduction of new concepts**

This section is about adding new elements into the regulations. This is mainly new types of seminars to increase the quality of arbiters and the Lecturer Training Programme to increase the quality of lecturers.

*Education Team (Art. 1.1): team in charge of training inside the ARB Commission.*

*Definition of accreditation (Art. 2.1.1): a right granted for a limited period of time, contrary to a title.*

*Renewal of accreditation (Art. 2.2.3): this includes a follow up of lecturers to work with them on an action plan if they reach their end of accreditation without actual activity. We may consider the introduction of Honorary Lecturer concept in 2021.*

*Lecturer Training Programme (LTP – Art. 3). This is a new programme to better manage the quality:*

- *Added pedagogical certification to the curriculum for lecturers (Art. 3.1.2)*
- *Added continuous improvement concepts (Art. 3.2): Webinars for accredited lecturers, mentoring for trainee lecturers.*

*Recruitment of future lecturers for the LTP (Art. 3.3):*

- *Call of interest to identify candidates. Only arbiters from the LTP may get a lecturer accreditation after a proper training.*

*Defining types of training (Art. 4): Initial, Refresher, World Event preparation.*

*To participate in an FA Seminar, an arbiter must be previously licensed to FIDE as a National Arbiter (Art. 4.1.1): this is a natural step and will greatly help the administration.*

*IA Certification Seminars (Art. 4.1.2):*

- *New type of seminar to confirm that an FA is ready to apply for the IA title.*

*Refresher Course (Art.4.2):*

- *New type of seminar, directly managed by the ARB.*
- *Online or exceptionally during large world events (Olympiad).*
- *Used to keep the arbiters in “Active” status, by attending one refresher course at least every 4 years.*

*World Event Preparation (Art. 4.3):*

- *New type of training, to prepare big teams to world events after they are selected.*

*Opening the door to support national federations on their NA Curriculum (Art. 4.4).*

*Lecturers in seminars may be of 2 kinds (Art. 5.2.1.2.):*

- *“facilitator”, from the host federation, without plans to get the FIDE Lecturer accreditation.*
- *“trainee”, from the Lecturer Training Programme, seeking a positive evaluation from the seminar to get the FIDE Lecturer accreditation.*

*Replace the FLI form with a form evaluating actual skills and behaviour of a trainee lecturer (FIDE Lecturer Active Participation Report):*

- *Attendance, general skills*
- *For each topic presented, level of contributions*

*This kind of forms based on skills will also become the standard for the evaluation of arbiters in tournament.*

### c) Alignment with FIDE Financial regulations

This section is about specifying fees as mentioned in articles 3.5 and 3.6 of the FIDE Financial Regulations:

- *Specified fees for seminars as of January 2021, in accordance with Financial regulations (Art. 5.2.3).*

### 3) **B06 Annex 2 - Classification**

This document covers the Status (active/inactive), the classification (category A-B-C-D) of tournaments and arbiters and the rules for appointment of arbiters based on their current category.

#### a) Clarification and adaptation of existing concepts

This section is about concepts which already existed in the current regulations but needed to be cleaned. The progression of arbiters' categories over 5 years is split into 1 + 2 + 2, to make it more natural. Also, the requirements at different steps now follow an identical logic, only the level of tournaments differ.

*Adapted vocabulary to Active/Inactive as the "status" of arbiters (Art. 1.1).*

*Category C is moved to IA title only (very few FA-C worldwide and criteria to become an IA are lower than Category C). Arbiters currently classified FA-C keep their category, however no new FA-C are delivered (Art. 1.2).*

*As previously presented, the change of category follows a progression (Art. 3):*

- 1 year D + appropriate tournaments may apply for C
- 2 years C + appropriate tournaments may apply for B
- 2 years B + appropriate tournaments may apply for A

*This splits the current system imposing 5 years minimum for any category C, B or A and avoids jumping from D to A without proper experience.*

*Harmonization of practices (Art. 3):*

- For C, B and A, either 2 tournaments of the targeted category, or 1 tournament of the targeted category + 3 of the current category.
- This ensures experience at the targeted level

#### b) Introduction of new concepts

This section is about adding new elements into the regulations. The main change is the active flag being based on the attendance in a refresher course instead of participation in tournaments. Also, the list of tournaments for each category of arbiters is formalized in a category of tournaments, to improve clarity.

*Categories of tournaments are introduced, in line with categories of arbiters (A-B-C-D) Art. 1.3.*

- This corresponds to existing concepts, however better formalized and clearly listing events (all currently existing in the FIDE calendar)
- Introducing Strong International Events (Art. 1.3.3.2).
- Clarifying that Category D tournaments shall follow the same minimum requirements as an IA norm (Art. 1.3.4).

*The inactivity of arbiters is not measured anymore as 2 years without a tournament, but 4 years without a refresher course, to ensure continuous training of arbiters (Art. 2)*

- A transition period is listed to avoid all end of activity dates to be on the 31/12/2024.

*In the table for appointments (Art. 8), added Sector Arbiter, Pairing Officer and Fair Play Officer roles, as well as Match Arbiter (to allow FA's to be nominated at the Olympiad while respecting the published regulations). Also specify to consult the ARB in case National Arbiters were considered for appointment in a world event.*

# B06 - Regulations for the Titles of Arbiters

As approved by GA 1982, amended by GA 1984 to 2016, FIDE Council December 2020.

## 1. Introduction

The following regulations can only be altered by the FIDE Council following recommendation by the Arbiters' Commission.

- 1.1. Any such changes shall take effect from 1 January of the year following the decision of the Council, unless the Council decides otherwise.
- 1.2. The titles for award are:
  - 1.2.1. FIDE Arbiter (FA): the entry level of international title for arbiters.
  - 1.2.2. International Arbiter (IA): the advanced level of international title for arbiters.
- 1.3. These regulations describe the qualifications required and the process by which a title can be awarded.
- 1.4. The titles are valid for life from the date awarded or registered.
- 1.5. The judging unit is the FIDE Arbiters' Commission.
- 1.6. The Arbiters' Commission is appointed by the Council for the same period of office as the FIDE President.

The Commission shall include:

- a) a Chairman appointed by the FIDE President
- b) a Council consisting of a Secretary and 3 members appointed by the FIDE President
- c) 8 members with consultative status: 4 to be appointed by the FIDE President and 1 each nominated by the Continental Presidents.

