



Regulations for the FIDE Open World Rapid Championship & FIDE Open World Blitz Championship

December 25th – 31st 2019

1. Scope

1. 1. Governing Body of the FIDE Open World Rapid Championship 2019 & FIDE Open World Blitz Championship 2019 (hereinafter referred to as R&B) is the International Chess Federation (FIDE).

1. 2. FIDE Global Strategy Commission (hereinafter referred to as GSC) is in charge for preparing Regulations, communicating with the Organiser and the participants.

1. 3. The body responsible for adopting and changing these Regulations is the FIDE Presidential Board, upon recommendation by GSC.

1. 4. At any time, any circumstance or unforeseen situation not covered in these Regulations shall be referred to the FIDE President for final decision.

2. Participation in R&B

2. 1. The following players are eligible to participate in R&B:

- the players rated at least 2550 in any of the FIDE rating lists (Standard, Rapid or Blitz) from January to December 2019
- the reigning National Champions representing their National Federation regardless of their title or rating.

2. 2. The Organiser is entitled to include additional players of his own choice but not more than ten (10).

3. Registration to R&B

Player's entry fee is to be paid to the Organiser:

- one hundred (100) USD before December 11th 2019;
- two hundred (200) USD on December 11th 2019 or later.

4. R&B Regulations

4. 1. Format & System

4. 1. 1. Tournaments are played according to the rules of "the inadequate supervision" of the Rapid play (FIDE Handbook, E.01 Appendices, A.2 and A.4).

4. 1. 2. RAPID: Swiss system, fifteen (15) rounds.

4. 1. 3. BLITZ: Swiss system, twenty-one (21) rounds.

4. 2. Accommodation

4. 2. 1. Accommodation with full board in a standard room (4-star hotel minimum) from December 25th to 31st 2019 is offered by the Organiser:

- to players rated at least 2750 in any of the FIDE rating lists (Standard, Rapid or Blitz) from January to December 2019;
- to gold, silver and bronze medallists of the Rapid and the Blitz tournaments of R&B 2018.

4. 2. 2. The Organiser offers accommodation options for all other players.

4. 3. Playing venue

4. 3. 1. GSC ensures the playing venue and its surrounding areas meet the requirements of the FIDE Regulations for the organisation of Top-level Tournaments (FIDE Handbook C.01).

4. 3. 2. The playing venue is decorated with the FIDE flag, the IOC flag, the flags of the host and the participating nations.

4. 3. 3. The Organiser provides, free of charge, coffee, tea, water and soft drinks for the players, the principals, VIPs and accredited media.

4. 4. Schedule

Date	Event	Rounds	Time
25 Dec 2019	Arrival		
25 Dec 2019	Opening Ceremony		19:30
25 Dec 2019	Technical Meeting		20:30
26 Dec 2019	Rapid - day 1	1-5	15:00
27 Dec 2019	Rapid - day 2	6-10	15:00
28 Dec 2019	Rapid - day 3	11-15	15:00
29 Dec 2019	Blitz - day 1	1-12	15:00
30 Dec 2019	Blitz - day 2	13-21	14:00
30 Dec 2019	Closing Ceremony		18:00*
31 Dec 2019	Departure		

*Approximate time. It can start later if the tie-break for the first place is played or there is any delay during the last playing session.

4. 5. Pairings and draw for colours

4. 5. 1. Pairings are done according to the FIDE pairing system for Swiss events.

4. 5. 2. A player's standard rating is used for the starting list, pairings and tie-break calculation:

- a) in the Rapid tournament, if the player has no rapid rating;
- b) in the Blitz tournament, if the player has no blitz rating.

4. 5. 3. The draw for colours is made for both tournaments during the Opening Ceremony.

4. 6. Time control

4. 6. 1. The games are played using the electronic clocks and boards approved by FIDE.

4. 6. 2. RAPID: 15 minutes + 10 seconds increment per move, starting from move 1.

