

CHESS ASSOCIATION KERALA

ARBITER DEVELOPMENT, CERTIFICATION AND RECOMMENDATION REGULATIONS

(Regulations for all levels of Arbiters) (As on 28th September 2025)

1. PREAMBLE

The Chess Association Kerala (CAK) recognizes the importance of qualified, experienced, and ethical arbiters in maintaining the integrity and quality of chess tournaments. In order to establish a structured pathway for arbiter development and to ensure that candidates possess both theoretical knowledge and practical experience, the following regulations are hereby adopted.

These regulations are framed based on the recommendations of the CAK Arbiter Commission and shall apply to all candidates seeking advancement within the arbiter certification framework administered or recommended by CAK.

2. OBJECTIVES

The objectives of these regulations are:

1. To create a structured arbiter development pathway.
 2. To ensure practical exposure before advancement to higher arbiter levels.
 3. To maintain professional and ethical standards among arbiters.
 4. To assist District Associations in identifying and mentoring future arbiters.
 5. To ensure that candidates recommended for National and International certifications possess adequate practical experience.
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3. ARBITER CERTIFICATION STRUCTURE

The arbiter certification pathway under CAK shall be as follows:

Level 1: State Arbiter (SA)

Level 2: National Arbiter (NA)

Level 3: FIDE Arbiter (FA)

Level 4: International Arbiter (IA)

4. STATE ARBITER (SA)

4.1 Eligibility

A candidate applying for the State Arbiter Seminar and Examination shall:

1. Possess basic knowledge of:
 - FIDE Laws of Chess
 - Tournament procedures
 - Arbiter ethics and responsibilities
2. Be recommended by the concerned District Chess Association affiliated to CAK.
3. The District Chess Association shall certify that the candidate has actively assisted in a minimum of two (2) District Championship tournaments conducted under the jurisdiction of the District Association and has demonstrated interest in learning arbiter duties and tournament administration.

The recommendation of the District Chess Association shall include confirmation regarding:

- Participation in tournament organization activities.
 - Basic understanding of arbiter responsibilities.
 - Good conduct and integrity.
 - Suitability for undergoing State Arbiter training.
4. Successfully complete the State Arbiter Seminar and examination conducted or approved by CAK.

4.2 State Arbiter Examination

1. CAK shall conduct State Arbiter Seminars and Examinations every year, subject to demand.
2. The examination shall assess:
 - Laws of Chess
 - Tournament Regulations
 - Arbiter Duties
 - Pairing Procedures
 - Ethical Conduct

3. The passing criteria shall be determined by CAK from time to time.
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4.3 Award of State Arbiter Title

Candidates who successfully pass the State Arbiter Examination shall be awarded the title: "**CAK STATE ARBITER (SA)**"

5. PRACTICAL TRAINING REQUIREMENT

5.1 Mandatory Tournament Experience

After obtaining the State Arbiter title, every State Arbiter shall undergo practical training.

The candidate must:

1. Work in a minimum of **two (2) District Championships** conducted by District Associations affiliated to CAK.
 2. Serve in a **Supporting Arbiter Role** under the direct supervision of a **Chief Arbiter or Deputy Chief Arbiter** holding any one of the following recognized arbiter titles:
 - National Arbiter (NA)
 - FIDE Arbiter (FA)
 - International Arbiter (IA)
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6. NATIONAL ARBITER (NA) or Senior National Arbiter (SNA)

6.1 Eligibility for Recommendation

CAK shall recommend candidates for the National Arbiter Seminar and Examination only if the candidate:

1. Holds a valid State Arbiter title issued by CAK.
 2. Has completed practical training requirements under Clause 5.
 3. Has worked in at least two District Championships.
 4. Has no disciplinary proceedings pending before CAK or any affiliated District Association.
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6.2 Recommendation Procedure

1. Applications shall be scrutinized by the CAK Arbiter Commission.
 2. The Arbiter Commission shall verify eligibility and practical experience.
 3. Eligible candidates shall be recommended by CAK to AICF for participation in the National Arbiter Seminar and Examination.
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6.3 National Arbiter Title

The National Arbiter title shall be governed by the regulations and guidelines issued by the All India Chess Federation (AICF).

CAK shall only act as the recommending authority.

7. FIDE ARBITER (FA)

7.1 Governing Regulations

The conduct of FIDE Arbiter Seminars, Examinations, Norm Requirements, Title Applications, and Title Awards shall be governed exclusively by:

- FIDE Handbook
- FIDE Arbiters' Commission Regulations
- FIDE Council Decisions

as amended from time to time.

7.2 Eligibility for Recommendation

Candidates seeking recommendation from CAK to attend a FIDE Arbiter Seminar shall:

1. Hold a valid National Arbiter title.
 2. Fulfil all eligibility requirements prescribed by AICF and FIDE.
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7.3 FA Seminar and Examination

The candidate shall:

1. Attend a FIDE Arbiter Seminar approved by FIDE.
2. Successfully pass the FA Examination.

3. Fulfil all FIDE requirements applicable at the time.
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7.4 Award of FA Title

The title of FIDE Arbiter (FA) shall be awarded solely by FIDE upon fulfilment of all applicable requirements.

8. INTERNATIONAL ARBITER (IA)

8.1 Governing Regulations

International Arbiter Certification shall be governed exclusively by:

- FIDE Handbook
- FIDE Arbiters' Commission Regulations
- FIDE Council Decisions

as amended from time to time.

8.2 Eligibility for Recommendation

Candidates seeking recommendation for International Arbiter certification shall:

1. Hold a valid FIDE Arbiter (FA) title.
 2. Fulfil all eligibility requirements prescribed by FIDE.
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8.3 IA Certification Process

Candidates shall:

1. Successfully complete the IA Certification Seminar approved by FIDE.
 2. Obtain the required IA norms.
 3. Fulfil all experience and documentation requirements prescribed by FIDE.
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8.4 Award of IA Title

The title of International Arbiter (IA) shall be awarded solely by FIDE upon fulfilment of all applicable requirements.

9. CODE OF CONDUCT

Every arbiter shall:

1. Act impartially and independently.
 2. Maintain integrity and professionalism.
 3. Avoid conflicts of interest.
 4. Treat all players equally.
 5. Follow FIDE Laws of Chess.
 6. Follow AICF and CAK regulations.
 7. Maintain confidentiality where required.
 8. Refrain from conduct detrimental to chess.
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10. DISCIPLINARY ACTION

CAK may suspend or withdraw recommendations in case of:

1. Misconduct.
2. Ethical violations.
3. Submission of false information.
4. Breach of tournament regulations.
5. Conduct prejudicial to the interests of chess.

Disciplinary proceedings shall be conducted in accordance with the CAK Constitution and applicable regulations.

11. POWER OF INTERPRETATION

Any matter not specifically covered by these regulations shall be decided by:

1. CAK Arbiter Commission, subject to
2. Approval of the CAK Executive Committee.

The decision of the Executive Committee shall be final.