

Anti-Cheating Policy

CHESS SCOTLAND

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1. Context and Overview

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2. Scope

- 2.1. To investigate allegations of cheating with nationally graded games.
- 2.2. To investigate allegations of cheating that occur in tournaments and leagues that are recognised by Chess Scotland taking place on Internet Chess Providers.
- 2.3. To maintain a database of complaints that are manifestly unsound (also known as witch-hunting).
- 2.4. To assist the Arbiter Committee with training for Arbiters on Anti Cheating Measures

3. General Information

- 3.1. The Chess Scotland anti-cheating regulations incorporate the FIDE anti-cheating guidelines (FIDE Handbook A.10).
- 3.2. The terms “cheating” and “anti-cheating” in their wider sense include a variety of methods which can be used to alter chess results, like identity theft, non-physical presence, fictitious tournaments or manipulation of results. This text refers exclusively to cheating dictated either by individuals or by electronic devices capable of processing or transmitting chess moves or analysis of chess games.
- 3.3. Players who participate in chess tournaments in Scotland, their accompanying persons and/or delegations, trainers, arbiters, organizers and tournament directors, club officials, Chess Scotland officials and Directors may be held accountable for cheating and attempts of cheating.
- 3.4. To secure fair play, this text defines:
 - 3.4.1. The role of the Scottish Anti Cheating Commission (SACC) in recording and management of reports – complaints and the relation of SACC with Standards Committee and FIDE officials.
 - 3.4.2. The procedures and management of reports and complaints submitted.
 - 3.4.3. The proposed penalties for the offenders.

4. The Scottish Anti-Cheating Committee

- 4.1. The SACC consists of a Chairman, and five members appointed by the management board.
- 4.2. SACC meetings are held when necessary either by physical presence of the commission’s members or by teleconference. A minimum of two meetings a year will be held
- 4.3. The SACC obligations are the following:
 - 4.3.1. Maintains the text of these regulations to ensure it reflects changes FIDE makes to its policies.
 - 4.3.2. Maintains, in the registry and archive of “in-tournament” and “post tournament” complaint forms and related documents. The archive can be accessed by the members of the SACC, Standards Committee and Management Board



- 4.3.3. Conducts all necessary investigations and submits a report including proposed penalties to the Management Board so that the Management Board decides further action against the offenders.
- 4.3.4. Maintains, the special “Manifestly Unproven Complaints’ Database” and refers the offenders to the Management Board, so that the Management Board decides further actions.
- 4.4. The SACC investigates the written “in-tournament” and “post tournament” complaints as well as incidents reported in the Arbiters’ report regarding the application of the following articles of the Laws of Chess
- 11.2.3 (illegal presence in or departure from the playing area),
 - 11.3.1 (use of sources),
 - 11.3.2.2 (use of electronic devices),
 - 11.3.3 (inspection of player) and
 - 12.7 (interfering spectators) which prove beyond any doubt cheating or attempt of cheating. Such incidents are investigated by the SACC in a similar manner like the written complaints.
- 4.5. Upon receiving a complaint, the SACC will form an Investigating Chamber (IC). The IC will consist of three members of the SACC and will nominate a Chairperson.
- 4.6. During the investigation of a complaint, the IC has the right to contact the organizers and tournament director, the arbiters, the players of the tournament, their trainers, club officials, anyone who knows details about the case, to present their view in writing. The IC has the right to request analysis of chess games by experienced players and trainers, and submit games to FIDE for statistical analysis.
- 4.7. The IC investigation is not limited exclusively to the alleged offender and the details of the complaint. The IC should mention in its report any breach by any person of these and FIDE regulations.
- 4.8. If the complaint refers to a team event, the IC must investigate the “liability of the team” and report that a team must be held liable, if members of the team (players and any persons related with the team by any capacity) knew in advance or contributed in planning and implementing any offences of the anti-cheating regulations.
- 4.9. When the investigation is completed, the IC Chairman notifies the SACC members of the details of the investigation and the proposed decisions. The SACC members must respond within 7 days so that the IC prepares its final report.
- 4.10. The IC final report must explain in detail the followed procedures and the received decisions
- 4.11. The IC final report must be submitted within 60 days after the reception of the complaint to the Management Board. In exceptional cases, the IC may request the Management Board to allow a 30 days delay before the IC submits its final report.
- 4.12. Appeals against the final decision may be made to the Standards Committee.
- 4.13. The SACC has the right to perform unannounced and random on-site inspections of chess tournaments using FIDE’s special equipment according to FIDE regulations. These inspections are performed by members of SACC.

5. Levels of Chess Events

- 5.1. The following are compulsory for FIDE rated events and recommended for locally graded where an arbiter is present.



