



QUEENS' ONLINE CHESS FESTIVAL 2023

JULY 2-16

The Queens' Online Chess Festival 2023, a series of continental women's online blitz tournaments, starts on July 02, 2023.

The event is organized by FIDE Commission for Women's Chess. The Governing Body of the Queens' Online Chess Festival is the International Chess Federation (FIDE).

The festival welcomes all women chess players from around the world of all ages and all rating groups, including unrated chess fans. The registration is free of charge.

This year's edition of the festival gives everybody the opportunity to play in two tournaments:

QUEENS' WOMEN'S OPEN TOURNAMENT – REGULATIONS (APPENDIX A)

	Tournament	Date
1	African Online Blitz Qualification	July 1st
2	European Online Blitz Qualification	July 2nd
3	Asian Online Blitz Qualification	July 8th
4	American Online Blitz Qualification	July 9th
5	Queens' Online Semi-Final Blitz	July 15th
6	Queens' Online Final Blitz	July 16th

UNRATED PRINCESSES' TOURNAMENT – REGULATIONS (APPENDIX B)

	Tournament	Date
1	Princesses' Online Qualification (U16* and U9)	July 15th
2	Princesses' Online Final Blitz	July 16th

*Unrated players U16 years old (born on 1.1.2007 or later) can choose whether they wish to participate in the Queens' Women's Open tournament or in the Unrated Princesses' tournament or to play in both events.

APPENDIX A

REGULATIONS FOR THE QUEENS' WOMEN OPEN TOURNAMENT

1. General

1.1. The Queens' Online Chess Festival 2023 is organised under the aegis of the FIDE Commission for Women's Chess (hereinafter referred to as "WOM").

1.2. At any time, any circumstance or unforeseen situation not covered in these Regulations shall be referred to WOM for the final decision.

2. Participation

2.1. The tournament is open to all female players not banned by the hosting Internet platform (HIP). The hosting Internet platform for the Queens' Festival will be Tornelo.

2.2 In the event of global internet problems or server issues, the WOM as the Organiser reserves the right to amend the Regulations.

2.4 The participation is free of charge.

3. Registration

3.1. Registrations are open to all female participants with FIDE ID.

3.2. Registrations are made by the players by filling this form before the deadline indicated in p.3.3: <https://forms.gle/LpJQfU6xTa4Ru4kN8>

3.2 The players are registered and ranked by their FIDE standard rating (June 1, 2023 FIDE Rating List). The tournaments will not be calculated for FIDE rating.

3.3 The registration deadline for each Continent is:

Africa	June 24th, 2023	Asia	July 1st, 2023
Europe	June 25th, 2023	Americas	July 2nd, 2023

3.4 The Organiser may refuse to accept players registered after the registration deadline.

3.5 After the participant finishes her the registration, the Organiser will send a Tornelo private link to the participant's email stated in the registration form. The private link shall be used by registered participant for self-creation her Tornelo account.

4. System of Play

4.1 Format for Qualifications: Swiss System, 9 or 11 rounds, depending on the number of participants.

4.2 The Qualification pairings shall be made according to the HIP built-in pairing system for Swiss System events. FIDE standard ratings of July 1, 2023, shall be used for pairing purposes. Players with no standard FIDE rating shall be considered unrated.

4.3 Format for Queens' Semi-Final: Swiss System, 9 or 11 rounds.

4.4 Format for Queens' Final: Round-Robin, 7 rounds.

4.5 Time control for Qualifications and Semi-Final: 3 min + 2 sec per move starting from move 1.

4.6 Time control for Final: 5 min + 5 sec per move starting from move 1.

4.7 The tie-break system is described in the respective sections.

4.8 Swiss Pairings will be made in accordance with the JaVaFo pairing software endorsed by FIDE, implemented by HIP.

4.9 FIDE Online Chess Regulations apply for the Semi-Final and Final, all players must join ZOOM, turn their camera on and share their screen. A ZOOM call will be active during the Qualification stages.

5. Schedule

Tournament	Date	Target time zone start
African Online Blitz Qualification	July 1st	2 PM EAT, UTC +3
European Online Blitz Qualification	July 2nd	2 PM CEST, UTC +2
Asian Online Blitz Qualification	July 8th	2 PM GTS, UTC +4
American Online Blitz Qualification	July 9th	2 PM EDT, UTC -4
Queen's Online Semi-Final Individual Blitz	July 15th	2 PM CEST, UTC +2
Queen's Online Final Individual Blitz	July 16th	2 PM CEST, UTC +2

5.2 The dates of the technical meeting, opening ceremony and test tournaments will be announced in due time.

6. Qualification

6.1 There shall be one qualification tournament per continent. The Winner will receive the title of the Queen of a respective continent.

