

# GRAND CHESS TOUR™

## Regulations for the 2019 GCT Finals during the London Chess Classic

### 1. Preamble

At the end of the 2019 Tata Steel Chess India Rapid & Blitz, the four players with the most GCT Tour Points shall proceed to contest the GCT Finals which will once again form part of the London Chess Classic. In this event, they will compete in a series of matches for additional prize money and the overall title of 2019 Grand Chess Tour Champion.

### 2. Format of matches

Each match will be contested between two players over a total of two Classic games, two Rapid games and four Blitz games. All games in each match must be completed, even when a match is already decided. All games (except for the Armageddon tiebreak game if required) will be submitted for the appropriate category of FIDE rating and will also be submitted for rating within the Universal Rating System (URS™).

Colours for the Classic Games shall be decided by the drawing of lots. The player who has White in Classic Game 1 shall have Black in Rapid Game 1 and in Blitz Games 1 and 3.

### 3. Pairings

The final GCT Point standings at the end of the the 2019 Tata Steel Chess India Rapid & Blitz, and after the application of Section 4 of the 2019 GCT Tiebreak Regulations if necessary, shall determine the pairings for the Semi Finals as follows:

Semi Final Match 1: 1<sup>st</sup> Place vs 4<sup>th</sup> Place

Semi Final Match 2: 2<sup>nd</sup> Place vs 3<sup>rd</sup> Place

The winners of each Semi Final match shall contest the Final Match and the losers shall contest the 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> place Playoff match.

### 4. Time Limits:

The following time controls will be used for all matches

- 4.1. **Classic Games:** Game in One Hundred and Thirty (130) Minutes with a 30 second delay per move from move 1.
- 4.2. **Rapid Games:** Game in 25 minutes, with a 10-second delay from move 1.
- 4.3. **Blitz Games:** Game in 5 minutes, with a 3-second delay from move 1.

## 5. Scoring

Points will be allocated to each game within the respective matches as follows:

- 6 points for a win, 3 points for a draw and 0 points for a loss in the 2 Classic games.
- 4 points for a win, 2 point for a draw and 0 points for a loss in the 2 Rapid games; and
- 2 point for a win, 1 point for a draw and 0 points for a loss in the 4 Blitz games.

Each match will therefore be scored out of a total of (6 pts \* 2 Classic games) + (4 pts \* 2 rapid games) + (2 pts \* 4 blitz games) = 28 possible points. A total of 15 points will be required to win each match.

## 6. Playing Venues and Schedule

The matches shall be contested between December 2 and December 8, 2019. All games will take place at The Olympia Conference Centre (Hammersmith Rd, Hammersmith, London W14 8UX, UK). Members of the public will be able to purchase tickets to attend as spectators. All games will be contested according to the playing schedule below:

<b>2019 Grand Chess Tour Finals Schedule</b>			
<b>Date</b>	<b>Event</b>	<b>Time</b>	<b>Venue</b>
December 2	Semi-Finals Classic Game 1	16.00	London Olympia
December 3	Semi-Finals Classic Game 2	16.00	London Olympia
December 4	Semi-Finals Rapid & Blitz & Playoffs (If Required)	16.00	London Olympia
December 5	Corporate Day – Pro Biz Cup		
December 6	Finals Classic Game 1	16.00	London Olympia
December 7	Finals Classic Game 2	14.00	London Olympia
December 8	Finals Rapid & Blitz, Playoffs (If Required), and Closing Presentation	14.00	London Olympia

A detailed schedule is given in the Addendum

**7. Prize Fund**

The four qualifying participants will compete for a prize pool of USD 350,000 which will be split as follows:

<b>Place</b>	<b>Prize</b>
1 <sup>st</sup>	\$150,000
2 <sup>nd</sup>	\$ 100,000
3 <sup>rd</sup>	\$ 60,000
4 <sup>th</sup>	\$ 40,000
<b>Total Prize Fund</b>	<b>\$ 350,000</b>

**8. Tiebreak Regulations**

- 8.1.** In the event of a tie for any of the matches there shall be a playoff.
- 8.2.** In any playoff, a Rapid mini-match consisting of two games shall first be played at a time limit of game in 10 minutes with a 5 second delay per move from move 1.
- 8.3.** If this fails to break the tie, a single "Armageddon" game shall be played to split the tie:
- 8.3.1.** White shall have 5 minutes and Black shall have 4 minutes, without any increment or delay.
  - 8.3.2.** In the event of a draw Black shall be declared the winner.
- 8.4.** Colours for the rapid phase of the playoffs shall be determined by the drawing of lots. Colours for the "Armageddon" game shall be determined by the toss of a coin, conducted by the Event Chief Arbiter. The winner of the toss shall have choice of colour.

**9 Applicability**

These Regulations shall be read in accordance with the 2019 Grand Chess Tour Player Participation Agreement, the 2019 GCT Tour Regulations, the 2019 GCT Event Regulations and the 2019 Tiebreak Regulations.

In the event of any conflict these Regulations shall apply.

Any changes to these Regulations shall be communicated to the participants at the Technical Meeting on December 1, 2019, or previously.

## Addendum: Detailed Schedule

December 2	16.00	Semi-Finals Classic Game 1
December 3	16.00	Semi-Finals Classic Game 2
December 4	16.00	Semi-Finals Rapid & Blitz & Playoffs (If Required)
	16.00	Rapid Game 1
	17.30	Rapid Game 2
	19.00	Blitz Game 1
	19.30	Blitz Game 2
	20.00	Blitz Game 3
	20.30	Blitz Game 4
	21.00	Rapid Playoff Game 1 (if required)
	21.45	Rapid Playoff Game 2 (if required)
	22.30	Armageddon Playoff Game (if required)
December 5		Corporate Day – Pro Biz Cup
December 6	16.00	Finals Classic Game 1
December 7	14.00	Finals Classic Game 2
December 8	14.00	Finals Rapid & Blitz, Playoffs (If Required), and Closing Presentation
	14.00	Rapid Game 1
	15.30	Rapid Game 2
	17.00	Blitz Game 1
	17.30	Blitz Game 2
	18.00	Blitz Game 3
	18.30	Blitz Game 4
	19.00	Rapid Playoff Game 1 (if required)
	19.45	Rapid Playoff Game 2 (if required)
	20.30	Armageddon Playoff Game (if required)