

REGULATIONS FOR THE ARMAGEDDON CHAMPIONSHIP SERIES 2022-2023 OFFLINE STAGE

1. ORGANISER

The Armageddon Championship Series 2022-2023 (“Series”) is organised by World Chess Events Limited in cooperation with World Chess Europe GmbH (hereinafter jointly referred to as “Organiser”)

2. GENERAL

The Series includes the following stages:

- 2.1. Armageddon Championship Series Online Regional Cups (or “Online Regional Cups”). This stage includes numerous qualifying tournaments (based on the number of registered participants) organised on a regional basis and Regional Finals. Two winners from each region will qualify for the regional offline events (see 2.3). Rules and format of the Armageddon Online Regional Cups are published as a separate document.
- 2.2. Armageddon Championship: Women’s Week (or “Armageddon Women’s Week”). This is an offline tournament exclusively for female players.
- 2.3. Armageddon Championship Series Regionals (or “Armageddon Regionals”). This stage includes three offline tournaments organised on the regional basis.
- 2.4. Armageddon Championship Series Grand Finale. This is an offline tournament and the final stage of the Series, where the Armageddon Series Champion is determined.

All the offline tournaments take place at the World Chess Club Berlin (Germany).

3. REGIONS

Armageddon Championship Series Online Regional Cups and Armageddon Championship Series Regionals are organised on the regional basis. These regions are (1) Europe & Africa; (2) Asia & Oceania; (3) Americas. The list of countries for each region is attached as Annex 1.

4. DATES

Each offline tournament lasts 8 days with the first day reserved for arrivals, technical meetings and opening ceremonies and the remaining 7 days are dedicated to the games. The offline tournaments are organised in accordance with the following schedule:

- Armageddon Regionals. America: 5 -12 March 2023;
- Armageddon Regionals. Asia & Oceania: 2-9 April 2023;
- Armageddon Women’s Week: 7 – 14 May 2023;
- Armageddon Regionals. Europe & Africa: 11-18 June 2023;

– Armageddon Championship Series Grand Finale: 13 – 20 September 2023.

The Organiser may amend the schedule at its own discretion. However, in doing so, it will consult with the players first.

5. PARTICIPANTS

Qualification criteria for tournaments are presented in the table below:

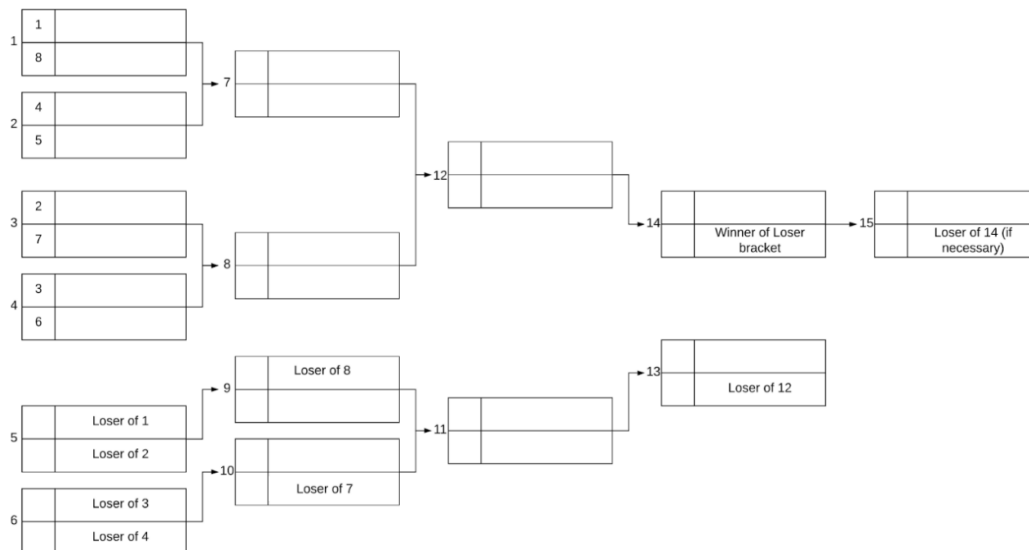
Stage	Tournament(s)	Qualification criteria
Armageddon Women’s Week (8 players per tournament)		All the players are invited by the Organiser at its sole discretion. Only female players are allowed to participate.
Armageddon Regionals (8 players per tournament)		6 players from each region invited by the Organiser at its discretion; 2 winners of the Armageddon Online Cup regional final Each player can only participate in one tournament.
Armageddon Championship Series: Grand Finale (8 players per tournament)		Two winners from each Armageddon Regional’s tournament; two winners from Armageddon Women’s Week tournament.

