



Arbiters & Organisers Commission



ARBITERS' REGULATIONS

Rules for the management of Arbiters & Tournaments in South Africa

Effective 1 July 2015





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1. PREFACE

- 1.1. The South African Arbiters' Regulations shall be used in conjunction with the FIDE Laws of Chess as well as the Ratings Regulations for all nationally rated tournaments. Where the Tournament is a FIDE Rated tournament the FIDE Tournament Rules shall apply in addition and where required override these regulations. Where there is a higher requirement set for the rating of a tournament by the Arbiters' Regulations, such regulations shall override the Ratings Regulations until such time as the regulations have been merged. The following regulations can only be changed by a meeting of the Arbiters at the annual Junior Chess Championship as stipulated in rule 14 following recommendation by the Arbiters & Organisers Commission (AOC). All regulations need to be signed off by the CHESSA Exbo as well as Council before implementation.
- 1.2. Any such changes can therefore only be made every January and will become effective on the 1st of July of that year. As no existing regulations are in place, the first set of regulations will however be implemented as soon as ratified by the CHESSA Exbo and Council. Where, during a year it becomes clear that a regulation is ambiguous the Arbiters & Organisers Commission will be allowed to make such changes to the regulations so as to remove any such ambiguity and to determine a date for implementation of any such changes. For tournaments such changes shall apply to those starting on or after the 1st of July or after the date any such aforementioned changes have been implemented.
- 1.3. It is the belief of the AOC that the quality of South African chess players will be improved by improving the quality of the chess tournaments. To achieve this it is necessary to have stronger and more Arbiters and to hold tournaments that meet certain requirements, not only from a number of players or average rating perspective, but also with regards to the standards of the hall and the equipment. For this reason the aim of these regulations are to improve both Arbiters and tournaments held in South Africa.

2. QUALIFYING AS AN ARBITER

Arbiter titles

- 2.1. As it is acknowledged that substantial development needs to be done to improve the standard of Arbiters in South Africa and as the possibility to provide FIDE Arbiter training is limited, South African Arbiters will be continued to be either Provincial Arbiters (PA) or National Arbiters (NA). For National Tournaments National Arbiters and FIDE Arbiters will be deemed to be on the same level, but a distinction will be drawn for purposes of the Arbiters' Grand Prix System. (See rule 4.6)
- 2.2. In addition to the Titles of PA and NA there will also be the titles of Schools Supervisor (SS) and Tournament Supervisor (TS). Although it is acknowledged that tournaments run by SS and TS are extremely important for the development of chess in South Africa, such tournaments cannot be rated. For determining the number of Arbiters at an event SS and TS cannot be taken into consideration. It is however the wish of the AOC that rated tournaments would employ TS and SS officials in order to provide them with the necessary experience in order to become PA's in the future.

Examination for Arbiter titles

- 2.3. To become an Arbiter an exam set up and run under the auspices of the AOC, needs to be written. There will be Arbiters' courses held annually at the SA Open as well as the SA National Junior Championships. For any ad hoc training a request must be sent through to the AOC 30 days in advance of the start of the training, indicating where it will be held, who the trainer will be and how many candidates will participate. The cost of an ad hoc exam for 2015 is R100 per person with a minimum of R1,500 per training session. This excludes any fees payable to the trainer. The trainer must be approved by the AOC.
- 2.4. The Arbiter's exam will consist of 60% questions on the FIDE Laws of Chess, 30% on the different pairing systems used in South Africa and 10% on the Arbiters as well as the Ratings Regulations.
- 2.5. School Supervisors will be required to achieve a pass rate of 60% in the section on the FIDE Laws of Chess, while Tournament Supervisors will be required to achieve a pass rate of 60% for the whole paper. The pass rate for Provincial Arbiters will be 80% for the whole paper with a minimum pass rate of 60% for any section of the paper. After each exam the results of those candidates who passed and at what level will be published on the CHESSA website.



