

2017 GCT Tour Regulations

The 2017 Grand Chess Tour is a series of five elite tournaments in which the participating players are eligible to earn Grand Chess Tour Points in accordance with their final rank in each Event. At the end of the 2017 Grand Chess Tour, the two players with the most Tour Points shall be awarded additional tour prize money as set out below.

All full tour participants are required to participate in 4 of the 5 Events that will comprise the 2017 Grand Chess Tour. This will include both classical tournaments as well as two of the three Rapid & Blitz Events.

Tour points earned in all four Events in which Player participates in 2017 will count towards their final standings at the end of the 2017 Grand Chess Tour.

1. Tour Points

Tour Points shall be awarded based on the final rank of each Player and the Event time control as set out below. Tour Points shall be shared equally between tied players in an individual Event, except as otherwise specified in the Tiebreak regulations.

Place	Classical	Rapid & Blitz (combined)
1st	12/13*	12/13*
2nd	10	10
3rd	8	8
4th	7	7
5th	6	6
6th	5	5
7th	4	4
8th	3	3
9th	2	2
10th	1	1

** Any player who wins an Event outright (without the need for a playoff) shall earn one extra bonus Tour Point.*

2. Scoring

In the Classical Events the standings shall be determined by the allocation of:

- 1 point for a win, ½ point for a draw and 0 points for a loss in all games.

In the Rapid & Blitz Events the standings shall be determined by the allocation of:

- 2 points for a win, 1 point for a draw and 0 points for a loss in a Rapid game; and
- 1 point for a win, ½ point for a draw and 0 points for a loss in a Blitz game.

3. Tour Prize Fund

Awards for the 2017 Grand Chess Tour Prize Fund shall be declared and certified by the Governance Committee established separately by the GCT. Tour payments shall be affected by the GCT to the winners by no later than January 15th, 2018.

The player with the highest number of Tour Points shall receive \$100,000 USD (One Hundred Thousand U.S. Dollars) in addition to their individual Event prize money.

The player with the second highest Tour Points shall receive \$50,000 USD (Fifty Thousand U.S. Dollars) in addition to their individual Event prize money.

4. Tiebreaks

Tiebreak regulations for Players tied for first in an individual Event and for Players tied for first in the 2017 GCT are set out in the Tiebreak Regulations.

5. Code of Ethics

All players agree to abide by the FIDE Code of Ethics.

6. Laws of Chess

Unless otherwise specified, all Events shall be governed by the FIDE Laws of Chess.

7. FIDE Rating

All games except Armageddon games shall be submitted for the appropriate category of FIDE rating and will also be submitted for rating within the Universal Rating System (URS™).

8. Competitive Play

A 30-move Sofia Draw Rule will be in effect throughout the Event, including any playoff games. Players must not agree to a draw before Black's 30th move.

9. Cell Phones

No cell phones or other electronic devices shall be allowed in the tournament area.

10. Appeals

The GCT will appoint a 3-person Appeals Committee before the commencement of play at each Event. The appointed Appeals Committee shall include at least one member of the GCT Advisory Board and if possible shall include an International Arbiter.

No member of the Appeals Committee shall serve in respect of an appeal where he or she has been involved in the original decision. In such circumstances the GCT shall appoint a substitute.

In the event of an appeal the Appeals Committee will be responsible for all decisions.

Where there is no International Arbiter on the Appeals Committee, the Committee shall endeavour to consult one before reaching their decision. Moreover, the Committee may consult with additional members of the GCT Advisory Board at their sole discretion should they believe this is appropriate. The decision of the Appeals Committee shall be final and binding for both Player and GCT.