Regulations for the FIDE World Championship Match 2023

1. Scope

1. 1. The FIDE World Championship Match 2023 shall be organised in April – May 2023.

1. 2. The governing Body and Organiser is the International Chess Federation (FIDE).

1. 3. FIDE Global Strategy Commission (hereinafter referred to as GSC) is in charge of preparing Regulations, communicating with the Organiser and the participants and conducting inspections.

1. 4. The body responsible for adopting and changing these Regulations is the FIDE Council, 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 the final decision.

2. Participation

2. 1. The World Championship Match is the match between the reigning World Champion GM Magnus Carlsen and his challenger – the winner of the FIDE Candidates Tournament 2022.

2. 2. If the World Champion or the Challenger withdraws for any reason, he shall be replaced by the runner-up of the FIDE
Candidates Tournament 2022.

2. 3. If further replacement is needed, the player who finished third in the FIDE Candidates Tournament 2022 shall be invited.

2. 4. If any further replacement is required, the player with the best rating in the FIDE January 2023 Standard rating list shall be invited. This player shall have at least 50 games counted in twelve FRL from February 2022 to January 2023. 40 out of these 50 games shall be played in international tournaments with the participation of players from at least 4 different federations in each tournament.
In case of equal ratings, the following criteria, in order of priority, shall decide:

- The number of rated games in the FIDE Standard rating lists from February 2022 to January 2023: the player who has played more games qualifies.
- Drawing of lots.

3. Confirmation of Participation

3. 1. Each player receives his contract by email. Each player shall sign and send his contract to the FIDE Secretariat by email by the deadline specified in the contract. Additional contracts between the Organiser and the players may be signed if needed.

3. 2. A player who does not submit his contract before the deadline shall be replaced according to Articles 2.2 – 2.4. FIDE may accept late contracts received after the deadline only for reasons FIDE President considers to be admissible.

3. 3. A player who signs his contract but withdraws shall be replaced by a player as described in Articles 2.2 – 2.4.

3. 4. A player who fails to provide a satisfactory reason for withdrawal after he has signed the player's contract may be sanctioned by the FIDE Council.

4. World Championship Match Regulations

4. 1. Format

The World Championship Match consists of fourteen games.

4. 2. Time control and default time

4. 2. 1. The games are played using electronic clocks and boards approved by FIDE.

4. 2. 2. The time control for each game is 120 minutes for the first 40 moves, followed by 60 minutes for the next 20 moves and then 15 minutes for the rest of the game with an increment of 30 seconds per move starting from move 61.

4. 2. 3. A player who arrives in the playing area after the actual start time of the game shall lose this game by default.

4. 3. Draw by mutual agreement

The players cannot draw a game by agreement before black's 40th move. A claim for a draw before black's 40th move is permitted only in cases of a draw by threefold repetition or a stalemate.

4. 4. Conditions of victory

4. 4. 1. The player who scores 7.5 points or more wins the World Championship Match. No further games shall be played. If the score after fourteen games is equal, the tie-break shall be played as described in Article 4.4.2.

4. 4. 2. Tie-break

4. 4. 2. 1. The tie-break games shall be played in accordance with Appendix A4 and Appendix B2 of the FIDE Laws of Chess (see Appendix 1.a).

4. 4. 2. 2. A four-game playoff shall be played with a time control of 25 minutes + 10 seconds increment per move, starting from move 1. There shall be a drawing of lots to decide which player starts with white.

4. 4. 2. 3. If the score is still a tie after the four-game playoff described in Article 4.4.2.2, another two-game playoff shall be played with a time control of 5 minutes + 3 seconds increment per move, starting from move 1. If the score is still level, another 2-game playoff shall be played with the same time control. There shall be a drawing of lots to decide which player starts with white before each of the 2-game matches.

4. 4. 2. 4. If the score is still level after the playoffs described in Article 4.4.2.3, after a new drawing of lots, a single game shall be played with a time control of 3 minutes for each player + 2 seconds increment per move, starting from move 1.

4. 4. 2. 5. If the game in Article 4.4.2.4 is drawn, another game shall be played with a time control of 3 minutes for each player + 2 seconds increment per move, starting from move 1 with the colors reversed.

4. 4. 2. 6. If the game in Article 4.4.2.5 is drawn, the procedure described in Article 4.4.2.5 shall be applied until a game is played with a decisive result.

4. 4. 2. 7. If a game has ended by resignation, checkmate, time loss, stalemate, triple repetition or any other of the ways described in the FIDE Handbook, E01, Article 5, no claim for irregularities are accepted (irregularities include clock settings and all other described in the FIDE Handbook, E01, Article 7).

4. 4. 2. 8. There shall be a pause of 10 minutes between all tie-break games, unless the Chief Arbiter decides otherwise.

4. 5. Prizes

4. 5. 1. The recommended prize fund provided by the Organiser is two million (2,000,000) euros net of any applicable local taxes.

4. 5. 2. The prize fund shall be divided as follows: 60% to the winner and 40% to the runner-up if the World Championship Match ends within 14 games. In case the World Champion Title is decided in the tie-break, the winner shall receive 55% and the runner-up shall receive 45% of the prize fund.

4. 5. 3. One month before the first game of the World Championship Match, each player shall receive two hundred thousand (200,000) euros. This amount shall be deducted from the prize fund. The remaining balance shall be remitted to the players within fourteen days after the completion of the World Championship Match.

4. 5. 4. If the match is played in the country of one of the players, then the foreign player shall receive one hundred thousand (100,000) euros of the prize fund. The remaining prize money is shared in accordance to Article 4.5.2.

4. 6. Schedule

4. 6. 1.