4. 6. 3. BLITZ: 3 minutes + 2 seconds increment per move, starting from move 1.

4. 6. 4. In both tournaments, there is no default time. No penalty is imposed on a player if he is late for any of his games.

4. 7. Conditions of victory

4. 7. 1. The player with the most points (1 point for each win, half a point for each draw, 0 for each loss) is declared the World Rapid / World Blitz Champion.

If the top two (2) or more players score the same number of points, a tie-break to determine the World Rapid / World Blitz Champion is decided according to Article 4.7.2.2 below. Notwithstanding, all prize money is divided equally among all the players in tie (see Article 4.8.1).

4. 7. 2. Tie-breaks

4. 7. 2. 1. If the two (2) or more players score the same points, the tie is decided by the following criteria, in order of priority:

- a) Buchholz Cut 1;
- b) Buchholz;
- c) Average Rating of Opponents Cut 1 (AROC 1)*;
- d) Direct encounter between the players in tie;

* All forfeits and byes are cut from the calculation of AROC 1. If a player has one or more forfeits or byes, then no additional results are cut from the calculation of AROC 1.

All tie-breaks are calculated as described in Article C.02.13 of the FIDE Handbook.

4. 7. 2. 2. If there is a tie for the 1st place, the top two (2) players according to the first eligible tie-break criterion play a play-off match to determine the World Rapid / World Blitz Champion.

a) The match includes two (2) games played with a time control of 3 minutes + 2 seconds increment per move, starting from move 1. There is a drawing of lots to decide which player starts with white pieces.

b) If the score is still even, the players play one (1) sudden death game. The player who wins the drawing of lots may choose the colour. The player with the white pieces has 5 minutes; the player with the black pieces has 4 minutes whereupon, after the 60th move, both players receive an increment of 2 seconds per move starting from move 61. In case of a draw the player with the black pieces is declared winner.

4. 8. Prizes

4. 8. 1. Distribution of prizes in USD

World Rapid	Prize	World Blitz	Prize
1 st place	60,000	1 st place	60,000
2 nd place	50,000	2 nd place	50,000
3 rd place	40,000	3 rd place	40,000
4 th place	30,000	4 th place	30,000
5 th place	25,000	5 th place	25,000
6 th place	22,000	6 th place	22,000
7 th place	18,000	7 th place	18,000
8 th place	14,000	8 th place	14,000
9 th place	11,000	9 th place	11,000
10 th place	8,000	10 th place	8,000
11 th -16 th places	5,000 each	11 th -16 th places	5,000 each
17 th -25 th places	3,000 each	17 th -25 th places	3,000 each
26 th - 35 th places	1,500 each	26 th - 35 th places	1,500 each
TOTAL	350,000	TOTAL	350,000

All prize money is divided equally among the players with the same score.

4. 8. 2. The prize money is paid by direct banker's order drawn in USD. Within fourteen (14) working days after completion of the event and reception of player's bank details, FIDE transfers players' prize money to his bank account. In case if the transfer fails because of wrong bank details, the amount of fifty (50) USD will be deducted from the second transfer in order to cover additional bank charges.

4. 8. 3. If a player withdraws after the start of the tournament, FIDE Presidential Board decides upon paying out his prize money depending on particular circumstances.

4. 8. 4. Although FIDE endeavours to sign an agreement with the Organiser stating that the prizes are net and free of all local taxes, FIDE is not responsible for any national local tax deducted from the prize money. FIDE shall provide all necessary assistance to the players if the Organiser acts to the contrary.

4. 9. Playing Conditions

4. 9. 1. The fair-play measures are applied according to the FIDE anti-cheating regulations for the top official events.

4. 9. 2. Except with the permission of the Chief Arbiter, only the players, the principals and stewards are allowed in the playing area. A player may communicate with an arbiter or a steward.

4. 9. 3. During a playing session, the players are forbidden to have any electronic device not specifically approved by the Chief Arbiter in the playing venue. In case of this rule violation, the player loses the current game.

