



Regulations for the FIDE World Cup 2019

1. Scope

1. 1. The FIDE World Cup 2019 (hereinafter referred to as World Cup) is organized between September 9th and October 4th 2019.
1. 2. Governing Body is the World Chess Federation (FIDE).
1. 3. FIDE Global Strategy Commission (hereinafter referred to as GSC) is in charge for preparing regulations, communicating with the Organizer and the participants, conducting inspections.
1. 4. The body responsible for adopting and changing these rules is the FIDE Presidential Board, upon recommendation by GSC.
1. 5. At any time, any circumstance or unforeseen situation not covered in these regulations shall be referred to the FIDE President for final decision.

2. Qualification

2. 1. Players qualify for World Cup by the following paths:

- I. Reigning World Champion.
- II. Winner, runner-up and two (2) other semi-finalists of the FIDE World Cup 2017 – four (4) players.
- III. Reigning Women's World Champion.
- IV. World Junior Champions U-20 of 2017 & 2018 – two (2) players.
- V. Qualifiers from the Continental Championships and Zonals (see Annex 2) – ninety-two (92) players:

Europe: 46
Americas: 20
Asia: 20
Africa: 6.

- a) Continental Championships and Zonals 2018.
- b) Continental Championships and Zonals 2019.

- VI. Highest rated players from the average of the twelve (12) standard FIDE rating lists - eighteen (18) players, who have not qualified by path from I to V.

For the purpose of deciding the eighteen (18) qualifiers by rating, the average ELO from the twelve (12) standard FIDE rating lists from August 2018 to July 2019 is used. In case of equality, two decimals are taken into consideration. If the numbers are still equal then the total number of rated games in all 12 standard rating periods is decisive: the player with the bigger number of games qualifies.

A player who appears inactive at least once in the twelve standard FIDE rating lists from August 2018 to July 2019 is not eligible.

- VII. Highest placed player of the ACP Tour 2018, who have not qualified by path from I to VI.
- VIII. Nominees of the FIDE President – five (5) players.
- IX. Nominees of the Organizer – four (4) players.

2. 2. All players qualified by one or more paths from I to IV are not counted for qualification purpose in the events V a)

2. 3. All players qualified by one or more paths from I to V a) are not counted for qualification purpose in the events V b)

2. 4. If any replacements are needed including due to a withdrawal or a refusal of participation, they are done as follows:

- a. For qualifiers by paths I to IV and VI, path VI serves for the purpose, as described in article 2.1.
- b. Qualifiers by paths V and VII (Article 2.1.) are replaced from their respective events. In Zonal Tournaments a replacement

must have scored at least 50% of the maximum possible score, otherwise the spot goes to the Continental Championship.

3. Confirmation of Participation

3. 1. Each player receives his contract by email. He may also download his contract from the FIDE website. Each player signs and sends his contract to the FIDE Secretariat by the registered email before a fixed deadline indicated in the email sent to each player and announced on the FIDE website. Additional contracts between the Organizer and the players may be signed if needed.

3. 2. A player who does not submit his contract before the deadline is replaced according to Articles 2.4. (FIDE may accept late contracts received after the deadline only for reasons GSC considers to be admissible).

3. 3. A player who signs his contract but withdraws is replaced as described in Article 2.4.

3. 4. No player that withdraws after the pairings are announced is replaced.

3. 5. A player who fails to provide a satisfactory reason for withdrawal, after he have signed the player's contract, may be sanctioned by the FIDE Presidential Board.

4. Tournament Regulations

4. 1. Format & System

Knock-out tournament, seven (7) rounds. The first six (6) rounds are played with two (2) games matches. The Final and the Match for 3rd place consist of four (4) games.

Round 1:		128 players
Round 2:		64 players
Round 3:		32 players
Round 4:		16 players
Round 5:		8 players
Round 6:		4 players
Round 7:	Final	2 players
	Match for 3 rd place	2 players

4. 2. Travel and Accommodation

4. 2. 1. All players pay their own cost of travel, accommodation and meals for the duration of their stay.

4. 2. 2. The Organizer offers accommodation options. For security and administrative reasons, all participants are expected but not obliged to stay in the officially designated hotel(s).

