



WESTERN CAPE CHESS ASSOCIATION

President: André Lewaks / Mobile: +27 81 725 9339
Email: president@wc-chess-assoc.co.za

For attention: Regional Presidents
Regional Secretaries
Western Cape Clubs

Dear Sir/Madam

Re: WCCA Position on online ChessSA rated tournaments and regulations

For that past few weeks Western Cape Chess Association has been in discussions with regions and ChessSA about the implementation of ChessSA's implementation of "ChessSA rated" online tournaments.

In consultation with members of the Provincial Council we are adopting the following position:

- Western Cape support the rating of online chess events, however we are opposed to online chess ratings being incorporated into the over the board chess rating system.
- We believe that the implementation of this will compromise the quality of chess in South Africa because the current system of online rated chess can be easily subjected to cheating and and currently there are not adequate control measures being put in place to prevent and detect cheating in online chess tournaments.

We believe that most of the poor and disadvantaged communities will be negatively affected not only due to affordability, but also the cell phone network coverage, especially in rural areas in the Western Cape as well as other Provinces across South Africa.

We urge ChessSA to adopt a more inclusive strategy and have requested the Exbo of ChessSA to consider a system whereby a players online rating will be separated from their player's chess rating. As a Province we will not participate in a system that will negatively affect our players and we therefore reject the current system implemented by ChessSA. We are of the opinion that the blanked implementation of this strategy without testing it is reckless and therefore we will distance ourselves from it. Given the above explanation we request

all regions and clubs to adhere to the position of WCCA. We therefore request Regional Secretaries to please inform all clubs and players. We use the next few dates to plan which actions we will be taking to address this matter with ChessSA.

We thank you in advance for your support and understanding.

Kind regards

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'André Lewaks', with a stylized flourish at the end.

André Lewaks

President

31 July 2020