



## **Player's Contract for Participation in the FIDE Grand Prix 2017**

The World Chess Federation (FIDE) is the governing body of the FIDE Grand Prix 2017 (hereinafter referred to as the GP 2017). The Administrator of the GP 2017 is FIDE, in collaboration with AGON Ltd (hereinafter referred to as AGON) and World Chess Events Ltd (hereinafter referred to as WCE).

The two (2) first winners of the GP 2017 qualify for the Candidates Tournament of the World Chess Championship Cycle 2016-2018.

In order to ensure that the GP 2017 is played in accordance with its approved regulations, the statutes and the decisions of FIDE, the following provisions shall apply:

### **1. Venues**

1.1 The GP 2017 will consist of four (4) tournaments which will be held in various cities worldwide. Each player will play in three (3) tournaments. Depending on circumstances, FIDE reserves the right to change locations and dates.

1.2 All the players of the GP 2017 shall stay at the official hotels designated by FIDE and the Organisers.

### **2. Right of Participation**

2.1 The following players have originally qualified:

01. Carlsen, Magnus (NOR, World Champion)
02. Karjakin, Sergey (RUS, World Ch. runner-up 2016)
03. Svidler, Peter (RUS, World Cup runner-up 2015)
04. Giri, Anish (NED, World Cup semi-finalist 2015)
05. Eljanov, Pavel (UKR, World Cup semi-finalist 2015)
06. Nakamura, Hikaru (USA, Average 12m Std Ratings 6/2015 to 5/2016)
07. Caruana, Fabiano (USA, Average 12m Std Ratings 6/2015 to 5/2016)
08. Anand, Viswanathan (IND, Average 12m Std Ratings 6/2015 to 5/2016)

09. Topalov, Veselin (BUL, Average 12m Std Ratings 6/2015 to 5/2016)
10. Kramnik, Vladimir (RUS, Average 12m Std Ratings 6/2015 to 5/2016)
11. Aronian, Levon (ARM, Average 12m Std Ratings 6/2015 to 5/2016)
12. So, Wesley (USA, Average 12m Std Ratings 6/2015 to 5/2016)
13. Ding, Liren (CHN, Average 12m Std Ratings 6/2015 to 5/2016)
14. Vachier-Lagrave, Maxime (FRA, Average 12m Std Ratings 6/2015 to 5/2016)
15. Tomashevsky, Evgeny (RUS, ACP Tour qualifier)

If any of the above qualifiers decline to participate in the GP 2017, they shall be replaced according to the official FIDE Grand Prix regulations. In addition to the above 15 players, AGON shall nominate nine (9) players in accordance with the official FIDE Grand Prix regulations. Total number of players: 24.

2.2 The qualified participants in article 2.1 are entitled to play in the GP 2017. This right may only be set aside if the player does not meet the deadlines specified in this contract or otherwise behaves in a way and manner that is in violation of the provisions of this contract, in which case FIDE may designate a reserve to replace him.

### **3. Confirmation deadlines**

3.1 The qualified players are expected to fax / email this document of their signed contract to reach the FIDE Secretariat by no later than midnight, 4 January 2017 and to send the original to FIDE by registered airmail, postmarked no later than 4 January 2017. All pages of the contract must be initialed by the player and the last page must be signed in full.

3.2 In the last page of this contract, players must rank their preference of tournaments according to the list of dates and cities announced on the FIDE website. FIDE is not obliged, but will endeavour to respect the players' preferences, and will balance the player allocation to a host city according to objective criteria such as average tournament rating, and continental representation. Once the players are allocated, FIDE reserves the right to transfer players from one tournament to another within the cycle if required due to exceptional or unexpected circumstances.

3.3 Players failing to turn up for an event may forfeit their participation in the series and FIDE reserves the right to replace them immediately.

