

## **4NCL Rules 2022-23: Summary of Important Changes**

**Rule 1.2:** Teams in Divisions 1 and 2 are now required to field a female player; the alternative of fielding a junior player is withdrawn. For Division 1 this is a return to the pre-Covid position.

**Rule 3:** As divisions are no longer geographically based the provision that a player may be designated restricted to a specific geographic team is withdrawn.

**Rules 6.5 and 6.6:** These rules revert to pre-Covid 2019-2020 rules.

**Rule 7:** We have reverted to only the bottom division being a Swiss tournament; all other divisions will be all-play-all. This is again a return to the pre-Covid position.

**Rule 8.1:** This rule has been significantly relaxed. If a player has multiple ratings a captain may now select which he wishes to use for each weekend; the decision is no longer irrevocable once the player has played.

**Rule 8.2:** This rule relating to unrated players is new, but formalises existing practice.

**Rule 8.7:** For practical reasons this rule now imposes a slightly earlier time limit for the acceptance of complaints about an opposing team's board order.

**Rule 12.2:** The start time for the Sunday round of a three-day weekend reverts to the traditional time of 1pm.

**Rule 12.6:** The time limit for games is unchanged, but has been expressed in the form preferred by the Chief Arbiter.

**Rule 12.8:** The right of a player to ask his captain whether he should make or accept a draw offer is withdrawn. The player is entitled only to enquire about the score in a match or game. This is in line with the latest regulations for FIDE events.

**Rules 12.10 and 12.11:** These rules have not been amended, but have been moved to section 15 of the rules as being not related specifically to the conduct of play.

**Rule 13:** The rules relating to promotion and relegation have been revised to cover the new structure of the League.