6.2 First 25 winners in each category qualify for the Queens' Online Semi-Final Individual Blitz. If the player cannot participate, she can be replaced by the player following her but only up to the 30th place.

6.3 If two or more players score the same number of points, the tie shall be decided by the criteria described in in order of priority:

- a) Direct encounter (if all tied players have played with each other);
- b) Buchholz Cut-1;
- c) Buchholz;
- d) Greater number of Games Won;
- e) Number of games played with Black.

7. Queens' Online Semi-Final Individual Blitz

7.1 There shall be one tournament for all continents with 100 players, 25 qualifiers from each Continent. The format will be Swiss System, 11 rounds.

7.2 Only players according to point 6.2 are eligible to participate in the tournament.

7.3 If two or more players score the same number of points, the tie shall be decided by the criteria described in in order of priority:

- a) Direct encounter (if all tied players have played with each other);
- b) Buchholz Cut-1;
- c) Buchholz;
- d) Greater number of Games Won;
- e) Number of games played with Black.

8. Queens' Online Final Individual Blitz

8.1 The top 8 winners of the Semi-Final will compete in a Round-Robin tournament to define the overall winner.

8.2 If two or more players score the same number of points, the tie shall be decided by the criteria described in in order of priority:

- a) Direct encounter (if all tied players have played with each other);
- b) Sonneborn-Burger;
- c) Greater number of Games Won;
- d) Number of games played with Black.

9. Fair Play Panel

9.1 The Fair Play panel is in charge of overseeing the Fair Play measures of the event and making decisions related to any violation of the Fair Play rules.

9.2 All results and standings are provisional until the Fair Play control has been completed.

9.3 The Fair Play Panel, in consultation with the Chief Arbiter, has the right to disqualify a player from the competition on the grounds of suspicion of Fair Play violation. No sanctions will be extended to other online or OTB events, nor is the decision a claim that cheating has been proven.

9.4 Disqualified players will be removed from all stages of the event and are not eligible for any prizes or titles. All points earned by such players will be awarded to their opponents.

10. Fair Play Measures

During the semi-final for the Queens Open tournament and for the final stages of the Queens' and Princesses' tournaments:

10.1 All players are required to be present in their assigned Zoom meeting at all times while their game is in progress.

10.2 The Zoom meetings will be recorded for internal Fair Play verification purposes. No recordings will be released to the public. To further protect participants' privacy, recordings will be deleted 14 days after the end of the tournament unless an incident occurs, in which case the recordings may be kept for judicial purposes.

10.3 Players are required to write their real name in Zoom call in the following way: "CountryCode--Surname" e.g., "CZE-Mencikova".

10.4 Players are required to have their cameras and microphones on and share their screens at all times while they are playing. It is prohibited to have any other applications running on the computer other than Zoom and a web browser with the HIP platform unless they are approved by the Chief Arbiter (such as antivirus, VPN, etc.). The taskbar (or equivalent in non-Windows machines) must be visible at all times. Players can mute or turn off their speakers in order to not be disturbed during the game.

10.5 If players are asked, they must demonstrate a Task Manager check (or equivalent in other operating systems) before, during, or immediately after their game.

10.6 Players are required to stay in the area which is visible on camera at all times while their game is in progress, unless the player has received permission from the Chief Arbiter. They might be asked to show the room they are playing in with their camera. No other people are allowed to be present in the room where the player is playing at any time while a game is in progress without permission of the Chief Arbiter.

10.7 Other than the device which is being used for playing games (and has a screen-share running), no electronic communication devices or chess playing aids are permitted in the room where the player is playing. Players can only play from a computer or a laptop, not a mobile/tablet. Players are not allowed to wear headphones or other electronic device during play.

10.8 All games of the Qualification stage, Semi-final and the Final will be put through a fair play verification process involving statistical correlation analysis by the tools of HIP and the FIDE Screening Tool (Prof. Kenneth Regan).

Please check the following regulations for further fair play details - <https://fpl.fide.com/wp-content/uploads/2023/04/BEST-FAIR-PLAY-PRACTICES-FOR-ONLINE-EVENTS-.pdf>

11. Disconnections

11.1 Players are responsible for their own high-speed, stable internet connection. A stable connection is required in order to comply with regulations, maintain communication with Arbiters and participate in games on the HIP platform during the entire event.