If any of the players meeting qualification criteria cannot participate in the tournament for any reason, the Organiser shall appoint a substitute at its own discretion.

Participants of the offline tournaments shall sign a player’s contract governing the commercial aspects of these tournaments (accommodation, commercial rights, promotional activities).

6. FORMAT

All offline tournaments are organised as double-elimination tournaments with 8 players. The tournament bracket is presented below:



The initial pairings are decided at random not later than two weeks before the respective tournament. The colour draw procedures are communicated during the instruction meeting.

Each tournament shall last for 8 days in accordance with the following schedule (for match numbers see the bracket in clause 2):

Day 1 (Sun)	Arrivals, Technical meeting, Opening Ceremony
Day 2 (Mon)	Match 1; Match 2
Day 3 (Tue)	Match 3; Match 4
Day 4 (Wed)	Match 5; Match 6
Day 5 (Thu)	Match 7; Match 8
Day 6 (Fri)	Match 9; Match 10
Day 7 (Sat)	Match 11; Match 12
Day 8 (Sun)	Match 13; Match 14; Match 15

Each match consists of two blitz games (3 minutes plus 2 second increment for each move). In case the winner is not determined by the blitz games, the players will play an Armageddon format game (5 minutes for White, 4 minutes for Black).

The start of the games is decided by the Organiser. The players participating at the day's first Match shall be present at the venue not later than one hour before the start. The players participating in the day's second Match shall be present at the venue not later than 30 minutes before the start of the first game. Any violation of this rule will result in forfeiture of the 10% of the player's part of the prize fund for the respective

tournament. The Organiser may change the time of the start of the games if needed (for example, to include the tournament in the schedule of the TV channel).

The players cannot draw a game by agreement before black's 30th move. A claim for a draw before black's 30th move is only permitted through the arbiter in case of threefold repetition.

Players may not stand up and/or leave the playing table during the game or he/she loses the game.

7. PRIZES

Stage	Tournament(s)	Prizes (where applicable - for each tournament)
Armageddon Women's Week (total prize fund of 50,000 EUR)		1st place - 18,000 EUR 2nd place - 8,000 EUR 3rd-4th places - 5,000 EUR each 5th-8th places - 3,500 EUR each
Armageddon Regionals (total prize fund of 50,000 EUR for each tournament)		1st place - 18,000 EUR 2nd place - 8,000 EUR 3rd-4th places - 5,000 EUR each 5th-8th places - 3,500 EUR each
Armageddon Championship Series Grand Finale (total prize fund of 200,000 EUR)		1st place - 80,000 EUR 2nd place - 40,000 EUR 3rd-4th places - 20,000 EUR each 5th-8th places - 10,000 EUR each

The prizes are transferred within 30 calendar days following the end of the respective tournament to the bank accounts of the player using SWIFT transfer ([SWIFT - Wikipedia](#)).

It is the responsibility of the players to make sure that their bank supports such transfers. The players are exclusively responsible for payment of any and all taxes in relation to the amounts received by them for participation in the Series. In some cases, the organiser may have an obligation to withhold taxes from the players' prize fund, in such scenario the net amount would be transferred to the player.

Upon request, the players shall provide the organiser with all the necessary information for payment and tax calculation purposes.

8. BROADCASTING

The tournaments are organised at a special studio.

During the filming process the players (except where this affects the game) shall strictly follow the instructions of the tournament's producer.

The inconveniences typical for TV studio filming (bright light, high temperature, sound of technical equipment and team) shall not be considered as a distraction. This being said, the Organiser shall take reasonable steps to create comfortable playing conditions for the players.

No personal food and drinks are allowed in the playing venue. The players will be provided with refreshments and snacks at the players lounge.

The players are required to undergo stage makeup and grooming (to avoid the glare of the skin and other undesirable effects).

The players are required to wear a lavalier microphone the duration of the filming time.

9. SPONSORSHIP

No personal sponsorship is allowed without prior written authorisation from the Organiser. Players may not wear or display any branded apparel, clothes or accessories featuring personal sponsors.

Organisers may require the players to wear special approved apparel and accessories (e.g. watches, wristbands or similar).

10. CASES NOT COVERED

In cases not specifically covered by the current regulations, the FIDE Rules of Chess and the FIDE Online Chess Regulations shall apply. Where the issue is not covered either by these or by FIDE's regulations, the Organiser shall resolve such issue at its sole discretion.

11. BIOMETRIC DATA

The Organiser may use special equipment (hand wristbands and similar) to collect and display players' biometric data - pulse, stress level and similar.

12. SPECIAL EVENTS

Players are required to participate in the official ceremonies, including the opening ceremony and/or press conference(s) if required by the Organiser and the instruction meetings, which will take place on the Arrival date. The exact time and place of the instruction meeting shall be communicated to the players not later than two weeks before the Arrival date.

