

Change to Rule 15A (subject to delegate ratification):

Rule 15A. Third sentence:

(current) The player may first make the move, and then write it on the scoresheet, or visa-versa.

(proposed) The player must first make the move, and then record it on the scoresheet.

Add

43: Scoresheets:

A scoresheet is a any piece of paper, electronic, or mechanical recording device that allows a player to comply with rule 15A. Electronic scoresheets are subject to certification guidelines as published by the USCF. An electronic scoresheet not so certified is not considered standard and may only be used at the discretion of the tournament director.

Often a pre-printed scoresheet has spaces indicating players' names, event, other game related information, spaces for the recording of the moves, result and the signatures of the players.

If a scoresheet is provided by the event, then that scoresheet is the standard used for that event.

If a scoresheet is not provided by the event, then an alternate scoresheet is allowed provided it meets the rules established in 15A.

If an event, even when it provides scoresheets, does not require that a copy of the score be submitted, then the TD may allow the use of an alternate scoresheet.

If an event requires that a copy of the score to be submitted, the TD may require the use of the scoresheet provided, or may accept an alternate method of providing that score.

A TD may require the use of the provided scoresheet, or may allow non-standard scoresheets to be used even if one is provided.

TD tip:

Tournament directors are advised to be flexible on the above. Many players have their own scoresheet in the form of notebooks or recording devices, and prefer to keep their games in an orderly fashion within that book. If a player can provide a copy of the score from their notebook, or a printout or downloaded from the electronic scoresheet, this is acceptable. You have the score and the result of the game.

TD tip:

It has been common practice among several players to record the move prior to making it on the chessboard. This rule change forbids this practice, yet the news of this change has to be communicated and habits are difficult to break. For now, please do not impose serious penalties if a player violates this change. Issue a warning, and inform the player of the rule change. (This TD tip is valid until further notice.)

The Rules Committee authorizes the implementation of the above through normal means (publishing on the web page, rating supplement or Chess Life).

The above Rule changes are subject to ratification by the Board of Delegates, and may be modified at the annual meeting.

The USCF will publish the attached document on the Web page, and implement certification of certain electronic devices. The certification process is not to be part of the Rulebook at this time. The list of devices certified is to be maintained by the USCF on their Web Page.