Norms for Arbiter titles

- 2.6. A Provincial Arbiter who has successfully passed the exam will be known as a Candidate Provincial Arbiter (CPA) until achieving three additional norms at rated events. These events may be regional, provincial or national events. Each norm needs to be submitted together with the other documentation as stipulated in Rule 5.
- 2.7. A Chief Arbiter (CA) of a qualifying tournament MAY award a norm to a candidate Arbiter by completing AOC-01 or AOC-02. The candidate Arbiter should demonstrate the necessary skill, knowledge & expertise to act as an Arbiter. Where a CA refuses to provide a norm written reasons for such refusal must be provided. The original of the form must be handed to the candidate and a copy of this form must be send to the AOC within 30 days from the date on which the tournament was completed, who will keep a record of all norms awarded. Failure to provide the AOC with the form will not negate the norm but lead to penalties against the CA as stipulated under rule 5.1.
- 2.8. As stipulated in rule 2.7 only the CA of a tournament can provide a norm and for purposes of a NA norm, such Arbiter must be a qualified NA, FA or IA. For purposes of a PA norm at least one of the three norms must be signed by a NA, FA or IA.
- 2.9. The CA for the tournament must complete the official Tournament Report (AOC-05), provide this to each Arbiter achieving a Norm, and submit this to the AOC. The Candidate NA/PA must complete a written report on the tournament, and attach this to the Norm report. Together they form a completed Norm.
- 2.10. The norms must be received from at least two different Chief Arbiters and within two years from completing the exam. After the submission of the three norms the CPA will apply to the AOC for registration as a PA. The name of the CPA, the date of the exam he passed as well as the dates and names of the tournaments where he achieved his norms together with the name of the Chief Arbiter of those events will be published for 30 days on the CHESSA website. If no objections are received, the Arbiter will be registered as a PA.
- 2.11. To become a NA, a PA will need to achieve 4 norms at National events. As the number of National Events is limited there is no time frame within which they need to be achieved, barring the rules regarding dormant Arbiters. The norms must be received from at least two different Chief Arbiters. After the submission of the four norms the PA will apply to the AOC for registration as a NA. The name of the PA as well as the dates and names of the tournaments where he achieved his norms together with the name of the Chief Arbiter of those events will be published for 30 days on the CHESSA website. If no objections are received, the Arbiter will be registered as a NA.
- 2.12. Whereas FIDE only caters for one level of National Arbiters for purposes of registration with FIDE, both PA's and NA's will be able to register with FIDE as National Arbiters. The classification on the FIDE database of a South African Arbiter as National Arbiter will therefore make no distinction between Provincial and National Arbiters.

Tournament requirements for norm purposes

- 2.13. The following tournaments will qualify for Provincial Arbiter norms:

Format	Level of Event	Certificates	Rating	Time Control	Tournament Duration
Swiss	National	Unlimited	1 player >1800	Minimum of 60:60	Minimum of two days and six rounds
Swiss	Provincial	1 for each full 50 players	Any	Minimum of 60:60	Minimum of five rounds
Swiss	Regional	1 for each full 50 players	Any	Minimum of 60:60	Minimum of five rounds
Round Robin	Regional	1 for each full 10 players	Any	Minimum of 60:60	Minimum of six rounds



2.14. The following tournaments will qualify for National Arbiter norms:

2.14.1. All National events as listed under Rule 4.2

2.14.2. All FIDE rated events that comply with the requirements set in rule 2.13.

Minimum age for Arbiters

2.15. In order to answer the Arbiter's exam a candidate must be over the age of 15 years. In addition there are minimum age requirements for officiating at certain events or for being Chief Arbiter. These are:

2.15.1. For Local, Private or Regional Tournaments, Arbiters will be required to be over the age of 15 and the Chief Arbiter to be over the age of 18 on the date the tournament starts.

2.15.2. For Provincial tournaments, Arbiters will be required to be over the age of 16 and the Chief Arbiter to be over the age of 18 on the date the tournament starts.

2.15.3. For National Tournaments Arbiters will be required to be over the age of 18 and the Chief Arbiter to be over the age of 21 on the date the tournament starts.

