



Rules for the FIDE Open World Rapid Championship & FIDE Open World Blitz Championship.

December 25th – 31st 2018

1. Scope

1. 1. Governing Body of the FIDE Open World Rapid Championship 2018 & FIDE Open World Blitz Championship 2018 (hereinafter referred to as R&B) is the World Chess Federation (FIDE).

1. 2. FIDE Global Strategy Commission (hereinafter referred to as GSC) is in charge for preparing regulations, communicating with the Organizer and the participants.

1. 3. The body responsible for adopting and changing these Regulations is the FIDE Presidential Board, upon recommendation by GSC.

1. 4. At any time, any circumstance or unforeseen situation not covered in these Regulations shall be referred to the FIDE President for final decision.

2. Participation in R&B

2. 1. The following players are eligible to participate in R&B:

- The players rated at least 2500 in any of the FIDE rating lists (Standard, Rapid or Blitz) from January 1st to December 1st 2018
- The reigning National Champions representing their National Federation regardless of their title or rating.

2. 2. The Organizer is entitled to include additional players of his own choice but not more than ten (10).

3. Registration to R&B

Player's entry fee is to be paid to the Organizer:

- one hundred (100) USD before December 11th 2018;
- two hundred (200) USD on December 11th 2018 or later.

4. R&B Regulations

4. 1. Format & System

4. 1. 1. Tournaments are played according to the rules of “the inadequate supervision” of the Rapid play Laws of Chess (FIDE Handbook, E.I.01B Appendices, art. 1 to 4).

4. 1. 2. RAPID: Swiss system, fifteen (15) rounds.

4. 1. 3. BLITZ: Swiss system, twenty-one (21) rounds.

4. 2. Accommodation

4. 2. 1. Accommodation with full board in a standard room (4-star hotel minimum) from December 25th to 31st 2018 is offered by the Organizer to players rated at least 2750 in any of the FIDE rating lists (Standard, Rapid or Blitz) from January 1st to December 1st 2018.

4. 2. 2. The Organizer offers accommodation options through his website for all other players.

4. 3. Playing venue

4.3.1. GSC shall ensure 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	Rounds	Time
25 Dec 2018	Arrival,		
25 Dec 2018	Opening Ceremony		19:30
25 Dec 2018	Technical Meeting		20:30
26 Dec 2018	Rapid - day 1	1-5	15:00
27 Dec 2018	Rapid - day 2	6-10	15:00
28 Dec 2018	Rapid - day 3	11-15	15:00
29 Dec 2018	Blitz - day 1	1-12	15:00
30 Dec 2018	Blitz - day 2	13-21	14:00
30 Dec 2018	Closing Ceremony		18:00*
31 Dec 2018	Departure		

*Approximate time. It can start later if the tie-break for the first place is played or there is any delay during the last playing session.

4.5. Pairings and draw for colors

4.5.1. Pairings are done according to the FIDE pairing system for Swiss events.

4.5.2. The draw for colors is made for both tournaments during the Opening Ceremony.

4.6. Time control

4.6.1. The games are played using the electronic clocks and boards approved by FIDE.

4.6.2. RAPID: 15 minutes + 10 seconds increment per move, starting from move 1.

4.6.3. BLITZ: 3 minutes + 2 seconds increment per move, starting from move 1.

4.7. Conditions of victory

4.7.1. The player with the most points (1 point for each win, half a point for each draw, 0 for each loss) is declared the World Rapid / World Blitz Champion.

If the two (2) or more players score the same number of points, a tie-break to determine the World Rapid / World Blitz Champion is decided according to article 4.7.2. below. Notwithstanding, all prize money is divided equally among all the players in tie.

4.7.2. Tie-breaks

4.7.2.1. The tie is to be broken by the following criteria, in order of priority:

a) Tournament performance rating – TPR

b) Median Buchholz (cut 1)

c) Buchholz

4.7.2.2. If there is a tie for the 1st place, the top two (2) players according to the first eligible tie-break criterion play a play-off match to determine the World Rapid / Blitz Champion.

a) The match includes two (2) games played with a time control of 3 minutes + 2 seconds increment per move, starting from move 1. There is a drawing of lots to decide which player starts with white.

b) If the score is still level, the players shall play one (1) sudden death game. The player who wins the drawing of lots may choose the colour. The player with the white pieces shall receive 5 minutes; the player with the black pieces shall receive 4 minutes whereupon, after the 60th move, both players shall 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. 8. Prizes

4. 8. 1. Distribution of prizes.

