

2024 Grand Chess Tour Regulations

The 2024 Grand Chess Tour (GCT) is a series of elite tournaments in which the participating players are eligible to earn Tour Points in accordance with their final rank in each event. At the end of the regular 2024 GCT Season, bonus payments totalling USD 175,000 will be paid out to the top 3 finishers based on the accumulated Tour Points over the season.

1. Preamble

The 2024 Grand Chess Tour will consist of two 10-player Round Robin Tournaments played at a Classical time control and three 10-player Round Robin Tournaments played at both Rapid & Blitz time controls.

A total of nine full Tour participants will be selected for the 2024 GCT season with each full Tour participant required to participate in both Classical events as well as in two of the available three Rapid & Blitz events. Full Tour players will earn Tour Points in all events and the results of every event will count towards the final GCT standings at the end of the regular season.

2. Tour Points

Tour Points shall be awarded based on the final ranking of each full Tour player in each event as set out in the table below. Event wildcard players are included in the final rankings of an event but are not eligible to receive Tour Points. The same point allocations shall apply to both the Classical and Rapid & Blitz events. Tour Points shall be shared equally between tied players and shall not be impacted by the result of any playoff or tiebreaks that may take place.

Place	Tour Points	Place	Tour Points
1 st	12 / 13*	6 th	5
2 nd	10	7 th	4
3 rd	8	8 th	3
4 th	7	9 th	2
5 th	6	10 th	1

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

3. Grand Chess Tour Winner Bonuses

The three players who score the most Tour Points over the course of the 2024 GCT shall be awarded bonus payments as follows:

1 st	USD 100,000
2 nd	USD 50,000
3 rd	<u>USD 25,000</u>
Total	<u>USD 175,000</u>

4. 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.

5. Tiebreaks

Tiebreak regulations for players tied for first in an individual event and for players who tie in the final standings of the 2024 GCT are addressed in the “2024 GCT Tiebreak Regulations”, which are incorporated as part of these 2024 GCT Regulations.

6. Pairings

A drawing of lots will be held prior to the first Classical event, and separately for both the Rapid & Blitz portions prior to each Rapid & Blitz event.

If there are three or more full Tour players from the same federation, the drawing of lots for the first Classical event shall be “restricted” using the FIDE Varma Table. The pairings for the second Classical event shall be the same as for the first Classical event, but with colours reversed.

7. Laws of Chess

Unless otherwise specified below, all Events shall be governed by the FIDE Laws of Chess. For Rapid & Blitz events, Articles A.5 and B.3 of the FIDE Laws of Chess will apply.

i. Default Times

If a player is more than ten (10) minutes late for a Classical round, the player shall forfeit such round. If a player is more than three (3) minutes late for a Rapid or Blitz round, the player shall forfeit such round.

ii. Displaced Pieces

Where a player displaces one or more pieces on the chessboard during a game and does not replace them in their own time, the other player may stop the clock and call for an arbiter (who shall stop the clock if this has not been done).

Where arbiter intervention is necessary, the following penalties shall apply. The same penalties shall apply in subsequent rounds.

- First occurrence: The arbiter shall warn the offending player that on the next occurrence it will be treated as an illegal move.
- Second occurrence: This is now treated as an illegal move and action shall be taken by the arbiter according to the number of illegal moves already done by the offending player in the same game.
- Third occurrence: This is treated as a second illegal move, so the penalty will be a loss of the game for the offending player.

8. Rating of Games Played

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™). The GCT shall seek any necessary permission from FIDE and national federations to ensure that all games played are rated.

9. Competitive Play

To promote competitive play during all GCT events, it will not be permitted for players to offer or agree to a draw in any game, including playoff games. 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 by the players to verify the claim.

10. Appeals

Any player wishing to appeal a decision made by an Event Arbiter must notify the Event Chief Arbiter of their intention to appeal no later than 15 minutes after the end of their game impacted by the decision and before the start of any subsequent rounds scheduled for the same day. A written appeal must then be submitted no later than 30 minutes after the end of the final round on the day of the decision. There shall be no fee unless the Appeals Committee considers the appeal to have been frivolous or vexatious.

A GCT Appeals Committee shall consist of 3 persons out of 5 of the GCT Appeals Panel, which comprises Joy Bray, Michael Khodarkovsky, IA Tony Rich, IA Chris Bird and IA Ignatius Leong. No member of the Appeals Committee shall serve in respect of an appeal in which they have been involved in the original decision. In such circumstances the GCT shall appoint a substitute.

In the event of an appeal, a GCT Appeals Committee will convene a meeting to address the appeal at the end of the day's play. A decision regarding any appeals received will be made before the start of play on the next day. The decision of the GCT Appeals Committee shall be final and binding for both player and GCT.

Where there is no International Arbiter on the Appeals Committee, the Committee shall endeavour to consult one before reaching their decision.