4. 3. Playing venue

4. 3. 1. GSC ensures the playing hall and its environs meet the requirements of the FIDE Regulations for the organization of Top-level Tournaments (FIDE Handbook C.01).

4. 3. 2. The Organizer provides, free of charge, coffee, tea and soft drinks for the players, the principals, VIPs and accredited media.

4. 4. Schedule

DATE	EVENT	
September 9 th	Opening Ceremony & Technical Meeting	
September 10 th	Round 1	Game 1
September 11 th		Game 2
September 12 th		Tie-break
September 13 th	Round 2	Game 1
September 14 th		Game 2
September 15 th		Tie-break
September 16 th	Round 3	Game 1
September 17 th		Game 2
September 18 th		Tie-break
September 19 th	Free Day	

September 20 th	Round 4	Game 1
September 21 st		Game 2
September 22 nd		Tie-break
September 23 rd	Round 5	Game 1
September 24 th		Game 2
September 25 th		Tie-break
September 26 th	Round 6	Game 1
September 27 th		Game 2
September 28 th		Tie-break
September 29 th	Free Day	
September 30 th	Final & Match for 3 rd place	Game 1
October 1 st		Game 2
October 2 nd		Game 3
October 3 rd		Game 4
October 4 th		Tie-break
October 4 th	Closing Ceremony	

4. 5. Pairings

4. 5. 1. Pairings are announced not later than thirty (30) days before the beginning of World Cup.

4. 5. 2. For purposes of pairings the players are ranked according to the most recent FIDE Standard Rating List as per the moment when pairings are announced. In case of equality of two or more players, the player with the bigger number of games played during the period covered by the list is higher seeded. In case of equal number, the order is decided by draw of lots. The reigning World Champion is seeded number one.

4. 5. 3. Pairings follow the principle of top half vs. lower half reversed (1-128, 2-127...). Thus, the highest ranked player of the top half plays the lowest ranked player of the bottom half. The second ranked player of the top half plays the penultimate ranked player of the bottom half. And so on.

4. 5. 4. For rounds 2 to 6, pairings follow the same procedure as in Article 4. 5. 3. If the lower ranked player wins any match, he assumes automatically the position of his eliminated opponent.

4. 6. Drawing of colours

4. 6. 1. The draw of colours for Round 1 is made during the Opening Ceremony.

4. 6. 2. In Round 2 the winner of match 1 has in the first game the colour opposite to the colour that the top seeded player had in the first game of Round 1. The higher seeded player in the first game of match 2 has the same colour that the highest seeded player had in the first game of match 1 and thereafter with colours alternating through the list, with the clarification that if the lower ranked player wins any match, he assumes automatically the position of his eliminated opponent in the next round.

4. 6. 3. For Rounds 3-6 and the final the procedure described in Article 4. 6. 2. is applied.

4. 6. 4. In the Match for 3rd place a higher rated player has the colour opposite to the colour he had in Round 6.

4. 7. Time control

4. 7. 1. The games are played using the electronic clocks and boards approved by FIDE.

4. 7. 2. The time control for each game is: 90 minutes for the first 40 moves, followed by 30 minutes for the rest of the game with an increment of 30 seconds per move starting from move 1.

4. 8. Conditions of victory

4. 8. 1. For Rounds 1-6, the first player to score 1.5 or more points out of two standard games is the winner of the match. If the scores are level a tie is broken according to Article 4.9. below.

4. 8. 2. For the Final and the Match for 3rd place, the first player to score 2.5 or more points out of two standard games is declared World Cup Winner. If the scores are level a tie is broken according to Article 4.9. below.

4. 8. 3. Both finalists of World Cup qualify to the FIDE Candidates Tournament to be held in the first half of 2020. If GM Carlsen and/or

GM Caruana is (are) among the finalists, the reserved place(s) is (are) awarded to the next non-qualifying player(s) of World Cup.

4. 9. Tie-breaks

4. 9. 1. If the score is level after the two regular games, after a new drawing of colours, two (2) tie break games are played with time control of 25 minutes for each player + 10 seconds increment per move, starting from move 1.

