

Magnus Carlsen Tour Finals - Regulations

1. Dates

August 9-20, 2020

Semi-Finals: 9-13 August

Final: 14-20 August

2. Time Control

15' for the entire game + **10''** increment from move 1 (except tie-break games; see below)

3. System of Play

The event consists of the **Semifinals** and **Final** series.

The Semifinals are **best-of-5** series of matches: the players will play **5 matches** (one per day); a player who wins **3** matches is the winner of the stage.

The Final is a **best-of-7** series, as above; the player to win **4** matches is the winner of the Tour.

Each match consists of **4 rapid games**.

In case of a **2-2** tie, a **2-game blitz match** will be played, with the same alteration of colours; time-control: **5** minutes + **3** seconds per move. If still tied, an **Armageddon** game shall be played (time control: White **5'** vs Black **4'** - **without increment**); the winner of this game (or Black, in case of a draw) will be the **winner** of the match.

If the outcome of a match or a series has been **decided**, it is not required to play out the remaining games/matches.

The pairings of the Semifinals are determined by the Tour standings (**1 vs 4, 2 vs 3**), using the following criteria:

- i) tournament wins
- ii) Tour points (10 points for reaching a final, 7 for a semifinal, 3 for a quarterfinal)

In each pairing, the player ranked higher in the Tour standings shall choose his color for the first game of the series (colors will alternate in subsequent matches) and also has the right to choose his color in any Armageddon game that may be required.

4. Other Regulations

Draw offers are **not allowed** before **40** moves by both sides have been completed. This does not apply to Armageddon games.

In case a player is **disconnected** from the playing server, his clock will keep running. The player will have all his allotted time to reconnect and continue the game. If the player fails to reconnect before his flag falls, he shall lose the game.

The Chief Arbiter may decide otherwise in exceptional circumstances.

Players must **not** leave their desk after a game ends, until the Arbiters **confirm** the completion of the game.

FIDE rules and regulations apply (where appropriate, taking into account the nature of online chess).

If any extraordinary cases should arise, the **Chief Arbiter** will make an appropriate ruling, always in accordance with the letter and spirit of the **FIDE Laws of Chess**. The decisions of the Chief Arbiter are **final**.

5. Schedule

The **Semi-Finals** will be played over 5 days (**August 9-13**)

The **Final** will be played over 7 days (**August 14-20**).

All sessions will begin at **16:00 CEST**.

There will be a **15-minute** break after each rapid game, and a **5-minute** break after each blitz game. This applies to each match independently of the other.

The Chief Arbiter reserves the right to make adjustments to the schedule, to ensure a reasonable break for the players when required.

6. Prizes

The total prize fund is **\$300,000**, distributed as follows:

Winner	\$140,000
Final (loser)	\$80,000
Semi-finals (losers)	\$40,000 each

7. Playing Conditions

All games will be played in the **chess24 Playzone** or any alternative platform provided by the organizers.

Players shall use a **web camera** that will be available on the **live broadcast** and to their **opponents, without audio** (in or out). **Audio** will be used only by the **Chief Arbiter** in case of an irregularity or for instructions before games, and by the live broadcast only after the end of a match (not between games) for **interviews**.

Players are not allowed to use **any device** during play, except the playing computer. Apart from a browser logged in to the chess24 Playzone, **no other software** must be open on the computer (see below - '**Anti-Cheating**'), except any software required by the Chief Arbiter and broadcast production for video and audio purposes, in accordance with the above. The designated software for these purposes is the **Zoom** video-meeting platform.

The Tournament Director will provide full instructions about the playing procedures in a separate document.

Players will not be disturbed during play and between games of a match in any way.

8. Anti-Cheating

All players must comply with the **anti-cheating procedures** implemented by the organizers.

These shall include:

- **Screen sharing** by the players during play; this will be strictly confidential and shall be made available **exclusively** to the Chief Arbiter and his Deputy.
- Additional **camera recordings** (**two** extra cameras at different angles), for **review purposes only**.
- Review of all games by the chess24 anti-cheating software.

All anti-cheating measures shall apply to **all players** equally, without any discrimination.

The organizers will provide the necessary equipment for the implementation of the anti-cheating measures.

A full description of the **Anti-Cheating Measures** is supplied in a separate document.

9. Player Media Obligations

As part of their participation in the event, all players must make themselves available for short interviews after the playing sessions (only at the end of a session), Banter Blitz sessions (duration: 90 minutes), live commentary as well as other media obligations, as specified in the player contracts.

Players must also follow all guidelines specified in the player contracts with regard to the branding of their playing venue.

10. Player Conduct

The event will be broadcast live on the internet, as well as on television channels and the websites of major media companies. The following rules of conduct are expected to be observed, as specifically covered in the player contracts:

- Players must follow the tournament dress code
- Players must refrain from any kind of impolite or offensive behaviour
- Players must make use of available and provided equipment (cameras, microphones, lights) to ensure a high level of stream quality
- Players must follow the procedures and guidelines described in the Regulations, Anti-Cheating Measures and any other documents provided by the Tournament Director and the Chief Arbiter.

11. Tournament Officials

The Tournament Officials, Tournament Director, Chief Arbiter and Deputy Arbiters will be announced in due time and before the start of the tournament.