Appointing the Chairman of the commission, the FIDE President takes into account the opinion of the Federation to which the relevant candidate belongs.

Upon a proposal from the Chairman, the FIDE President has the right to appoint any number of members of the commission and members with consultative status at any time.

The secretary of the commission, members and members with consultative status are appointed by the FIDE President upon the proposal of the Chairman. This rule does not infringe on the right of each Continental Presidents to nominate one member with consultative status

An Honorary Chairman without the right to vote may be appointed subject to the general regulations on Non-Elected Commissions.

- 1.7. The Council may confirm titles under 1.1.2 after consultation with the Arbiters' Commission chairman.
- 1.8. The Commission may recommend a title by correspondence or online voting.
- 1.9. National federations may register their Arbiters of National level(s) with FIDE after approval by the FIDE Arbiters' Commission.

## 2. General Regulations

- 2.1. Applications for FA and IA titles have to include 4 norms. Specific requirements for these norms are described in Articles 3 and 4 respectively.
- From 1<sup>st</sup> July 2022, IA Title Applications will have to include 5 norms (1 from a seminar).
- 2.2. Types of events acceptable for norms are:
- a) FIDE Rated Events:
- Such events shall respect the criteria described in Articles 3 and 4.  
Events registered under the following “Systems” on the FIDE Rating Server may be used for arbiter norms:
- Swiss
  - Round Robin
  - Double Round Robin
  - Team (League)
  - Knockout
  - Others – subject to review by the Arbiters’ Commission
- b) Seminars according to 3.7 and 4.7.
- 2.3. Two (2) different systems of events shall be included as norms in the applications for both FA and IA title.
- 2.4. An application containing only Swiss System events may be accepted where at least one (1) of them is an international FIDE rated chess event with at least 100 players, at least 30% FIDE rated players, and at least 7 rounds.
- 2.5. Events according to 2.2 a) might be of different levels:
- a) World or Continental  
Events organized by FIDE or one of the four Continental Chess Associations.
- b) International
- I. In order for an International FIDE rated chess event to be valid as a norm for the FA title, it must have participants from at least two (2) Federations.
  - II. In order for an International FIDE rated chess event to be valid as a norm for the IA title, it must have participants from at least three (3) Federations.
- c) National  
Events of any level where only participants from the organizing federation take part.
- 2.6. There is a limit to the number of norm certificates that can be issued in one event, in the case of 2.5 b) and c).
- a) For all Swiss events: one (1) certificate per 25 players, or part thereof.
- b) For all Round Robin events: a maximum of two (2) certificates in total.
- 2.7. All norms have to be signed by the Chief Arbiter and the federation responsible for the event.
- a) When the applicant is the Chief Arbiter of the event, then a supervisor, who may be the Organizer or a Federation Official holding an IA, FA or IO title, may sign the certificate after checking the applicant’s performance.
- b) If the Chief Arbiter is not an IA or FA, he may not sign any certificate for FA or IA and is the only arbiter in the event allowed to get a norm as in 2.7 a).
- 2.8. Applicants for the title of IA/FA must be at least 21 years old.
- 2.9. Arbiters of National Level must be at least 16 years old.



### 3. Requirements for the title of FIDE Arbiter

All of the following are required:

- 3.1. Thorough knowledge of the Laws of Chess and fair play regulations, the FIDE Regulations for chess competitions, Swiss Pairing Systems, the FIDE Regulations regarding achievement of title norms and the FIDE Rating System.
- 3.2. Absolute objectivity, demonstrated at all times during their activity as an arbiter.
- 3.3. Sufficient knowledge of at least one of the following languages: Arabic, English, French, German, Portuguese, Russian, Spanish; plus knowledge of chess terms in English.
- 3.4. Minimum skills at user level to work on a personal computer, knowledge of pairing programs endorsed by FIDE, word processing, spreadsheets and e-mail.
- 3.5. Skills to operate electronic clocks of different types and for different systems.
- 3.6. The National Federations are responsible for assessing the overall fitness of candidates based on 3.1–3.5 and any other available facts to the best of their knowledge upon submission of the application.
- 3.7. Attendance of one (1) FIDE Arbiters' Seminar and successfully passing (at least 80%) an examination set up by the Arbiters' Commission.
- 3.8. Experience as an Arbiter in three (3) events, in accordance with 2.2 – 2.7, valid for a norm is considered when the following is satisfied:
  - a) Swiss System event, with a minimum of 20 rated players.
  - b) Round Robin event which satisfies the conditions for all players to be rated at its conclusion or has a minimum of 10 rated players.
  - c) Double Round Robin event, with a minimum of 6 rated players.
- 3.9. Each of the following options may be used maximum once (1) in an FA application:
  - a) Being an arbiter in at least five (5) rounds of the highest division of the National Team Championship; whereby the following requirements are met:
    - I. a minimum of four boards per team;
    - II. a minimum of 10 teams (6 in case of a Double Round Robin);
    - III. at least 60% of the players are FIDE rated.
  - b) Being Arbiter in any FIDE rated Rapid or Blitz events, with a minimum of 30 rated players and nine (9) rounds.
  - c) Being a match arbiter in an Olympiad.
  - d) Holding a title of the FIDE Arbiter for each of the IBCA, ICCD, IPCA.
- 3.10. The norms must include events according to 3.8 and 3.9 with at least seven (7) rounds. Only one (1) event with five (5) or six (6) rounds may be accepted.
- 3.11. The norms may include a maximum of one (1) event of National level.
- 3.12. Applicants from federations which are unable to organize any events valid for titles or rating, may be awarded the title on passing an examination set by the Arbiters' Commission.