Licencing fee for Arbiters

2.16. In January of each year an Arbiter's licence fee for the year will be determined. In order for a tournament to be rated all arbiters officiating at such tournament must have paid their licencing fee for the year. If a tournament is submitted without all Arbiters being up to date, the licencing fee for those Arbiters will be increased by 50% and the tournament will not be rated until such licencing fees are paid.

3. REQUIREMENTS FOR TOURNAMENTS TO BE RATED

3.1. As stipulated in rule 2.2 the Chief Arbiter of a rated tournament must at least be a Provincial Arbiter. Where a Region does not have a Provincial Arbiter available that Region can ask for exemption provided that a development plan is presented which will result in the necessary Provincial Arbiters being developed within a time period not exceeding two years. When considering the application the AOC can decline such application based on the development plan not being sufficient or can place such requirements in place that they in their discretion is required to ensure the integrity of chess in that Region.

3.2. Where a tournament is run with different sections it is recommended that a minimum of one Arbiter be appointed per section. To be rated however a tournament must have at least one Arbiter per 100 boards or part thereof.

3.3. For any event other than a Club Event, no Arbiter may be a player in an event for which he is an Arbiter, not even as filler.

3.4. In order to improve the quality of chess in South Africa it is required to improve the quality of tournaments held. Not only does this apply to the level of officiating, but also to the playing conditions. All tournaments must as far as possible meet the requirements as set out by the FIDE tournament rules, including the space requirements. The FIDE tournament rules are compulsory for FIDE Rated tournaments.

3.5. Tournament rules must be published before the start of the round with a physical copy readily available in the playing hall. Players must be informed where they can read the tournament rules. These rules should include:

3.5.1. Eligibility for the tournament;

3.5.2. The dates and times of each round;

3.5.3. The time control used;

3.5.4. The default time;

3.5.5. Tie breaks and the awarding of prizes;

3.5.6. Whether the tournament is nationally or FIDE rated;

3.5.7. The process for making an appeal;

3.5.8. Whether appendix G4 is applicable (Which the AOC recommends be the case)



4. ARBITER GRAND PRIX SYSTEM

Introduction and application

- 4.1. The aim of the Arbiter Grand Prix System (AGPX) is to create an objective system for ranking Arbiters based on their activities, experience and qualifications with the aim of selecting or appointing Arbiters for certain National Events or for official FIDE events outside the borders of South Africa to which FIDE has extended an invite to CHESSA to nominate South African Arbiters. It is therefore not applicable to Arbiters who have received a direct invite or appointment by FIDE for specific FIDE rated events.
- 4.2. Without limiting the aforementioned, the AGPX will be used to appoint Arbiters for the following National events:
 - 4.2.1. South African Closed (Open Section)
 - 4.2.2. South African Women's Closed
 - 4.2.3. South African Junior Closed
 - 4.2.4. South African Junior National Team Event
 - 4.2.5. South African Junior Wild Card Event
 - 4.2.6. South African Open
 - 4.2.7. CHESSA Inter Regional Team Championship
 - 4.2.8. CHESSA Inter Club Championship
- 4.3. An Arbiter will receive an AGPX rating for a tournament regardless of where in the world the tournament is hosted, provided that his AGPX ranking was not used to select him for the tournament and that all other requirements as stipulated by these regulations have been complied with.
- 4.4. The AGPX will fall under the auspices of the Ratings Commission of Chessa with input and assistance from the Arbiters and Organisers Commission.

Tournaments included for AGPX

- 4.5. Only tournaments that meet the following criteria will be taken into account when calculating the AGPX of an Arbiter:
 - 4.5.1. The tournament must be a rated tournament
 - 4.5.2. The time control must be at least 60:60 except in age groups below and including U/10 or development sections (where players have no ratings) where the time control must be at least 30:30.
 - 4.5.3. The tournament must have a minimum of five rounds or four rounds for disabled chess.
 - 4.5.4. All Arbiters serving at the tournament must be paid up members of the AOC before the start of the tournament.
 - 4.5.5. The tournament must have a minimum of 10 players. Where the tournament consists of different sections, each section must have a minimum of six players.

