



# Chess Western Province



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To: All Members of Chess Western Province

## **CWP POSITION STATEMENT ON CHESS SA AND WSICC 2020**

The Chess Western Province Executive Committee ("CWP") received a number of enquiries from parents of chess players that received selection letters in respect of the World School's Individual Chess Championships 2020 on 28 May 2020 - 07 June 2020 in Panama City (Panama) ("WSICC 2020") and the subsequent correspondence send out by Chess South Africa under subject header: Fake Selections for 2020 World Schools Tournament and the response of the Interim Executive Board of CHESS SA ("IEB") of 11 March 2020.

Currently there exist two different Chess South Africa Executive Boards, each of which are claiming to be the legitimate board of Chess South Africa. The leadership dispute within Chess South Africa is currently the subject of a pending court case.

CWP (regional body) is affiliated to Western Cape Chess Association ("WCCA") (provincial body) which in turn is affiliated to Chess South Africa (national body). As such, the CWP receive direction from WCCA and align itself to the official position adopted by WCCA.

The WCCA Provincial Council meeting, where Chess South Africa President, Mr Hendrik du Toit, was in attendance, was held on 07 March 2020. At this provincial council meeting issues relating to the above matters was discussed.

The provincial council was advised that:

1. CHESS SA will not be sending a team to the WSICC 2020 as this event is not one of the international events recognised in terms of the CHESS SA Selection Policy and therefore no selection criteria exist for this event.
2. Players that accept the invitation issued to participate in the WSICC 2020 do so at own risk.
3. Neither of the two CHESSA's is in good standing with SASCOC (or FIDE) and as a result, players that participate in international chess events will not be eligible to be awarded full South African Colours, instead players might be awarded Chess South Africa Colours or South African Schools Chess Colours. The question of whether the participants in the WSICC 2020 will receive any representative colours is not finalised yet.

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The WCCA Provincial Council resolved that:

1. It recognises the Chess South Africa Executive Board led by Mr Hendrik du Toit as the legitimate Executive Board of Chess South Africa ("CHESS SA") until the Court process is finalised.
2. The WCCA will abide by the decision/ruling of the Court in the current litigation between Gauteng Chess and the IEB.
3. In the light of the current situation of two competing Chess SA Executive Boards we advise parents and players that participation in the WSICC 2020 is done at own risk. The Provincial Council further advises that the participants will not be guaranteed national or Chess SA or Chess SA Schools Chess colours.

**Considering the aforementioned information, the CWP position is that, as an affiliate of WCCA, it aligns to the resolutions adopted by WCCA.**

Yours truly,



BURTON VAN STAADEN  
*President: Chess Western Province*

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