



AUSTRALIAN CHESS FEDERATION INC

Incorporated 1987 – Australian Capital Territory reg no A01325 – ABN 38717503018
Website: www.auschess.org.au – Affiliated with the Fédération Internationale Des Échecs

to Mr Takis Nikolopoulos
Chairman, FIDE Arbiters' Commission
from Australian Chess Federation Inc
per Gary Wastell – President
c.c. Ignatius Leong, Gary Bekker, NY Wong, Kevin Bonham, Kerry Stead
date 21 September 2013
re **FIDE Arbiter Lecturer Application – IA N.Y.Wong (AUS)**

Dear Mr Nikolopoulos,

I refer to your recent exchange of emails with IA Ngiam Yee (NY) Wong (5804140 SIN) in response to his inquiry about the possibility of his being authorised to conduct FIDE Arbiter seminars.

As indicated in those messages, NY originally obtained his IA title through his work with the Singapore Chess Federation, but he now lives and is a valuable contributor to chess administration and development in Australia.

In your message of 1 August, you indicated that you might be prepared to create the opportunity for members of the Arbiters' Commission in Tallinn to vote to grant NY the authority to conduct FIDE Arbiters' seminars if our Federation could offer some serious reason to overpass the regulation that normally requires applicants to have served as Assistant Lecturer at three FIDE Arbiters' seminars.

This message is to formally propose on behalf of our Federation that the Commission grant NY Wong special dispensation from that requirement on the following grounds.

1. The number of persons in Australia who are currently authorised to conduct Arbiter seminars is very small, making it difficult at present to arrange seminars and create the opportunities for aspiring and capable lecturers to satisfy the three-seminar requirement.
2. This difficulty is compounded by the geographic size of Australia, where the distances visiting lecturers from interstate or overseas are required to travel and the costs of away-from-home accommodation are considerably greater than in many smaller and more closely grouped countries.
3. The purpose of the regulation requiring three instances of service as an Assistant Lecturer is to ensure that the applicant has sufficient experience and ability to present the seminar at an acceptable standard. In the case of NY Wong, our Federation is satisfied that the following evidence is sufficient to meet the purpose of that requirement:
 - (a) written confirmation by IA Gary Bekker, who is an authorised presenter of Arbiter seminars and who has personally witnessed NY's work as an Arbiter;
 - (b) NY's professional background as a Project Management lecturer;
 - (c) support for NY's nomination by FIDE General Secretary Ignatius Leong, who has personally worked with NY Wong;
 - (d) similar support from our Federation.

Yours faithfully,

Gary Wastell
President
Australian Chess Federation Inc

To: Ignatius Leong
Subject: Nomination for Lecturer of FIDE Arbiter Seminar

Hello Ignatius,

As spoken, I would like to be nominated as a Lecturer of the FIDE Arbiter Seminar. To achieve that I understand I have to be at least a Category C International Arbiter.

Hence, I have included below my experience as an arbiter at international events for your necessary action, please. These do not include all the local events in Melbourne which I was the chief arbiter.

Many thanks.

Cheers.

NY

- 27/6/2013 – 7/7/2013: Asian Indoor Games, Incheon, Korea
 - 26/8/2012 – 10/9/2012: Chess Olympiad, Istanbul, Turkey
 - 7/8/2012 – 12/8/2012: Singapore International Chess Festival, Singapore
 - 10/6/2012 – 19/6/2012: ASEAN Age-Group Chess Championship, Hue, Vietnam: Deputy Chief Arbiter
 - 20/12/2011 – 31/12/2011: 2nd ASEAN Chess Championship, Singapore: Chief Arbiter for round-robin GM tournament
 - 10/11/2010 – 27/11/2010: Asian Games, Guangzhou, China
 - 8/7/2010 – 15/7/2012: Asian Youth Chess Championship, Beijing, China: Senior Arbiter for Under-8 Boys and Girls
 - 4/6/2010 – 13/6/2010: ASEAN Age-Group Chess Championship, Subic, Philippines
 - 9/12/2009 – 15/12/2009: Commonwealth Chess Championship, Singapore: Deputy Chief Arbiter
 - 29/10/2009 – 9/11/2009: Asian Indoor Games, Halong Bay, Vietnam
- 18/10/2008 – 29/10/2008: World Youth Chess Championship, Vung Tau, Vietnam: Senior Arbiter for Under-8 Boys and Girls

