



Regulations for the FIDE Chess.com Grand Swiss Tournament 2021

Riga, Latvia
25 October – 8 November

1. Scope

- 1.1.** Governing Body of the FIDE Chess.com Grand Swiss Tournament (hereinafter referred to as “Grand Swiss”) is the International Chess Federation (FIDE).
- 1.2.** Grand Swiss shall be organised in Riga, Latvia from 25 October to 8 November 2021.
- 1.3.** Grand Swiss shall be organised by the Riga Technical University Sports Club and Latvian Chess Federation (“the Organiser”), with sponsorship from the Scheinberg family (“the Sponsor”).
- 1.4.** FIDE Global Strategy Commission (hereinafter referred to as “GSC”) is in charge of preparing Regulations, communicating with the Organiser and the participants, conducting inspections.
- 1.5.** The body responsible for adopting and changing these Regulations is the FIDE Council, upon recommendation by GSC.
- 1.6.** At any time, any circumstance or unforeseen situation not covered in these Regulations shall be referred to the FIDE President for the final decision.

2. Qualification for Grand Swiss

- 2.1.** Invitations for Grand Swiss are determined according to the following criteria:
- A. Average FIDE Rating of the 12 monthly lists starting from 1st July 2020 to 1st June 2021.**
One hundred (100) players will qualify by their average rating.
For the purpose of deciding one hundred qualifiers by rating, the average ELO from the twelve standard FIDE rating lists from 1st July 2020 to 1st June 2021 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 shall be decisive: the player with the most number of games qualifies.
 - B. Women’s World Champion GM Ju Wenjun.**
 - C. Four (4) Continent spots. Each spot is decided by the respective Continental President.**
 - D. Four (4) players nominated by the FIDE President.**
- 2.2.** If any of the one hundred (100) players qualified by path A (Article 2.1.) declines to participate, the reserved spot goes to the next non-qualifying player from path A (Article 2.1.).
If Women World Champion GM Ju Wenjun declines to participate, her place goes to GM Aleksandra Goryachkina. If GM Aleksandra Goryachkina declines to participate, for all further replacements path A (Article 2.1.) applies for this purpose.
The automatic replacements by path A are in force till 50th reserve player, after which players’ replacement and/or playing spots filling shall be subject to GSC decision.
- 2.3.** The Organiser is entitled to include five (5) additional players of their own choice. This means there will be a maximum of 114 players in Grand Swiss.

3. Confirmation of participation

- 3.1.** The list of invited players and reserves is to be published on the FIDE website together with the players’ contract.
- 3.2.** It is each player’s responsibility to download a copy of the players’ contract, to sign it and to send his/her contract to the FIDE Secretariat by the registered email before the fixed deadline indicated in the email sent to each player and announced on the FIDE website. Additional contracts between the Organiser and the players may be signed if needed.

3.3. A player who does not submit his/her contract before the deadline is replaced according to Article 2.2 (FIDE may accept late contracts received after the deadline only for reasons GSC considers to be admissible.)

3.4. A player who signs his/her contract but withdraws is replaced as described in Article 2.2.

3.5. Players who fail to provide a satisfactory reason for withdrawal after they have signed the players' contract, may be imposed a fine of up to USD 5,000 or another sanction by the FIDE Council. Qualifying for the FIDE Candidates Tournament 2022 by another path is NOT a satisfactory reason for withdrawal. Significant changes in the Latvian national Covid regulations resulting in serious implications on tournament's set up shall be deemed to be a satisfactory reason.

4. Grand Swiss Regulations

4.1. Format & System

Swiss system, 11 rounds.

4.2. Travel and Accommodation

Each player is responsible for booking his/her own travel.

Each player qualified according to Article 2.1 shall receive:

- Reimbursement for his/her actual travel expenses within the following limits: no more than 400 USD if he/she belongs to any European Federation, no more than 1,100 USD if he/she belongs to any other federation;
- One free standard single room in the official hotel with full board for the whole duration of the event.

The reimbursement for travel expenses shall be paid in USD to each player's bank account within fourteen (14) working days after completion of the event. The Organiser does not pay cash to players under any circumstances.

