WESPA Tournament Rating Eligibility Criteria

WESPA has updated its tournament rating application process. To qualify for WESPA rating, all tournaments must meet the following criteria:

1. **Application Submission**
   All tournament rating applications must be submitted through the WESPA website with relevant event details including dates, location, number of divisions, guaranteed prize pool, and identity of tournament director(s).

2. **Minimum Tournament Size**
   Each tournament must include at least four (4) games and a minimum of four (4) players. Knock-out or playoff matches featuring two (2) players—whether standalone or concluding a major tournament—may also be rated.

3. **Eligibility of Organizers**
   Tournament organizers, whether individuals or associations, must not be serving a ban or suspension instituted or recognized by WESPA.

4. **Tournament Direction Requirements**
   Events must be supervised by certified or experienced directors. Multi-division events lasting more than three (3) days require at least two (2) directors (**advisory**).

5. **Rules Compliance**
   All games shall be conducted in accordance with the current WESPA Rules. Local or national variations shall also be considered for rating if they conform to WESPA standards.

6. **Online Tournament Monitoring**
   Virtual or online events must comply with the approved WESPA Monitoring Policy.

7. **Application Deadline**
   Rating applications must be submitted no later than 30 days before the tournament start date.

8. **Approved Online Platforms**
   Online tournaments must be conducted on WESPA-approved platforms.

Platform approval is determined on a case-by-case basis at the time of application.

9. **Non-Member Organizers**
Organizers who are not WESPA members and do not have approval from their national association must offer a minimum top prize of US $2,500 and a minimum prize pool of US $5,000 for their tournament to be considered for WESPA sanctioning.

10. **Electronic Pairings and Results**
All pairings and results must be compiled and submitted electronically using software compatible with the WESPA rating system. Tournaments using manual pairings or manual result collation are not eligible.

11. **Time Control Requirements**
   o Over-the-board tournaments must use a time control between 20 and 25 minutes per player, with an additional 5-minute allowance permitted for players with disabilities.
   o Virtual/online tournaments must use a time control between 15 and 25 minutes per player.

12. **Rating Fees**
Tournament organizers need to confirm they will pay the rating fee. Rating data files must be shared with the ratings officer within three (3) days of the tournament and fees must be paid within fourteen (14) days. Penalty would be applied for late payment of fees and any organizer that has unpaid dues would not be allowed to have subsequent tournaments rated.

13. **WESPA Calendar**
All tournaments accepted for WESPA rating will be added to the WESPA calendar (www.wespa.org/tournaments). While applying for new tournaments to be considered, please refer to the calendar for tournaments already listed, and try to schedule tournaments such that players can benefit the most (avoid clashes, for instance).

14. **Provisional Additions to WESPA Calendar**
For tournaments that happen annually, if the dates are frozen but other details (such as venue and prize money) are awaited, tournament organizers can apply to have such tournaments provisionally listed on the WESPA calendar where they will be clearly identified as "provisional". Final approval for rating would still require all details to be submitted at least 30 days prior to the tournament date.

Right of Refusal
WESPA reserves the right to refuse rating for any tournament if significant changes are made to the originally submitted information, regardless of prior approval.