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After months of testing with hundreds of volunteers around the world, FIDE Innovations is proud to present: *TrainingGames*[™].

Online vs. over-the-board

Online chess is booming. We can play as many bullet, blitz and rapid games and tournaments as we like on lichess, chess.com, chess24, etc. On all these platforms, we get a rating for each discipline, so we can monitor our progress.

Still, most chess players will agree that online chess is not a substitution for a proper, serious game, played with a slower time control on a real board, with beautiful wooden pieces and an opponent sitting in front of you.

Sadly, this is currently not possible at chess clubs or tournaments, except for the world's elite. However, even some of the strictest lockdowns in the world today still allow one person to visit another household. This is all that is needed for a serious, competitive over-the-board training game between two chess friends.

Raising the stakes

TrainingGames[™] was developed to allow FIDE members around the world to raise the stakes of their training games. Since I was one of the testers, I will use my own personal experience to explain the idea.

How does it work?

Yesterday, my friend Feike Liefink came to visit me and we enjoyed a serious game of classical chess together. I won the game. Subsequently, I opened my personal FIDE-webpage and entered the result. Feike received a notification, asking him to confirm my win against him. After Feike confirmed, the result appeared in both our training game results and our training ratings were adjusted accordingly.



PROFILE INFO



Dekker, Derk

World Rank (Active):	44308	B-Year:	1978
Federation:	Netherlands	Sex:	Male
FIDE ID:	1039679	FIDE title:	None

Rating



Profile Details	Individual Calculations	Rating Progress Chart	Results Statistics	Training Results
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#	date	FIDE ID	std	White	result	Black	std	FIDE ID	points	
10	31 March 2021		1907	Dekker, Derk	1-0	Liefrink, Feike	1891	1053159	1	
9	19 March 2021	1055810	1937	Harmanus, Norbert	½-½	Dekker, Derk	1907		0,5	
8	05 March 2021		1907	Dekker, Derk	0-1	Matocha, Pavel	1972	321028	0	
7	26 February 2021	2402262	2067	Duke, Michael	0-1	Dekker, Derk	1907		1	
6	12 February 2021		1907	Dekker, Derk	1-0	Ottesen, Oddgeir	1814	2306816	1	
5	15 January 2021		1907	Dekker, Derk	0-1	Pellikaan, Govert	1945	1007564	0	
4	18 December 2020	418668	1638	Holowczak, Alex	0-1	Dekker, Derk	1907		1	
3	11 December 2020	3866920	1574	Medina Molina, Jesús	½-½	Dekker, Derk	1907		0,5	
2	04 December 2020		1907	Dekker, Derk	½-½	Dekker, Jan	2080	1014544	0,5	
1	20 November 2020		1907	Dekker, Derk	0-1	Johnson, Ben	2128	2010917	0	
									total:	5,5

You scored **5,5/10** against opposition rated **1905** on average, your FIDE training rating is: **1924**

Screenshot of a personal FIDE-webpage with functional TrainingGames™ (beta-version).

Since this was already my tenth training game, my training rating is becoming a good indicator of my recent form. By winning my game yesterday, my training rating went up from 1906 to 1924.

By contrast, my standard FIDE rating has not moved since April 2020.

Future plans

For now, because of the ongoing global pandemic, every FIDE member will be allowed to enter the result of just one training game per week. This rule is in place so as to discourage people from playing too many over-the-board games, with too many different people, too frequently. In the future, it will be possible to enter results more frequently.

FIDE president Arkady Dvorkovich: “We started the *TrainingGames* project, because we wanted chess to do its part in fighting the current global crisis, by helping to reduce negative effects of lockdown, such as loneliness and depression.

But it is here to stay! As international chess federation, we are committed to offering **all** our members this service: the possibility to challenge each other for a serious game of chess, with a result that counts.

Athletes around the world use apps like STRAVA for comparing their performance, now chess players have *TrainingGames!*”

Magnus Carlsen vs. Anish Giri

We are delighted to announce that World Champion Magnus Carlsen and his close rival Anish Giri will officially launch the website functionality and app* for the general public, by playing their first FIDE training game against each other, on **Saturday 1 May 2021**, starting at **20h GMT**, broadcast by all major chess websites.



Anish Giri and Magnus Carlsen to play the inaugural FIDE training game (picture: Lennart Ootes | Grand Chess Tour)

From then onwards: raise the stakes by playing FIDE *TrainingGames*™!

Derk Dekker - FIDE Innovations

* Download the free *TrainingGames*™ app for tablet or smart phone from Google Play or Apple App Store.