



## **FIDE ETHICS & DISCIPLINARY COMMISSION**

Date:-09/04/2026

**The First Instance Chamber of Fide Ethics & Disciplinary Commission (hereafter called “the EDC Chamber”) sitting in the following composition.**

**Chairperson:** Mr. Ravindra Dongre

**Members:** Mr. David Hater,  
Mr. Ali Nihat Yazici.

During an exchange of correspondence and online meetings made the following:

### **DECISION**

**Case no.2/2026 “Alleged Cheating at ‘Ljubljana Chess Festival 2025’” Introduction**

#### **Introduction**

1. The EDC Chamber notes its establishment by the EDC Chair on 7 January 2026.
2. The EDC Chamber notes that on 5<sup>th</sup> December 2025 the FIDE EDC received a report from the FIDE Fair Play Commission. The report was titled. “Report of the Investigatory Panel (IP) regarding cheating allegations against Lovric Tit of Slovenia (fide id 14666782)”.
- 2.1 The complainant is the FIDE Fair Play Commission.
- 2.2 The Respondent is Master Lovric Tit.
3. The Respondent is alleged to cheated and violated art 11.7(e) cheating of the Ethics and Disciplinary code at the Ljubljana Chess Festival held between 28<sup>th</sup> April and 4<sup>th</sup> May 2025.
4. The EDC chamber notes that on 20<sup>th</sup> January 2026 “The respondent was given an opportunity to respond to the allegations in the report with a deadline of 10<sup>th</sup> February 2026.” The notice was sent to the respondent’s mother Ms Andreja Koporic as the respondent is a minor.
5. The respondent failed /neglected to provide a response.
6. The EDC chamber notes the contents of the following documents: the FPL Report, Notice of Respondent.



### **Factual details of the case**

7. The EDC Chamber notes the subject matter of the complaint and defense.

7.1 The Ljubljana Chess Festival was held from **28<sup>th</sup> April to 4<sup>th</sup> May 2025**.

7.2 On 20 May 2022 a report was submitted by the Chief Arbiter IA & FAM Ana Srebrnic to the FIDE Fair Play Panel Commission.

7.3 In the same letter/report it was stated that the arbiters discovered Mr. Louric Tit in possession of a hidden mobile phone concealed inside his shoe during a post-game check following the 5th round of the Ljubljana Chess Festival 2025. It constitutes a direct violation of Article 11.3.2 of the FIDE Laws of Chess and amounts to cheating under Article 1.2(a) of the FIDE Fair Play Regulations.

7.4 In the same letter the Chief Arbiter asked the FIDE FPL to step in, initiate an investigation and implement the necessary measures.

### **FPL Investigation and Defenses provided by Respondent**

7.5 Upon receiving the complaint, FPL launched an investigation into the matter. An Investigatory Panel (IP) was composed.

7.6 The FPL sent multiple mails to the Respondent.

7.7 On behalf of the Investigatory Panel, the Chair Mr. Gopakumar attempted to contact the player's mother through multiple emails, both to her personal address and to the player's email address as provided by the Chief Arbiter.

7.8 There was no response from the player or his mother to the FPL (IP) Panel.

7.9 The Investigatory Panel sought the expertise of Professor Kenneth Regan for an independent statistical Analysis of the games played by Master Louric Tit.

7.10 The EDC Chamber notes that Prof. Regan is a mathematician and scientist and serves as an expert to the FIDE FPL Commission, utilizing statistical methods to assess whether the moves played in games align with the general playing characteristics and strength of the players.



### **Complaint background**

8. The EDC Chamber notes the proceeding and recommendations of the FPL IP:
- 8.1 The EDC Chamber notes that the FPL IP did not refer to or use Prof. Regan's report as an argument in the conclusions section of their reports.
- 8.2 The EDC Chamber notes that the respondent has not contested his case before the FPL (IP) panel.