4. 9. 4. The players are not permitted to bring into the playing venue technical and other equipment extraneous to play, which may in any way disturb or upset their opponents. The Chief Arbiter decides what constitutes extraneous equipment disturbing the opponent.

4. 9. 5. During the playing session, a player may leave the playing venue only with the permission of the Chief Arbiter and only if he is accompanied by one of the arbiters. In case of this rule violation, the Chief Arbiter may declare the current game lost by the player.

4. 9. 6. The Organiser has to fulfil the requirements of the medical protocol as per standards of the FIDE Medical commission.

4. 9. 7. The anti-doping test procedure is regulated by the contract signed between FIDE and the Organiser.

4. 10. Players conduct

4. 10. 1. The dress code is strictly observed.

4. 10. 1. 1. Dress code for men.

Shoes: Oxfords, loafers, leather shoes or boots, classic suite shoes.

Dark-coloured pants: black, navy, grey, beige, brown, in any case unicoloured. No bright colours.

Long-sleeved light-coloured (white, light blue, beige, brown, etc.), blue or black shirt, in any case unicoloured. No bright colours.

Dark-coloured jacket, waistcoat or cardigan with buttons: black, navy, grey, beige, brown, in any case unicoloured. No bright colours. Tie is not mandatory.

4. 10. 1. 2. Dress code for women.

Classic shoes.

Trouser or skirt suit or dress, preferably unicoloured, but not mandatory.

4. 10. 1. 3. No players with t-shirts, jeans, shorts, sneakers, baseball caps or inappropriate dress are allowed in the playing area. Any requests to wear national or traditional dress must be approved by GSC.

4. 10. 1. 4. In case of dispute the issue of acceptability of clothing is decided by the Chief Arbiter / Deputy Chief Arbiter / GSC member.

4. 10. 2. The players are expected to attend the Technical Meeting. If necessary, the Chief Arbiter may call other Technical Meetings.

4. 10. 3. The players are expected to be present at all official events approved by GSC including official receptions, the Opening and the Closing Ceremonies.

4. 10. 4. The players are expected to co-operate with the media. The players are required to make themselves available for short interviews immediately after each game.

4. 10. 5. The players shall be available for the daily press conference.

4. 10. 6. The top three winners of each event are obliged to attend the Closing Ceremony.

4. 10. 7. The winner is obliged to attend the final press conference after the event has ended and to provide an exclusive interview for the tournament and FIDE website, if requested by the FIDE Press Officer.

4. 10. 8. If a player fails to fulfil his duties listed in Articles 4.10.1, 4.10.4 – 4.10.7, undermines the reputation of FIDE, R&B Organiser and sponsors, other players, hosting country or city or conducts himself in a manner contrary to the spirit of sportsmanship or the FIDE Code of Ethics, he shall be penalized as follows: 5% of his prize money shall be forfeited to the Organiser and a further 5% to FIDE for each breach. In cases of serious misconduct, the player may be disqualified from the event. Such decisions can be taken and/or approved by the FIDE Presidential Board.

4. 11. Principals

The principals are:

- a) FIDE President;
- b) FIDE Deputy President;
- c) Chief Arbiter;
- d) Two (2) Deputy Chief Arbiters;
- e) Pairings Officer;
- f) Fair-Play Officer;
- g) Chairman of the Appeals Committee and two (2) other members;
- h) Member of the FIDE Medical Commission;
- i) FIDE Press Officer;
- j) GSC member.

4. 12. Arbiters

4. 12. 1. The Chief Arbiter, two (2) Deputy Chief Arbiters, the Pairings Officer and the Fair-Play Officer are nominated by FIDE.

4. 12. 2. During play either the Chief Arbiter or his/her Deputy must be present in the playing area.

4. 12. 3. The Organiser appoints at least one (1) arbiter per ten (10) games to ensure that all games are reasonably supervised.