4. 9. 2. If the score is level after the games in paragraph 4.9.1., then after a new drawing of colours, two (2) games are played with time control of 10 minutes for each player + 10 seconds increment per move, starting from move 1.

4. 9. 3. If the scores are level after the games in paragraph 4.9.2., then after a new drawing of colours, two (2) games are played with time control of 5 minutes for each player + 3 seconds increment per move, starting from move 1.

4. 9. 4. If the score is still level after the games in paragraph 4.9.3., then one (1) sudden death game is played. The player who wins the drawing of lots may choose the colour. The player with the white pieces receives 5 minutes; the player with the black pieces receives 4 minutes whereupon; after move 60, both players receive an increment of 2 seconds per move starting from move 61. In case of a draw the player with the black pieces is declared the winner.

4. 10. Prizes

4. 10. 1. Distribution of prizes in USD:

Round	Number of Players	Prize	Sum of Prizes per Round
Round 1	64	6,000	384,000
Round 2	32	10,000	320,000
Round 3	16	16,000	256,000
Round 4	8	25,000	200,000
Round 5	4	35,000	140,000
4 th place	1	50,000	50,000
3 rd place	1	60,000	60,000
Runner-up	1	80,000	80,000
Winner	1	110,000	110,000
TOTAL	128		1,600,000

4. 10. 2. The prize money are paid by direct banker's order drawn in USD. Within fourteen (14) working days after completion of the event and reception of player's bank details, FIDE transfers players' prize money to his bank account.

4. 10. 3. If a player withdraws after the start of the tournament, FIDE decides upon paying out his prize money depending on particular circumstances.

4. 10. 4. Although FIDE endeavors to sign an agreement with the Organizer stating that the prizes are net and free of all local taxes, FIDE is not responsible for any national local tax deducted from the prize money. FIDE shall provide all necessary assistance to the players if the Organizer acts to the contrary.

4. 11. Playing Conditions

4. 11. 1. The fair-play measures are applied according to the FIDE anti-cheating regulations for the top official events.

4. 11. 2. Except with the permission of the Chief Arbiter, only the players, the principals and steward (-ess)s are allowed in the playing area. A player may communicate with an arbiter or a steward.

4. 11. 3. The players are not permitted to bring into a playing area telephone, technical and other equipment extraneous to play, which may in any way disturb or upset their opponents. The Chief Arbiter decides what constitutes extraneous equipment disturbing the opponent.

4. 11. 4. During the playing session, a player may leave a playing area only with the permission of the Chief Arbiter and only if he is accompanied by one of the arbiters.

4. 11. 5. The anti-doping test procedure is regulated by the contract between FIDE and the Organizer.

4. 12. Scoresheets

4. 12. 1. The Organizer provide scoresheets according to the specifications provided by GSC.

4. 12. 2. At the end of each standard game the players' original scoresheets are to be given to the Chief Arbiter, who shall forward them to FIDE. Refusal of either player to sign the scoresheets shall be penalized according to Article 12.9 of the Laws of Chess. After the players have signed the scoresheets, the Arbiter countersigns to confirm the results.

4. 13. Players conduct

4. 13. 1. The dress code is strictly observed.

4. 13. 1. 1. Dress code for men: neat shirt and formal suit.

4. 13. 1. 2. Dress code for women: neat shirt/blouse and formal suit (with slacks or skirt) or dress.

4. 13. 1. 3. No players with t-shirts, jeans, shorts, sneakers, baseball caps or inappropriate dress are allowed in a playing area. Any requests to wear national or traditional dress must be approved by GSC.

4. 13. 2. The players are expected to attend the Technical Meeting. If necessary, the Chief Arbiter may call other Technical Meetings.

4. 13. 3. The players are expected to be present at all official functions approved by GSC during the event including official receptions, the opening and the closing ceremonies.

4. 13. 4. The players are expected to co-operate with the media. The players are required to make themselves available for short interviews immediately after each game.

4. 13. 5. The players shall be available for the daily press conference.

4. 13. 6. The participants of the final match are obliged to attend the closing ceremony.

