



GENS UNA SUMUS

FÉDÉRATION INTERNATIONALE DES ÉCHECS

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THE RULES COMMISSION

Subject: FIDE Congress 2024 – Rules Commission Annual Report

Summary:

1. **Laws of Chess re-write project.**
 - A. **Lausanne session and quarterly report.**
 - B. **Progress streamline.**
2. **C.05 General Regulations for Competitions**
3. **C.12 and video assistance system for arbiters.**

1. **Laws of Chess re-write project:**

A) **Lausanne session and quarterly report.**

1) The Rules Commission Laws of Chess re-write project is carried out by an integrated committee with four members of the Rules Commission (Escafre, Biagioli, Marghetis and Vardapetyan), the Handbook coordinator (Holowczak), Arbiters' Commission (Baralić), Qualification Commission (De San Vicente) and Fair Play Commission (Gopakumar).

2) The project started lately in 2023, contemporary to the FIDE Congress 2023 where it was presented as first, and the committee run weekly meetings until the first week of February: those meetings were meant to identify the current issues that can't be resolved by the Laws of Chess, as well as identifying a future classification of forbidden behaviours, in order to create a brand-new system of penalties.

The committee arrived at the first working session (Lausanne – 13th to 15th February 2024) with a clear view of the current issues.

3) The main purpose of the first working session was to work out on designing rules that can possibly resolve the present issues without having inconsistencies: the job was systematic (see the full picture) and analytic (identify all possible scenarios created by a single rule) at the same time.

The most valuable part of this analysis was to create a categorisation of forbidden behaviours and create the relevant punishment system.

- 4) The second part of the working session was dedicated to creating the structure of the future Laws of Chess, forgetting the current layout and designing a new concept, analogue to what other sports do in creating their basic rules.

As a result of this second part, the integrated committee has presented to the Management Board and the Council the future index of the Laws of Chess, which will be filled with the articles content.

B) Progress streamline.

The committee continued its weekly meetings with a new mission: examining extraordinary situations that may happen in the board (i.e. illegal positions) and how to deal with them.

This part has been concluded in the beginning of the Summer 2024.

However, some points are still under scrutiny.

Together with it, we passed to examine all change proposal we received in the last one and half year, in order to get any positive inputs from them.

Overall, the process is in line with the project, and we believe we would be able to present a text by the 2025 FIDE Congress Rules Commission meeting: the purpose is to illustrate there the results of our job to get feedback. Then, we will pass to the quality control phase to finalise and present the project for the approval in the 2026.

2. C.05 General Regulations for Competitions

This process is ongoing too; however, it is slower due to the smaller number of resources working on it.

The Rules Commission has already created three out of five parts which will comprise the new document. Some extraordinary working sessions have been scheduled in Budapest.

3. C.12 and video assistance system for arbiters.

The Rules Commission has created a dedicated chapter C.12 regarding video assistance for the arbiters in the tournaments.

The document was approved by the Council in July.

This Regulations were designed after the testing session in Belgrade in a joint task force including ARB, ATH, RC and TEC.

Venice, dated on today September 4th, 2024

IA Stéphane Escafre, Chairman

IA Marco Biagioli, Secretary