4.3. Playing venue

4.3.1. GSC ensures the playing hall and its surrounding areas meet the requirements of the FIDE Regulations for the organisation of Top-level Tournaments (FIDE Handbook C.01).

4.3.2. The playing venue is decorated with the FIDE flag, IOC flag, and the Latvian flag.

4.3.3. The Organiser provides, free of charge, water, coffee, tea and soft drinks for the players, the Principals, VIP and accredited media.

4.4. Schedule

DAY	DATE	START TIME	EVENT
1	25 October	n/a	Arrivals
2	26 October	To be advised	Opening Ceremony & Technical Meeting
3	27 October	3 pm	Round 1
4	28 October	3 pm	Round 2
5	29 October	3 pm	Round 3
6	30 October	3 pm	Round 4
7	31 October	3 pm	Round 5
8	1 November	3 pm	Round 6
9	2 November	n/a	Free day
10	3 November	3 pm	Round 7
11	4 November	3 pm	Round 8
12	5 November	3 pm	Round 9
13	6 November	3 pm	Round 10
14	7 November	3 pm	Round 11 & Closing Ceremony
15	8 November	n/a	Departures

4.5. Pairings

Pairings are done according to the Dutch pairing system for Swiss events (FIDE Handbook C.04.3).

4. 6. Time control and default time

4. 6. 1. The games are played using the electronic clocks and boards approved by FIDE.

4. 6. 2. The time control for each game is: 100 minutes for the first 40 moves, followed by 50 minutes for the next 20 moves, followed by 15 minutes for the rest of the game with an increment of 30 seconds per move starting from move 1.

4. 6. 3. In case a player arrives at the chessboard with a delay of up to 15 minutes from the actual start of the game, he/she should be charged USD 500, unless the Organiser decides otherwise, depending on the circumstances of the delay. In case of delay of more than 15 minutes, the player loses the game (without financial penalty), unless the Chief Arbiter decides that the delay was due to an event of force majeure.

4. 7. Draw by mutual agreement

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

4. 8. Conditions of victory and qualification for the FIDE Candidates Tournament 2022

4. 8. 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 winner of the tournament. A tie is broken according to Article 4.8.3.

4. 8. 2. The winner and the runner-up of Grand Swiss qualify for the FIDE Candidates Tournament 2022. If one or both these players has (-ve) already qualified to the FIDE Candidates Tournament 2022 at the moment of the beginning of Grand Swiss via different qualification path or do (-es) not need to qualify for the FIDE Candidates Tournament 2022, the qualification spot(s) go (-es) to the highest-placed player(s) in the final standings who has (-ve) not yet qualified to the FIDE Candidates Tournament 2022 at the moment of the beginning of Grand Swiss.

4. 8. 3. Tie-breaks

If two (2) or more players score the same points, the tie is to be decided by the following criteria, in order of priority:

- a) Buchholz Cut 1;
- b) Buchholz;
- c) Sonneborn-Berger;
- d) Direct encounter between the players in tie;
- e) Drawing of lots.

All tie-breaks are calculated as described in C.02.13 of the FIDE Handbook.

4. 9. Prizes

4. 9. 1. The total prize fund is USD 425,000. The amount is net and cleared of any local taxes. The money prizes shall be allocated as follows (in USD):

1 st place:	70,000	9 th place:	14,000
2 nd place:	50,000	10 th place:	11,500
3 rd place:	40,000	11 th - 15 th places:	8,000 each
4 th place:	35,000	16 th - 20 th places:	5,000 each
5 th place:	30,000	21 st - 25 th places:	3,000 each
6 th place:	25,000	26 th - 30 th places:	2,500 each
7 th place:	20,000	31 st - 40 th places	2,000 each
8 th place:	17,000		

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

4. 9. 2. The prize money is paid by direct banker's order drawn in USD. Within fourteen (14) working days after completion of the event and reception of a player's bank details, FIDE transfers the player's prize money to his/her bank account.

4. 9. 3. If a player withdraws after the start of the tournament, FIDE Council decides upon paying out his/her prize money depending on particular circumstances.