Rapid Prizes	USD	Blitz Prizes	USD
Prize Fund	350,000	Prize Fund	350,000
1 st place	60,000	1 st place	60,000
2 nd place	50,000	2 nd place	50,000
3 rd place	40,000	3 rd place	40,000
4 th place	30,000	4 th place	30,000
5 th place	25,000	5 th place	25,000
6 th place	22,000	6 th place	22,000
7 th place	18,000	7 th place	18,000
8 th place	14,000	8 th place	14,000
9 th place	11,000	9 th place	11,000
10 th place	8,000	10 th place	8,000
11 th -16 th places	5,000 each	11 th -16 th places	5,000 each
17 th -25 th places	3,000 each	17 th -25 th places	3,000 each
26 th - 35 th places	1,500 each	26 th - 35 th places	1,500 each

All prize money is divided equally among the players with the same score.

4. 8. 2. The prize money are paid by direct banker's order drawn in USD. Within one (1) week after completion of the event, FIDE transfers players' prize money to a country of their choice.

4. 8. 3. If a player withdraws after the start of the tournament, FIDE decides upon paying out his prize money depending on particular circumstances.

4. 8. 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. 9. Playing Conditions

4. 9. 1. The anti-cheating measures are applied according to the FIDE anti-cheating regulations for the top official events.

4. 9. 2. Except with the permission of the Chief Arbiter, only the players, the principals and steward (-ess)s are allowed in a playing area. A player may communicate with an arbiter or a steward.

4. 9. 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 shall decide what constitutes extraneous equipment disturbing the opponent.

4. 9. 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. 9. 5. The anti-doping test procedure is to be regulated by the contract between FIDE and the Organizer.

4. 10. Players conduct

4. 10. 1. Dress code: smart-casual (neat shirt with a collar, jacket/blazer, trousers). The dress code is strictly observed: no players with t-shirts, sneakers, baseball caps, shorts or inappropriate dress are allowed in a playing zone. Any requests to wear national or traditional dress must be approved by the Chief Arbiter.

- 4. 10. 2.** The players are expected to attend the Technical Meeting. If necessary, the Chief Arbiter may call other Technical Meetings.
- 4. 10. 3.** The players are expected to be present at all official events approved by GSC including official receptions, the opening and the closing ceremonies.
- 4. 10. 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. 10. 5.** The players shall be available for the daily press conference.
- 4. 10. 6.** The top three winners of each event are obliged to attend the closing ceremony.
- 4. 10. 7.** The winners are 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. 10. 8.** The players are requested to note the requirements of FIDE Regulations C.01 (Article 8.1) in respect of their dignified appearance at all times during the event.
- 4. 10. 9.** If a player fails to appear at any approved function of the tournament such as official receptions, press conferences or interviews, 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.

4. 11. Principals

The Principals are:

FIDE President;
FIDE Deputy President
Chief Arbiter;
2 Deputy Chief Arbiters;
Chairman of the Appeals Committee and two (2) other members
FIDE Press Officer;
GSC member.

4. 12. Arbiters

- 4. 12. 1.** The Chief Arbiter and two (2) Deputy Chief Arbiters are nominated by FIDE.
- 4. 12. 2.** During play either the Chief Arbiter or his Deputy must be present in a playing area.
- 4. 12. 3.** The organizer appoints at least one (1) Assistant Arbiter per ten (10) games to ensure that all games are reasonably supervised.
- 4. 12. 4.** 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 standings and also a general description of the course of the event. If there were any difficulties, conflicts or incidents, they shall be described together with the measures taken to deal with them.

4. 13. Appeals Committee

- 4. 13. 1.** FIDE nominates the Chairman and the two (2) other members of the Appeals Committee, all from different Federations.
- 4. 13. 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. 13. 3.** All protests must be submitted in writing to the Appeals Committee not more than fifteen (15) minutes after the relevant playing session, or the particular infringement complained against.
- 4. 13. 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. 13. 5.** The Committee may decide on the following matters:

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

4. 13. 6. The Committee endeavors to find binding solutions that are within the true spirit of the FIDE motto, Gens Una Sumus.

4. 13. 7. The Committee endeavors to make a decision within fifteen (15) minutes after submission of a protest.