## 4. Requirements for the title of International Arbiter

All of the following are required:

- 4.1. Thorough knowledge of the Laws of Chess and fair play regulations, the FIDE Regulations for chess competitions, Swiss Pairing Systems, the FIDE Regulations regarding the achievement of title norms and the FIDE Rating System.
- 4.2. Absolute objectivity demonstrated at all times during their activity as an arbiter.
- 4.3. Obligatory knowledge of English language, minimum at conversation level.
- 4.4. Minimum skills at user level to work on a personal computer, knowledge of pairing programs endorsed by FIDE, word processing, spreadsheets and e-mail.
- 4.5. Skills to operate electronic clocks of different types and for different systems.
- 4.6. The National Federations are responsible for assessing the overall fitness of candidates based on 4.1–4.5 and any other available facts to the best of their knowledge upon submission of the application.
- 4.7. From 1<sup>st</sup> July 2022: Attendance of one (1) International Arbiters' Certification Seminar with a positive readiness evaluation.
- 4.8. Experience as an Arbiter in four (4) events in accordance with 2.1.2 – 2.1.7. which meet any of the following requirements:
  - a) The final of the National Individual (adult, open or women) Championship (maximum two (2) norms).
  - b) All official FIDE events and matches.
  - c) International events where the competing field is such that a player may theoretically achieve a norm as defined in the FIDE Handbook B01.
  - d) All official World and Continental Rapid and Blitz Championships (maximum one (1) norm).
- 4.9. Each of the following options may be used maximum once (1) in an IA application:
  - a) Being an arbiter in an international FIDE rated chess event with at least 100 players, from at least three (3) Federations, at least 30% FIDE rated players, and at least seven (7) rounds.
  - b) Being an arbiter in at least seven (7) rounds of the highest division of the National Team Championship; whereby the following requirements are met:
    - I. a minimum of four boards per team;
    - II. a minimum of 10 teams (6 in case of a Double Round Robin);
    - III. at least 60% of the players are FIDE rated.
  - c) Being a match arbiter in an Olympiad.
  - d) Holding a title of International Arbiter for each of the IBCA, ICCD, IPCA.
- 4.10. The norms shall include events according to 4.8 and 4.9 with at least nine (9) rounds. Only one (1) event with seven (7) or eight (8) rounds may be accepted.
- 4.11. The title of International Arbiter may only be awarded to applicants who have already been awarded the title of FIDE Arbiter.
- 4.12. All the norms for the IA title shall be different from the norms already used for the FA title and must have been achieved after the FA title has been awarded.
- 4.13. The submitted norms shall be signed by the Chief Arbiter. These cannot all be from the same Chief Arbiter.

## 5. Application Procedure

5.1. Application forms for the titles listed in 1.1.3 are annexed hereto. They are:

Tournament Report Form with cross-table and decisions on appeals – IT3 (one for each norm)

Arbiter Norm Report Form – IA1 or FA1 (one for each norm)

Arbiter Title Application Form – IA2 or FA2.

5.2. All norms included in the applications must have been achieved in events with starting dates that fall within a six-year period. The application must be submitted not later than the second FIDE Congress after the date of the latest event listed. Norms from Seminars are valid for a period of four (4) years.

5.3. Applications shall be submitted to the FIDE Secretariat by the federation of the applicant. The National Federation is responsible for the fee. If the applicant's federation refuses to apply, the applicant can bring their case to the Arbiters' Commission, who will investigate it. If it is found that there is no sufficient reason for the refusal, the applicant can appeal to FIDE and apply (and pay) for the title himself.

5.4. Title fees shall be applied following the FIDE financial regulations.

5.5. There is a 45-day deadline to allow the applications to be considered properly.

5.6. All applications together with full details shall be posted on the FIDE website for a minimum of 60 days prior to finalization. This is to allow any objections to be lodged.

## 6. Arbiters' License

6.1. All arbiters of FIDE rated events shall be licensed in accordance with the FIDE financial regulations.

6.2. If article 6.1 is not fulfilled, the events may not be rated and any Arbiter's norms shall not be accepted.

# B06 Annex 1 - Regulations for training of chess arbiters

## 1. General

These regulations comprise of all aspects for training of Arbiters, certification of Lecturers, and organisation of Seminars under the auspices of FIDE.

Regardless of the requirements of this document, all arbiters are expected to keep their skills up to date.

### 1.1. FIDE Arbiters' Commission Education Team

The FIDE Arbiters' Commission Education Team is a group of members of the Commission in charge of the education sector. Their scope is to cover these regulations for the Arbiters' Commission.

The Commission Chairman nominates a leader and members of the team as appropriate.

### 1.2. Working Languages

The main language in Arbiter training shall be English, whenever possible. However, the following list of languages may be used during FIDE Arbiter seminars and Refresher courses, for lectures and evaluations: Arabic, English, French, German, Portuguese, Russian and Spanish.

For any course or seminar restricted to IAs the only permitted language is English.

## 2. FIDE Lecturers Accreditation

### 2.1. Definitions

#### 2.1.1. Accreditation

An accreditation is the right granted by the FIDE Arbiters' Commission to cover specific duties. An accreditation differs from a title by the fact that it is granted for a limited period defined in advance.

#### 2.1.2. FIDE Lecturer

A FIDE Lecturer is an International Arbiter, classified as Category A or B, who is accredited by the FIDE Arbiters' Commission to give lectures in official arbiter training seminars.

The FIDE Lecturer accreditation shall be awarded after approval of candidates by the Arbiters' Commission to the FIDE Council.

The FIDE Lecturer accreditation is valid for a period of four (4) years. Further periods of accreditation, which are not automatic, may then be awarded.

### 2.2. List of Lecturers

The FIDE Arbiters' Commission shall maintain a list of accredited Lecturers.

This list will be regularly revised to reflect the training needs of the arbiting community. This revision may involve the addition of new Lecturers from the FIDE Lecturer Training Programme (LTP, see Article 3) as well as the removal of Lecturers.

Those conducting training on behalf of the Arbiters' Commission will be subject to the normal disciplinary procedures for arbiters and will be expected to perform their duties to the same high standards. Anyone failing to maintain the expected standards will be removed from the list.

#### 2.2.1. Requirements for Accreditation

The minimum requirements to obtain a FIDE Lecturer accreditation are:

- being an active International Arbiter Category A or B,
- acceptance to the Lecturer Training Programme,
- having demonstrated teaching abilities to a panel of experts from the Arbiters' Commission
- being experienced as an assistant lecturer in at least 3 Arbiter Seminars, with a satisfactory FL Active Participation Report (APR) from each.

Not all of the submitted FL APRs shall be signed by the same Lecturer.

All FL APRs must have been achieved after classification as International Arbiter Category A or B.

#### 2.2.2. Inactivity

Lecturers who had not given any FIDE approved Seminar for four (4) consecutive years are called "inactive".