From: N Y Wong <nywong@iprimus.com.au>
To: 'Takis Nikolopoulos' <takisnik@yahoo.com>; 'Ignatius Leong' <ignatius.leong@fide.com>
Sent: Thursday, August 1, 2013 3:42 AM
Subject: RE: Nomination for Lecturer of FIDE Arbiter Seminar

Dear Takis,

. . .before retiring from full-time work, I was a Project Management Lecturer when I was working with EDS Australia, conducting numerous Project Management courses in the Asia Pacific Region . . .

. . . the reason I was seeking to be a Lecturer for FIDE Arbiters' Seminar is because I am in the Executive Committee of Chess Victoria and I am also in the Australian Chess Federation Council. I have been asked by the President of Chess Victoria to investigate if I can be a Lecturer for FIDE Arbiters' Seminar. As you know, Australia is so far away from the rest of the world. In fact, Australia itself is so huge. So we need more lecturers. Hence I thought I ask the Singapore Chess Federation (SCF), in particular Ignatius, since I got my IA title through the SCF. Ignatius is kind enough to agree because he is looking at the big picture from FIDE point of view.

. . .

Cheers.

N Y Wong (Mr.)
FIDE Chess Trainer
FIDE International Arbiter

From: Ignatius Leong <ignatius.leong@fide.com>
To: 'N Y Wong' <nywong@iprimus.com.au>; ARB Takis Nikolopoulos <takisnik@yahoo.com>
Cc: SCF Thomas Hoe <thomas@singaporechess.org.sg>
Sent: Wednesday, July 31, 2013 3:05 AM
Subject: RE: Nomination for Lecturer of FIDE Arbiter Seminar

Dear Takis,
I support this application.
Regards,
Ignatius

From: Takis Nikolopoulos [<mailto:takisnik@yahoo.com>]
Sent: Thursday, 1 August 2013 4:44 PM
To: N Y Wong
Subject: Re: Nomination for Lecturer of FIDE Arbiter Seminar

Dear Ngiam Yee,

. . .

What I can do is to forward your application to the Meeting of the Arbiters' Commission in the Tallinn FIDE Congress and to put the Members of the Commission to vote if it will be accepted as an exception from the regulations.

If you could send to the Commission (i.e. to my email) an official proposal from your federation, claiming some serious reason to overpass the regulations (i.e not enough Lecturers in that part of the Continent), it would help.

With best regards

Takis

From: Gary Bekker [<mailto:gbekker@capitaltransport.com.au>]
Sent: 22 September 2013 07:15
To: Gary Wastell
Cc: Ngiam Yee Wong
Subject: Endorsement for NY Wong

Dear Gary Wastell,

I understand that the Australian Chess Federation wishes to support a special application on behalf of IA Ngiam Yee Wong (5804140 SIN) for authority to conduct FIDE Arbiter seminars.

Given the considerable difficulties in attempting to arrange such seminars in Australia, where Ngiam Yee now resides, I can confidently confirm that special dispensation would be appropriate in this case.

Among the difficulties that have frequently frustrated plans to present such seminars have been:

- the shortage of locally based and qualified lecturers;
- the distances between our capital cities that affect the ability of lecturers and participants to take part (with a consequent effect on the cost of presenting such seminars); and,
- the continuing difficulties of obtaining financial support for chess from the Australian Government.

Based on my personal experience as a player and spectator at events for which NY Wong has served as Arbiter, I can also attest that his knowledge of FIDE Laws and his ability to explain and administer them are of a standard consistent with that required of a person authorised to conduct Arbiter Seminars.

Yours faithfully,

IA Gary Bekker

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