

We believe that:

- The work of the Fair Play Commission is valuable and required
- The arbiter system and the fair play system need to be merged into one system
- Arbiters need far greater training in fair play than they currently receive
- There needs to be a transition period for existing FPO/FPE to become arbiters

There are currently only 39 FPO/FPE. We would run an online FA Seminar for those who are not arbiters, and upon passing the test, they would be eligible for the FIDE Arbiter title. This is the same process currently used for countries with limited chess activity. We think this is reasonable, because FPO/FPE do have tournament experience, which can be considered similar to FIDE Arbiter norms. They would then be required to achieve International Arbiter norms, and pass the International Arbiter Seminar, in the same way as all other arbiters. Many ambitious arbiters are able to achieve this within one year. Therefore, we propose that the existing FPO/FPE titles would lapse on 1st July, 2027, to give them two years to reach International Arbiter without unduly impacting their rights to appointments at FIDE tournaments.

International Arbiter Seminars would feature increased material on Fair Play, including the relevant parts of the Fair Play Seminars. This will ensure all new International Arbiters meet the required standards to be eligible to administer Fair Play at FIDE tournaments. For existing FAs and IAs, the forthcoming FA Refresher and IA Refresher courses can include the relevant training materials.

Some additional detail on the proposed reforms:

- The refresher courses will already be divided into modules, with arbiters needing to pass all modules, so the Fair Play elements will be their own module that the candidate needs to pass.
- The IA Seminar will contain 20% Fair Play content as part of the Seminar. You need to pass **both** the FP part of the exam, and the exam as a whole, to pass. Thus, candidates pass both the IA Seminar material and the FP Seminar material in one exam.
- The IA norm certificate will be amended to include two checkboxes:
 - The existing one to say that you are of the required standard for International Arbiter, and
 - A second checkbox to say that the arbiter has demonstrated competence in Fair Play matters.

These checks are all that is required to achieve an IA norm, or a FPO norm, at the moment. You would need 2/2 ticks to get the IA norm; and all 4 IA norms as part of a title application would need to have both ticks. Thus, an IA norm also includes the Fair Play norm.

As a result of these reforms, the two systems will be fully merged, and it will no longer be necessary to run dedicated Fair Play Seminars, or for people to acquire FPO/FPE norms at tournaments because these will be integrated within International Arbiter norms. There would be no need for a parallel system.

At most tournaments, one arbiter is responsible for administering fair play, with support from other arbiters where necessary. Currently at FIDE tournaments, these numbers have ballooned significantly, and placed an increasing burden on organisers when it comes to cost.

We propose that:

- For limited-field FIDE events, such as 10-player Round Robins or smaller, there should be one Chief Arbiter and one Deputy Chief Arbiter from the relevant arbiter panel for that event. The Deputy Chief Arbiter should administer Fair Play. This system worked very well for FIDE until this new system was introduced.
- For mass-participation FIDE events, such as those organised by the Events Commission, one International Arbiter from the relevant panel should be appointed to administer Fair Play, with support from other arbiters where necessary. This system is already adopted successfully at mass-participation events organised by Continental Associations.

These reforms also preserve the FPL's other main responsibilities as a regulator, and with regard to investigating cases of cheating.