Lecturers are expected to have a minimum activity as arbiters in FIDE rated events. This should be at least one event per year.

Lecturers who are marked inactive as arbiters will also be marked inactive as Lecturers.

Inactive Lecturers will be excluded from the list of lecturers, by a decision of the Arbiters' Commission.

#### 2.2.3. Renewal

Those at the end of their period of accreditation shall be eligible for reselection.

The FIDE Arbiters' Commission shall confirm the renewal.

Accredited Lecturers who reach the last 6 months of their accreditation and whose accreditation may not be renewed for any reason (inactivity or other) shall be informed by the FIDE Arbiters' Commission. They shall confirm their wish to keep their accreditation and define an action plan together with the commission to reconsider the renewal. Otherwise, the accreditation stops at the end of the 4 years of inactivity.

## 3. FIDE Lecturer Training Programme

The FIDE Lecturer Training Programme (LTP) is the system designed by the FIDE Arbiters' Commission to support the certification of future FIDE lecturers and the continuous improvement of accredited lecturers.

### 3.1. Initial certification of FIDE Lecturers

Candidates selected for the LTP can prepare their certification to become a FIDE Lecturer. Only those accepted to this programme can gain the necessary endorsements from FA Seminars.

There are 2 components in the certification of FIDE Lecturers: practical experience and pedagogical certification.

#### 3.1.1. Practical Experience

Each candidate FIDE Lecturer shall attend at least 3 seminars as an assistant lecturer and be present during the entire duration of those seminars. The practical experience shall cover all aspects of a Lecturer's activities:

- The candidate shall actively work in the presentation of seminars under the supervision of a Lecturer and shall lecture for a minimum of 3 hours in each seminar he attends as an Assistant Lecturer.
- The candidate shall produce materials for lectures. These materials shall be submitted to the Arbiters' Commission for evaluation prior to the seminar.
- The candidate shall produce for each seminar a selection of potential examination questions with a detailed marking scheme. These materials shall be submitted to the Arbiters' Commission for evaluation prior to the seminar.

At the end of a seminar, the Lecturer shall evaluate the candidate, using the FL Active Participation Report form, and submit the form with his report for the Seminar to the FIDE Arbiters' Commission.

### 3.1.2. Pedagogical Certification

To complement the practical experience in seminars, candidate Lecturers shall demonstrate their pedagogical skills to the Arbiters Commission. This may be by sharing a lecture prepared for one of the seminars or in another manner approved by the Arbiters' Commission.

## 3.2. Continuous improvement of Lecturers

As part of their activity, accredited lecturers shall also participate in the Lecturer Training Programme.

### 3.2.1. LTP Webinars

The Education Team of the Arbiters' Commission shall regularly organize webinars where:

- Lecturers may share good practice
- The Commission may promote teaching methods, available materials and share policies and processes.

### 3.2.2. LTP Mentoring programme

Experienced Lecturers and Education Team members may be involved as mentors to support the progress of candidate lecturers.

Such one to one mentoring shall focus on areas such as topic preparation and presentation skills.

## 3.3. Recruitment

### 3.3.1. Principles

The number of active lecturers shall be consistent with the actual needs for all levels of arbiter training.

The Arbiters' Commission shall identify candidates before they are allowed to officiate in seminars as lecturers in training, through the LTP.

Recruited arbiters shall demonstrate appropriate experience before being added to the list of lecturers. Candidates who fail to demonstrate the appropriate level of experience after a significant training period may not be added to the list and be removed from the LTP.

### 3.3.2. Call of interest

When necessary, the Arbiters' Commission shall proceed to a call of interest to identify potential candidates to join the Lecturer Training Programme.

The candidates shall send their resume and motivations through their National Federation and eventually get interviewed before the commission makes its decision.

Those who have obtained Lecturer norms under the previous system have until 30<sup>th</sup> June 2021 to apply for the LTP and produce any FL1 (replaced by APRs in the current regulations) that they have achieved. Reports received after this date will be disregarded. Reports should be submitted to the Arbiters' Commission through the National Federation.

### 3.3.3. Application

When a candidate from the LTP fulfils all requirements to be added to the list of Lecturers, the applicant's National Federation is entitled to formally request the addition to the list.

## 4. Training of Arbiters

Arbiter training falls into 3 categories:

- Initial training;
- refresher courses; and
- world events preparation.

In addition, the FIDE Arbiters' Commission shall assist, where requested, federations with their National Arbiter training programmes.

### 4.1. Initial Training

Initial training allows an arbiter to acquire a norm to be used for a title application.

Initial training is mandatory, as part of the title validation process.

There are two (2) levels of initial training for arbiters:

- FIDE Arbiter (FA) Seminar
- International Arbiter (IA) Certification Seminar

#### 4.1.1. FIDE Arbiter Seminar

The FIDE Arbiter seminar is a training session for Arbiters of National level (NA), previously licensed as such by their National Federation.

The goal of this first level is to study technical topics and behaviour skills that are a foundation for Arbiters of international level.

The session is concluded by an exam.

Participants who pass the exam are awarded a FIDE Arbiter Norm from the seminar and are allowed to request norms from subsequent events.

##### 4.1.1.1. FA Seminar Content

The following topics are studied in FA Seminars:

- Laws of Chess
- Use of electronic clocks
- System of games, tie breaks
- Swiss system and pairing rules
- Anti-cheating guidelines for Arbiters
- Regulations for the titles of Arbiters
- FIDE Competition Rules and standards of chess equipment
- Rating and over-the-board titles

When the seminar is in a language other than English, basic English chess vocabulary shall be included into the lectures.

The lectures will also focus on the arbiter's behaviour in chess event situations, including organisational abilities, relationship with the participants and the public, dealing with conflicts, etc.

##### 4.1.1.2. FA Seminar Duration

Duration of the FA seminar may differ, depending on the strength of the Arbiter of National level curriculum in the host federation:

- When the NA curriculum already included thorough study of all topics, the minimum duration shall be sixteen (16) hours on at least two (2) days, comparable to a refresher course including an exam.
- When the NA curriculum didn't previously teach all of the topics listed in 4.1.1.1 a)-f), the minimum duration shall be as in a) with an additional 3 hours per "new" topic, on at least three (3) days in total.
- For seminars conducted in a language other than English an additional hour should be included for the introduction of chess terms in English.