4. 9. 4. Although FIDE endeavours to sign an agreement with the Organiser 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 Organiser acts to the contrary.

4. 10. Playing Conditions

4. 10. 1. The fair-play measures are applied according to the FIDE anti-cheating regulations for the top official events.

4. 10. 2. Except with the permission of the Chief Arbiter, only the players, the Principals and stewards are allowed in the playing area. For the purposes of this clause, the Sponsor will be treated as a Principal with the approval of the Organiser. A player may communicate with an arbiter or a steward.

4. 10. 3. During a playing session, the players are forbidden to have any electronic device not specifically approved by the Chief Arbiter in the playing venue. In case of this rule violation, the player loses the current game.

4. 10. 4. The players are not permitted to bring into the playing venue 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. 10. 5. During a playing session, a player may leave the playing venue only with the permission of the Chief Arbiter and only if he/she is accompanied by one of the arbiters. In case of this rule violation, the current game is declared lost by the player and the Chief Arbiter has the right to disqualify the player from the tournament.

4. 10. 6. The anti-doping test procedure is regulated by the contract between FIDE and the Organiser.

4. 10. 7. The Organiser has to fulfil the requirements of the medical protocol as per standards of the FIDE Medical commission.

4. 11. Scoresheets

4. 11. 1. The Organiser provides scoresheets according to the specifications provided by GSC.

4. 11. 2. At the end of each game the players' original scoresheets are to be given to the Chief Arbiter, who forwards them to FIDE. Refusal of either player to sign the scoresheets is penalized according to the Laws of Chess (FIDE Handbook E.01.Article 12.9). After the players have signed the scoresheets, an arbiter countersigns to confirm the results.

4. 12. Players' conduct

4. 12. 1. The dress code is strictly observed for the tournament and all the official events and press-conferences.

4. 12. 1. 1. Dress code for men: neat shirt with a collar (with or without a pullover), neat jacket/blazer, neat trousers.

4. 12. 1. 2. Dress code for women: neat shirt/blouse with a collar (with or without a pullover), neat jacket/blazer, neat trousers/skirt or dress.

4. 12. 1. 3. No players with t-shirts, jeans, shorts, sneakers/trainers, baseball caps or inappropriate dress are allowed in a playing venue. Any requests to wear national or traditional dress must be approved by GSC.

4. 12. 2. The players are required to attend the Technical Meeting. If necessary, the Chief Arbiter may call other Technical Meetings.

4. 12. 3. The players are required to make themselves available for post-game press conferences, of not more than 20 minutes duration, immediately after the game.

4. 12. 4. The players are required to be present at all official functions approved by GSC during the event including official receptions, the Opening and the Closing Ceremonies.

4. 12. 5. The tournament's winner is required to attend the final press conference after the event has ended and to provide an exclusive interview for the tournament and the FIDE websites if requested by the FIDE Press Officer or the Organiser.

4. 12. 6. Due to the ongoing pandemic, the players shall strictly abide by all medical regulations approved by FIDE and/or the Organiser, as well as those applicable to Latvia. FIDE shall inform players about these regulations as quick as possible. The players shall be aware that the regulations are subject to change, eventually at short notice.

4.12.7. If a player fails to fulfil his/her duties listed in Articles 4.12.1 – 4.12.6, undermines the reputation of FIDE, the Organiser and sponsors, other players, hosting country or city or conducts him-/herself in a manner contrary to the spirit of sportsmanship or the FIDE Code of Ethics, he/she shall be penalized as follows: 5% of his/her prize money shall be forfeited to the Organiser 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 Council.

4.13. Principals

The Principals are:

- a) FIDE President;
- b) FIDE Deputy President / FIDE Director General;
- c) FIDE Technical Delegate-Chairman of the Appeal Committee;
- d) Representative of the Organiser;
- e) Chief Arbiter;
- f) FIDE Fair-Play Officer;
- g) FIDE Press Officer;
- h) Member of the FIDE Medical Commission;
- i) GSC member.

4.14. Arbiters and FIDE Fair-Play Officer

4.14.1. The Chief Arbiter and the FIDE Fair-Play Officer are appointed by FIDE, after consulting with the Organiser. The Deputy Chief Arbiter and remaining arbiters are appointed by the Organiser.

