



NEW ZEALAND  
**CHESS**  
F E D E R A T I O N

**PROPOSAL FOR CHANGE TO \$20  
INDIVIDUAL PLAYER REGISTRATION  
SYSTEM**

**AGM 2019**

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## 1. INTRODUCTION

NZCF Council is inviting member chess clubs to consider the proposal contained in this document and to send feedback to NZCF Council. Feedback should be explicit about what is attractive about the proposition and what is less attractive.

Upon receipt of feedback NZCF Council will consider whether refinements to this proposal are required. Any refinements will be made and a final version of the proposal sent to clubs for their consideration. Clubs are invited to support the final proposal at the 2019 AGM of NZCF.

## 2. THE CURRENT POSITION

NZCF maintains a list each year of all players who are registered with NZCF. This list is available for viewing to anyone by accessing the NZCF Website.

Currently, to play in an NZCF Tournament a New Zealand resident player must be registered with NZCF in the current year.

To register with NZCF a player may;

- Pay the Player Registration Fee of \$20.00 to their home club. That club then sends the \$20.00 to NZCF who will register that player for the calendar year. Some clubs undertake to do this as a service to their members.
- A player may pay the \$20.00 Player Registration Fee directly to NZCF who will register that player for the calendar year. This is generally the case where a Club does not undertake to remit the \$20.00 registration fee to NZCF on behalf of its members.
- A player may enter an NZCF rated Tournament, the Tournament Organizer will check whether that player is a Registered Player by accessing the **REGISTERED PLAYER LIST** on the **NZCF Website**. If the player is not registered the Tournament Organiser will charge that player an additional \$20.00 and send that \$20.00 to NZCF who will register that player for the balance of the calendar year.

Although the period is specified as being the calendar year, the exception to this rule is all Registered Players for the previous year are eligible to play in the NZCF Congress which is generally held in January of the following calendar year.

### **3. PROBLEMS WITH THE CURRENT SYSTEM**

The present system is fiddly, costly and time-consuming for NZCF to administer. Every single \$20 payment requires NZCF to post the player details on the live registration list online. Inevitably there can be a delay between Clubs and organisers sending in registrations and them going online (especially as some clubs still use cheques). Sometimes there are queries to be resolved due to similarly named players or missing information.

It can be particularly frustrating for tournament organisers, when there is limited time to sort out issues. For example:

Tournament organisers have to check every single player against the online list of registered players.

There are sometimes players missing from the list who should be there. This leads to queries and frustrations, where a player has legitimately paid, but this is not known to the tournament organiser.

There are sometimes players who believe they have paid, but are not shown for one reason or another (they may be mistaken or the payment may not have been sent to NZCF).

At tournaments sometimes a player ends up having to pay a Registration fee again, to claim back later.

**As an aside:** *the present system also means many Club players are not being counted in official statistics, as a club might just register a handful of players with NZCF. This is not helpful when it comes to applying for funding or greater recognition for chess.*

## **4. THE NEW CLUB VOTING & PAYMENT SYSTEM**

Under this new proposal, Clubs will continue to receive, as at present, weighted votes depending on membership numbers. But instead of reporting individual registrations they will instead make **a single payment once a year** to cover their entire Club membership. The entitlement for any player to play in NZCF and FIDE rated tournaments in New Zealand shifts from a \$20 Registration Fee payable to NZCF to being simply membership of a Club Affiliated or Associated to NZCF.

### **AFFILIATED CLUBS (Currently 13 Clubs)**

Each Affiliated club declares paid club membership numbers at year end, and the level of Club affiliation fee payable to NZCF for the following year is calculated according to that declaration. **The number of votes for the Club for the next year is also based on that declaration** but with an **UPPER LIMIT** of four votes per club.

<b>AFFILIATED CLUBS (13 Clubs)</b>		
<b>NUMBER OF MEMBERS</b>	<b>AFFILIATION FEE TO NZCF</b>	<b>NUMBER OF VOTES</b>
1 -20	\$200 per year	1
21-40	\$400 per year	2
41-60	\$600 per year	3
61+	\$800 per year	4

### **ASSOCIATED CLUBS (Currently 15 Clubs)**

Each Associated club declares paid club membership numbers at year end, and the level of Club affiliation fee payable to NZCF for the following year is calculated according to that declaration. Associate Clubs **do not** have voting rights.

<b>ASSOCIATED CLUBS (15 Clubs)</b>	
<b>NUMBER OF MEMBERS</b>	<b>ASSOCIATION FEE TO NZCF</b>
1 -20	\$100 per year
21-40	\$200 per year
41-60	\$300 per year
61+	\$400 per year

This new system;

- will eliminate the need for NZCF to collect individual registrations throughout the year;
- will eliminate the need to maintain a constantly updated register online;
- will mean Tournament organisers will no longer be required to check lists and collect registration fees
- will mean club membership will be the only prerequisite for playing in NZCF and FIDE rated tournaments in NZ.

### 5. IMPLICATIONS FOR NZCF

Currently NZCF takes in revenue of around \$9000 - \$9500 p.a. from processing around 450-475 individual player registrations. Many Clubs opt out of registering all of their members.

In comparison the new system is estimated to raise around \$7,000 p.a. and to result in many more players being recognised as eligible to play in NZCF and FIDE rated tournaments (at a lesser cost.) Factoring in savings in NZCF staff time, the financial effect is likely to be close to neutral for NZCF.

Another positive side effect is that the bigger club membership numbers will be more impressive to take to sponsors.

### 6. IMPLICATIONS FOR CLUBS

All clubs will benefit from the streamlined paperwork, and from knowing ALL their members are automatically entitled to NZCF benefits, such as playing in NZCF and FIDE rated events.

Inevitably there will be winners and losers financially. However, in principal, this proposal strongly supports Clubs, as it provides an incentive for players to join which does not exist currently.

### 7. IMPLICATIONS FOR TOURNAMENT ORGANISERS

This new system will greatly simplify the job for tournament organisers, who will no longer be required to check the NZCF Registration List for every player and to collect fees from unregistered players.

### 8. IMPLICATIONS FOR PLAYERS

The new system requires a player to be a member of a club (Affiliated or Associate), in order to participate in rated events throughout New Zealand. If for any reason (such as a NZ Citizen living abroad) a player finds it not practical to join a club, NZCF may establish an Associate Member Club which anyone can join, as a fall-back.

Under the new system, **it will be the responsibility of players** to ensure they validly belong to a Club. If a player incorrectly claims to be a Club member, this will be a matter between NZCF and the player.

A player may belong to more than one Club.

**9. FEEDBACK PROCESS**

We invite Clubs to make feedback to NZCF Council by 30<sup>th</sup> September 2018 or before.

**Please email NZCF Secretary Winsome Stretch**  
**[secretary@newzealandchess.co.nz](mailto:secretary@newzealandchess.co.nz)**

**and copy to NZCF President Murray Chandler**  
**[murray.chandler@extra.co.nz](mailto:murray.chandler@extra.co.nz)**