

Regulations for Titles of Arbiters

As approved by GA 1982, amended by GA 1984 to 2008

1. Introduction

- 1.1 The following regulations can only be altered by the General Assembly following recommendation by the Arbiters Commission.
- 1.1.1 Changes to the regulations shall only be made every four year, commencing from 2004 (unless the Commission agrees urgent action is required).
- 1.1.2 Any such changes shall take effect from 1 July of the year following the decision by the General Assembly.
- 1.1.3 The titles for award are International Arbiter (IA) and FIDE Arbiter (FA).
- 1.1.4 The titles are valid for life from the date awarded or registered.
- 1.1.5 The judging unit is The FIDE Arbiters Commission.
- 1.1.6 The Arbiter Commission is appointed by the General Assembly for the same period of office as the FIDE President. The Commission shall include a Chairman, appointed by the FIDE President, a Secretary, appointed by the Chairman in consultation with the FIDE President and not more than 11 experts, maximum one per federation, who shall have voting rights in the Commission.
- 1.1.7 The Presidential Board or Executive Board may confirm the titles under 1.1.3 in clear cases only, after consultation with the Arbiters Commission chairman.
- 1.1.8 The Commission usually makes its decisions in the sessions immediately preceding the opening of the General Assembly.
- 1.1.9 In exceptional circumstances, the Commission may recommend a title by correspondence voting.

2. General Regulations for Arbiter norms

- 2.1.1
- | | |
|--------------|---|
| Format | - Swiss, Round Robin or other |
| Level | - World, Continental, National championship |
| Type | - Individual or Team |
| Certificates | - number of norm certificates to be issued |
| Norms | - number of norms that can be used in application |

Format	Level of Event	Type	Certificates	Norms
=	World	=	no limit	=
=	Continental	=	no limit	=
Swiss	International	=	1 per 50 player	no limit
Swiss	National Championships		Individual	(adult)
maximum 2	maximum 2			
Swiss	National Championships	Team	maximum 2	maximum 2
Rapid Chess	World / Continental	=	=	maximum 2

- 2.1.2 An arbiter in the highest division of the National Team Championship; whereby the following requirements are met:
1. a minimum of four boards per team;
 2. a minimum of ten teams;
 3. at least 60% of the players are FIDE rated;
 4. at least five rounds.
- 2.1.3 Applicants for the title of IA/FA must be at least 21 years old.

3. Requirements for the title of FIDE Arbiter.

All of the following:

- 3.1 Thorough knowledge of the Laws of Chess, the FIDE Regulations for chess competitions and the Swiss Pairing Systems.
- 3.2 Absolute objectivity, demonstrated at all times during his activity as an arbiter.
- 3.3 Sufficient knowledge of at least one official FIDE language.
- 3.4 Skills to operate electronic clocks of different types and for different systems.
- 3.5 Experience as chief or deputy arbiter in at least three (3) FIDE rated events (these can be either national or international) and attendance of at least one (1) FIDE Arbiters' Seminar and successful passing (at least 80%) an examination test set up by the Arbiters Commission.

FIDE rated event valid for a norm is considered any tournament with minimum 10 players in case that it is played with Round Robin system, with minimum 6 players in case that it is played with Double Round Robin system and with minimum 20 players in case that it is played with Swiss system.
- 3.6 The title of the FIDE Arbiter for each of the IBCA, ICSC, IPCA shall each be equivalent to one FA norm.
- 3.7 For a candidate, being a match arbiter in an Olympiad is equivalent to one FA norm. No more than one such norm will be considered for the title.
- 3.8 Being chief or deputy arbiter in official World and Continental Rapid Championships shall be equivalent to one (1) FA norm. No more than one such norm will be considered for the title.
- 3.9 Attendance of one (1) FIDE Arbiters Seminar and successful passing (at least 80%) an examination test set by the Arbiters Commission, shall be equivalent to one (1) FA norm. Not more than one (1) such norm will be considered for the title.
- 3.10 Applicants from federations which are unable to organize any tournaments 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:

- 4.1 Thorough knowledge of the Laws of Chess, the FIDE Regulations for chess competitions, the Swiss Pairing Systems, the FIDE Regulations regarding achievement of title norms and the FIDE Rating System.
- 4.2 Absolute objectivity, demonstrated at all times during his activity as an arbiter.
- 4.3 Obligatory knowledge of English language, minimum at conversation level; and of chess terms in other official FIDE languages.
- 4.4 Minimum skills at user level to work on a personal computer. Knowledge of pairing programs endorsed by the FIDE, Word, Excel and E-mail.
- 4.5 Skills to operate electronic clocks of different types and for different systems.
- 4.6 Experience as chief or deputy arbiter in at least four FIDE rated events such as the following:
 - a) The final of the National Individual Adult Championship (maximum two norms).

- b) All official FIDE tournaments and matches.
 - c) International title tournaments and matches.
 - d) International chess events with at least 100 players.
 - e) All official World and Continental Rapid Championships (maximum one norm).
- 4.7 The title of the International Arbiter for each of the IBCA, ICSC, IPCA shall each be equivalent to one IA norm.
- 4.8 Being a match arbiter in an Olympiad is equivalent to one IA norm. No more than one such norm will be considered for the title.
- 4.9 The title of International Arbiter can be awarded only to applicants who have already been awarded the title of FIDE Arbiter.
- 4.10 All the norms for the IA title must be different from the norms already used for the FA title and must have been achieved after the FA title have been awarded.
- 4.11 At least two (2) of the submitted norms shall be signed by different Chief Arbiters.

5. Application Procedure.

- 5.1 Application forms for the titles listed in 2.13 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 The norm reports supporting an IA title application must be for at least two different types of tournaments, according to 2.1.1, or at least one international rated event according to 4.6.d, and 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 must be submitted to the FIDE Secretariat by the federation of the applicant. The national federation is responsible for the fee.
- 5.4 All title applications together with full details must be posted on the FIDE website for a minimum of 60 days prior to finalisation. This is in order for any objections to be lodged.

6. List of Application Forms.

1. Tournament report form IT3.
2. International Arbiter norm report form IA1.
3. Application for award of the title of International Arbiter IA2.
4. FIDE Arbiter norm report form FA1.
5. Application for award of the title of FIDE Arbiter FA2.

7. Annex 1: Regulations for the training of the chess arbiters.

Annex 1a: List of Lecturers for the Arbiters Seminars.

8. Annex 2: Regulations for the classification of the arbiters.

Annex 1:

REGULATIONS FOR THE TRAINING OF THE CHESS ARBITERS

1. General.

- 1.1 These regulations comprise all the aspects concerning the training of the Arbiters and the Seminars that are organized all over the world.
- 1.2 Seminars that are not organized according to these Regulations will not be recognized by FIDE and will not be in a position to provide norms for the Arbiters' titles.

2. Organization.

- 2.1 Seminars for the Arbiters shall be organized by a respective Chess Federation or a Chess Academy or any other chess organization which belongs to this respective National Federation, following the permission and approval by FIDE. There should be an Organizing Committee of the Seminar, consisting of 3 members as follows:
 - a) A member appointed by the FIDE Arbiters Commission.
 - b) A member appointed by the host Federation, or Academy or chess organization.
 - c) A member appointed by the host Federation's Arbiters' Commission.
- 2.2 In order to organize a Seminar, the host Federation (or Chess Academy or another chess organization belonging to this federation), shall send an application to the FIDE Arbiters Commission, at least 4 months before the proposed start of the Seminar. The application shall include:
 - a) The organizer, the dates, the venue and the schedule.
 - b) The participants (a number of the people, their federations etc).
 - c) The topics that will be discussed during the course.
 - d) The proposed members for the Seminar's Organizing Committee.
 - e) The proposed lecturer of the Seminar (who should be approved by the FIDE Arbiters Commission) and his Assistant, who shall come from the host Federation.
 - f) Other matters in respect of the Seminar, such as any fees for the participants, the accommodation conditions etc.
- 2.3 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 in the course of the Seminar. After the end of the Seminar, the Observer shall submit a full report to the FIDE Arbiters Commission within one month after the Seminar's end.
- 2.4 Within one week after the end of the Seminar, the Organizing Committee shall provide the results of the examination and submit a full report to the FIDE Arbiters Commission.