11.2 In the case of disconnection a player may reconnect and return to the game, while there is still time on their clock, provided they are at all times compliant with Fair Play regulations unless there is a technical issue. For the avoidance of doubt, a player may not make a move on the chessboard until they have reconnected to the Zoom call, shared their screen and turned their webcam on. If a player is unable to reconnect and re-establish compliance with Fair Play regulations before their flag falls, they will lose the game.

11.3 All disconnections will be treated in the same way unless the Chief Arbiter decides otherwise.

12. Appeals

12.1 The Organizer shall appoint the Chairperson and four other members of the Appeals Committee (one from each Continent).

12.2 A member of the Appeals Committee cannot sit in judgement in a dispute involving one player from his/her Federation.

12.3 All appeals and protests shall be submitted in writing to the Appeals Committee no later than 15 minutes after the completion of the relevant round or communication of a sanction by FPP. Contact email address will be provided at the technical meeting.

12.4 The Appeals Committee shall endeavor to make a decision at the end of each day. The tournament will continue during the decision-making process.

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

12.6 In case the appeal is rejected the complainant will be charged an amount of 200 euros, to be deposited when the appeal is filed. If the appeal is rejected, the fee is not returned to the claimant.

APPENDIX B

REGULATIONS FOR THE UNRATED PRINCESSES' TOURNAMENT

1. The Unrated Princesses' tournament

1.1 The Unrated Princesses' tournament is open to all female players without any of the FIDE rating (classic, rapid and blitz) ONLY. The hosting Internet platform will be Tornelo. In the event of global internet problems or server issues, the Organiser reserves the right to amend the Regulations. The participation is free of charge.

1.2 To participate in the Unrated Princesses' tournament, players need to be U16 years old (born on 1.1.2007 or later) and have no FIDE rating. National rating is acceptable but will not influence the pairing of the event.

1.3 There will be a Qualification stage and the Final stage according to the following schedule:

Event	Format	Date	Time
Qualification stage, Eastern Edition	7 rounds	July 15th	9 am UTC, 2:30 pm IST, 7 pm Sydney
Qualification stage, Western Edition	7 rounds	July 15th	10 am PT, 1 pm ET, 5 pm UTC
Final stage U16	7 rounds	July 16th	Starting time: 12 pm UTC, 2 pm CEST
Final stage U09	7 rounds	July 16th	Starting time: 12 pm UTC, 2 pm CEST

Players can choose in which edition to play in the Qualification stage, Eastern or Western, according to their respective time zones.

Registrations are made by the players by filling this form before deadline: <https://forms.gle/zn9J4g98VFiMmzoz7>.

After the participant finishes her the registration, the Organiser will send a Tornelo private link to the participant's email stated in the registration form. The private link shall be used by registered participant for self-creation her Tornelo account.

1.4 In the qualification editions both age groups U9 and U16 will play together in Swiss tournaments.

First four winners U16 years old (born on 1.1.2007 or later) from the Eastern edition and first four winners U16 years old (born on 1.1.2007 or later) from the Western edition will qualify to the Final stage U16. If the qualified player cannot participate, she can be replaced by the following player until the finalists list is full.

First four winners U9 years old (born on 1.1.2014 or later) from the Eastern edition and first four winners 9 years old (born on 1.1.2014 or later) from the Western edition will qualify to the Final stage U09. If the qualified player cannot participate, she can be replaced by the following player until the finalists list is full.

1.5 If two or more players score the same number of points in the Qualification stage, the tie shall be decided by the criteria described in in order of priority:

- a) Direct encounter (if all tied players have played with each other);
- b) Buchholz Cut-1;
- c) Buchholz;
- d) Greater number of Games Won;
- e) Number of games played with Black.

1.7 The 8 qualifiers of the U16 will compete in a Round Robin tournament (7 rounds) to define the overall winner. If the qualified player cannot participate, she can be replaced by the following player until the finalists list is full.

1.8 The 8 qualifiers of the U09 will compete in a Round Robin tournament (7 rounds) to define the overall winner. If the qualified player cannot participate, she can be replaced by the following player until the finalists list is full.

1.9 If two or more players score the same number of points in the Final stages, the tie shall be decided by the criteria described in in order of priority:

- a) Direct encounter (if all tied players have played with each other);
- b) Sonneborn-Burger;
- d) Greater number of Games Won;
- e) Number of games played with Black.

1.10 The time control for all stages and editions of the Princesses' Festival is 5 min + 5 sec per move.

1.11 Registrations are made by the players by filling this form before July 8th 2023.

2. Fair Play Panel

2.1 The Fair Play panel is in charge of overseeing the Fair Play measures of the event and making decisions related to violation of the Fair Play rules.

