



FIDE ETHICS & DISCIPLINARY COMMISSION

The First Instance Chamber of the EDC sitting in the following composition -

Chairperson: Mr. Ravindra Dongre

Members: Mr. Johan Sigeman
Mr. David Hater

DECISION

Case no.2/2024: Failure to pay the Prize money in Kenya Open Chess championship 2023.

1. The parties in this case are Mr. Pavel Ponkratov FIDE ID 4157800 (Complainant) and Kenyan Chess Federation (First Respondent) and President, Kenyan Chess Federation, Mr. Benard Wanjala FIDE ID 10801510 (Second Respondent).
2. The correspondence with parties took place between 8th February 2024 and 16th April 2024.
3. The EDC Chamber notes its establishment by the EDC Chairman on 8th February 2024.
4. The EDC Chamber notes the complaint from the Complainant dated 15 January 2024 where he complained about several players not receiving the Prize money in the above-mentioned event.
5. Accordingly, a notice was sent to the Kenyan Chess Federation and President Kenyan Chess Federation on 23rd February 2024.
6. The EDC first Chamber unanimously decided that the case is admissible, as the incident happened in an International Open Chess Championship.
7. On 4th March the President Kenyan Chess Federation submitted a reply, asking for three months time and citing past performance of several years in organizing the Kenyan Open National Championship.



8. Accordingly, an extension was granted by the EDC panel of two months and on April 12th the President Kenyan Chess Federation informed the EDC panel that the entire prize sum is paid in full. It acknowledged its responsibility to pay the Prize money as the Championship was organized and/or supported by the Kenyan Chess Federation.
9. The Complainant thereafter withdrew his complaint on 16th April 2024.
10. The EDC First Instance Chamber noted that the Prizes were fully paid and the withdrawal of the complaint. However, it notes that the prizes were paid a long time after the tournament was concluded and after the EDC acted on the Complaint.
11. The EDC First Instance Chamber finds that both Respondents have breached article 11.5 (b) and 11.6 (b) of the EDC Disciplinary Code and unanimously decides to sanction the President of Kenyan Chess Federation, Mr. Benard Wanjala, and the Kenyan Chess Federation with a **warning**.
12. The parties are referred to Chapter 7 of the new EDC Procedural Rules and advised that this decision may be appealed to the EDC Appeal Chamber by giving written notice of such appeal to the EDC Chairman (ethics@fide.com) within 21 days from the date upon which this decision is received. The notice of appeal must clearly state all the grounds for the appeal. An appeal lodgment fee of 150 EUROS must at the same time be paid to the FIDE Financial Department. Failing the due exercise of this right of appeal, the EDC Chamber's decision will become final.
13. The EDC Chamber requests the FIDE Secretariat to communicate forthwith the decision to the Complainant, the Respondents and to publish in due course the decision on the FIDE website.

DATED ON THIS 22 MAY 2024

Ravindra Dongre

CHAMBER CHAIRMAN

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