

Proposal on Electronic Publication of the FIDE Album

Draft Resolution

The WFCC resolves that:

1. The WFCC shall make each future FIDE Album available in an official electronic edition in addition to the traditional printed edition.
2. The electronic edition shall have the same official status as the printed edition.
3. The WFCC shall determine the format and method of publication of the electronic edition.
4. This policy shall take effect beginning with the next FIDE Album published after the adoption of this resolution, where practicable.

Explanatory Memorandum

The FIDE Album is the most important official publication in chess composition. Published in successive three-year cycles, it contains the compositions selected through the established FIDE Album judging process and serves as the official record for the award of FIDE Album points. Most compositions are considered through the normal FIDE Album selection process, while compositions awarded 8 or more points in the World Championship in Composing for Individuals (WCCI) automatically qualify for inclusion in the corresponding FIDE Album under the current regulations.

This proposal does not seek to replace the printed FIDE Album or alter the existing judging procedures, Album selection process or title regulations. It simply proposes that each future FIDE Album also be made available in an official electronic edition.

1. Official Record

Inclusion in the FIDE Album determines the award of FIDE Album points and forms the basis for the award of FIDE composing titles. As the official record of these achievements, the FIDE Album should be readily accessible to composers, judges and researchers.

Although independent databases maintained by volunteers identify many FIDE Album compositions, they cannot provide a complete or official record. Publication of an official electronic edition by the WFCC would establish a single official reference while complementing these valuable community resources.

The WFCC already publishes WCCI submissions and results electronically through its official website. Publishing the FIDE Album electronically would therefore represent a natural extension of existing publication practices.

2.Accessibility

The chess composition community is international, and access to printed FIDE Albums is often limited by availability, shipping costs or geographical location.

An official electronic edition would make the official record readily accessible worldwide immediately after publication while preserving the traditional printed edition for those who prefer it.

3.Preservation and Research

Printed FIDE Albums remain valuable historical publications, but printed editions inevitably become scarce over time.

An official electronic edition would ensure the long-term preservation of the official record while making the contents of the Album easier to search, reference and study. It would support historical research, statistical analysis, verification of FIDE Album points, preparation of judging materials and educational use.

Future Development

This proposal concerns the publication of future FIDE Albums only. The possible electronic publication of previously issued FIDE Albums is outside the scope of this proposal and may be considered separately by the WFCC in the future, where practicable, with the long-term objective of improving access to the federation's historical publications.

Polish composers and solvers