2.2 All results and standings are provisional until the Fair Play control has been completed.

2.3 The Fair Play Panel, in consultation with the Chief Arbiter, has the right to disqualify a player from the competition on the grounds of suspicion of Fair Play violation. No sanctions will be extended to other online or OTB events, nor is the decision a claim that cheating has been proven.

2.4 Disqualified players will be removed from all stages of the event and are not eligible for any prizes or titles. All points earned by such players will be awarded to their opponents.

3. Fair Play Measures

During the semi-final for the Queens Open tournament and for the final stages of the Queens' and Princesses' tournaments:

3.1 All players are required to be present in their assigned Zoom meeting at all times while their game is in progress.

3.2 The Zoom meetings will be recorded for internal Fair Play verification purposes. No recordings will be released to the public. To further protect participant privacy, recordings will be deleted 14 days after the end of the tournament unless an incident occurs, in which case the recordings may be kept for judicial purposes.

3.3 Players are required to write their real name in Zoom call in the following way: "CountryCode--Surname" e.g., "CZE-Mencikova".

3.4 Players are required to have their microphones on and share their screen at all times while they are playing, cameras shall be on during the Final. It is prohibited to have any applications running on the computer other than Zoom and a web browser with the HIP platform unless they are approved by the Chief Arbiter (such as antivirus, VPN, etc.). The taskbar (or equivalent in non-Windows machines) must be visible at all times. Players can mute or turn off their speakers in order to not be disturbed during the game.

3.5 If players are asked, they must demonstrate a Task Manager check (or equivalent in other operating systems) before, during, or immediately after their game.

3.6 Players are required to stay in the area which is visible on camera at all times while their game is in progress, unless the player has received permission from the Chief Arbiter. They might be asked to show the room they are playing in with their camera. No other people are allowed to be present in the room where the player is playing at any time while a game is in progress without permission of the Chief Arbiter.

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a computer or a laptop, not a mobile/tablet. Players are not allowed to wear headphones or other electronic device during play.

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4.2 In the case of disconnection a player may reconnect and return to the game, while there is still time on their clock, provided they are at all times compliant with Fair Play regulations unless there is a technical issue. For the avoidance of doubt, a player may not make a move on the chessboard until they have reconnected to the Zoom call, shared their screen and turned their webcam. If a player is unable to reconnect and re-establish compliance with Fair Play regulations before their flag falls, they will lose the game.

4.3 All disconnections will be treated in the same way unless the Chief Arbiter decides otherwise.

5. Appeals

5.1 The Organizer shall appoint the Chairman and four other members of the Appeals Committee (one from each Continent).

5.2 A member of the Appeals Committee cannot sit in judgement in a dispute involving one player from his/her Federation.

5.3 All appeals and protests shall be submitted in writing to the Appeals Committee no later than 15 minutes after the completion of the relevant round or communication of a sanction by FPP. Contact email address will be provided at the technical meeting.

5.4 The Appeals Committee shall endeavor to make a decision at the end of each day. The tournament will continue during the decision-making process.

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

5.6 In case the appeal is rejected the complainant will be charged an amount of 200 euros, to be deposited when the appeal is filed. If the appeal is rejected, the fee is not returned to the claimant.

6. Awards

6.1 All players shall receive an electronic certificate of participation.

The winner of each Qualification in the Queens' tournaments: Americas, Asia, Africa and Europe will receive a physical trophy and the title of the Queens' Festival Continental Queen.

To receive their trophies the winners should send their postal address to wom@fide.com after the event.

6.2 First three winners in all tournaments will be entitled to two 45-minute training sessions with Women Grandmasters. Details to be announced.

6.3 The winners in age categories U09 and U16 and the Queen of the World Queens' Festival 2023 will be invited to the 45th World Chess Olympiad 2024 in Budapest, Hungary. The ticket for the winner and one accompanying person will be covered.

From the same continent not more than 500 euros per ticket, from different continents not more than 1000 per ticket + 3 nights accommodation (double room) in one of the official Olympiad hotels. Official guest accreditation for the winner and one accompanying person, same as tickets for the opening ceremony will be provided.

Only the winners in age categories U09, U16, the Queen of the World Queens' Festival 2023 with their one accompanying person per each winner are invited to the 45th World Chess Olympiad 2024, this right cannot be passed to another player.

The official Cup award ceremony for the Queens' Festival 2023 will take place during the Olympiad.

7. Contact Information

General Director: Ozgur Solakoglu (TUR)

Tournament Director: Ulkar Umudova (AZE)

Festival Coordinator: Yilmaz Kartal (TUR)

Chief Arbiter: IA Tania Karali (GRE)

Email Address: queensfestival@fide.com