The players are also required to participate in after-the-game interviews as instructed by the Organiser.

13. COMMERCIAL RIGHTS:

The Organiser shall enjoy any and all worldwide commercial and other rights in relation to the Series, including, without limitations:

15.1. The right to conduct the organisation, promotion, formation, carrying out, management, financing and exploitation of the Series by all manner and means, subject to the players' security and fairness concerns;

15.2. All marketing and commercial sponsorship of the Series and the sale, exploitation or other disposal of all commercial rights, facilities and licences, including product placement rights with respect to the Series;

15.3. The right to record, broadcast, exploit and transmit the Series, every game of the Series, by all means now known or hereafter devised including without limitation film, television, videogram, electronic media, audio/visual and sound only recording, live television, live internet transmission and radio broadcast rights (or a combination thereof);

15.4. The right to produce or authorise production of all official publications connected with the Series, including advertising and credits for the Series in the official program, bulletins, posters, press releases and other materials and tickets;

15.5. Ancillary activities in connection with the Series;

15.6. The right to use the picture, likeness, image, name and biographical details of any player in connection with the advertisement, publicity, exhibition and commercial exploitation of the Series, provided that the Organiser does not portray the player in an unfavourable manner.

14. FAIR PLAY

The players agree to abide by the Fair-Play Policy of FIDE Online Arena (for online tournaments), FIDE fair-play rules, adhere to the standards of good sportsmanship and comply with all and any fair play and security requirements that might be communicated by the Organiser.

Any decision taken by the arbiter in relation to the Series tournament is final and is not subject to an appeal.

15. DEFAMATORY STATEMENTS

Players shall not do or say anything which is or may be defamatory of or derogate from the good name of the Organiser, the Series, its partners, sponsors or other players, as long as the latter are not in default hereunder.

16. DISQUALIFICATION

In case of repeated or gross violation of these Regulations, player's contract, fair play regulations the Organiser reserves the right to disqualify the player from participation in the Series. The disqualified player forfeits any right to the prize fund and other amounts due to him/her in relation to his/her participation in the Series.

17. CHANGES TO HE REGULATIONS

The Organiser may introduce changes to these Regulations at any time. The information about the changes will be communicated to the players through the official Platform and by email.

ANNEX 1. LIST OF COUNTRIES BY REGION

Europe & Africa region

Albania, Algeria, Andorra, Angola, Armenia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Belarus (under FIDE flag), Belgium, Bosnia & Herzegovina, Botswana, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cameroon, Cape verde, Central African Republic, Chad, Comoros Islands, Cote d'Ivoire, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Denmark, Djibouti, Egypt, England, Equatorial Guinea, Eritrea, Estonia, Eswatini, Ethiopia, Faroe, Finland, France, Gabon, Gambia, Georgia, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Guernsey, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Islands, Israel, Italy, Jersey, Kenya, Kosovo, Latvia, Lesotho, Liberia, Libya, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malawi, Mali, Malta, Mauritania, Mauritius, Moldova, Monaco, Montenegro, Morocco, Mozambique, Namibia, Netherlands, Niger, Nigeria, North Macedonia, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Rwanda, San Marino, Sao Tome and Principe, Scotland, Senegal, Serbia, Seychelles, Sierra Leone, Slovakia, Slovenia, Somalia, South Africa, South Sudan, Spain, Sudan, Sweden, Switzerland, Tanzania, Togo, Tunisia, Turkey, Uganda, Ukraine, Wales, Zambia, Zimbabwe

Americas region

Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Aruba, Bahamas, Barbados, Belize, Bermuda, Bolivia, Brazil, British Virgin Islands, Canada, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Cuba, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, El Salvador, Guatemala, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, Jamaica, Mexico, Netherlands Antilles, Nicaragua, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Puerto Rico, Saint Lucia, Suriname, Trinidad & Tobago, US Virgin Islands, United States of America, Uruguay, Venezuela

Asia and Oceania region

Afghanistan, Australia, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Bhutan, Brunei Darussalam, Cambodia, China, Chinese Taipei, Fiji, Guam, Hong Kong, India, Indonesia, Iran, Iraq, Japan, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Laos, Lebanon, Macau, Malaysia, Maldives, Mongolia, Myanmar, Nauru, Nepal, New Zealand, Oman, Pakistan, Palau, Palestine, Papua New Guinea, Philippines, Russia (under FIDE flag), Qatar, Saudi Arabia, Singapore, Solomon Islands, South Korea, Sri Lanka, Syria, Taipei, Tajikistan, Thailand, Timor-Leste, Turkmenistan, United Arab Emirates, Uzbekistan, Vietnam, Yemen