4. 13. 8. The written decision of the Appeals Committee arising from any dispute in respect of these regulations is final.

4. 13. 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. 14. FIDE Press Officer

4. 14. 1. The Organizer is responsible for managing, updating and reviewing the official web domain which is used for the event. 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 shall be the authentic version.

4. 14. 2. All activities of both FIDE and the Organizer shall identify FIDE being the Governing Body of R&B. 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. 14. 3. The Organizer shall co-operate with the Press Officer concerning the accreditation and hospitality for journalists and media and the facilities available at the Press Centre.

4. 14. 4. The Press Officer is a member of the panel at Press Conferences conducted during the event.

4. 15. Photography and Television

4. 15. 1. Only photographers and camera crew expressly authorized by the Press Officer may work in the playing venue.

4. 15. 2. Flash may be used only during the first three (3) minutes of play during rapid games and the first two (2) minutes during blitz games.

4. 15. 3. Television cameras must be unobtrusive and may only be used if the Arbiter in charge deems their use to be unobtrusive.

4. 16. Ceremonies

4. 16. 1. The Opening Ceremony takes place the day prior to the first round of the Rapid tournament.

4. 16. 2. The program of the Opening Ceremony shall be approved by GSC. Cultural program and speeches totaling up to 60 minutes are usually welcome. FIDE Anthem and the Anthem of the hosting country shall be played.

4. 16. 3. The Closing Ceremony takes place on the day of the last round. FIDE trophies for the winners and FIDE medals (gold, silver, bronze) for the top three winners of each tournament are provided by the Organizer. The trophies and the medals are to be approved by GSC. The FIDE Anthem, the Anthem of the winner's country and the Anthem of the hosting country shall be played.

5. Selection of the Organizer

5. 1. Any federation member of FIDE or any organizer approved by the national federation may apply for organization of R&B.

5. 2. Each application should contain the following:

- a) Proposed tournament venue.
- b) Proposed prize fund - minimum seven hundred thousand (700,000) USD net of any applicable local taxes.
- c) Proposed contribution to FIDE.
- d) Commitment to cover all financial obligations to FIDE, including all the stipends.
- e) Commitment to cover all organizational costs, in accordance with the current regulations.
- f) Invitation for at least two members of GSC to inspect the proposed venue and examine the other conditions, with all travel and hotel expenses paid by the applicant from the non-refundable fee. (see 5. 3.).

- g) Applicant's name, signature and authentication
- h) Letters of support from the national federation and relevant local authorities.

5. 3. Each applicant shall pay a non-refundable fee of three thousand (3,000) USD.

5. 4. Upon FIDE's selection of the Organizer of the event, a contract is to be signed between FIDE and the Organizer regarding all financial and commercial aspects of the event. The Organizer is required to present all necessary bank guaranties for the whole amount of the prize fund and all expenses related to the event.

5. 5. GSC shall advise and help the Organizer on protocol, budget, infrastructure, media, commentary and other technical issues.

6. Financial issues

6. 1. Before the end of the event, FIDE shall be reimbursed for its direct expenses incurred in the organization of R&B. This shall be a fixed sum agreed in the contract between the Organizer and GSC. This sum includes pre-expenses (inspections), stipends, travelling expenses for the Principals and other expenses mentioned in the contract.

6. 2. Stipends

The stipends to be paid to the Principals of R&B by the Organizer are (in USD):

Chief Arbiter:	5,000
2 Deputy Chief Arbiters:	3,500 each
Chairman of the Appeals Committee	3,500
Members of the Appeals Committee	2,500 each
FIDE Press Officer:	2,500
TOTAL:	23,000

6. 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. All other Principals shall be compensated by the Organizer for their travel expenses up to 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.

6. 4. Accommodation of the FIDE Principals

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

6. 5. Local transportation.

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

6. 6. Personnel

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.

6. 7. Anti-cheating measures.

The Organizer covers all the related costs up to ten thousand (10,000) USD.

7. Commercial issues

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

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

7. 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.

7. 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 FIDE's commercial agency.

7. 5. The income provided by R&B through admission charges goes to the Organizer.

7. 6. The Organizer shall draw up a budget as detailed as possible. This shall be subject to approval of GSC.

7. 7. No proposed sponsor shall be in conflict with the regulations of the International Olympic Committee.

7. 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.

7. 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.



R&B Tournament 2018

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>