- 5.2. Preventive measures escalate according to the importance and the average ELO points of the registered players in a tournament
- 5.3. All chess tournaments taking place in Scotland organised
 - a) Under FIDE Aegis, ECU and their relative Commissions
 - b) by private organizers and are submitted for FIDE rating,
 - and c) those included in the official calendar of Chess Scotland, are classified into 4 categories (levels)
- 5.4. Tournaments included in the official calendar of Chess Scotland are classified as follows:
- 5.5. Level 2 events are:
 - 5.5.1. Scottish Championships, Finals of Richardson, Spens and Campbell Rosebowl
 - 5.5.2. FIDE rated tournaments organized where title norms are possible to be achieved.
- 5.6. Level 3 events are:
 - 5.6.1. Team Championships where an arbiter is present (for example SNCL)
 - 5.6.2. Official Scottish individual rapid and blitz championships
 - 5.6.3. Official Scottish Individual and team school championships.
 - 5.6.4. FIDE rated tournaments organized by the individuals where norms are not possible to be achieved.
- 5.7. Non-FIDE rated tournaments organized by individuals are classified as Level 4 tournaments.
- 5.8. Events running on Internet Chess Providers are classified as Level 5 tournaments

6. Prevention

- 6.1. Anti-cheating measures are split into compulsory measures and recommended ones (non-compulsory). Organisers, according to FIDE and Chess Scotland regulations, are responsible for the implementation of the anti-cheating measures.
- 6.2. A player's participation in a chess tournament implies the unconditional acceptance of the Laws of Chess, Chess Scotland Anti Cheating and tournament regulations.
- 6.3. Regulations of tournaments, where title norms are possible to be achieved, must be sent to Chess Scotland 30 days before the start date according to FIDE regulations.
- 6.4. Organizers must, where practical, clearly designate areas for players (the "Playing Area") and for spectators and prevent contact, so much as possible, between players and spectators.
- 6.5. At the beginning of a tournament, Arbiters must remind the players of the Anti-Cheating regulations.
- 6.6. The Arbiters must prevent communication of any chess information to the players.
- 6.7. For the level 1, 2 and 3 events, the application of article 11.3.2.2 (use of electronic devices) of the Laws of Chess is compulsory.
- 6.8. The Organizers must preserve the scoresheets for 6 months after the tournament end date and forward them to the SACC on demand.
- 6.9. Maximum preventive measures for level 1 events are the following:



- 6.9.1. The Organizers must provide separate toilets, smoking and refreshment areas for players and spectators.
- 6.9.2. Each tournament must adopt at least one preventive measure from Annex C of the FIDE Fair Play Regulations.
- 6.9.3. The Organizers must provide secure storage facilities for the players' electronic devices.
- 6.9.4. In standard time control team events, team captains are not allowed to leave the playing area after 2 hours from the start of the round.
- 6.9.5. Organizers must send all games played to Chess Scotland in digital format.

- 6.10. Increased preventive measures for level 2 events are the following:
 - 6.10.1. Each tournament must adopt at least one preventive measure from Annex C of the FIDE Fair Play Regulations.
 - 6.10.2. Organizers must send all games played to Chess Scotland in digital format.
 - 6.10.3. In standard time control team events, team captains are not allowed to leave the playing area after 2 hours from the start of the round.

- 6.11. Standard preventive measures for level 3 events are the following:
 - 6.11.1. Each tournament must adopt at least one preventive measure from Annex C of the FIDE Fair Play Regulations.

- 6.12. Preventive measures for level 4 events are the following:
 - 6.12.1. The strict application of article 11.3.2.2 of the Laws of Chess is not compulsory. If a lighter penalty for the offenders is adopted, it must be defined in the tournament regulations.

- 6.13. Preventative measures Level 5 events are the following.
 - 6.13.1. Games must be rated on the server so that the servers Anti-Cheating system is in operation. PGN files should be sent to the FIDE Screening system for an additional layer of protection.

7. Complaints

- 7.1. The term "complaint" refers to the "in-tournament" or "post tournament" procedure that must be followed so that the Chief Arbiter of an event and the SACC investigate the alleged facts.
- 7.2. Any publication, spreading of news and rumours, orally or in the press and social media, is not considered to be a "complaint". However, individuals who are adversely affected by such actions are entitled to submit to SACC, a post tournament complaint, up to 15 days after the date that these actions were committed.
- 7.3. In order that complaints are grounded on direct evidence rather than hearsay or rumours, the following "in-tournament" or "post tournament" procedures must be followed by anyone submitting an allegation of breach of the anti-cheating regulations.
- 7.4. During a tournament, the Chief Arbiter is not obliged to take under consideration or act after oral complaints. The Chief Arbiter must accept only written and signed complaints.
- 7.5. The Chief Arbiter must maintain order in the playing venue. If any person (player or spectator) comes into Arbiters' consideration spreading hearsay or rumours, the Arbiters must advise this person to submit his/her allegations in writing or remain silent (warning, according to article 12.9.1 of Laws of



Chess). Otherwise, the Chief Arbiter must apply the article 12.7 of Laws of Chess, expel this person from the playing venue and report the fact in the Arbiter's report to SACC.