4. 13. 7. The winner is obliged to attend the final press conference after the event has ended and to provide an exclusive interview for the tournament and FIDE website, if requested by the FIDE Press Officer.

4. 13. 8. The players are requested to note the requirements of FIDE Regulations (Handbook, C.01, Article 8.1) in respect of their dignified appearance at all times during the event.

4. 13. 9. If a player fails to appear at any approved function of the tournament such as official receptions, press conferences or interviews, expresses publicly his inappropriate attitude towards FIDE, the World Cup Organizer and sponsors, other players or conducts himself in a manner contrary to the spirit of sportsmanship or the FIDE Code of Ethics, he shall be penalized as follows: 5% of his prize money shall be forfeited to the Organizer and a further 5% to FIDE for each breach. In cases of serious misconduct, the player may be disqualified from the event. Such decisions can be taken and/or approved by the FIDE Presidential Board.

4. 14. Principals

The Principals are:

FIDE President;

FIDE Deputy President;

Chief Arbiter;

Deputy Chief Arbiter;

Eight (8) Match Arbiters;

Fair-Play Officer;

Chairman of the Appeals Committee and two (2) other members;

Member of FIDE Medical Commission;

FIDE Press Officer;

GSC member.

4. 15. Arbiters

4. 15. 1. The Chief Arbiter, the Deputy Chief Arbiter, the Match Arbiters and the Fair-Play Officer are nominated by FIDE according

to the Guidelines on Number of Arbiters in FIDE Events (FIDE Handbook, D.04, Article 13).

4. 15. 2. The organizer appoints a necessary number of Assistant Arbiters to ensure the adequate supervision of all tie-break matches - one (1) Arbiter per match.

4. 15. 3. During play either the Chief Arbiter or his Deputy must be present in the playing area.

4. 15. 4. The Deputy Chief Arbiter performs also functions of the Pairings Officer.

4. 15. 5. In each match, no arbiter may belong to the same federation as either of the players. Exception: if both players are members of the same federation, an arbiter may also belong to this federation.

4. 15. 6. Within one (1) week after the end of the event the Chief Arbiter submits a report in English to GSC. The report contains the result of each individual game as well as the final result of each match and also a general description of the course of the event. If there are any difficulties, conflicts or incidents, they shall be described together with the measures taken to deal with them. The report is supplemented by adding two copies of the bulletins and the scoresheets of the games.

4. 16. Appeals Committee

4. 16. 1. FIDE nominates the Chairman and the two (2) other members of the Appeals Committee, all from different Federations.

4. 16. 2. None of the three (3) members of the Appeals Committee sits in judgment in a dispute involving a player from his Federation except where the dispute is between two (2) players from his Federation.

4. 16. 3. All protests must be submitted in writing to the Appeals Committee not more than two (2) hours after the relevant playing session, or the particular infringement complained against.

4. 16. 4. Each protest must be accompanied by a deposit fee of five hundred (500) USD or the equivalent in local currency. If the protest is accepted, the fee shall be returned. If the protest is rejected, the fee may be forfeited to FIDE.

4. 16. 5. The Committee may decide on the following matters:

- a) appeal against a decision by an arbiter,
- b) protest against a player's behavior,
- c) all other matters which the Committee considers relevant.

4. 16. 6. The Committee endeavors to find binding solutions that are within the true spirit of the FIDE motto, Gens Una Sumus.

4. 16. 7. The Committee endeavors to make a decision within two (2) hours after submission of a protest.

4. 16. 8. The written decision of the Appeals Committee arising from any dispute in respect of these regulations is final.

4. 16. 9. Within one (1) week after the end of the event the Chairman of the Appeals Committee submits a report in English to GSC.

4. 17. FIDE Press Officer

4. 17. 1. The Organizer is responsible for managing, updating and reviewing the official web domain which is used for the event: worldcup.xxxx2019.fide.com where xxxx refers to the city where the event is held. All content is reviewed and approved by the FIDE Press Officer. All live images, live broadcasting (Internet TV) pictures and all the other content for the full event details are carried on the official domain. The Organizer shall not develop any other website. In cases of conflicting information and press statements, the views expressed by the Press Officer is the authentic version.