4. 12. 4. Within one (1) week after the end of the event the Chief Arbiter submits a report in English to GSC. The report contains the result of each individual game as well as the final standings and also a general description of the course of the event. If there were any difficulties, conflicts or incidents, they shall be described together with the measures taken to deal with them.

4. 13. Appeals Committee

4. 13. 1. GSC nominates the Chairman and the two (2) other members of the Appeals Committee, all from different Federations.

4. 13. 2. A member of the Appeals Committee cannot sit in judgement in a dispute involving one (1) player from his/her Federation. If both players involved in a dispute are from the same federation that one or two members of the Appeal Committee, then all three (3) members of the Appeal Committee sit in judgment.

4. 13. 3. All appeals and protests must be submitted in writing to the Appeals Committee not more than fifteen (15) minutes after the relevant playing session, or the particular infringement complained against.

4. 13. 4. All appeals and protests must be accompanied by a deposit fee of three hundred (300) USD or the equivalent in local currency. If the protest is accepted, the fee shall be returned. If the protest is rejected, the fee may be forfeited to FIDE.

4. 13. 5. The Appeal Committee may decide on the following matters:

- a) appeal against a decision by an arbiter,
- b) protest against a player's behaviour,
- c) any appeal which the Committee considers relevant.

4. 13. 6. The Appeal Committee endeavours to find binding solutions that are fully compliant with the Laws of Chess and adhere to the true spirit of the FIDE motto Gens Una Sumus.

4. 13. 7. The Appeal Committee endeavours to make a decision within fifteen (15) minutes after submission of an appeal or a protest.

4. 13. 8. The written decision of the Appeals Committee arising from any dispute in respect of these Regulations is final.

4. 13. 9. Within one (1) week after the end of the event the Chairman of the Appeals Committee submits a report in English to GSC.

4. 14. FIDE Press Officer

4. 14. 1. The Organiser is responsible for managing and updating and the official web domain which is used for the event. All content is reviewed and approved by the FIDE Press Officer. All live images, live broadcasting (Internet TV) pictures and all the other content for the full event details are carried on the official domain. The Organiser shall not develop any other website. In cases of conflicting information and press statements, the views expressed by the Press Officer is the authentic version.

4. 14. 2. All activities of both FIDE and the Organiser shall identify FIDE being the Governing Body of R&B. The Organiser warrants that the official domain for the event is managed in a professional way and furthermore that it is capable of handling the traffic and

publicity that is required for such event. Statistics of traffic and full reports on web performance are provided by the FIDE Press Officer to both GSC and the Organiser.

4. 14. 3. The Organiser co-operates with the Press Officer concerning the accreditation and hospitality for journalists and media and the facilities available at the Press Centre.

4. 14. 4. The Press Officer is a member of the panel at Press Conferences conducted during the event.

4. 15. Photography and Television

4. 15. 1. Only photographers and camera crew expressly authorized by the Press Officer may work in the playing venue.

4. 15. 2. The use of flash is not allowed. An exception could be made only if the particularities of the venue force the photographers to stay more than six (6) meters away from the players. Even in those exceptional circumstances, it is restricted to the first three (3) minutes of rapid games and the first minute of blitz games.

4. 15. 3. Television cameras must be unobtrusive and may only be used if the Arbiter in charge deems their use to be unobtrusive.

4. 16. Ceremonies

4. 16. 1. The Opening Ceremony takes place the day prior to the first round of the Rapid tournament.

4. 16. 2. The program of the Opening Ceremony is approved by GSC. Cultural program and speeches totaling up to 60 minutes are usually welcome. FIDE Anthem and the Anthem of the hosting nation are played.

4. 16. 3. The Closing Ceremony takes place on the day of the last round of the Blitz tournament. FIDE trophies for the winners and FIDE medals (gold, silver, bronze) for the top three winners of each tournament are provided by the Organiser. The trophies and the medals are approved by GSC. The FIDE Anthem, the Anthem of the winner's nation and the Anthem of the hosting nation are played.