- 7.6. If the Chief Arbiter in the performance of his/her duties finds an infringement of articles 11.3.2.2 (use of electronic devices), 11.3.3 (inspection of player) of the Laws of Chess and applies penalties, he/she must report his/her actions and submit relevant documents with the Arbiter's report to SACC
- 7.7. If the Chief Arbiter in the performance of his/her duties finds an infringement of articles 11.2.3 (illegal presence in or departure from the playing area) and 11.3.1 (use of sources) of the Laws of Chess which suggest beyond doubt cheating or attempt of cheating, he/she must report his/her actions and submit relevant documents with the Arbiter's report to SACC
- 7.8. People eligible to submit an "in-tournament" written complaint are the players, their delegations, team captains and officials who are present in the playing venue during the tournament
- 7.9. The complainant must provide to the arbiter the reasons why the complaint is being made, and must sign the form on completion. If the complainant is not able to fill in the complaint form (e.g. he/she is tense or in time trouble if he/she is a player) the Chief Arbiter must record the name of the complainant and ask for his/her signature, and only later require him/her to fill in the form, but no later than the end of the round.
- 7.10. Upon receiving a written complaint, the Chief Arbiter must take steps to investigate it, where appropriate impose penalties, and draft a report with his actions, attach every relevant document and deliver the file to SACC
- 7.11. People eligible to submit an "post tournament" written complaint are the players and their parent / guardian, club officials, Chess Scotland officials and the SACC based on evidence which became available after the completion of the tournament.
- 7.12. The "post tournament" complaints should be based on very substantial evidence (e.g., signs of improper use of devices, confessions, statistical evidence) and the complainant is required to illustrate their case in detail by presenting documents, photographs, printed or digital game analysis to support his complaint.
- 7.13. The relevant file must be sent to SACC no later than 15 days after the completion of the tournament.
- 7.14. All information included in the file remain confidential during and after the SACC investigation. Data collected after these regulations are covered by full and strict confidentiality except those within the purposes of implementing these regulations.
- 7.15. All persons involved in an investigation as well as the persons whom the SACC invites to express their opinion must respect the confidentiality of the investigation and the SACC final report. SACC members are not allowed to comment in public the investigations and the final reports.
- 7.16. Any breach of confidentiality or disclosure of investigation details imposes penalties for those held responsible. In case of breach of confidentiality, the SACC reserves the right not to continue the investigation.

8. Penalties

- 8.1. The penalties imposed after the anti-cheating regulations are validated by the Management Board. These penalties are not connected with penalties which the Chief Arbiter has possibly imposed based on the Laws of Chess. Penalties imposed by the Chief Arbiter during a tournament obviously affect game results, pairings, the final standings and tie breaks.



- 8.2. The offenders who beyond any doubt cheated or attempted to cheat or were involved in a cheating scheme will face the maximum sanctions as follows:
 - 8.2.1. **First offence:** 1 year suspension if the offender was under 14 years old on the day the offence was committed.
 - 8.2.2. **First offence:** 2 years suspension if the offender was under 18 years old on the day the offence was committed.
 - 8.2.3. **First offence:** 5 years suspension if the offender was 18 years old or older on the day the offence was committed.
 - 8.2.4. **Second offence:** life time suspension.
- 8.3. Membership of Chess Scotland will be suspended during the above periods
- 8.4. If the offence was committed in a FIDE rated event:
 - 8.4.1. The file with the complaint and the SACC report is forwarded to FIDE for further actions.
 - 8.4.2. Ratings and final standings are altered according to the FIDE regulations.
- 8.5. If the offence was committed in a non-FIDE rated event:
 - 8.5.1. In round robin tournaments the offender's games are submitted as played losses. The opponents' games are submitted as played wins.
 - 8.5.2. In Swiss tournaments the offender is ranked last in the final standings. The offender's games are submitted as played losses. The opponents' games are submitted as played wins.
- 8.6. If the offence was committed in a team event and no team is held liable according to the article 4.7 of these regulations:
 - 8.6.1. Sanctions to the offenders are imposed according to the articles 8.2 – 8.5 of these regulations.
 - 8.6.2. Game results, pairings, final standings and tie breaks are not affected after applying 8.6.1
- 8.7. If the offence was committed in a team event and a team is held liable according to the article 4.7 of these regulations:
 - 8.7.1. Sanctions to the offenders are imposed according to the articles 8.2 – 8.5 of these regulations.
 - 8.7.2. The team is ranked last in the final standings of the event.
 - 8.7.3. Game results, pairings, final standings and tie breaks are not affected after applying 8.7.1
- 8.8. If the offender received money prize, he/she is obliged to return the prize to the Organizers within a month. In case of non-compliance, the Management Board must extend the offender's suspension until the prize is returned in full plus default interest.
- 8.9. Refusal to cooperate with the SACC after a "complaint" or during an inspection after article 4.11 of these regulations is sanctioned with suspension according to article 8.2 of these regulations based on the age and the repetition of the offence.
- 8.10. If an "in-tournament" or "post tournament" complaint is not proven and found to be manifestly unsound, then the complainant is registered to the "Unproven complaints' database". A complainant registered twice within a 2 years period is sanctioned with up to a 6 months suspension. If the offence is repeated, then the complainant is sanctioned with up to a 2 years suspension.
- 8.11. The offenders of articles 7.2 (spreading rumours) and 7.18 (disclosure of investigation details) of these regulations are sanctioned by 2 years suspension.