

ECU Arbiters' Council Call of Interest



The application form and the regulations can be found on the ECU Arbiters Council website

As ECU Arbiters' Council, we often get the question "How can I be appointed in European events?" in various forms. There are the arbiters who have been around a while and know who to contact, organisers know them and invite them in their events, because of their skills and experience. There are also the arbiters who are fairly new in the field, maybe just achieved their FA title or come from a federation that does not host European or World events and they want to expand their horizons abroad. There is another category of experienced arbiters who may have been away from events for a few years due to all sorts of reasons and are ready to get back in, but do not know who to contact.

No matter which category you belong to, no matter how long you have been an arbiter for or how many events you have participated in, you can apply for the ECU Arbiters' Council Call of Interest.

As ECU Arbiters' Council, we appoint 20% of the match arbiters in all European events (please note that the principals, such as the CA and DCAs are appointed by the ECU President). The tool that we use to select the arbiters who will be invited to fill these positions is the Call of Interest. The arbiters fill in an application form, which can be found on our website (see below), and state their skills (title, languages spoken, tools that they know how to use, such as pairing programmes, anti-cheating tools, live-board software), experience (World/ Continental/private events where they have officiated, seminars that they have recently attended), as well as which European events interest them, according to the published calendar.

There are two requirements to apply: you need to be an FA or an IA and you need to be under the flag of a federation that is affiliated to the European Chess Union.

As soon as the deadline expires, we publish the list of applicants (after removing non-legit applications), in case the federations want to send any remarks. These remarks are taken into consideration, but are not binding for the ECU Arbiters' Council.

Especially for this year, the deadline to apply is extended as following:

- >January 20th deadline for submitting applications
- >January 25th deadline for Federations to send any remarks on the published list .

Subsequently, we grade all applications based on a point system that is published on our website (see below). Since 2023, we create three lists of arbiters, one "open" that includes everyone, one for women and one for "rookies", meaning arbiters who have never been appointed to a World or Continental event. In events where we can only appoint one arbiter, we choose the highest graded from the "open" list. If we can appoint two, we choose the highest ones from the "open" and the women's list and, if we can appoint three, we add the highest arbiter from the "rookies" list. In case we can appoint four arbiters, we select the next top graded from the "open" list and so on. Every arbiter can only be appointed once per year (this does not include personal arrangements with organisers) and, in case someone declines the invitation, they get one more chance to be invited during the year.