

Regulations for the Titles of Arbiter

As approved by GA 1982, amended by GA 1984 to 2004

1. Introduction

- 1.1 The following regulations can only be altered by the General Assembly following recommendation by the Arbiters Council.
 - 1.1.1 Changes to the regulations shall only be made every fourth year, commencing from 2004 (unless the Council 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' Council.
 - 1.1.6 The Arbiters' Council is appointed by the General Assembly for the same period of office as the FIDE President. The Council shall include a chairman and not more than 16 experts who shall have voting rights in the Council. No Federation shall have more than one representative in the Council. The Council may subsequently include new members who shall have consultative voice but no voting rights.
 - 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 Council chairman.
 - 1.1.8 The Council usually makes its decisions in the sessions immediately preceding the opening of the General Assembly.
 - 1.1.9 In exceptional circumstances, the Council may recommend a title by correspondence voting.

2.1 General Regulations for Arbiter norms

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

Format	Level of Event	Type	Maximum number of Norm Certificates to be issued	Number of Norms that can be used for Title Application
	World		No limit (depending on the number of the rounds in the case of KO)	No limit
	Continental		No limit	No limit
	Olympiad		No limit	Max. one norm
Swiss	International		2+1 more per every 50 players (i.e. for more than 50 players: 3, for more than 100 players: 4)	No limit
Swiss	National Championships	Individual (adult)	2+1 more per every 50 players	Max. two norms
RR	National Championships	Individual (adult)	Max. 2	Max. two norms
Swiss/RR	National Championships	Team	No limit (depending on the number of teams)	Max. one norm
Rapid Chess	World/Continental		No limit (depending on the number of rounds if KO)	Max. one norm

- 2.1.2 A norm of FA or IA is accepted if the candidate has been working as an arbiter in the highest division of the National Team Championship, whereby the following requirements are met:
- A minimum of four (4) boards per team;
 - A minimum of ten (10) teams;
 - At least 60% of the players are FIDE rated.

2.1.3 Applicants for the title of IA/FA must be at least 21 years old.

Norms can be achieved only after the age of 18.

3. Requirements for the title of International Arbiter (IA).

All of the following:

- 3.1 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.

- 3.2 Absolute objectivity, demonstrated at all times during his activity as an arbiter.
- 3.3 Obligatory knowledge of English language, minimum at conversation level, and of chess terms in other official FIDE languages.
- 3.4 Minimum skills at user level to work on a personal computer. Knowledge of pairing programs endorsed by the FIDE Swiss Pairing Committee, Text editing and Spreadsheets programs and usage of E-mail.
- 3.5 Skills to operate electronic chess clocks of different types and for different systems.
- 3.6 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).
- 3.7 The title of the International Arbiter for each of the IBCA, ICSC, IPCA shall each be equivalent to one IA norm.
- 3.8 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.
- 3.9 The title of International Arbiter can be awarded only to applicants who have already been awarded the title of FIDE Arbiter.

4. Requirements for the title of FIDE Arbiter (FA).

All of the following:

- 4.1 Thorough knowledge of the Laws of Chess, the FIDE Regulations for chess competitions, the Swiss Pairing Systems.
- 4.2 Absolute objectivity, demonstrated at all times during his activity as an arbiter.
- 4.3 Sufficient knowledge of at least one official FIDE language.
- 4.4 Experience as chief or deputy arbiter in at least four FIDE Rated events. These can be either national or international.
- 4.5 The title of FIDE Arbiter for each of the IBCA, ICSC, IPCA shall each be equivalent to one FA norm.
- 4.6 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.
- 4.7 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' Council.

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 – TRF (one for each norm)
Arbiter Norm Report Form - ANR (one for each norm)
Arbiter Title Application Form - ATA
- 5.2 The norm reports supporting a title application must be for at least two different types of tournament, or at least one international rated event according to 3.6(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.
- 5.2 Applications must be submitted to the *FIDE Secretariat* by the federation of the applicant. The national federation is responsible for the fee.
- 5.3 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.