### **Admissibility And Jurisdiction**

- 8.3 In order to satisfy the admissibility criteria, the complaint must meet the minimum requirements laid down in article 5 in the EDC Code.
- 8.4 The FPL is a FIDE organ, representing the general interest of FIDE and therefore has the necessary standing to submit a report to EDC, (see article 5.2 d).
- 8.5 The Respondent must be a member of the FIDE Family (see article 5.1 b). The Respondent is an active player registered in the FIDE database and therefore a member of the FIDE Family (see article 4.2 k).
- 8.6 The alleged misconduct must have been committed during a course of no more than three years immediately preceding the date on which the complaint is received by FIDE (see article 5.1 e). This condition is fulfilled.
- 8.7 The FPL report contains allegations concerning actions committed in the international sphere: the allegations involve cheating in a significant FIDE competition with players from multiple federations. The EDC Chamber confirms that FIDE member federations have principal authority in respect of the governance of chess activities in their own countries. The EDC shall exercise jurisdiction over occurrences within the national sphere only in exceptional circumstances, namely in instances where the case has international implications and is not judged at national level, (FIDE Charter 26.9 and 4.7 (b) in the EDC Code).
- 8.8 The alleged misconduct has international implications as it revolves around dishonesty allegations connected to an international chess competition.
- 8.9 For all the reasons mentioned in 8.2 – 8.6 above, the jurisdiction of the EDC Chamber in the present matter and admissibility of the complaint against the Respondents are confirmed.



## Findings

- 9.1 The EDC Chamber finds that Master Louric Tit did in fact hide the phone in his shoe during the Ljubljana Chess Festival. The EDC Chamber further finds that Mr. Louric Tit attempted to cheat as his game position was open on Chess.com. As per the FPL report, this cheating attempt constitutes a violation of Art. 11.7 of the Code.
- 9.2 When considering appropriate sanction, the EDC Panel considers Sevechenko's present, while noting mitigating factors including that this is the Respondent's first offense with a clean record, that he was a minor at the time of the incident, and that he is inexperienced, holds no official title, and has a low ELO rating.
- 9.3 The Chamber notes the fact that Mr. Louric Tit has not responded, and that he was caught red-handed with the phone in his shoe, which is an aggravating factor. Further analysis of Professor Regan's report is not relevant in this case to be considered.
- a) The Respondent's failure to co-operate during the investigation and adjudication process has been taken into account as an aggravating factor.
  - b) The panel assessed the Respondent's failure to co-operate, as a lack of remorse, and this adverse circumstance has also been considered as an aggravating factor.
- 9.4 The EDC Panel agrees with the FPL IP and the relevance of the following cases:
- (a) In Case No. 7/2015 (GM Gaioz Nigalidze), GM title revoked and a 3-year sanction was also imposed for the use of a hidden mobile phone in a toilet cubicle during play.
  - (b) In Case No. 8/2019 (Igor Rausis), GM title revoked and the sanction of 6 years was imposed due to aggravated circumstances, including repeated violations and high-profile status.
  - (c) In Case No. 6/2024 (GM Kirill Shevchenko), GM title revoked and a 3-year sanction was also imposed for the use of mobile phone during play.
- 9.5 The Respondent is therefore found **guilty** of breach of Article 11.7(e) of the Disciplinary Code.



9.6 The Respondent is **sanctioned** with a **worldwide ban of 2 years**, effective immediately from the date of this decision.

9.7 The respondent is referred to Rules 42.3 and 43 of the EDC Procedural Rules and 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 within 21 calendar days from the date upon which this decision is received. The notice of appeal must clearly state all the grounds for the appeal and an appeal lodgment fee of 500 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.

9.8. The EDC Chamber requests the FIDE Secretariat to communicate forthwith the decision to the Respondents, and the FPL and to publish the decision on the FIDE webpage.

DATED ON THIS 09<sup>th</sup> of April 2026

Ravindra Dongre  
First Instance Chamber Chairperson  
FIDE Ethics & Disciplinary Commission