##### 4.1.1.3. FA Exam

At the end of the Seminar, the participants can take part in a written examination, the FA Exam.

The objective of the exam is to validate that the participant knows the various FIDE regulations, can apply them and take appropriate decisions in normal chess event situations.

The duration of the FA Exam shall be 4 hours.

The FA exam shall be prepared by the Lecturer, following instructions published by the FIDE Arbiters' Commission. The FA exam shall be reviewed by the Education Team of the FIDE Arbiters' Commission before the seminar, to ensure homogeneity of testing everywhere.

Participants who achieve 80% and above will be awarded one (1) norm for the title of FIDE Arbiter. Only one (1) such norm shall be used in the awarding of the title of FIDE Arbiter.

#### 4.1.2. International Arbiter certification Seminar

The International Arbiter Certification Seminar is a training session for active licensed FIDE Arbiters.

The goal of this second level of arbiter training is to ensure that candidates applying for the IA title are ready, in terms of technical skills and practical experience. It is advisable, but not mandatory, that participants already have at least two (2) valid International Arbiter Norms.

The lectures of an International Arbiters' Seminar shall be in the English language. Evaluations shall be exclusively in English.

The session is delivered by two (2) FIDE lecturers, one of them being the leading lecturer.

The session is concluded by a readiness evaluation. Participants who are declared ready through the evaluation are granted an International Arbiter Norm from the seminar.

##### 4.1.2.1. IA Certification Seminar Content

The following topics are covered in IA Certification Seminars:

- a) Revision of all the necessary regulations of Arbiters, Rules, Qualification, Pairings, Fair Play and Technical Commissions
- b) Ability to use chess clocks efficiently
- c) Ability to use an approved version of pairing software efficiently
- d) Ability to run a chess event
- e) Ability to communicate in English in a chess event

#### 4.1.2.2. IA Seminar Duration

Duration of the IA Certification Seminar shall be a minimum of sixteen (16) hours on at least two (2) days. Assessment will form part of the seminar but will not be a formal exam.

#### 4.1.2.3. International Arbiter Readiness Evaluation

During the IA Certification Seminar, candidates are evaluated on their capabilities to be an International Arbiter, using an evaluation grid provided by the FIDE Arbiters Commission.

The evaluation consists of several parts:

- a) Short written evaluation on regulations (refresher topics)
- b) English evaluation
- c) Technical skills (clocks, pairing software)
- d) Review of chess event experience of the candidate

As a conclusion to the evaluation, the candidate shall be provided with written feedback on their strengths and areas for improvement to consolidate the foundations of their future IA career.

## 4.2. Refresher Courses

Most FIDE regulations change every 4 years. The goal of the refresher course is to keep arbiters up to date with the latest versions of FIDE regulations and tournament practices.

The Refresher Course is a training session for licensed FIDE Arbiters or International Arbiters and is used to confirm their active status as an arbiter. It is mandatory to attend a refresher course at least once in a period of four (4) years.

To facilitate accessibility to a wider population of arbiters, such courses shall mainly be organised online or during FIDE official events which gather large numbers of arbiters.

These refresher courses are directly provided by the FIDE Arbiters' Commission.

Failure to attend a refresher course in a period of four (4) years shall result in changing the arbiter's activity flag to "inactive".

### 4.2.1. Refresher Course Content

The following topics are covered in Refresher Courses:

- a) Latest regulations of the Arbiter, Rules, Qualification, Pairings, Fair Play and Technical Commissions.
- b) Questions and answers from participants
- c) Optional: familiarisation with the latest Chess equipment (Including chess clocks, electronic boards and Anti-Cheatings devices).

### 4.2.2. Refresher Course Duration

Duration of the Refresher Course shall be a minimum of twelve (12) hours.

### 4.2.3. Refresher Seminar Diagnostic Evaluation

The Refresher Course is concluded by a written evaluation.

The objective of this evaluation is to give candidates feedback on their current strengths and weaknesses. Except in the case of particularly poor results requiring a personalised action plan with the arbiter, only attendance is recorded to validate the arbiter's active status.

## 4.3. World Event Preparation

World Event Preparation Training is a session dedicated to FIDE Arbiters and International Arbiters selected to officiate in an upcoming World Event.

The goal of the training is to globally raise the level of arbiters in world level events and to ensure homogeneous preparation for large arbiter teams. It also plays a role in the team building process.

The FIDE Lecturer in charge of the training shall be selected by the FIDE Arbiters' Commission.

World Event Preparation Training shall be prepared together with the Arbiters' Commission, the Chief Arbiter of the event and the FIDE Lecturer assigned to the training, in consultancy with the organising committee of the event.



### 4.3.1. Training program

The training plan shall cover important aspects of FIDE events, such as technical skills and practical experiences for success in a World top-level competition:

- a) Teamwork
- b) Interaction with players, captains, officials and spectators
- c) Role of each arbiter in the team
- d) Regulations of the event
- e) Necessary FIDE Laws and Regulations
- f) Practical exercises (setting clocks, writing moves, checking draw claims, etc.)

### 4.3.2. Training structure

Ideally, the training is split into 3 phases:

- a) Initial session: as early as possible after the arbiters are selected, a session to initiate the training and team building processes, identify personalised working areas. This can consist in online sessions and personal interviews.
- b) Preparational work: under the supervision of the Lecturer, individual or team work to reinforce identified topics.
- c) On-site final session: at the place of the event, minimum four (4) hours, before the start of the event, to practice event procedures and have a final revision of technical subjects.

Depending on constraints, all steps might not be achievable for a given event. However, at least the on-site final session shall be organised for the selected arbiters.

## 4.4. National Arbiter Training Programme

The development of National Arbiter Training Programme is under the responsibility of a National Federation. Such programs shall be designed to answer the needs of the National Federation and fit with these International Regulations.

When a National Federation needs assistance, they may consult the Arbiters' Commission Education Team for advice and support.

## 5. Seminars

Seminars which are not organised according to these Regulations will not be recognised by FIDE. Exam results from unrecognised Seminars shall be disregarded by the FIDE Arbiters' Commission and participants may not use such seminars for title application.

### 5.1. Formats and capacity

#### 5.1.1. Standard Format

A seminar is called *Standard*, when all participants meet in a single classroom and lectures are given in the presence of the Lecturer.

