

# Fair play and good manners in Chess: a never ending story.

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The first comments on the previous ECU Arbiters Council Article published in ECU monthly magazine, came from NA André Harding (USA).



The second comments came from IA-A Almog Burstein (ISR) and he also explained his thought about the cases presented in the previous article.



After publishing an article about fair play and good manners in chess in the ECU Magazine last month, the ECU Arbiters' Council received two comments from colleagues.

The first comments came from NA André Harding (USA). Regarding the first case, in his opinion, the white player didn't do anything unfair when he benefitted from gaining an unexpected queen. He compares it with a player who has moved but forgotten to press his clock. The opponent can keep silent.

In the second case, according to André, the black player is deliberately not playing fairly. The white player was careless, but the black player was deceptive. He (André) would have ruled a win for the white player. If the black player really wanted to offer a draw, he should have properly done so after replying to the move of the white player.

The second comments came from IA-A Almog Burstein (ISR).

In his opinion, it is obvious that the white player, in the first case, will not receive the "Green Card of Fairness", but a player is allowed to legally exploit the opponent's mistakes. In the second case, according to Almog, it seems that something is missing in the description of the facts. Did the arbiter ask the white player: "Did you offer a draw?". If white's answer was "yes", it is clear that the result of the game is a draw. But if he replied in the negative, and the arbiter has no proof or reason to think he was lying, he should have ruled a win for the white player.

Almog ends his comments with a proposal: in case of a draw both players have to inform the arbiter about it.

### Author of the article clarifies the 2nd case:

**IA Tomek Delega**, the author of the article, clarifies that the arbiter indeed asked the white player if he offered a draw. The white player denied it.

If someone feels the need to respond, please don't hesitate to send your comments to ECU Arbiters' Council ([ecuarbiterscouncil@gmail.com](mailto:ecuarbiterscouncil@gmail.com)).