

PRESS RELEASE

Buettner–Pein Ticket Names Vukani Dlamini as Candidate for FIDE Treasurer

Financial accountability, transparency and independent oversight at the heart of proposed FIDE reforms

Hamburg, 19 August 2026

The Buettner–Pein ticket for the 2026 FIDE Presidential election today announced **Vukani Dlamini of Eswatini** as its candidate for **Treasurer and FIDE Council Member**.

Dlamini brings extensive professional experience in financial oversight, taxation, auditing and compliance. He has spent approximately eleven years as a **Tax Auditor with the Eswatini Revenue Service**, where his work has included analysing financial statements, balance sheets and cash flows, reviewing accounting records and reconciliations, identifying financial discrepancies, and ensuring compliance with applicable financial and tax regulations.

He holds a **Bachelor of Commerce in Accounting** and a **Diploma in Commerce**, and is continuing his professional development through further studies in accounting and taxation.

For Presidential candidate **Jan Henric Buettner**, Dlamini's appointment reflects a central principle of the Buettner–Pein programme: FIDE's finances must be transparent, professionally managed and subject to strong independent oversight.

"The Treasurer should not simply be someone who approves the numbers. The Treasurer must be prepared to ask difficult questions, challenge decisions when necessary and give the FIDE Council and our 204 national federations confidence that their organisation's finances are being managed properly.

"That is exactly the mindset I see in Vukani. His professional career has been built around examining financial information, identifying discrepancies, applying rules and demanding accountability.

"If Malcolm and I are elected, I do not want a Treasurer whose job is to agree with the President. I want a Treasurer who is prepared to tell the President—and the entire Council—when something is financially wrong."

The role would become particularly important under one of the Buettner–Pein ticket's flagship proposals: the commitment to distribute **20% of FIDE's annual revenues, excluding prize funds, directly and equally among FIDE's member federations**.

Under the proposal, the qualifying revenues, calculation of the federation distribution pool, allocation methodology and payments would be clearly reported and independently verifiable.

Malcolm Pein, candidate for FIDE Deputy President, said:

"Good governance requires checks and balances. Vukani brings the analytical discipline and independence we want around FIDE's finances. The Treasurer should represent the interests of the Council and the federations by ensuring that proper controls are in place and that financial decisions can withstand scrutiny."

Dlamini said:

“It is an honour to be asked to join the Buettner–Pein ticket as candidate for Treasurer. I believe that financial transparency and accountability are fundamental to the credibility of any international organisation.

“If elected, I would see my responsibility as being not only to scrutinise FIDE's finances, but to help ensure that every federation can understand how the organisation's resources are generated, allocated and used. The Treasurer must be prepared to ask questions, uphold proper financial controls and act independently in the interests of FIDE and its members.”

The Buettner–Pein governance model envisages a clear separation between **financial oversight and operational financial management**. The Treasurer would serve as a member of the FIDE Council with responsibility for financial scrutiny, controls, accountability and reporting, while FIDE's day-to-day financial operations would be managed by professional executive staff.

Buettner added:

“We are building a team around competence, integrity and independence—not around loyalty to individuals. Vukani's professional background, his African perspective and his willingness to take responsibility make him an excellent addition to that team.

“Our objective is simple: every federation should be able to see where FIDE's money comes from, where it goes, and why. If we ask the chess world to trust us with the future of FIDE, we must be prepared to earn that trust through transparency.”

The FIDE Presidential election will take place during the FIDE General Assembly in **Samarkand, Uzbekistan, in September 2026**.

Media Contact

Campaign Office of Jan Henric Buettner

Till Behrend

t.behrend@hock-partner.de

+49 151 42317721