

How to achieve an ICCF Title

1. Title Norms

As most people will be aware, ICCF awards Titles in recognition of players' achievements! Briefly, qualification for these Titles is dependent upon achieving Norms (linked to Ratings) in ICCF International Title events. Listed below are the various ICCF Titles with the minimum Rating performances required to achieve a Norm in each:

- Grandmaster - 2600
- Senior International Master - 2525
- International Master - 2450
- Ladies Grandmaster - 2300
- International Ladies Master - 2150

Note: Title Norms valid only in ICCF International Title events with at least 8 games.

2. How Norms are calculated

Title Norms are dependant upon Average rating of event e.g. Average Rating of 2401 is Category 7 whereas Average Rating of 2360 is only Category 5. With 15 players at Category 7, 8.0 points are required for a Norm for the International Master Title whereas, at Category 5, 9.0 points are required. Full details of norms for all Titles at all Categories of Tournament are listed in the "Title Norm Requirements" shown elsewhere on this site.

3. International Titles

The following requirements are taken from the ICCF Tournament Rules. The Full Tournament Rules can be found here:-

<http://www.iccf-webchess.com/userfiles/files/ICCF Tournament Rules 01-01-2012.pdf>

10.4 The title "**Correspondence Chess Grandmaster**" is not limited in time and is awarded to:

- (a) those players who gain places 1-3 in the WC final,
- (b) the player who has the best result on board 1 in the final of the CC Olympiad,
- (c) those players who gain at least two grandmaster results in international title tournaments

with a total of at least 24 games, This number of games may be reduced if the player overscores sufficiently to achieve the standard Norm requirements over 24 games

(d) those players for whom the national federation makes an appropriately qualified application. For this a two-third's majority vote of a Congress must be obtained.

A Grandmaster title based upon results under (c) will not be awarded unless at least five of the players in the tournament(s) have been grandmasters or players with a fixed rating of at least 2600. However, of this five-player quota a maximum of two may be substituted by two SIM players each.

10.5 The title "**Senior International Correspondence Chess Master**" is not limited in time and is awarded to:

(a) those players who achieve at least two senior master results in international title tournaments with a total of at least 24 games. This number of games may be reduced if the player overscores sufficiently to achieve the standard Norm requirements over 24 games. However one or more international master result over a total maximum of 14 games in an event or events which started or were approved prior to the Daytona 2000 Congress, will count towards a Senior International Master title.

(b) those players for whom the national federation makes an appropriately qualified application. For this, a two-third's majority vote of a Congress must be obtained.

10.6 The title "**International Correspondence Chess Master**" is not limited in time and is awarded to:

(a) those players who qualify for the World Championship Final or gain a master result in a $\frac{3}{4}$ -Final (Candidates' tournament)

(b) the player who takes first place in the World Correspondence Chess Ladies' Championship,

(c) the player who takes first place in the ICCF World Cup Tournament Final,

(d) those players who gain two or more master results in international title tournaments with a total of at least 24 games, This number of games may be reduced if the player overscores sufficiently to achieve the standard Norm requirements over 24 games.

(e) those players for whom their national federation makes an appropriately qualified application. For this a two-thirds majority vote of the Congress must be obtained.

10.7 The title of "**Correspondence Chess Ladies Grandmaster**" is not limited in time and is awarded to:

(a) those players who gain places 1-3 in the World Ladies' Championship,

(b) the player who has the best result on board 1 in the Final of the Correspondence Chess Ladies' Olympiad,

(c) those players who achieve two or more Ladies' Grandmaster Results in international title tournaments with a total of at least 24 games. This number of games may be reduced if the player overscores sufficiently to achieve the standard Norm requirements over 24 games.

(d) those players for who their national federation makes an appropriately qualified application. For this a two-thirds majority vote of Congress must be obtained.

10.8 The title "**Correspondence Chess Ladies Master**" is not limited and is awarded to:

(a) those players in the World Correspondence Chess Ladies' Championship Final who score at least 60% of the possible points,

(b) those players in the World Correspondence Chess Ladies' Olympiad Final who score at least 60% of the possible points on board 1,

(c) those players who achieve two or more ladies' master results in international title tournaments with a total of at least 24 games. This number of games may be reduced if the player overscores sufficiently to achieve the standard Norm requirements over 24 games.

(d) those lady players for whom their national federation makes an appropriately qualified application. For this a two-thirds' majority vote of the Congress must be obtained.

10.9 The title "**International Arbiter of the ICCF**" is not limited in time and will be awarded based on a combination of quantitative and qualitative criteria. All applications must be submitted to the Arbiter Committee (ACO) together with details of all qualifying tournaments and the name and e-mail address of the TD Mentor. The ACO will check:-

a) time served and number of games – must be a minimum of 4 years" successful work as Tournament Director of ICCF qualifying tournaments* without a break, supervising a minimum of 1,000 games OR 6 years" work as Tournament Director of ICCF qualifying tournaments* with a break, supervising a minimum of 1,000 games.

b) quality of TD work (response to problems or queries from players, games archiving, delivery of information for marketing purposes), asking comments of the Mentor TD and other ICCF officers if necessary.

The ACO will then confirm any recommendation for the IA Title to the national CC organisation and the Qualifications Commissioner.

*ICCF qualifying tournaments are Promotion tournaments, Title tournaments, Thematic tournaments, World Cups, Webserver Opens, Champions League and Direct Entry Anniversary Open (national tournaments, friendly international matches and unrated events not listed above shall NOT count towards the IA Title).

10.10 Every title holder receives a certificate which is awarded by Congress.