

2018 GCT Tour Regulations

The 2018 Grand Chess Tour is a series of 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 2018 Sinquefield Cup, the four players with the most Tour Points shall proceed to the GCT Tour Finals in London where they will compete in a series of matches for additional prize money and the title of the 2018 Grand Chess Tour Champion.

1. Preamble

All Tour Players are required to participate in the 2018 Sinquefield Cup as well as in the three Rapid & Blitz events that form part of the 2018 Grand Chess Tour.

Tour points earned in all Events will count towards the final standings at the end of the 2018 Sinquefield Cup.

The contents of these Tour Regulations apply to the GCT Tour Finals in London only in so far as the context applies. Detailed regulations for the GCT Tour Finals in London will be provided to the qualifiers by no later than October 11, 2018.

2. Tour Points

Tour Points shall be awarded based on the final rank of each Player as set out below.

Tour Points shall be shared equally between tied players in each Event and shall not be impacted by the result of any playoff or tiebreaks that may take place in line with the Tiebreak Regulations.

Place	Sinquefield Cup	Rapid & Blitz Events (based on combined standings)
1 st	18/20*	12/13*
2 nd	15	10
3 rd	12	8
4 th	10	7
5 th	8	6
6 th	6	5
7 th	4	4
8 th	3	3
9 th	2	2
10 th	1	1

** Any player who wins an Event outright (without the need for a playoff) shall earn one extra bonus Tour Point in a Rapid & Blitz event and two extra bonus Tour Points in the Sinquefield Cup.*

3. Scoring

In the 2018 Sinquefield Cup 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.

4. Tiebreaks

Tiebreak regulations for Players tied for first in an individual Event and for players who tie in the standings of the 2018 Grand Chess Tour at the end of the Sinquefield Cup are attached in Addendum C ("Tiebreak Regulations"), which addendum is attached hereto and incorporated as part of this Agreement.

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

To promote competitive play during Classical games, it will not be permitted for players to offer or agree to a draw during the 2018 Sinquefield Cup or during the Classical games at the GCT Finals in London, except as specifically indicated below:

- In the event of a claim for a draw under Article 9.2 of the Laws (three-fold repetition) or under Article 9.3 of the Laws (50 move rule), one of the Event Arbiters must be asked to verify the claim.
- In a completely drawn position in the endgame, a claim for a draw may be made to the Event Chief Arbiter. The Chief Arbiter shall be empowered to accept or refuse the claim and may seek such advice as he or she considers appropriate.

The rule above shall apply to the 2018 Sinquefield Cup and to the Classical games in the GCT Finals only. It shall not apply to any playoff games or to any of the Rapid and Blitz games either in the Rapid and Blitz Events or during the GCT Finals in London.

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. The Committee may also 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.