The standard format is recommended when it is easier for participants to attend a location or when offered during large events.

#### 5.1.2. Online Format (Internet based)

A seminar is called *Online* (or Internet based), when the lecture is delivered remotely by the Lecturer, and participants attend a virtual classroom using a computer over the network.

The online format is recommended for refresher courses or seminars targeting a population spread over a large geographic area.

#### 5.1.3. Mixed Format

A seminar is called *Mixed*, when part of the lecture is delivered over the Internet and part in a classroom with all participants. In such seminars, the exam or evaluation session shall happen in the presence of the lecturer with the candidates assembled at a central location.

The mixed format is recommended when the duration of the lecture is higher than 2 full days and it is economically and practically easier for participants to attend than a standard seminar.

#### 5.1.4. Seminars capacity

Initial training seminars shall target a maximum attendance of twenty (20) participants and refresher courses a maximum of twenty-five (25) participants.

### 5.2. Organisation

Seminars for Arbiters shall be organised by one of the following:

- a) The FIDE Arbiters Commission;
- b) FIDE Affiliated Organizations from the FIDE Directory;
- c) National Chess Federations – either directly or by delegation to one of their affiliated chess organisations,

following approval by the FIDE Arbiters' Commission.

### 5.2.1. Organising Committee

There should be an Organising Committee of the Seminar, consisting of three (3) members as follows:

- a) A member appointed by the FIDE Arbiters' Commission.
- b) A member appointed by the host Federation.
- c) A member appointed by the host Federation's Arbiters' Commission.

At least one member appointed under b) and c) should have an IA, FA, or IO title.

#### 5.2.1.1. Observer

The Organizing Committee member, who is proposed by the FIDE Arbiters' Commission, shall act as the Observer. The Observer shall ensure the due application of the present Regulations during the Seminar. After the end of the Seminar, the Observer shall submit a full report to the FIDE Arbiters' Commission within seven days of the Seminar's end.

#### 5.2.1.2. FIDE Lecturer and Assistant

The proposed Lecturer of the Seminar must be approved by the FIDE Arbiters' Commission and a maximum of two (2) Assistants may be involved in a seminar.

One local Assistant should be in one or more of the following categories:

- a) An arbiter from the host Federation to help with communication and/or the technical organisation of an online seminar
- b) An arbiter from the host Federation who is involved with the training of local arbiters

One additional assistant may be appointed if they satisfy either of the following conditions:

- a) They are an IA from the FIDE Lecturer Training Programme
- b) They are a current Lecturer wishing to maintain or improve their lecturing skills

They may, in the case of online seminars only, share the duties of the Technical Organizer with the Lecturer.

#### 5.2.1.3. Technical Organizer

In the case of an Online or Mixed Seminar, the role of a Technical Organizer is needed.

The Technical Organizer shall be the person with the following responsibilities:

- a) sending invitations from the Internet conferencing system
- b) verifying attendance of Seminar participants
- c) addressing all Internet conferencing system issues
- d) monitoring questions from participants and passing these on to the Lecturer and Assistants
- e) reporting attendance, technical and non-technical issues to the Arbiters' Commission.

The Technical Organizer is responsible for the management of an internet conferencing system (audio and screen sharing video).

### 5.2.2. Application Procedure

To organise a Seminar, a host Federation or FIDE Affiliated Organization from the FIDE Directory shall send an application to the FIDE Arbiters' Commission, at least one (1) month before the proposed start of the Seminar.

When the organisation is delegated to an affiliated organisation of a National Chess Federation, this shall be specified on the application form.

The application shall include details of:

- a) The organiser, the dates, the suitable venue, the type of seminar and the full schedule.
- b) An estimation of the number of participants.
- c) The topics that will be discussed during the course (with lecture duration).
- d) The members of the Seminar's Organising Committee.
- e) The proposed Lecturer for the Seminar (who should be approved by the FIDE Arbiters' Commission) and the Assistant(s).
- f) The proposed Technical Organizer (who should be approved by the FIDE Arbiters' Commission) – in the case of Online or Mixed Seminars.
- g) Other matters in respect of the Seminar, such as the language of the lectures, any fees for the participants, the accommodation conditions, contact information etc.

### 5.2.3. Fees

When a seminar or exam is subject to fees, each participant shall be charged accordingly.

Except for seminars which are directly managed by the FIDE Arbiters' Commission, fees shall be paid to FIDE by the host Federation or FIDE Affiliated Organisation.

#### **5.2.3.1. Amounts as of 1 January 2021**

Fees shall be in accordance with the FIDE Financial regulations.

As of 1 January 2021, fees determined by the Arbiters' Commission are:

- a) FA Examination Fee: the host shall be invoiced 20€ per participant in the FA exam.
- b) IA Certification Fee: the host shall be invoiced 30€ per participant in the IA certification seminar.
- c) Refresher Course Fee: each participant shall be charged 40€ directly by FIDE for the seminar.

#### **5.2.3.2. Waivers**

Fees shall be the same worldwide, without any waiver. However, specific development programs may be designed in collaboration with the FIDE PDC (Planning and Development Commission) to financially support the participation of identified populations.

#### **5.2.4. Review and Publication**

The Arbiters' Commission shall review applications as soon as possible after they are received.

When clarifications are needed or objections are raised, the organising committee shall provide supplementary information upon request from the Commission.

If the application is compliant with the regulations, the Commission shall confirm the validity and publish the seminar in the official calendar. Otherwise, the Commission may refuse validation.

#### **5.2.5. Training Material**

All the participants of the Seminar must be provided with the materials for the course, including details of all the topics to be discussed.

#### **5.2.6. Report and Result Handling**

- a) Within one week of the end of the Seminar, the Lecturer shall provide the results of the examination and submit a full report to the FIDE Arbiters' Commission according to instructions given by the Education Team. When appropriate, the report shall also include elements of evaluation of an assistant lecturer from the FIDE Lecturer Training Programme.
- b) Within one week of the end of the Seminar, the Observer shall provide a full report to the FIDE Arbiters Commission.
- c) After the end of the Seminar, all the participants will receive certificates of attendance provided by the Organizers.