Number of Arbiters per tournament

- 4.6. Unlike the requirement for norms there is no limitation on the number of Arbiters. There can however only be one CA irrespective of the number of sections, age groups or any other subdivisions. For tournaments with less than 100 players there can be only one DCA and for those tournaments with more players there can be a maximum of two DCA's. All Arbiters must be present for the full duration of the event.
- 4.7. For National events the LOC can appoint as many arbiters as they want subject to the following regulations:
 - 4.7.1. The minimum arbiters including the Chief and Deputy Chief Arbiters to be appointed for each National Event is:

4.7.1.1.	Junior National Team Event:	18 Arbiters
4.7.1.2.	Junior Wild Card Event:	12 Arbiters
4.7.1.3.	Inter Region Event:	2 Arbiters
4.7.1.4.	Junior Closed:	7 Arbiters
4.7.1.5.	Senior Closed (Men & Women)	2 Arbiters



4.7.1.6. SA Women Open 2 Arbiters

4.7.2. All Arbiters must meet the requirements of the AOC for eligibility, but the LOC may appoint one Arbiter that does not rank top in the AGPX table as stipulated in rule 6.8. For the Junior National Team Event, the LOC may appoint 2 such Arbiters and Chess S.A. another 2 such Arbiters. For the Junior Wild Card Event this number is reduced to 1 such Arbiter for the LOC and Chess S.A. respectively.

The Formula & Variables

4.8. The AGPX is updated monthly and is calculated based on the six best tournaments of each Arbiter over the past twelve months. The AGPX for each Arbiter for each tournament will be calculated using the following formula:

$$AGPX = [m^{AR}(1 + FN + P + AQ + AS)(1 + K)] = \{30, 40\}$$

Where:

- AGPX** = the Arbiters Grand Prix score to be determined
- m** = the gradient of the exponential graph and set to 1.002
- AR** = a value based on the average rating of all participants.
- FN** = a value indicating whether the tournament is FIDE or Nationally rated.
- P** = a value based on the total number of players participating.
- AQ** = a value indicating the Arbiter's qualification.
- AS** = a value indicating the status of the Arbiter at the tournament.
- K** = the host-union K factor.
- {30, 40}** = For FIDE rated tournaments, max AGPX = 40
For all other tournaments, max AGPX = 30

4.9. The average rating (AR) will be calculated by the CHESSA Ratings Bureau. For open events this will be the average rating of all the players and will be the AR used for all Arbiters in the tournament. In the case of tournaments with sections, the AR for the event is the average of the average ratings of all sections. This AR will be used for the CA as well as for all other Arbiters, unless they were assigned to a specific section(s) in which case the Arbiter will be assigned the AR of that particular section(s) on the proviso the AR for that particular section(s) is not more than the AR assigned to the CA. If that is the case then the AR for the Arbiter will be set equal to the AR of the CA.

4.10. The value of FN is **0.1** where the Tournament or section of the tournament is FIDE rated for the CA and all Arbiters assigned to that section; or **0.0** in all other cases

4.11. For purposes of determining P, a player must have played at least one round. The value for P depending on the number of players is:

500+ players:	0.5
400-499 players:	0.4
300-399 players:	0.3
200-299 players:	0.2
150-199 players:	0.1
100-149 players:	0.0
90-99 players:	-0.1
80-89 players:	-0.25
70-79 players:	-0.4
60-69 players:	-0.55
50-59 players:	-0.7
40-49 players:	-0.85



10-39 players: -1.0

All Arbiters will receive the applicable value unless it's a Section event and an Arbiter was appointed to a specific section(s) in which case the Arbiter will receive the allocated value depending on the number of players in that section(s).

