



World Cities Championship

To All Qualified Chess Federations

Regulations for the FIDE World Cities Championship

1. General

1.1 The FIDE World Cities Championship shall be held at two-yearly intervals among teams representing cities with a maximum of one city per country. Qualified National Federations are eligible to play with their national team members representing a city. The FIDE General Secretary shall announce the qualifiers from the Olympiad, World Team Championship, 4 Continental Cities champions and 25 top teams per geographic FIDE zone based on the Olympiad.

1.2 Participants

Composition of teams

The teams are made up of 4 players plus 1 reserve and 1 captain.

- Eligibility: The players must be entitled by birth, citizenship or naturalization to represent their Federation. Detailed eligibility rules are in Handbook Reg. C.05.
- A player who has resided for at least three years in a country of which he or she is not a citizen after the date on which FIDE shall have received notification of change of Federation and who proves that he or she has applied for citizenship in that country or intends to do so as soon as the legal requirements are fulfilled may become a team member of a Federation after a thorough examination and clearance of the case by the FIDE President.
- A player with dual citizenship may only represent one Federation and is eligible by citizenship to participate in the World Cities Championship on condition that he or she has not represented any other Federation in any FIDE team or individual competition at any time in the preceding year.

1.3 Duties of team captain

Each team shall have a captain, who may also be one of the players (or reserve).

Leadership of the team matches

Liaison with the Chief Arbiter

1.4 Chief of Delegation

The federations take full responsibility for the conduct of their players. Each federation may be represented by a Chief of delegation; it may either appoint a person exclusively to this office, or entrust the team captain, or one of the players or reserves, with this function. Federations shall ensure that team captains and Chiefs of Delegations possess copies of the Tournament regulations and the FIDE laws. All teams should abide by specific Security Procedures.

Duties of Chief of delegation:

Administrative supervision of the team

Liaison with the organizing authorities and Tournament Director.

2. Schedule of the FIDE World Cities Championship

Dec 21 arrival, team captains' meeting and opening ceremony

Dec 22 RR1

Dec 23 RR2

Dec 24 RR3

Dec 25 Round of 16

Dec 26 Quarterfinals

Dec 27 Semifinals

Dec 28 Finals and closing ceremony

Dec 29 Departure

3. Registration

Entry shall be submitted by the National federation in the attached registration form on or before 31st October 2012. Otherwise reserve teams from another country shall then be invited. Deadline for submission of names of players is 15th November.

Passport copies and a digital ID photo of each player should be sent by email to the Organizing Committee.

3.1 At the same time, the Federation concerned must pay to FIDE through the Organizing Committee the entry fee per team of 270 Euros.

4. Registration Fee

Each participant must pay US\$100 to the organizers for accreditation, internal

transportation and other local organizational expenses.

5. Travelling Expenses

In accordance with FIDE Regulations, air travel expenses shall be borne by the participating Federations.

5.1 Visas will be sent by email. Teams shall be met at the Abu Dhabi, Dubai or Sharjah airports and taken to Al Ain.

6. Accommodation

Six team members from each National Federation will be provided with board & lodging from afternoon of 21st Dec. till two days after their elimination. Departure for finalists is morning of 29th Dec. Participants will be accommodated in twin-shared bedrooms (two persons per room). Extras shall be to their own accounts.

Additional persons should book with the Organizing Committee and pay \$200 per person in single room or \$125 per person for two in double room.

7. Tournament regulations for the World Cities Chess Team Championship

7.1 Laws of Chess

The general FIDE laws shall be applied with their supplements and interpretations as laid down by the FIDE Rules Commission. The following specific regulations for the FIDE World Team Championship will also be in force.

7.2 System of play

32 teams shall be divided into 8 groups of 4 teams each. Teams shall be ranked by average rating of their 4 highest rated players per 1st December FIDE rating list.

The host city is seeded among the top 8 teams to form Class A. Next 8 teams (9-16) form Class B, teams 17 to 24 form Class C and teams 25 to 32 form Class D.

Teams shall be drawn by lot to have four classes of teams in one group.

In these pairings teams who play each other in the Group RR are not scheduled to meet again until the final. Colours will be drawn at the Opening Ceremony.

Group A: Teams 1, 16, 17, 25

Group B: Teams 2, 15, 18, 26

Group C: Teams 3, 14, 19, 27

Group D: Teams 4, 13, 20, 28

Group E: Teams 5, 12, 21, 29

Group F: Teams 6, 11, 22, 30

Group G: Teams 7, 10, 23, 31

Group H: Teams 8, 9, 24, 32

Each preliminary group shall play a single round robin. The top two from each group advance to the Round-of-16 and shall be paired as follows (In all succeeding matches, first named has White on board 1):

R16 Match 1: Group B winner vs. Group D runner-up,

R16 Match 2: Group E winner vs. Group G runner-up,

R16 Match 3: Group F winner vs. Group H runner up,

R16 Match 4: Group C winner vs. Group A runner-up,

R16 Match 5: Group D winner vs. Group B runner-up,

R16 Match 6: Group H winner vs. Group F runner-up,

R16 Match 7: Group G winner vs. Group E runner-up,

R16 Match 8: Group A winner vs. Group C runner-up

Time control for the event is 90 min/40 moves +30 min/end, with 30 seconds additional time per move, starting from move 1.