On receipt of the reports under a) and b), the FIDE Arbiters' Commission shall check the Lecturer's report and announce the results. The National Federation or FIDE Affiliated Organization shall then be invoiced for the seminar or exam fees, when applicable in accordance with FIDE financial regulations.

The results of all seminars shall be reported to FIDE for final approval (FIDE Council, Congress, GA).

### FIDE Lecturer Active Participation Report

This form shall be completed by the main Lecturer at an FA Seminar in respect of any Assistant Lecturer who is seeking lecturer accreditation and submitted to the FIDE Arbiters' Commission as part of the Lecturer's report for the seminar.

Name of Assistant ..... FIN .....

Please indicate the topic(s) presented and attendance at the seminar.

Total hours on Lectures (exc. exam)		Hours presented by Assistant	
-------------------------------------	--	------------------------------	--

Topic	Presented by Assistant	Assistant Contributed*	Assistant Present
Laws of Chess	Yes/No	Yes/no	Yes/No
Swiss Pairing	Yes/No	Yes/no	Yes/No
Types of Tournament	Yes/No	Yes/no	Yes/No
Tie Breaks	Yes/No	Yes/no	Yes/No
Titles and Ratings	Yes/No	Yes/no	Yes/No
Arbiter Titles	Yes/No	Yes/no	Yes/No
Fair Play	Yes/No	Yes/no	Yes/No
Clocks	Yes/No	Yes/no	Yes/No
Exam Marking	Yes/No	Yes/no	Yes/No

\* This could be checking pairings, norm calculations, etc with candidates or answering questions from the participants.

For each topic presented by the Assistant please complete the following.

*4= Very Competent; 3 = Good; 2 = Acceptable; 1 = Improvement needed*

Topic: .....	4	3	2	1	Comment
Preparation					
Presentation/delivery					
Timing					
Ensuring participant engagement					

General Evaluation	4	3	2	1	Comment
Time Keeping					
Appearance					
Interaction with Lecturer					
Interaction with Participants					
General Confidence					
General Preparation					

Additional Comments

# B06 Annex 2 – Regulations for the Classification of Chess Arbiters

## 1. General

These regulations comprise all the aspects concerning the classification of Chess Arbiters of international level (International Arbiter (IA) and FIDE Arbiter (FA)).

### 1.1. Status of Arbiters

Chess Arbiters (IAs and FAs) can have two (2) distinct status:

- Active (a)
- Inactive (i).

The status is used to determine whether an arbiter is allowed to officiate or not in a FIDE rated event.

### 1.2. Categories of Arbiters

Categories of arbiters are used to classify arbiters (IAs and FAs), based on their past experience and determine whether an arbiter is allowed to be appointed in World and Continental events.

1.2.1. IAs are classified into the following categories:

- Category A
- Category B
- Category C
- Category D

1.2.2. FAs are classified as Category D

### 1.3. Categories of Tournaments

In these regulations, chess events are split into different categories indicating the requirements for arbiters' appointments.

#### 1.3.1. Category A tournaments

Category A tournaments contain only major world events as listed below.

##### 1.3.1.1 Major World Events

The following events from the FIDE official calendar are considered "major world events" for the classification of arbiters:

- World Chess Olympiad Open and Women
- World Individual Chess Championship Cycle Open and Women:
  - o FIDE World Championship Match
  - o FIDE Candidates
  - o FIDE World Cup
  - o FIDE Grand Prix
  - o FIDE Grand Swiss
- World Rapid and Blitz Championship Open and Women
- World Team Championship Open and Women
- World Junior Championship Open and Girls

#### 1.3.2. Category B tournaments

Category B tournaments contain other world events, major continental events and specific top-level tournaments as listed below.

##### 1.3.2.1 Other World Events

The following events from the FIDE official calendar are considered "other world events" for the classification of arbiters:

- World Senior Championship Open and Women
- World Senior Team Championship Open and Women
- World Youth U16 Olympiad
- World Youth and Cadet Championship Open and Girls

- World School and University Championship Open and Girls
- World Amateur Championship
- World Junior, Youth and Cadet Rapid and Blitz Championship Open and Girls
- World Championship for Players with Disabilities
- World Junior Championship for Players with Disabilities
- Other new competitions created by FIDE

#### 1.3.2.2 Major Continental Events

The following events from the FIDE official calendar are considered “major continental events” for the classification of arbiters:

- Continental Individual Championship Open and Women
- Continental Team Championship Open and Women
- Continental Junior Championship Open and Girls
- Continental Club Cup Open and Women
- Continental Rapid and Blitz Championship Open and Women

#### 1.3.2.3 Top-level Events

The following types of events are considered “top-level events” for the classification of arbiters:

- Open Round Robin Tournaments with at least ten (10) participants (6 in a Double Round Robin), with an average rating above 2600
- Women Round Robin Tournaments with at least ten (10) participants (6 in a Double Round Robin), with an average rating above 2400

Those events may be rated for standard, rapid or blitz FIDE ratings.

### 1.3.3. Category C tournaments

Category C tournaments contain other continental events and strong international tournaments as listed below.

#### 1.3.3.1 Other Continental Events

The following events from the FIDE official calendar are considered “other continental events” for the classification of arbiters:

- Continental Senior Championship Open and Women
- Continental Senior Team Championship Open and Women
- Continental Youth and Cadet Championship Open and Girls
- Continental School and University Championship Open and Girls
- Continental Amateur Championship
- Continental Junior, Youth and Cadet Rapid and Blitz Championship Open and Girls
- Other new competitions created by Continental Chess Organisations

#### 1.3.3.2 Strong international Events

The following types of events are considered “strong international events” for the classification of arbiters:

- Open Round Robin Tournaments with at least ten (10) participants (6 in a Double Round Robin), with an average rating above 2500
- Women Round Robin Tournaments with at least ten (10) participants (6 in a Double Round Robin), with an average rating above 2300
- Chess events with more than 150 participants, team or individual, including a minimum of 75% rated players and 20 titled players (GM, WGM, IM, WIM, FM, WFM) from at least three (3) federations
  - o As a single tournament, or
  - o As a chess festival (a chess event that includes multiple concurrent tournaments)

Those events shall be rated for standard FIDE rating.

### 1.3.4. Category D tournaments

Category D tournaments shall have the same minimum requirements as a norm for the IA Title.