4.12. The Arbiters qualification is a weighing factor and the values assigned are:

IA = 0.2;
FA = 0.15;
NA = 0.1;
PA = 0.05;
CPA = 0.025;
TS = 0.0;
SS = 0.0

4.13. The value for AS is:

CA = 0.1
DCA = 0.05
A = 0.0

4.14. The K value of the Provinces are:

EBC (Border) =	0.48
ECH (Chris Hani) =	0.95
ENM (Nelson Mandela Bay) =	0.28
FLW (Lejweleputswa) =	0.77
FS (Free State) =	0.21
GE (Ekurhuleni) =	0.61
GJM (Johannesburg Metro) =	0.05
GTP (Tshwane) =	0
KZN (KwaZulu Natal) =	0.14
LIM (Limpopo) =	0.42
MEN (Ehhlazeni) =	0.85
MGS (Gert Sibande) =	0.68
MNW (Nkangala) =	0.90
NBR (Bojanala) =	0.81
NC (Northern Cape) =	0.88
NWP (Northwest Province) =	0.55
SED (Sedibeng) =	0.34
SWD (South Western Districts) =	0.94
WB (Boland) =	0.92
WCU (West Coast) =	0.73
WP (Western Province) =	0.11



5. ARBITER'S REPORTING REQUIREMENTS

- 5.1. For purposes of calculating an Arbiter's AGPX the following reporting requirements exist. Failure to adhere to these reporting requirements will result in the AGPX score calculated for the tournament not being included in for AGPX purposes, but in addition being deducted from the Arbiter's total AGPX score.
- 5.2. The reason for this structure is to ensure that players' national ratings are as up to date as possible and to prevent Arbiters who already have six high tournaments of ignoring the requirement. No correspondence will be entered into regarding any late submissions.
- 5.3. Where an Arbiter fails to submit the necessary Arbiter's report for five or more tournaments or tournament files for a second time over a 24 month rolling period, the Arbiter will not be able to officiate at any rated tournament unless reasons that are satisfactory in the opinion of the AOC, can be provided why such a ban should not be imposed.
- 5.4. Should a ban be imposed on an Arbiter for a second time in a 5 year period, such Arbiter can be expelled from the AOC for a period not exceeding two years.

Events held within the Borders of RSA

- 5.5. The following must be submitted by the CA (if the CA is a RSA arbiter otherwise the highest appointed or qualified RSA Arbiter) NO LATER THAN 14 CALENDAR DAYS after the tournament has ended.
 - 5.5.1. Tournament file(s) (submitted to the CHESSA Ratings Bureau).
 - 5.5.2. Report of the CA (submitted to the AOC). [Form AOC-05]
 - 5.5.3. List of Arbiters (names, status, qualification, CHESSA or FIDE ID). If this list does not clearly state who the CA, DCA and other Arbiters were, ALL Arbiters will be treated as "Arbiters" (no Arbiter will be given the distinction of CA or DCA) (submitted to the AOC).
- 5.6. Each appointed Arbiter must submit his report NO LATER THAN 14 CALENDAR DAYS after the tournament has ended (submitted to the AOC). [Form AOC-06]

Events held outside the Borders of RSA

- 5.7. The following must be submitted by the Arbiter NO LATER THAN 14 CALENDAR DAYS after the tournament has ended otherwise the tournament will not count towards AGPX and no correspondence will be entered into for any late submissions.
 - 5.7.1. Name of the tournament (submitted to AOC).
 - 5.7.2. Website link where the tournament can be verified (submitted to AOC).
 - 5.7.3. Individual report (submitted to AOC).
 - 5.7.4. Status at the event (submitted to AOC).

6. SELECTION OF ARBITERS FOR EVENTS

- 6.1. For an Arbiter to be considered for selection he must have officiated in at least six tournaments over the past 12 months.
- 6.2. The following should be used as a guide and adhered to as far as possible and where applicable. Where the minimum percentage (%) cannot be applied (adhered to), the remaining Arbiters must be selected from the AGPX as per their rank within the list.
- 6.3. All appointments will be done by the AOC in conjunction with the LOC and ratified by CHESSA.
- 6.4. For purpose of this sections the following words will have the corresponding meaning:
 - 6.4.1. **Union/Region:** one of the CHESSA affiliated unions/regions.
 - 6.4.2. **Province:** one of the nine (9) RSA provinces.
 - 6.4.3. **Starting from the top of the list:** selecting an Arbiter from the AGPX starting with the Arbiter in position one and continuing down the list.