The Quarterfinal shall be paired as follows:

QF1: Winner of Match 1 vs Winner of Match 2

QF2: Winner of Match 3 vs Winner of Match 4

QF3: Winner of Match 5 vs. Winner of Match 6

QF4: Winner of Match 7 vs. Winner of Match 8

The Semifinal shall be paired as follows:

SF1: Winner of QF1 vs. Winner of QF2

SF2: Winner of QF3 vs. Winner of QF4

The Final Match shall be paired as follows:

Winner of SF1 vs. Winner of SF2

Each round the list of the team composition for that round will be delivered to arbiters at 9:00 am morning. Otherwise, that round the top 4 boards will be accepted as the playing team. For the group Round Robins, the same rule will be applied.

7.3 Scoring

Each match will be scored by match points as used in the FIDE Olympiad. Winner will get 2 points, a draw will give each team 1 point, and a loss is scored as 0 points.

In the Round Robin Preliminaries, the ranking and ties shall be resolved as follows:

- a. by total match points.
- b. by total game points.
- c. if a tie again results, the scores obtained by the tying teams against each other will decide, first by match points then by game points;
- d. if a tie again results, then Sonnenborn Berger systems will be used.
- e. if a tie again results, it shall be decided by board count (Berlin System) as follows:
 - win on Board 1 is 4 points
 - win on Board 2 is 3 points
 - win on Board 3 is 2 points
 - win on Board 4 is 1 point

In case of drawn games these points are shared. If the board-count results in no victory for either side then the board points of Board 4 are cancelled and so on upwards until the tie is broken.

- f. if a tie still results between teams, one player from each team shall play a sudden-death knockout of 6 minutes for white and 5 minutes for black to be decided by the Chief Arbiter.

The blitz games shall be played according to the following:

- 1. Play is governed by the Laws of Chess which apply with the exceptions mentioned below (2, 3 and 4).
- 2. The players do not need to record the moves. An arbiter shall record the moves.
- 3. The player who has the move may stop the clock and consult the Arbiter's score sheet and if his next move will produce a threefold repetition of position (according to Article 9.2a of the Laws of Chess), or the 50 moves rule (according to Article 9.3a of the Laws of Chess), he himself must write the intended move on the score sheet and claim the draw if he wants.
- 4. A player can also claim a draw according to articles 9.2b and 9.3b of the Laws of Chess. If the claim is found to be correct, the game is immediately ended as a draw. If the claim is found to be incorrect, the Arbiter shall add three (3) minutes to the opponent's remaining time and the game continues with the intended move in accordance with Article 4 of the Laws of Chess. A maximum of two (2) incorrect claims for a draw can be made by each player. If a player makes a 3rd incorrect claim, the arbiter shall declare the game lost for this player.
- If a game has ended by resignation, checkmate, time loss, stalemate, triple repetition or any other of the ways described in article 5 of the Laws of Chess, no claim for irregularities shall be accepted (irregularities include clock settings and all other described in article 7 of the Laws of Chess).
- The teams shall draw lots for color before the match.

- The games shall be played according to the Rules mentioned in f.1.
- Tie break games and sudden death games shall start at the same time as decided by the Chief Arbiter.

7.3b In case of ties in the knock out stages, ties shall be broken by sudden death matches over three boards after a new submission of line-up according to board order.

- The games shall be played according to the blitz Rules above.
- A new draw of lots shall be made before the match. The player with the white pieces shall receive 6 minutes, the opponent with the black pieces shall receive 5 minutes whereupon, after the 60th move, both players shall receive an increment of 3 seconds for each move from move 61. In case of a draw the player with the black pieces is declared the winner.

8. Prizes and Awards

The winning city in the World Cities Chess Team Championship shall be awarded the Sheikh Zayed Cup. Finalists should participate in the Awards Ceremony.

The Sheikh Zayed Cup is property of FIDE.

The Sheikh Zayed Cup is to be competed for at each successive championship. It cannot be acquired in perpetuity and must be returned to the FIDE President or his nominee on demand.

A total of \$150,000 in cash prizes shall be awarded for the World Cities Championship for the Sheikh Zayed Cup as follows:

16 eliminated from Round Robin Groups receive \$2,500 each

8 qualifiers to Round of 16 receive \$4,000 each

4 Quarterfinalists receive \$5,000 each

Fourth Place receives \$10,000

Third Place receives \$12,000

Second Place receives \$15,000

Champion receives \$21,000

9. FIDE Principals

The FIDE principals nominated by the FIDE President are:

the Chief Arbiter,

Deputy Chief Arbiter (who shall be from the host Federation) and

the 3 members of the Appeals Committee (Chairman plus two members) one of whom may be the FIDE Technical Delegate nominated by the FIDE Events Commission.

9.1 The appeals committee

No member of the Appeals Committee shall sit in judgment in a dispute involving a player

or party from his Federation.

All protests must be submitted in writing to the Appeals Committee not more than one hour after the relevant playing session, or the particular infringement complained against.

The Committee may decide on the following matters:

- a. an appeal against a decision by an arbiter or a FIDE principal,
- b. a protest against a player's behaviour,
- c. a complaint alleging false interpretation of the regulations,
- d. a request for the interpretation of specific regulations,
- e. a protest or complaint against any participant, or
- f. all other matters which the Committee considers important.

If possible, the Committee shall reach a decision not more than two hours after the submission of a protest. The appeals process shall include written representations and a written decision. The Committee shall endeavour to find binding solutions that are within the true spirit of the FIDE motto, *Gens Una Sumus*. Each protest must be accompanied by a deposit fee of 500 euros (five hundred euros) 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.

The written decision of the Appeals Committee arising from any dispute in respect of these regulations shall be final.

10. Uniforms

To present the image of chess as a sporting event, all Players should use their official Uniform.