## 2. Active and Inactive IAs and FAs

- 2.1. An IA or FA is considered to be “Inactive” if in a period of four (4) years they have not successfully attended a Refresher Course organized by the FIDE Arbiters’ Commission. When an arbiter reaches his “end of activity” date, his status is changed to “Inactive”.

- 2.2. The “end of activity” date is calculated and updated by adding four (4) years to:
  - 2.2.1. The FA Title award date, in the case of a newly titled FA.
  - 2.2.2. The last day of the last Refresher Course or IA Certification Seminar, successfully attended by the arbiter.
- 2.3. Gaining a new title or category does not impact the end of activity date.
- 2.4. Inactive IAs and FAs are flagged as such on their Profile on the FIDE Rating Server.
- 2.5. An Inactive IA or FA can be considered active again, only after successfully attending a Refresher Seminar and after validation by the Arbiters’ Commission.
- 2.6. Transition 2021 – for a smooth implementation of the new regulations. The initial end of activity date will be calculated as follow, as the new regulations come into force:
  - 2.6.1. Active arbiters with a last tournament in 2016 or before: 31/12/2020, status set to inactive.
  - 2.6.2. Active arbiters with a last tournament in 2017: IA 31/12/2021 – FA 31/12/2022
  - 2.6.3. Active arbiters with a last tournament in 2018: 31/12/2022
  - 2.6.4. Active arbiters with a last tournament in 2019: 31/12/2023
  - 2.6.5. Active arbiters with a last tournament in 2020: 31/12/2024

### 3. Category A

Category A is the highest level of International Arbiters’ classification.

To be classified in Category A, Arbiters shall fulfil all of the following criteria:

- 3.1. They hold the International Arbiter title for at least five (5) years
- 3.2. Their arbiter status is “active”
- 3.3. They have shown excellent knowledge of the Laws of Chess and the Tournament Regulations and no punishments have been imposed to them during their activities as Arbiters.
- 3.4. They have been classified in Category B for at least two (2) years
- 3.5. They have acted as a Category B Chief Arbiter or Deputy Chief Arbiter in the last five (5) years with a positive evaluation:
  - a) in at least two (2) Category A Tournaments as listed in 1.3.1, or
  - b) in at least one (1) Category A Tournament as listed in 1.3.1 and three (3) Category B Tournaments as listed in 1.3.2.

### 4. Category B

Category B is the second highest level of International Arbiters’ classification.

To be classified in Category B, Arbiters shall fulfil all of the following criteria:

- 4.1. They hold the International Arbiter title for at least three (3) years
- 4.2. Their arbiter status is “active”
- 4.3. They have shown excellent knowledge of the Laws of Chess and the Tournament Regulations and no punishments have been imposed to them during their activities as Arbiters.
- 4.4. They have been classified in the Category C for at least two (2) years
- 4.5. They have acted as a Category C Chief Arbiter or Deputy Chief Arbiter in the last five (5) years with a positive evaluation:
  - a) in at least two (2) Category B Tournaments as listed in 1.3.2, or
  - b) in at least one (1) Category B Tournament as listed in 1.3.2 and three (3) Category C Tournaments as listed in 1.3.3.

### 5. Category C

Category C is the third highest level of International Arbiters’ classification.

To be classified in Category C, Arbiters shall fulfil all of the following criteria:

- 5.1. They hold the International Arbiter title for at least one (1) year
- 5.2. Their arbiter status is “active”
- 5.3. They have shown excellent knowledge of the Laws of Chess and the Tournament Regulations and no punishments have been imposed to them during their activities as Arbiters.
- 5.4. They have acted as an IA Category D Chief Arbiter or Deputy Chief Arbiter in the last five (5) years with a positive evaluation:
  - a) in at least two (2) Category C Tournaments as listed in 1.3.3, or
  - b) in at least one (1) Category C Tournament as listed in 1.3.3 and three (3) Category D Tournaments as listed in 1.3.4.

## 6. Category D

Category D is assigned by default to any FA or IA.

## 7. Application Procedure for the classification of IA and FA

- 7.1. The Arbiters' Commission shall have the responsibility for the classification of IAs and FAs in the above-mentioned Categories.
- 7.2. Applications shall be submitted to the Arbiters' Commission by the federation of the applicant as soon as possible after the latest event considered, with the list of valid tournaments to be considered.
- 7.3. All tournaments listed for the Category upgrade shall be different from tournaments already used for a previous category upgrade or title application and shall start after the last category upgrade or title award.
- 7.4. The National federation is responsible for the license fee.
- 7.5. If the applicant's federation refuses to apply, the applicant can bring his case to the Arbiters' Commission, who will investigate it. If it is found that there is no sufficient reason for the refusal, the applicant can appeal to FIDE and apply (and pay) for the category himself.

## 8. Appointment of IAs and FAs according to their Categories

The appointment of arbiters in World and Continental events shall respect consistency between the categories of arbiters and the high level of these tournaments.

- 8.1. Only IAs belonging to Category A or B shall be appointed as Chief Arbiters in World events.
- 8.2. The following table indicates the appointment rules for IAs and FAs, depending on their Categories and the event.
  - 8.2.1. Arbiters of National level shall not be appointed in World events without prior consultation of the FIDE Arbiters' Commission.

Arbiter/Event	Major WE	other WE	Major CE	other CE
Chief Arbiter	A, B	A, B	A, B	A, B, C
Deputy Chief Arbiter	A, B	A, B, C	A, B, C	A, B, C, D
Sector Arbiter	A, B	A, B, C	A, B, C	A, B, C, D
Arbiter	A, B, C	A, B, C, D	A, B, C, D	A, B, C, D
Match Arbiter*	A, B, C, D	A, B, C, D	A, B, C, D	A, B, C, D
Pairing Officer	A, B	A, B, C	A, B, C	A, B, C, D
Fair Play Officer	A, B	A, B, C	A, B, C	A, B, C, D

\* in the case of team events, arbiters in charge of the supervision of a single match

Legend:

- A, B, C, D: Categories of IAs and FAs
- Major WE: Major World events, according to 1.3.1.1
- Other WE: all the other World events, included in the FIDE Calendar, according to 1.3.2.1.
- Major CE: Major Continental events, according to 1.3.2.2.
- Other CE: all the other Continental events, included in the FIDE Calendar, according to 1.3.3.1.