Appointment procedure

- 6.5. The Chief Arbiter, selected from the list created in Rule 8 must be from the host Region. If this is not possible the Chief Arbiter must be from the host Province. If this is not possible an Arbiter on the Chief Arbiter's list who has not officiated at a National Event in the past two years must be selected. The Chief Arbiter will be appointed in consultation with the LOC
- 6.6. One DCA must be from either the host Region or Province. The second DCA must be selected from the AGPX (starting from the top of the list) and must, if it is known where the tournament will be held the next year, be from that host Region or Province in order to be considered for the Chief Arbiter the following year.
- 6.7. Of the Arbiters required by the LOC, a maximum 60% rounded down to the nearest integer of the Arbiters (excluding the CA and 2 DCAs) should be from the host Province. The remainder of the Arbiter should be selected from the AGPX.
- 6.8. The LOC will be entitled to select one Arbiter of their choice from the AGPX, provided such Arbiter meets all the other requirements.
- 6.9. In order to ensure the most opportunities for all Arbiters, no Arbiter may officiate in a remunerated capacity at more than two Nationals in an annual cycle, with a cycle starting with the SA Open in June/July.
- 6.10. The number of Arbiters at National Events will be subject to rule 4.7.

7. EVENTS/AFFILIATES AND THE SELECTION PROCESS

- 7.1. Affiliates of CHESSA such as USSA and Schools Chess are not required to follow the process involved in appointing their Arbiters as they are guided by the own requirements. It is however highly recommended that where possible, they make any such appointments in consultation with the AOC.

8. LIST OF NATIONAL CA'S

- 8.1. The AGPX by its nature and purpose is totally objective and measures the activities and qualifications of Arbiters. As such it does not provide an opinion on whether the Arbiter has the necessary skills and personality to run a National Tournament on behalf of CHESSA. For this purpose a list of six Arbiters will be selected by the AOC in consultation with all registered Arbiter to form the list from which CA's for National Events can be selected. This list will be selected based on the input of all Arbiters from the list of registered IA's, FA's and NA's.
- 8.2. This list will be reviewed on an annual basis and published for comments at the South African Junior National Championships every year. It is the intention that the list be extended over time as more and more Arbiters develop into National CA's.

9. ARBITERS & FOREIGN TOURNAMENTS

- 9.1. Arbiters are allowed to informally contact other countries and people in order to apply for Arbiter positions at their events, except for tournaments under the auspices of FIDE. In these cases FIDE will allocate Arbiters to member countries. Where South Africa receives such an allocation, the AOC will nominate those Arbiter(s) that requires the least number of IA norms based on their position on the AGPX.
- 9.2. This means that an FA with 3 IA norms will be nominated even if he is below an FA with 1 IA norm on the AGPX ranking.
- 9.3. In order to assist with general good governance, the AOC should be CC'ed in on all communication with other countries. Where the AOC is aware of more than one Arbiter applying to the same country, the AOC will have the right to interfere and decide who may apply based on the respective Arbiters' positions on the AGPX. This will assist in preventing a country being flooded by multiple applications from South African Arbiters.



10. ARBITER FEES & REMUNERATION

- 10.1. All Arbiters will be required to pay a licensing fee to the AOC. These fees will be set at the annual meeting of CHESSA and could differ based on the level of the Arbiter and whether he is on the National CA list. An ad hoc fee for Arbiter's Jacket or Arbiter's verification card may be charged when required.
- 10.2. For national events, the LOC will be responsible to for accommodation and meals for the Arbiters. A travel allowance for Arbiters not selected from the Province will be negotiated with the AOC. The following fee per round of National Events will be payable:

	Chief Arbiter	Deputy CA	Arbiter
SAJCC	1000	800	600
SA OPEN	800	640	480
SA JNR CLOSED	700	560	450
SA SNR CLOSED	600	480	420
OTHER NATIONALS	500	400	300