2.5 On receipt of this report, the FIDE Arbiters Commission shall check the report, announce the results and forward the report to FIDE for the final approval, within a period of one month.

3. Lecturers.

3.1 The FIDE Arbiters Commission shall issue the list of the proposed Lecturers for the Arbiters' Seminars, before the present Regulations come into force, for the approval of FIDE. This list will comprise all the International Arbiters that have served as Lecturers in at least one International Seminar for FIDE or International Arbiters, during the last three years.

3.2 In every seminar, the course will be given by one lecturer, who shall have the title of the IA, and one assistant, also an IA title holder. The lecturer will be proposed by the host Federation and shall be approved by the FIDE Arbiters Commission. The Assistant will be appointed by the host Federation.

3.3 The list of the Lecturers shall be progressive. The FIDE Arbiters Commission shall propose any IA who has served as an Assistant in at least three seminars for the Arbiters, to be added to the list, following the final approval by FIDE.

4. Topics of the Seminars.

4.1 The following list of the topics is recommended to the courses for the Arbiters' Seminars:

- a) Laws of Chess (including Rapid, Blitz, etc)
- b) Tournament Rules
- c) System of Games, tie breaks.
- d) Swiss system and Pairing rules.
- e) Regulations for the rating and the over-the-board titles.
- f) Regulations for the titles of the Arbiters.
- g) Use of the electronic clocks.

4.2 The proposed minimum for the duration of the Seminar is 15 hours, with each session consisting of three hours.

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

5. Evaluation test.

5.1 After the end of the each course, the participants of the Seminar can take part in the written examination.

- 5.2 The participants who will achieve 80% and above of the total number of points, will be considered as achieved one norm for the title of FIDE Arbiter. Only one such norm shall be used for the awarding of the title of FIDE Arbiter.
- 5.3 The Organizing Committee of the Seminar will prepare the examination tests, assess the written documents and send a full report to the FIDE Arbiters Commission after the end of the seminar.
- 5.4 After the end of the Seminar, all the participants will receive certificates of attendance provided by the Organizers.

6. Fees.

- 6.1 Examination fees will be 20 euro per person.
The organizing Federation shall be invoiced on the basis of the number of participants.

01/2009

Annex 1a:

List of Lecturers for the FIDE Arbiters' Seminars

(Alphabetical order)

1. IA Abundo, Casto PHI
2. IA Campomanes, Florencio PHI
3. IA Chuit Perez, Serafin CUB
4. IA De Ridder, Dirk BEL
5. IA Deventer, Klaus GER
6. IA Elgendy, Hesham GY
7. IA Filipowicz, Andrzej POL
8. IA Gijssen, Geurt NED
9. IA Jarecki, Carol USA
10. IA Leong, Ignatius SIN
11. IA Majid, Hamid MAL
12. IA Mahdi, AbdulRahim UAE
13. IA Markkula, Mikko FIN
14. IA Nikolopoulos, Panagiotis GRE
15. IA Reuben, Stewart ENG
16. IA Sacotic, Vladimir MNE
17. IA Sedgwick, David ENG
18. IA Shorek, Mordechay ISR
19. IA Stubenvoll, Werner AUT
20. IA Vardapetian, Ashot ARM
21. IA Vega, Jorge ESA
22. IA Vereschagin, Igor RUS
23. IA Zaragosa, Henrique MEX

01/2009

Annex 2:

REGULATIONS FOR THE CLASSIFICATION OF THE CHESS ARBITERS

1. General

- 1.1 These regulations comprise all the aspects concerning the classification of the Chess Arbiters (IA and FA).
- 1.2 The Chess Arbiters (IA and FA) are classified into two (2) general categories: Active (a) and Inactive (i) Arbiters.
- 1.3 An International Arbiter (IA) is considered to be "Inactive" if in a period of two (2) years he has never acted as an Arbiter in any international chess event, according to the Article 4.6 of the Regulations for the Titles of the Arbiters.
- 1.4 A FIDE Arbiter (FA) is considered to be "Inactive" if in a period of two (2) years he has never acted as an Arbiter in any FIDE rated chess event, according to the Article 3.5 of the Regulations for the Titles of the Arbiters.