5. Financial issues

5. 1. Before the end of the event, FIDE is reimbursed for its direct expenses incurred in the organisation of R&B. This is a fixed sum agreed in the contract signed between FIDE and the Organiser. This sum includes pre-expenses (inspections), stipends, traveling expenses for the principals and other expenses mentioned in the contract.

5. 2. Stipends

The stipends to be paid to the principals of R&B by the Organiser are (in USD):

Chief Arbiter:	5,000
Two (2) Deputy Chief Arbiters:	3,500 each
Pairings Officer	3,000
Fair-Play Officer	2,500
Chairman of the Appeals Committee	3,500
Members of the Appeals Committee	2,500 each
Member of the FIDE Medical Commission	2,000
FIDE Press Officer:	2,500
TOTAL:	30,500

5. 3. Travel expenses of the FIDE principals

The FIDE President has the right to business class travel by air, sea or rail, at the Organiser's expense. If other travel conditions are not specified in the contract signed by FIDE and the Organiser, all other principals are compensated by the Organiser for their travel expenses up to one thousand one hundred (1,100) USD if travelling from the same continent up to one thousand five hundred (1,500) USD if travelling from another continent.

5. 4. Accommodation of the FIDE principals

Accommodation with full board in a suite in a 4-5-star hotel is offered by the Organiser for the FIDE President. Accommodation with full board in a standard room in the same hotel is offered by the Organiser for each principal. Extra expenses are covered by the Organiser only for the FIDE President.

5. 5. Local transportation.

Transfer from and to the airport is provided by the Organiser, if necessary. For the FIDE President, a chauffeur-driven car, for the other principals, a number of cars is made available; their use depends on the position of the hotels, playing venue and media centre. Alternatively, a daily allowance in local currency may be provided, the amount to be agreed between the Organiser and GSC. Local transport is also provided for players to official functions, if necessary.

5. 6. Personnel and arbiters

5. 6. 1. The Organiser provides sufficient personnel to assist in the playing venue, press room, VIP room, and at Ceremonies according to the agreement made with GSC.

5. 6. 2. FIDE and the Organiser appoint a necessary number of arbiters according to Article 4.12.3.

5. 7. Fair-play measures

The Organiser covers all the related costs up to ten thousand (10,000) USD, excluding all the expenses for the Fair-Play Officer.

6. Commercial issues

6. 1. FIDE has the right to enter into advertisement agreements either with the Organiser or Sponsors of the event requiring players to wear attire with the branding of sponsors. Players shall not wear, use or display any apparel, footwear, accessory or other item, including but not limited to any piece of attire or any article that is of an accessory nature (*e.g.* bag, eyewear, arm bands, gloves, socks, charms, beverage bottles etc.), bearing an identification of or advertising or otherwise promoting the players' sponsors, without prior written permission by FIDE or its commercial agency.

6. 2. The income provided by R&B through admission charges goes to the Organiser.

6. 3. The Organiser draws up a budget as detailed as possible. This shall be subject to approval of GSC.

6. 4. No proposed sponsor is in conflict with the Regulations of the International Olympic Committee.

6. 5. The FIDE logo and the head of the corporate logo are displayed below:



The FIDE logo is displayed in a dark blue colour on a white background. The text describing any event must not be larger than twice the size of the word FIDE reproduced in the logo.

6. 6. The event title of the tournament is represented below. The corporate logo should include the above on top and the text in any kind of printed or electronic media must not be larger than twice the size of the word FIDE reproduced in the logo.



R&B Tournament 2019

ANNEX 1

WORLD CHAMPIONSHIP TECHNICAL REGULATIONS (FIDE Laws of Chess)

The FIDE Laws of Chess are Annex 1, as valid since 1 January 2018 and published on the FIDE website:

<http://www.fide.com/component/handbook/?id=208&view=article>