- 10.3. For other events the following fees are to serve as a guideline:

IA	FA	NA	PA	CPA	TS/SS
R 120	R 110	R 100	R 80	R 60	R 50

- 10.4. For other events the following fees are to serve as a guideline:

11. DISCIPLINARY CODE

- 11.1. No Arbiter may bring the game of Chess, CHESSA or the AOC into disrepute. This does not prevent Arbiters from disagreeing with these bodies, but requires Arbiters to maintain a level of professionalism at all times. Failure to adhere to such standards can lead to expulsion from the AOC for a period not exceeding two years.
- 11.2. If an Arbiter is found guilty of gross negligence during a tournament or of manipulation of results or pairings at a tournament, such Arbiter can be expelled from the AOC for a period not exceeding five years.
- 11.3. If it is found that an Arbiter regularly makes decisions that are not sound in law, such Arbiter can be required to rewrite the Arbiter's exam. If the Arbiter does not pass such an exam within six months from notification of such requirement, the Arbiter will be suspended until such exam has been successfully completed.
- 11.4. Where a complaint is lodged against an Arbiter which could lead to an expulsion or suspension, the AOC will determine whether there is a prima facie case to answer. If the AOC believes there is a prima facie case to answer, the Chairperson of the AOC will appoint three independent arbiters not on the AOC to decide on the matter. They will be entitled to decide on the procedures to be followed. An Arbiter that feels that he was wronged by the decision or the process can appeal to the Legal and Appeals Board of Chessa.

12. REVIEW OF ARBITERS

- 12.1. To ensure that Arbiters provide a professional quality of service at events that they are appointed, a panel of Arbiters consisting of all International Arbiters and National CA's will be created to review any complaints against Arbiters at events based on either their decisions or their conduct. In reviewing such Arbiters the panel will review submissions from all parties involved including the Chief Arbiter of the event. The panel will be able to recommend a warning, a penalty of AGPX points or for serious offences to suspend such Arbiter. Such penalty will be implemented after ratification by the AOC.



13. APPEALS COMMITTEES AT TOURNAMENTS

- 13.1. All rated tournaments should have an appeals committee consisting of at least three members, one of which should be the CA. The names of the members should be published before the end of the first round. At least one, but preferably both other members should not be acting Arbiters at the event. Where the CA is himself the subject of the appeal and there are less than three remaining members on the committee, an additional member must be co-opted. Members should have a working knowledge of the laws of chess and where possible an understanding of the natural rules of justice.
- 13.2. Before a decision on an appeal is made the position of both parties to the incident as well as the affected Arbiter should be heard. As the Arbiter was the one at the table, the decision of the Arbiter should not be overturned purely because the appeals committee would have come to a different decision, but only where the decision made by the Arbiter is clearly incorrect.
- 13.3. The appeals committee should hear and decide on a matter as quickly as possible without affecting the justice of the decision in order to limit the impact on the tournament.

14. ANNUAL MEETING OF ARBITERS

- 14.1. As the South African Junior Nationals are the South African event requiring the most Arbiters, an Arbiters meeting will be held every year during this tournament. At this meeting issues pertinent to Arbiters and tournaments in South Africa shall be discussed and the regulations to be implemented from the 1st of July of that year will be approved for ratification by CHESSA.
- 14.2. Arbiters who are not present are allowed to provide the Chairman or another Arbiter present with a proxy to vote on his behalf. Such proxy could give the Arbiter instructions on how to vote or leave the vote to the discretion of such Arbiter.
- 14.3. It is not in the scope of this meeting to elect the AOC or to discuss and approve its finances as this falls within the ambit of CHESSA.

15. FIDE RULES OF CHESS INTERPRETATION

- 15.1. Where there is ambiguity in or discretion provided by the FIDE Rules of Chess, the AOC may provide guidelines with regards to the manner in which the rules are to be interpreted or any such discretion be exercised. The aim of such guidelines is to provide certainty within the CHESSA fraternity on how the rules will be applied at tournaments within South Africa.