

FIDE Rapid & Blitz Rating Regulations effective from 1 January 2022

Approved by FIDE Council 2021.

0. Introduction

The following regulations may be altered by the FIDE Council upon recommendation of the Qualification Commission (QC).

For tournaments, changes will apply to those starting on or after the date upon which they become effective.

0.1

A game played over the board will be rated by FIDE when it takes place in a FIDE registered tournament and meets all the following requirements.

0.2

The tournaments to be rated shall be pre-registered by the federation in whose territory it is held and they will be responsible for the submission of results and rating fees. An exception may be made by agreement with the organising federation.

The tournament and its playing schedule must be registered three days before the tournament starts. The QC Chairman may refuse to register a tournament. He may also allow a tournament to be rated even though it has been registered less than three days before the tournament starts.

All tournaments played under Hybrid conditions as described in 2.1 must be approved individually by the QC Chairman.

0.3

Tournament reports for all official FIDE and Continental events must be submitted and shall be rated. The Chief Arbiter is responsible for submitting the rating report file to the FIDE Rating Administrator.

0.4

FIDE reserves the right not to rate a specific tournament. The organizer of the tournament has the right to appeal to the QC. Such an appeal must be made within seven days of the communication of the decision.

1. Rate of Play

1.1 For a game to be rated each player must have the following periods in which to complete all the moves:

- for a rapid game all the moves must be made in a fixed time of more than 10 minutes but less than 60 minutes for each player; or the time allotted + 60 times any increment must be more than 10 minutes but less than 60 minutes for each player;
- for a blitz game all the moves must be made in a fixed time of more than 3 minutes but not more than 10 minutes for each player; or the time allotted + 60 times any increment must be more than 3 minutes but not more than 10 minutes for each player.

1.2 Games where the players have different playing times are not rated.

2. Laws to be followed

2.1 Play shall be governed by the FIDE Laws of Chess or the Regulations for Hybrid Chess Competitions (Part IIIb within the FIDE Online Chess Regulations).

3.

Number of rounds per day

3.1 The maximum number of rounds per day are:
for rapid games 15 rounds per day
for blitz 30 rounds per day.

4.

Unplayed Games

4.1

Whether these occur because of forfeiture or any other reason, they are not counted. Except in case of force majeure, any game where both players have made at least one move will be rated, unless the regulations relating to Fair Play require otherwise.

5.

Matches

5.1

Where a match is over a specific number of games, those played after one player has won shall not be rated. This requirement may be waived by prior request.

6.

Official FIDE Rapid & Blitz Rating Lists

6.1

On the first day of each month, the FIDE shall prepare lists which incorporate all rated play during the rating period into the previous lists. This shall be done using the rating system formula.

6.11

The rating period (for new players, see 6.14) is the period where a certain rating list is valid.

6.12

The following data will be published concerning each player whose rating is at least 1000 as of the current list:

FIDE title, Federation, Current Rating, ID Number, Number of games rated in the rating period, Year of Birth, Gender and the current value of K for the player.

6.13

The closing date for tournaments for a list is 3 days before the date of the list; tournaments ending before or on that day may be rated on the list.

Official FIDE events may be rated on the list even if they end on the last day before the list date.

6.14

A rating for a player new to the list shall be published when it is based on 5 games against rated opponents. This need not be met in one tournament. Results from other tournaments played within consecutive rating periods of not more than 26 months are pooled to obtain the initial rating. The rating must be at least 1000.

6.2

Players who are not to be included on the list :

6.21

Players whose ratings drop below 1000 are shown as unrated on the next list. Thereafter they are treated in the same manner as any other unrated player.

6.22

Players listed as active :

6.22a

A player is considered to commence inactivity if they play no rated games in a one year period.

6.22b

A player regains their activity if they play at least one rated game in a period. They are then listed as active on the next list.

7.

The working of the FIDE Rating System

The FIDE Rating system is a numerical system in which fractional scores are converted to rating differences and vice versa. Its function is to produce measurement information of the best statistical quality.

7.1

The rating scale is an arbitrary one with a class interval set at 200 points. The tables that follow show the conversion of fractional score

'p' into rating difference 'dp'. For a zero or 1.0 score dp is necessarily indeterminate but is shown notionally as 800. The second table shows conversion of difference in rating 'D' into scoring probability 'PD' for the higher 'H' and the lower 'L' rated player respectively. Thus the two tables are effectively mirror-images.

7.1a

The table of conversion from fractional score, p, into rating differences, dp

p	dp	p	dp	p	dp	p	dp	p	dp	p	dp
1.0	800	.83	273	.66	117	.49	-7	.32	-133	.15	-296
.99	677	.82	262	.65	110	.48	-14	.31	-141	.14	-309
.98	589	.81	251	.64	102	.47	-21	.30	-149	.13	-322
.97	538	.80	240	.63	95	.46	-29	.29	-158	.12	-336
.96	501	.79	230	.62	87	.45	-36	.28	-166	.11	-351
.95	470	.78	220	.61	80	.44	-43	.27	-175	.10	-366
.94	444	.77	211	.60	72	.43	-50	.26	-184	.09	-383
.93	422	.76	202	.59	65	.42	-57	.25	-193	.08	-401
.92	401	.75	193	.58	57	.41	-65	.24	-202	.07	-422
.91	383	.74	184	.57	50	.40	-72	.23	-211	.06	-444
.90	366	.73	175	.56	43	.39	-80	.22	-220	.05	-470
.89	351	.72	166	.55	36	.38	-87	.21	-230	.04	-501
.88	336	.71	158	.54	29	.37	-95	.20	-240	.03	-538
.87	322	.70	149	.53	21	.36	-102	.19	-251	.02	-589
.86	309	.69	141	.52	14	.35	-110	.18	-262	.01	-677
.85	296	.68	133	.51	7	.34	-117	.17	-273	.00	-800
.84	284	.67	125	.50	0	.33	-125	.16	-284		