4. 17. 2. All activities of both FIDE and the Organizer shall identify FIDE being the Governing Body of World Cup. The Organizer warrants that the official domain for the event is managed in a professional way and furthermore that it is capable of handling the traffic and publicity that is required for such event. Statistics of traffic and full reports on web performance are provided by the FIDE Press Officer to both GSC and the Organizer.

4. 17. 3. The Organizer co-operates with the Press Officer concerning the accreditation and hospitality for journalists and media and the facilities available at the Press Centre.

4. 17. 4. The Press Officer is a member of the panel at Press Conferences conducted during the event.

4. 18. Photography and Television

- 4. 18. 1.** Only photographers and camera crew expressly authorized by the Press Officer may work in a playing venue.
- 4. 18. 2.** Flash may be used only during the first five (5) minutes of standard games, the first three (3) minutes of rapid games and the first minute of blitz games.
- 4. 18. 3.** Television cameras must be unobtrusive and may only be used if the Arbiter in charge deems their use to be unobtrusive.

4. 19. Ceremonies

- 4. 19. 1.** The Opening Ceremony takes place the day prior to the first round.
- 4. 19. 2.** The program of the Opening Ceremony is approved by GSC. Cultural program and speeches totaling up to 60 minutes are usually welcome. FIDE Anthem and the Anthem of the hosting country are played.
- 4. 19. 3.** The Closing Ceremony takes place on the day of the last round. FIDE trophy for the winner and FIDE medals – gold, silver, two (2) bronzes, for the top four (4) winners of World Cup are provided by the Organizer. The trophy and the medals are approved by GSC. The FIDE Anthem, the Anthem of the winner’s country and the Anthem of the hosting country are played.

5. Financial issues

5. 1. Before the end of the event, FIDE is reimbursed for its direct expenses incurred in the organization of World Cup. This is a fixed sum agreed in the contract between the Organizer and FIDE. This sum includes pre-expenses (inspections), stipends, traveling expenses for the Principals and other expenses mentioned in the contract.

5. 2. Stipends

The stipends to be paid to the Principals by the Organizer are (in USD):

Chief Arbiter:	7,000
Deputy Chief Arbiter:	5,000
Two (2) Match Arbiters (R1 through R6)	3,000 each
Two (2) Match Arbiters (R1 through R4)	2,000 each
Four (4) Match Arbiters (R1 through R2)	1,000 each
Fair-Play Officer	4,000
Chairman of the Appeals Committee	4,000
Members of the Appeals Committee	3,000 each
FIDE Press Officer:	5,000
TOTAL:	45,000

5. 3. Travel Expenses of the FIDE Principals

The FIDE President has the right to business class travel by air, sea or rail, at the Organizer’s expense. If other travel conditions are not specified in the contract signed by the Organizer and FIDE, all other Principals shall be compensated by the Organizer for their travel expenses up to a maximum of one thousand one hundred (1,100) USD if travelling from the same continent, up to one thousand five hundred (1,500) USD if travelling from another continent.

5. 4. Accommodation of the FIDE Principals

Accommodation with full board in a suite in a 4-5-star hotel is offered by the Organizer for the FIDE President. Accommodation with full board in a standard room in the same hotel is offered by the Organizer for each Principal. Extra expenses are covered by the Organizer only for the FIDE President.

5. 5. Local transportation

Transfer from and to the airport is provided by the Organizer, if necessary. For the FIDE President, a chauffeur-driven car, for the other Principals, a number of cars is made available; their use depends on the position of the hotels, playing hall and media center. Alternatively, a daily allowance in local currency may be provided, the amount is to be agreed between the Organizer and GSC. Local transport is also provided for the players to official functions, if necessary.

5. 6. Personnel and assistant arbiters

5. 6. 1. The Organizer provides sufficient personnel to assist in the playing hall, press room, VIP room, and at ceremonies according to the agreement made with GSC.

5. 6. 2. FIDE and the Organizer appoint a necessary number of Assistant Arbiters according to Article 4.15.2.

5. 7. Fair-play measures

The Organizer covers all the related costs up to ten thousand (10,000) USD, excluding all the expenses for the Fair-Play Officer.

