

February 7, 2019

*For Immediate Release***Grand Chess Tour confirms full tour participants for the 2019 season**

Saint Louis, MO, February 7, 2019 – The Grand Chess Tour is pleased to confirm the names of the twelve players that will be competing as full tour participants in 2019. They are as follows:

#	Name	FED	URS (Rank)	FIDE (Rank)
1	Carlsen, Magnus	NOR	2859 (1)	2835 (1)
2	Nakamura, Hikaru	USA	2806 (2)	2749 (16)
3	Vachier-Lagrave, Maxime	FRA	2796 (3)	2780 (6)
4	Caruana, Fabiano	USA	2794 (4)	2828 (2)
5	Mamedyarov, Shakhriyar	AZE	2792 (5)	2817 (3)
6	Ding, Liren	CHN	2788 (6)	2813 (4)
7	Aronian, Levon	ARM	2782 (7)	2767 (10)
8	So, Wesley	USA	2779 (8)	2765 (11)
9	Nepomniachtchi, Ian	RUS	2778 (9)	2763 (13)
10	Karjakin, Sergey	RUS	2776 (10)	2753 (15)
11	Giri, Anish	NED	2765 (14)	2783 (5)
12	Anand, Viswanathan	IND	2761 (16)	2773 (8)

* Ratings per the URS™ and FIDE Classic rating lists as at January 1, 2019 (selection date)

The only player to decline his invitation was GM Vladimir Kramnik following the announced of his retirement from professional chess at the end of January 2019. He was replaced by GM Sergey Karjakin who accepted his full tour invitation as the first alternate.

The process of finalising the allocation of players to individual events has already commenced and further announcements regarding the participant lists for each event as well as the selection of wildcards will be made in due course.

About the Grand Chess Tour (<http://grandchesstour.org>)

The Grand Chess Tour is a circuit of international events, each demonstrating the highest level of organization for the world's best players. The Tour was created in partnership between the St Louis Chess Club (Sinquefeld Cup) and Chess Promotions, Ltd. (London Chess Classic). The legendary Garry Kasparov, one of the world's greatest ambassadors for chess, inspired the Grand Chess Tour and helped solidify the partnership between the organizers.

Grand Chess Tour

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