4.14.2. The Chief Arbiter is required to issue “Chief Arbiter’s Information” in consultation with GSC to inform details not covered by these Regulations.

4.14.3. During play either the Chief Arbiter, his/her Deputy or the Deputy Chief Arbiter of the FIDE Chess.com Women’s Grand Swiss must be present in the playing area.

4.14.4. 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 and 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.

4.15. Appeals Committee

4.15.1. FIDE nominates the Technical Delegate-Chairman of the Appeals Committee.

4.15.2. The two (2) other members as well as first and second reserve members of the Appeals Committee are to be chosen from the participating players, all from different Federations.

4.15.3. None of three (3) members of the Appeals Committee sits in judgment in a dispute involving him-/herself or a player from his/her Federation. In this case, he/she is substituted by one of the reserve members.

4.15.4. All appeals and protests must be submitted in writing to the Appeals Committee not more than two (2) hours after the relevant game, or the particular infringement complained against.

4.15.5. Each protest must be accompanied by a deposit fee of 400 USD. If the appeal or the protest is accepted, the fee shall be returned. If the protest is rejected, the fee may be forfeited to FIDE.

4.15.6. The Appeals Committee may decide on the following matters:

- a) appeal against a decision by an arbiter,
- b) protest against a player's behaviour,
- c) any appeal which the Committee considers relevant.

4.15.7. The Appeals Committee endeavours to find binding solutions that are within the true spirit of the FIDE motto Gens Una Sumus within two (2) hours after submission of a protest.

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

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

4. 16. Ceremonies

4. 16. 1. The Opening Ceremony takes place on the day prior to Round 1.

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

4. 16. 3. The Closing Ceremony takes place in the day of the last round. The Organiser provides a trophy for the winner and medals (gold, silver, bronze) or trophies for the top three winners. The FIDE Anthem, the Anthem of the winner's federation and the Latvian National Anthem are played.

5. Media

5. 1. Website

The official domain is: <http://grandswiss.fide.com> . It will show the live broadcast supplied by Chess.com.

5. 2. Communications

5. 2. 1. All official written communications, in print or online form, shall identify FIDE as the Governing Body of Grand Swiss.

5. 2. 2. All official communications must use the official denomination for the event: FIDE Chess.com Grand Swiss.

5. 2. 3. All pre-tournament public communications regarding the event (e.g. joint press releases from FIDE, the Organiser and Chess.com) must be co-written and scheduled in coordination the FIDE Chief Marketing and Communications Officer.

5. 3. Press Officer designated by FIDE

5. 3. 1. FIDE designates a FIDE Press Officer for the event. The Organiser co-operates with the FIDE Press Officer regarding the accreditation and hospitality for journalists and media and the facilities available at any Press Centre that the Organiser chooses to provide, and assists him to establish contacts with the local media.

5. 3. 2. All content shown at www.fide.com/grandswiss is reviewed and approved by the FIDE Press Officer. The Organiser is responsible for managing, updating and reviewing the content on <http://grandswiss.fide.com> . All live images, live broadcasting (Internet TV) pictures and all the other content for the full event are carried on both official domains, plus any other web domain that has been agreed between the Organiser and GSC prior to the event. In cases of conflicting information and press statements, the views expressed by the FIDE Press Officer shall be the authentic version.

5. 3. 3. All activities of both FIDE and the Organiser shall identify FIDE being the Governing Body of Grand Swiss. The Organiser shall warrant that <http://grandswiss.fide.com> is managed in a professional way and furthermore that it is capable of handling the traffic and publicity that is required for such events. Statistics of traffic and full reports on web performance are provided to both FIDE and the Organiser.

5. 3. 4. The FIDE Press Officer reports to the FIDE Chief Marketing and Communications Officer.

5. 3. 5. The FIDE Press Officer is a member of the panel at any Press Conferences conducted during the event.

5. 4. Photography and video

5. 4. 1. Only photographers and camera crew expressly authorised by the Organiser (in co-operation with the FIDE Press Officer) may work in the playing venue.