7.1b

Table of conversion of difference in rating, D, into scoring probability PD, for the higher, H, and the lower, L, rated player respectively.

D	PD		D	PD		D	PD		D	PD	
Rtg Dif	H	L	Rtg Dif	H	L	Rtg Dif	H	L	Rtg Dif	H	L
0-3	.50	.50	92-98	.63	.37	198-206	.76	.24	345-357	.89	.11
4-10	.51	.49	99-106	.64	.36	207-215	.77	.23	358-374	.90	.10
11-17	.52	.48	107-113	.65	.35	216-225	.78	.22	375-391	.91	.09
18-25	.53	.47	114-121	.66	.34	226-235	.79	.21	392-411	.92	.08
26-32	.54	.46	122-129	.67	.33	236-245	.80	.20	412-432	.93	.07
33-39	.55	.45	130-137	.68	.32	246-256	.81	.19	433-456	.94	.06

40-46	.56	.44	138-145	.69	.31	257-267	.82	.18	457-484	.95	.05
47-53	.57	.43	146-153	.70	.30	268-278	.83	.17	485-517	.96	.04
54-61	.58	.42	154-162	.71	.29	279-290	.84	.16	518-559	.97	.03
62-68	.59	.41	163-170	.72	.28	291-302	.85	.15	560-619	.98	.02
69-76	.60	.40	171-179	.73	.27	303-315	.86	.14	620-735	.99	.01
77-83	.61	.39	180-188	.74	.26	316-328	.87	.13	> 735	1.0	.00
84-91	.62	.38	189-197	.75	.25	329-344	.88	.12			

7.2 Determining the Rating 'Ru' in a given event of a previously unrated player.

7.21 If an unrated player has a standard rating at the beginning of a rapid or blitz tournament, their standard rating is used for rating calculation. Such a player is considered to be rated, and 7.22 to 7.25 below do not apply.

7.22

If an unrated player scores zero in their first event this score is disregarded.

Otherwise, their initial rating is calculated using all their results as in 6.14.

7.23

Ra is the average rating of the player's rated opponents.

7.24

If the player scores 50%, then $Ru = Ra$.

If they score more than 50%, then $Ru = Ra + 20$ for each half point scored over 50%.

If they score less than 50%, then $Ru = Ra + dp$

Ru is rounded to the nearest whole number.

7.25

If an unrated player receives a published rating before a particular tournament in which they have played is rated, then they are rated as a rated player with their current rating, but in the rating of their opponents they are counted as an unrated player.

7.3

Determining the rating change for a rated player

7.31

For each game played against a rated player, determine the difference in rating between the player and their opponent, D.

A difference in rating of more than 400 points shall be counted for rating purposes as though it were a difference of 400 points. In any tournament, a player may benefit from only one upgrade under this rule, for the game in which the rating difference is greatest.

7.32

- (a) Use table 8.1(b) to determine the player's score probability PD for each game.
- (b) $\Delta R = \text{score} - PD$. For each game, the score is 1, 0.5 or 0.
- (c) $\Sigma \Delta R$ = the sum of ΔR s for a tournament or Rating Period.
- (d) $\Sigma \Delta R \times K$ = the Rating Change for a tournament or Rating Period.

$K=20$ in all cases, except that if the number of games (n) for a player on any list for a rating period exceeds 35, then K shall be the largest whole number such that $n \times K$ does not exceed 700.

7.33

The Rating Change for a Rating Period is rounded to the nearest whole number. 0.5 is rounded away from zero.

8.

Reporting Procedures

8.1

The Chief Arbiter of a FIDE registered tournament must provide the tournament report (TRF file) to the Rating Officer of the federation where the tournament took place.

Once satisfied that the tournament was conducted in accordance with all relevant FIDE Regulations, the Rating Officer shall be responsible for uploading the TRF file to the FIDE Rating Server. This should be done in time for the tournament to be rated in the monthly list in which the tournament is registered or, if there are five days or less from the last day of the tournament to the end of the month, for the following list.

If the tournament report is not submitted in time to be included in the third rating list after it ends, the tournament will not be rated.

8.2

The regulations of a rated event must make clear that it will be rated.

8.3

Each national federation shall designate a Rating Officer to coordinate and expedite qualification and rating matters. Their name and details must be given to the FIDE Secretariat.

9.

Inclusion in the Rating list

9.1

To be included in the FIDE Rapid & Blitz Rating List, a player must be registered through a national chess federation which is a member of FIDE, unless otherwise approved by FIDE Council. The Federation must not be temporarily or permanently excluded from membership.