### **4. The Player's Obligations**

4.1 On signing this player's contract, the player commits himself to completing the GP 2017 in accordance with the regulations for the GP 2017, the decisions of the FIDE General Assembly, FIDE Code of Ethics, FIDE Anti-Doping Disciplinary Regulations, FIDE Statutes, FIDE Laws of Chess and rules and regulations which form an integral part of this contract, save in the case of

illness evidenced by a medical certificate. FIDE is entitled to require independent verification of any medical reason given for non-participation or withdrawal.

4.2 By signing this contract, the player agrees not to compete in any cycle, tournament or match outside of FIDE, with the purpose of establishing a World Chess Champion, for a period of 4 (four) years from the end of the GP 2017.

4.3 FIDE, in accordance with the GP regulations, reserves the right to penalize any player who, after signing this contract, fails to complete the GP 2017 without a valid reason.

4.4 During the GP 2017 the players have to give interviews and make appearances as described in the official regulations. Any breach can result to fines as per clause 18 of the GP 2017 regulations.

4.5 The players shall be required to appear punctually for the commencement of play at the start of each round. Any unjustified violation of this rule may result in a fine of up to EUR 1,000. Such a fine is to be decided by the Chief Arbiter and shall be deducted from the prize money.

4.6 The players shall be required to attend the Opening Ceremony or any official reception specifically approved by the FIDE President, failing which the following fine can be imposed by the Chief Arbiter: 5% of the player's prize money shall be forfeited to the Organisers and a further 5% to FIDE for each breach.

4.7 The players shall attend the Closing Ceremony and failure to attend may result in a penalty up to the total prize fund. Any decision on this matter must be taken by the FIDE President and confirmed by the Presidential Board.

4.8 The player accepts that the Chief Arbiter may carry out any inspection or security checks at any time just before the start of the game, during the game or immediately after the game to ensure that no electronic or other equipment has been brought into the playing hall by the players.

## **5. Innovative features for live games broadcast**

5.1 During the GP 2017, the Organisers may introduce bio-metric devices and a "confessional booth" for the players during the games. These new features aim to increase the media interest for the Grand-Prix and their usage is optional for the players. The players are encouraged by FIDE and AGON / World Chess Events to use them during their games.

**6. Financial conditions**

6.1 Each tournament of the Grand Prix will have a prize fund of 130,000 euros, in accordance with the official regulations, provided by AGON Ltd and World Chess Events Ltd.

6.2 In accordance with the regulations of the Tournament, FIDE receives an additional amount as contribution by the organisers and this amount is not deducted from each individual prize.

6.3 Subject to the provisions of this contract, the amount to which each player is entitled will be paid by direct bank transfer not later than two weeks after the end of the Tournament.

6.4 FIDE or the Organizing Committee, will not be responsible for any application of political or financial sanctions from the organizing country regarding players of the tournament.

6.5 The game score sheets are the property of FIDE.

**7. Arbitration**

7.1 Any dispute arising from or related to the present contract must be submitted in writing to the Presidential Board, which will give its decision. In case an acceptable solution is not found, each party may submit the case to the Court of Arbitration for Sport (CAS) in Lausanne, Switzerland, which will resolve the case definitively in accordance with Swiss Law. The court proceedings shall take place in English.

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By signing this contract, I hereby confirm that I will participate in the FIDE Grand Prix 2017 and have in consultation with my national federation acquainted myself with the applicable FIDE Statutes, FIDE Grand Prix regulations, FIDE Code of Ethics, FIDE Anti-Doping Disciplinary Regulations, FIDE Laws of Chess and rules and regulations and accept the conditions relating to my participation.

Place and date: .....

Full Name of Player: .....

Rank of preferred 3 cities/tournaments, if possible to be arranged, as per article 3.2 above:

1..... 2..... 3.....

SIGNATURE OF PLAYER: .....

\* \* \* \* \*

Place and date: .....

FIDE Deputy President Georgios Makropoulos

SIGNATURE: .....

\* \* \* \* \*

Place and date: .....

Ilya Merenzon on behalf of AGON and WCE

SIGNATURE: .....