

***Chess Scotland* Scheme for Arbiters**

Chess Scotland operates a scheme for the examination and recognition of Arbiters. Three grades are awarded, Principal Arbiter, Senior Arbiter and Arbiter. All Arbiters are required to undergo appropriate disclosure checks in respect of contact with young people and vulnerable adults. It is a condition of taking the course and/or examination for arbiters that candidates should agree to undertake such a check.

Qualification as Arbiter

a. Arbiter. Required qualifications are: membership of *Chess Scotland*; a pass of 80% or higher in a written examination or equivalent arranged by the Arbiters' Committee; and at least two satisfactory reports on the candidate's performance at two *Chess Scotland*-registered events, made by different qualified Arbiters who officiated at the events. (Assessment arrangements currently under review)

b. Senior Arbiter. Candidates must be active *Chess Scotland* Arbiters; have at least three satisfactory reports on their performance at *Chess Scotland*-registered congresses (all of which are eligible for grading), made by at least two Senior or Principal Arbiters officiating; and a pass in an oral examination conducted by two or more Senior or Principal Arbiters.

c. Principal Arbiter. This title is awarded by the *Chess Scotland* Council on the recommendation of at least 75% of the members of the Arbiters Committee. The title is intended only for those individuals who have exhibited a high degree of competence as Arbiters, who have a wide knowledge of congresses in general, and who have made a significant contribution as Arbiters to chess in Scotland.

Continuation as Arbiter

Title holders must continue to be *Chess Scotland* members. They are expected to complete a form each year giving details of events where they have acted as Arbiters.

a. Senior Arbiter. *Chess Scotland* Senior Arbiters should act as:

- (a) Chief Arbiter at a *Chess Scotland*-graded tournament;
- (b) an Arbiter at more than one type of tournament (eg Swiss, All-Play-All, Rapid, etc);
- (c) an Arbiter at more than one location;
- (d) an Arbiter on at least four days.

b. Arbiter. *Chess Scotland* Arbiters should have the same level of activity, but not necessarily as Chief Arbiter.

After two consecutive years in which no activity has been reported, Arbiters' names will be removed from the list. Reinstatement is controlled by the Arbiters' Committee, who may require examinations to be retaken.

FIDE updates on Laws and Interpretations, plus other relevant information, will be available to Arbiters via the *Chess Scotland* website.

Arbiters' Committee

The Arbiters' Committee is appointed by the Technical Director. The primary objectives of the Committee are to be responsible for the administration of a scheme for the examination and continuing recognition of Arbiters; to promote high standards of practice by Arbiters, and to promote a sound knowledge of the laws of chess among players. To this end, the Arbiters' Committee has a duty to:

- a. Recruit candidates and conduct training events for potential Arbiters regarding the laws and other aspects of tournament practice.
- b. Conduct assessment of applicants for the Arbiter title by written examination and practical performance.

- c. Maintain a register of qualified Arbiters and, where possible, monitor their activities.
- d. Keep qualified Arbiters informed of current:
 - i FIDE rules, etc.
 - ii *Chess Scotland* rules and practices.
 - iii Issues of interest to Arbiters.
- e. Arrange for the publication from time to time of a Rules Book.
- f. Receive and consider the views of Arbiters.
- g. Offer advice and support to Arbiters and, in particular, offer to report on the accuracy of Swiss pairings carried out in any tournament.
- h. Encourage suitable candidates to apply for the Senior Arbiter and Arbiter titles and to carry out appropriate assessments.
- i. Nominate candidates for the titles of Principal Arbiter, International Arbiter and FIDE Arbiter. A candidate for IA should already be a CS Senior Arbiter; a candidate for FA should already be a CS Arbiter.
- j. Consider and take decisions on appeals arising from an Arbiter's decision in a *Chess Scotland* or other event where the rules permit such an appeal.
- k. Recommend Arbiters for tournaments when required.