5. 4. 2. Television cameras must try to minimise any inconvenience for the players and may only be allowed if the Chief Arbiter (acting reasonably) deems their use to be unobtrusive.

5. 4. 3. The use of flash is not allowed. An exception could be made only if the particularities of the venue force the photographers to stay more than six (6) meters away from the players. Even in those exceptional circumstances, it is restricted to the first five (5) minutes of games.

5. 4. 5. The Organiser should appoint a professional photographer to cover the event. This photographer provides FIDE, the media and the sponsors with visual material that meets professional standards.

5. 4. 6. In order to develop his/her work in conditions of artificial light and a quiet environment, the photographer's equipment must comply with the following conditions:

- Full-frame camera body.
- Silent shutter, or "Quiet mode".
- Long telephoto lens (80mm or higher), and luminous (f4 or wider)

5. 4. 7. The Organiser must ensure that, by the end of the event, FIDE is provided with at least 200 pictures in high quality, plus 20 minutes of video footage from the event. FIDE can make use of these audio-visual materials for any purpose, with no time or territorial restrictions of any kind.

6. Financial issues

6. 1. Before the end of the event, FIDE is reimbursed for its direct expenses incurred in the organisation of Grand Swiss. This is a fixed sum agreed in the contract between the Organiser and FIDE. This sum includes pre-expenses (inspections), stipends, traveling expenses for the FIDE Principals and other expenses mentioned in the contract.

6. 2. Stipends

The stipends to be paid to these Principals of Grand Swiss by the Organiser are (in USD):

Chief Arbiter	5,200
FIDE Fair-Play Officer	3,300
FIDE Technical Delegate-Chairman of the Appeal Committee	5,000
FIDE Press Officer	4,300
Member of the FIDE Medical Commission	<u>3,300</u>
TOTAL	USD 21,100

The above Principals shall also provide their services (for no extra payment) to the FIDE Chess.com Women's Grand Swiss.

6. 3. Travel Expenses of the FIDE Principals

To be agreed in the contract between the Organiser and FIDE.

6. 4. Accommodation of the FIDE Principals

To be agreed in the contract between the Organiser and FIDE.

6. 5. Local transportation.

Transfer from and to the airport is provided by the Organiser.

6. 6. Personnel

The Organiser provides sufficient personnel to assist in the playing hall, any press room, any VIP room, and at ceremonies according to the agreement made with GSC.

6. 7. Fair-play measures

The Organiser covers all the costs required for Fair-Play measures up to USD 5,000.

7. Commercial issues

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

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 Organiser.

7. 3. FIDE has the exclusive rights for live games transmission on Internet. This right as described here can be granted by FIDE to the Organiser.

7. 4. Pursuant to the contract between FIDE and the Organiser, FIDE has granted the Organiser the exclusive right to make full use of

all materials in connection with Grand Swiss (including without limitation live and recorded footage, imagery, photographs, video, audio, film, interviews, and quotes), including the right to reproduce, distribute, make available, publicly display, broadcast, or transmit such materials (live or recorded), via television, radio, Internet or any other media or means of communication, whether now known or hereinafter developed or devised.

7. 5. 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 players' sponsors, without prior written permission by FIDE or FIDE's commercial agency. Respective requests containing a brief description of the sponsors shall be sent to marketing@fide.com. Players shall be allowed to promote their sponsors' logos as long as two conditions are met:

- these sponsors are not direct competitors of the FIDE's partners;
- these sponsors don't go against FIDE's and IOC's values and policies (e. g. no alcoholic drinks).

7. 6. The income provided by Grand Swiss through admission charges goes to the Organiser.

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

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

7. 9. The FIDE logo and the head of the corporate logo are displayed below:



The FIDE logo is displayed in a black 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. 10 For brand consistency, all designs bearing the FIDE logo shall be approved by the FIDE Chief Marketing and Communications Officer. This applies to both digital (websites, social media profiles, graphics) and printed materials (roll-ups, flags, banners, t-shirts, scoresheets, et cetera). The designs shall be sent to marketing@fide.com.



FIDE Chess.com Grand Swiss Tournament 2021