



FIDE ETHICS & DISCIPLINARY COMMISSION

The First Instance Chamber of the Ethics & Disciplinary Commission (here after called "the EDC Chamber"), sitting in the following composition -

Chairperson: Mr. Ravindra Dongre

Members: Ms. Yolander Sammy
Mr. Pedro Dominguez

During an exchange of correspondence and online meetings made the following

DECISION

Case no.8/2023: Alleged insults within the Arab Chess Federation social media chat group.

1. The EDC Chamber notes its establishment by the EDC Chairman on 20th July 2023.
2. The EDC Chamber notes the complaint from the Complainant Mr. Omer Deab President of Sudan Chess Federation, and further submission of correct power of attorney to represent him. The EDC chamber notes the letter sent to the Respondent Mr. Turki Al Sheikh of the Saudi Chess Federation on 08th August 2023 and reminder on 09th October 2023 with no response from him.
3. The EDC Chamber notes the alleged violation by the Respondent of Art 6.1 (read with art. 6.2, 6.3, 6.4 & 6.5(e) of the FIDE Ethics Code. This concerns the ethical values of Human dignity or Respect and the avoidance of psychological abuse.
4. The Complainant's complaint is that the Respondent Mr. Turki Al Sheikh has insulted him on the Whatsapp social media group of the Arab Chess Federation.
5. Upon due consideration, the EDC Chamber, by unanimity of its members, **finds** regarding the **admissibility** of the complaint:-
 - 5.1 The Complainant is the President and Delegate of Sudanese Chess Federation art. 4.2(d) and 5.2 (a) of Code) and personally affected by the alleged misconduct art. 5.2 (b) art. 4.2(d) and 5.2 (a) of the FIDE Ethics & Disciplinary Code.
 - 5.2 The Respondent is an executive board member of the Saudi Chess Federation and hence the EDC has Jurisdiction over the respondent (art 26.8 of the charter, art 4.2(d) of the Code)
 - 5.3 The alleged misconduct has been committed in the international sphere, namely on the social media chat group of the Arab Chess Federation, a group that includes all the Presidents of the Arab national federations.



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- 5.4 The allegations and proof disclose a prima facie case of misconduct.
- 5.5 The EDC Chamber accordingly has the jurisdiction to investigate an alleged violation of "Ethics and Disciplinary Code".
6. Upon due consideration, the EDC Chamber, by unanimity of its members, **finds regarding the issue of Respondent's guilt** as follows:-
- 6.1 The EDC Chamber notes the fact that the Respondent has not replied to the notice on 8th August 2023.
- 6.2 The EDC Chamber notes that as there is no responses from the respondent in spite of a further remainder on 09th October 2013 it shall now decide the matter with the material available with it. The lack of response is taken that the Respondent is unable to offer any justification for his conduct complained about.
- 6.3 The EDC Chamber notes that there were insulting comments on the social media group of the Arab Chess Federation by the respondent, against the Complainant. The Complainant and the Respondent were involved in a verbal altercation during which the Respondent said harsh words about the Complainant and belittled him. There is no reason to repast the exact words used in this decision.
- 6.4 The EDC Chamber by unanimity finds Mr. Turki Al Sheikh guilty of breaching Art.6.1 (a) read with, 6.2, 6.3, 6.4 and 6.5 (e) of the Ethics Code.
- 7 In determining the sanction, the EDC Chamber must take into consideration all relevant aspects of the case.
- 7.1 The EDC Chamber notes that the Respondent is a first time offender.
- 7.2 The EDC Chamber takes into account that the Respondent may have felt provoked by the Complainant's messages which the Respondent interpreted as seeking to blame the Saudi organisers of the tournament in issue and that the offensive words were uttered in the heat of a verbal altercation.
- 7.3 The respondent Mr. Turki Al Sheikh is sanctioned with a warning. A further breach will result in severe sanction.
8. The Respondent is advised that this decision may be appealed to the Appeal Chamber of the EDC by giving written notice of such appeal to the FIDE Secretariat with in 21 calendar days from the date upon which this decision is communicated to the Respondent. . The notice of appeal must clearly state all the grounds for the appeal and an appeal lodgment fee of 150 Euros is payable to the FIDE Financial Department. Failing the due exercise of this right of appeal, the EDC Chamber's decision will become final.



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9. The EDC Chamber requests the FIDE Secretariat to communicate forth with the decision to the Complainant, Mr. Omer Deab and the Respondent Mr. Turki Al Sheikh to publish in due course the decision on the FIDE website.

DATED ON THIS 16 NOVEMBER 2023

Ravindra Dongre

CHAMBER CHAIRMAN

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