

**An Open Letter
to the Ilyumzhinov Presidential Ticket,
the Tromsø Organizing Committee, and the FIDE Delegates**

Since the beginning of my campaign for the FIDE presidency I have strived for greater transparency and fairness in every aspect of the election process. The incumbents have many natural advantages and also many opportunities to abuse official FIDE powers for advantage.

Today I proposed to the Ilyumzhinov ticket a short set of detailed procedures that would guarantee a fair and confidential election for FIDE President on Monday. These proposals are in full compliance with the FIDE rules. They also embody their spirit: to ensure an impartial election where the administrative resources of the incumbents may not be used to entrench them forever, and the best ticket with the best ideas wins.

Our proposals are in no way controversial and they would apply equally to both sides (they are attached so you can judge for yourself). In fact, they are widespread best practices in democratic societies and should present no discomfort to any party seeking a truly fair contest. We tried in good faith for several days to get the Ilyumzhinov ticket to speak with us about a compromise on election procedures. This afternoon, when we put detailed proposals before them, they refused even to look at them, without offering an explanation.

This has been an unfair fight from the very start. The incumbents have shamelessly used every trick they can, including simply erasing federations – like ADEG in Gabon – that want a better future for chess. And now we come to the end of a long campaign, and the incumbents still to the last minute refuse to act fairly. Ask yourself why.

Colleagues, it is the three scrutineers elected by the General Assembly who will have to decide upon the procedures for the elections and make sure that they are confidential and fair. I have proposed the same Chairman of the scrutineers – Carol Jarecki – as in Khanty-Mansiysk four years ago when Kirsan won a solid victory. Under Mrs. Jarecki's guidance, everyone knows that we will have a fair and confidential vote. And that is what the incumbents fear most.

I call on the Ilyumzhinov ticket: for the sake of chess (and not just your own personal interests) come to the table and negotiate election procedures that will let a fair, democratic and confidential vote determine who leads our family.

I call on the Tromsø Organizing Committee: it is your duty as our host and as a democratic nation to ensure that this election is carried out fairly and impartially. Do not let a farce take place on your territory.

I call on you all, the FIDE Delegates: tell the incumbents that you want them to ensure a free and confidential election by negotiating fair conditions, and if they won't, elect Mrs. Jarecki and two other impartial scrutineers on Monday. Even if you support the incumbents in this election, you should support these proposals as they will enhance FIDE's standing around the world. And as you know, these elections are being widely reported. The world is watching.

Yours in chess,



Garry Kasparov
Tromsø, Norway
9 August 2014

**2014 FIDE Presidential Elections
Procedures Proposed by the Kasparov Ticket**

1. President's report

- 1.1 Electoral Regulation ("ER") 4.1 provides that "[i]n election years the speech of the President shall be ... based on a written report previously circulated covering past activities." The President's report should be circulated at the latest 24 hours before the start of the General Assembly ("GA") meeting so that all delegates have the chance to read it before the start of the meeting.

2. Presence in the General Assembly

- 2.1 Each ticket should be allowed the presence of five volunteers to help with logistics.

3. Seating arrangements

- 3.1 All six members of each ticket should be seated on stage, facing the assembly (whether as part of the Presidential Board seating or separately).
- 3.2 The GA seating should be arranged alphabetically by Continent (Africa, Americas, Asia, Europe) and alphabetically within the Continent.

4. Chairman explanation of general GA voting procedures

- 4.1 The chairman of the meeting must implement Article 4.7 of the Statutes, which provides that "[t]he voting procedures of the General Assembly will be explained at the outset of the meeting."

5. Scrutineers

- 5.1 Pursuant to ER 3.1, "three scrutineers, a chairman and two members, shall be appointed for the elections by the General Assembly immediately after the roll call on the first day of the General Assembly."
- 5.2 The Kasparov ticket suggests to propose to the General Assembly that the person who served as chairman of the scrutineers at the 2010 elections in Khanty-Mansiysk – Ms. Carol Jarecki, the delegate for the British Virgin Islands federation – be elected as chairman of the scrutineers ("Chairman") for the 2014 elections.

6. Explanation of voting procedures by the Chairman

- 6.1 Pursuant to ER 3.5, the Chairman should explain the voting procedures in precise detail with simultaneous interpretation into all languages in which the GA meeting is being interpreted.
- 6.2 A graphic representation of the allowed voting marks will be projected onto a screen in the hall above the stage during the entire vote.

7. Candidate Presentations

- 7.1 In addition to the 15 minutes provided for speeches by the presidential candidates (ER 1.6), the Kasparov ticket proposes that each ticket have a total of 15 minutes for the other five ticket members to speak (as determined by each ticket) so that the delegates can hear from the other ticket members.

8. Ballots

- 8.1 To ensure equal treatment of the candidates and the secrecy of the vote, the Ilyumzhinov ticket should be listed first on 88 ballots and the Kasparov ticket should be listed first on the other 88 ballots.
- 8.2 The position of the candidates' names on all other ballots should be determined by drawing lots as administered by the Chairman.

9. Voting conditions

- 9.1 The Chairman will inspect the ballot box before the delegates in the GA meeting room and show that it is empty before closing and locking it.
- 9.2 The ballot box will remain locked until the scrutineers take it away at the end of the voting process and the chairman of the scrutineers has the only key.
- 9.3 All cameras in the room will be covered during the elections.
- 9.4 Each ballot will be printed in the GA room visible to all, initialed by the Chairman pursuant to ER 3.3, and handed over to the delegate, who will then proceed with it to the voting area.
- 9.5 Delegates must leave their bags and anything in their pockets at a table before proceeding to the voting table. They will then be screened by a walk-through or wand metal detector and any items that have yet not been deposited on the table will be placed there. Delegates may retrieve their items only after they have cast their vote and inserted it into the ballot box.
- 9.6 Voting will take place on a lectern that will be situated immediately behind the fixed lectern that is at the front of the General Assembly meeting room and will face the near side wall of the hall, without any screens. Delegates sitting close to the lectern must move away to ensure the privacy of the vote.
- 9.7 A ballot is valid if an 'X' or "V" or "+" touching the corners of the box provided for voting is made, like this: . Any other symbol used, or an "X" or "V" or "+" made partially or wholly outside the box or made only in part of the box, shall invalidate a ballot.
- 9.8 No writing instruments may be brought to the voting table. A few identical pens with identically colored ink other than blue or black will be provided for voting on the voting table. Votes made using any other pen will be invalid.
- 9.9 The ballots must be folded once in half (from top to bottom, with the text inside); any other folding will invalidate a ballot.

10. Counting of Ballots

- 10.1 Only the Chairman of the scrutineers may bring paper and a writing instrument into the ballot-counting room. No one else may take notes during the counting of the ballots.

11. Election of Elected Vice Presidents

- 11.1 The provisions in items 6 and 8-10 will also apply to the elections for the elected Vice Presidents.