



FIDE ETHICS COMMISSION

The Ethics Commission (hereafter called the ETH), sitting in the following composition -

Chairman: Mr Francois Strydom
Members: Mr Willy Iclicki
Mr Ion Serban Dobronauteanu
Mr Rajesh Hari Joshi
Secretary: Ms Elli Sperdokli (non-voting)

during the hearing held in Madrid on 9 April 2017, made the following -

DECISION

Case no. 2/2016: - “Allegations of cheating against Mr Arcangelo Ricciardi (ITA) at the 2015 Imperia Open”

1. The ETH **notes** the absence of its member, Mr Pedro Dominguez Brito, but **confirms** that the four members present constitute a quorum.
2. The ETH **finds** that the case is receivable against Mr Arcangelo Ricciardi, for an alleged violation of par. 2.2.5 of the FIDE Code of Ethics.
3. The ETH **notes** the contents of the two reports received from the Investigatory Chamber nominated by the chairman of the Anti-Cheating Committee (as it then was) for this case and the IC’s recommendation of a three year suspension.

4. The ETH **notes** the contents of the defensive statement of Mr Ricciardi, filed by his legal representatives with the ETH concerning the matter.
5. The ETH **notes** the fact that Mr Ricciardi was found guilty and a two year suspension was imposed by the Italian Chess Federation in the judgment of its Federal Court dated 18 April 2016.
6. The ETH **notes** that Mr Ricciardi was invited to attend the hearing and/or to make written submissions in mitigation of any sanction to be imposed. Mr Ricciardi claimed to be unable to attend the hearing due to financial difficulties, but has made, through his lawyer, a few submissions about his personal circumstances.
7. The ETH **notes** the written reports of Prof. Ken Regan and Dr. Mark Watkins in regard to the statistical evidence of computer assistance in this case and their oral testimony at the hearing.
8. The ETH **finds** that Mr Arcangelo Ricciardi has made himself guilty of cheating during rounds 1 - 6 in the tournament 57th Festival Internazionale Di Imperi, held in Imperia, Italy during the period 30.08.2015 - 06.09.2015 by benefiting from illegal computer assistance.
9. The ETH unanimously **rules** that:
 - 9.1 Mr Arcangelo Ricciardi violated par. 2.2.5 of the FIDE Code of Ethics.
 - 9.2 Mr Arcangelo Ricciardi is sanctioned with a worldwide ban of 2 years to take effect, in correspondence with the suspension imposed by the Italian Chess Federation, from 18 April 2016 and to end on 17 April 2018. During this period Mr Ricciardi is prohibited from participating as a player in any rated chess competition or any chess-related activity as an arbiter, organiser or representative of any chess body.
10. The ETH **undertakes** to furnish its written motivation with full reasons for the above-mentioned decisions within one (1) month hereof.
11. The ETH **requests** the FIDE Secretariat to communicate the decision to Mr Arcangelo Ricciardi, the Italian Chess Federation, the Investigatory

Chamber per IA Laurent Freyd and the Anti-Cheating Commission and to publish the decision on the FIDE website.

DATED ON THIS THE 18th DAY OF APRIL 2017

F P Strydom

CHAIRMAN

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