6. Commercial issues

6. 1. FIDE, or its appointed commercial agency, retains all commercial and media rights of World Cup, including internet. The right as described here can be granted by FIDE to the Organizer.

6. 2. The radio and television rights, including photo, video and film rights, belong to FIDE or its appointed agency. The right as described here can be granted by FIDE to the Organizer.

6. 3. FIDE has the exclusive rights for live games transmission on Internet. FIDE provides to the Organizer the signal for online game display in the different function rooms as agreed between the parties. This right as described here can be granted by FIDE to the Organizer.

6. 4. FIDE has the right to enter into advertisement agreements either with the Organizer or Sponsors of the event requiring players to wear attire with the branding of sponsors. Players shall not wear, use or display any apparel, footwear, accessory or other item, including but not limited to any piece of attire or any article that is of an accessory nature (*e.g.* bag, eyewear, arm bands, gloves, socks, charms, beverage bottles etc.), bearing an identification of or advertising or otherwise promoting the players' sponsors, without prior written permission by FIDE or its commercial agency.

6. 5. The income provided by World Cup through admission charges goes to the Organizer.

6. 6. The Organizer draws up a budget as detailed as possible. This is subject to approval of GSC.

6. 7. No proposed sponsor is in conflict with the regulations of the International Olympic Committee.

6. 8. The FIDE logo and the head of the corporate logo are displayed below:



The FIDE logo shall be displayed in a dark blue colour on a white background. The text describing any event must not be larger than twice the size of the word FIDE reproduced in the logo.

6. 9. The event title of the tournament is represented below. The corporate logo should include the above on top and the text in any kind of printed or electronic media must not be larger than twice the size of the word FIDE reproduced in the logo.



World Cup 2019

ANNEX 1

WORLD CHAMPIONSHIP TECHNICAL REGULATIONS (FIDE Laws of Chess)

The FIDE Laws of Chess are Annex 1, as valid since 1 January 2018 and published on the FIDE website:

<http://www.fide.com/component/handbook/?id=208&view=article>

ANNEX 2

Qualifying events for the FIDE World Cup

The Zonals and Continental Championships serve for qualifying events for World Cup. They are finished before July 1st 2019. The Continents, in co-operation with GSC, decide on the format and the maximum number of participants per country including qualifiers per country. No double rounds are allowed in Continental Championships. If the Continental Championship cannot be organized by the Continents, then FIDE organizes the Championship using the prize fund allocated to the respective Continent, without necessarily distributing prizes to the players.

1. Zonal Tournaments

1. 1. Zonals can be organized by the Continents according to their regulations that have to be approved by the FIDE Presidential Board.

1. 2. Where a Continent decides to have zonal tournaments for qualification to World Cup, the number of zonal qualifiers shall be restricted to the approved figure by zone; the extra qualification places for each Continent shall be given to the Continental Championship to determine the remaining qualifiers to the World Cup.

1. 3. All the Zonal qualifiers, as well as the number of players eligible by country to participate in each zonal, can participate in their Continental Championship with their full board expenses covered by the Organizer. The extra players by country as determined by each Continent shall be responsible for their expenses. This applies only in those Continents that hold Zonals and Continental Championships.

2. Continental Championships

2. 1. The Continents, through their respective Boards and in co-operation with FIDE, organize Continental Championships.

2. 2. FIDE shall guarantee a minimum total prize fund of USD 92,000 for the Continental Championships divided among the Continents, as follows:

1. Americas	32,000 USD	(minimum prize fund in total: 50,000 USD)
2. Asia-Oceania	32,000 USD	(minimum prize fund in total: 50,000 USD)
3. Africa	28,000 USD	(minimum prize fund in total: 28,000 USD)
4. Europe	----	(minimum prize fund in total: 100,000 EUR)

Total: 92,000 USD (net of any FIDE deductions)

To qualify for the grant of the prize money contributed by FIDE for each Continental Championship, each Continent must show proof of additional sponsorship money it has raised for the prize fund.

The Continent receives 20% from any additional prize fund at the Continental level.

Additional financial support can be granted to each Continent according to a separate agreement between FIDE and a respective Continent.