2. Inactive IA and FA

- 2.1 The Inactive IA and FA are listed in a separate list (List of Inactive Arbiters), which is issued every two (2) years by the Arbiters Commission (AC), in cooperation with the Federations and after the approval of the FIDE General Assembly.
- 2.2 An Inactive IA or FA can be considered as Active again, only after acting as an Arbiter in at least two (2) respective chess events (international events for IA and FIDE rated events for FA) and after approval by the AC. The Federation the Arbiter belongs to, shall send an application to the AC, verifying this.

3. Active IA and FA

- 3.1 The Active IA and FA are classified to the following categories :
 - 3.1.1 A' Category
 - 3.1.2 B' Category
 - 3.1.3 C' Category
 - 3.1.4 D' Category
- 3.2 In the A' Category are classified only IA who fulfill all the following criteria:
 - 3.2.1 They have been Active Arbiters during the last ten (10) years.
 - 3.2.2 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.

- 3.2.3 They have acted as Chief Arbiter or Deputy Chief Arbiter in at least one (1) major World event (Olympiad, World Individual Championship tournaments and matches, for Men and Women, World Cup, World Team Championships for Men and Women, World Youth and Junior Championships, FIDE Grand Prix Tournaments) in the period of the last five (5) years.
- 3.3 In the B' Category are classified only IA who fulfill all the following criteria:
- 3.3.1 They have been Active Arbiters during the last ten (10) years.
- 3.3.2 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.
- 3.3.3 They have acted as Chief Arbiter or Deputy Chief Arbiter in at least two (2) of the major Continental events (Continental Individual Championship tournaments for Men and Women, Continental Team Championships for Men and Women, Continental Youth and Junior Championships, Continental Club Cup Tournaments, or the minor World events (World School Individual Championships, World Amateur Championships for Men and Women, World Senior Championships for Men and Women, Olympiad U-16, World Blitz and Rapid Championships), in the period of the last five (5) years.
- 3.4 In the C' Category are classified IA and FA who fulfill all the following criteria:
- 3.4.1 They have been Active Arbiters during the last five (5) years.
- 3.4.2 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 an Arbiter.
- 3.4.3 They have acted as Chief Arbiter or Deputy Chief Arbiter in at least two (2) minor Continental events (Continental School Individual and Team Championships, Continental Blitz and Rapid Championships, Teams Tournaments or Swiss System Tournaments with more than 150 participants), in the period of the last five (5) years.
- 3.5 In the D' Category are classified all the others IA and FA.

4. Procedure for the classification of IA and FA

- 4.1 The Arbiters Commission shall have the responsibility for the classification of the Active IA and FA in the above mentioned Categories, according to the proposals of the Federations, the Tournament Reports and the Reports of the Chief Arbiters.
- 4.2 The Federations must send to the Arbiters Commission their proposals, including the lists of their Active and Inactive IA and FA, four (4) months before the announced date of the FIDE Congress.
- In each Federation's list of the Active Arbiters, the IA and FA must be classified according to the mentioned Categories (A', B', C' and D'). If an Arbiter is proposed to change his previous Category, then it shall be justified in full detail, according to these regulations.

4.3 The AC shall issue the lists which will include the Arbiters of each Category (A', B' and C') and submit them to the FIDE General Assembly for final approval. The lists will be valid for a period of two (2) years.

5. Appointment of the IA and FA, according to their Categories

5.1 Only IA belonging to the A' or B' Category shall be appointed as Chief Arbiters in all major World events, as described in 3.2.3.

5.2 The following table indicates the appointments of the IA and FA, depending on their Categories and the event:

Arbiter/Event	Major WE	Minor WE	Major CE	Minor 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'
Arbiter	A', B', C'	A', B', C', D'	A', B', C', D'	A', B', C', D'
Assistant Arbiter	B', C', D'	B', C', D'	B', C', D'	B', C', D'