DAY	EVENT
Day 1	Opening Ceremony & Technical Meeting
Day 2	Media Day
Day 3	Round 1
Day 4	Round 2
Day 5	Free Day
Day 6	Round 3
Day 7	Round 4
Day 8	Free Day
Day 9	Round 5
Day 10	Round 6
Day 11	Free Day
Day 12	Round 7
Day 13	Free Day
Day 14	Round 8
Day 15	Round 9
Day 16	Free Day
Day 17	Round 10
Day 18	Round 11
Day 19	Free Day
Day 20	Round 12
Day 21	Round 13
Day 22	Free Day
Day 23	Round 14
Day 24	Tie-break (if needed) or Closing Ceremony *
Day 25	Closing Ceremony * (if tie-break is played)

* If the winner is decided in less than fourteen (14) games (see Article 4.4.1), the match shall be over and the Organiser shall be re-schedules the Closing Ceremony for an earlier date; then the Closing Ceremony shall take place on the day of the last game or one day thereafter.

4. 6. 2. No postponement of any game is allowed.

4. 6. 3. The schedule may be changed only upon approval of FIDE President.

4. 7. Travel and Accommodation

4. 7. 1. The Organiser shall contribute an amount of four thousand (4,000) euros towards the travel costs of each

player's team.

4. 7. 2. The Organiser shall provide each player with free accommodation with full board (in all Articles of these Regulations the full board may be substituted by a daily allowance, the amount to be agreed between the Organiser and GSC) in a two-room junior suite in an official (at least 4-stars) hotel.

4. 7. 3. The Organiser shall provide free accommodation with full board in a junior suite for the team manager of each player's team in the same hotel as the players.

4. 7. 4. The Organiser shall provide free accommodation with full board in standard single rooms for four members of each player's team in the same hotel as the players.

4. 8. Playing Venue

4. 8. 1. GSC shall ensure the playing venue and its environs meet the requirements of the FIDE Regulations for the organisation of Top-Level Tournaments (FIDE Handbook C.01, see Appendix 1.c), amended by GSC if needed.

4. 8. 2. The playing venue shall be decorated with the FIDE flag, the flag of the host and the participating federations.

4. 8. 3. The Players may inspect the playing venue in the presence of representatives of GSC, the Supervisor and the Organiser, two (2) days before the first game of the World Championship Match. The Organiser endeavours to satisfy all reasonable requests of the players.

4. 8. 4. The Organiser provides, free of charge, coffee, tea, soft drinks and snacks for the players, the principals, VIPs and accredited media.

4. 8. 5. The Organiser provides a special VIP zone according to requirements to be specified in the contract.

4. 9. Drawing of Colours

The draw for colours shall be conducted during the Opening Ceremony or during another special Ceremony if FIDE will decide to organise such ceremony in another time or place. The player who gets white in the first game shall have white in all odd standard games.

4. 10. Playing Conditions

4. 10. 1. The fair-play measures are applied according to the FIDE Anti-Cheating Guidelines (FIDE Handbook, A10, see Appendix 1.b).

4. 10. 2. Except with the permission of the Chief Arbiter, only the players, the FIDE principals, one media professional from the organising team, and stewards are allowed in the playing area. The players may communicate with an arbiter or a steward. A limited number of graphic journalists might be allowed during the first 5 minutes, depending on the characteristics of the playing area.

4. 10. 3. Players' rest lounge area should be visible by the Chief Arbiter. The rules of accessibility of the rest lounge area for viewing by other persons, the order of video recording of what is happening in the rest lounge area and the use of such recordings are additionally determined by FIDE, taking into account the opinion of the players and other circumstances worthy of attention.

4. 10. 4. The players shall arrive at the playing area at least ten minutes before the beginning of the game for the security check.

4. 10. 5. The players are not permitted to bring into the playing area a telephone, technical and other equipment extraneous to play, which may in any way disturb or upset the opponent. The Chief Arbiter decides what constitutes extraneous equipment disturbing the opponent.

4. 10. 6. While his game is in progress, a player may leave the playing venue only with the permission of the Chief Arbiter and only if he is accompanied by one of the arbiters.

4. 10. 7. For any infringement of Articles 4.10.4., 4.10.5. and 4.10.6. a fine of up to ten thousand (10,000) euros can be imposed on the player.

4. 10. 8. The anti-doping test procedure shall be regulated by the FIDE Medical Commission according to WADA requirements.

4. 10. 9. The Organiser has to fulfil the requirements of the medical protocol as per standards of the FIDE Medical Commission and host country requirements.

4. 11. Scoresheets

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

4. 11. 2. At the end of each game, the players' original scoresheets shall be submitted to the Chief Arbiter, who shall hand them to FIDE. Refusal of either player to sign the scoresheets shall be penalised according to Article 12.9. of the Laws of Chess. After the players have signed the scoresheets, the Arbiter shall countersign those to confirm the results.

4. 12. Players' Conduct

4. 12. 1. Dress code: neat shirt and formal suit. The dress code is strictly observed: no player with t-shirts, sneakers, baseball caps, shorts, or inappropriate dress shall be allowed in the playing zone. Any requests to wear national or traditional dress shall be approved by GSC.

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

4. 12. 3. The players must be present at all official functions approved by GSC during the World Championship Match, including official receptions, the Opening and the Closing Ceremonies.

4. 12. 4. The players are expected to cooperate with the media. Interviews requests will be passed on to them through the FIDE Press Officer.

4. 12. 5. The players must be available for the Opening press conference, and make themselves available to attend media requests during the "Media Day" for a period of time stipulated by their respective contracts, the day before the first game of the match. They also must attend the daily press conferences, of not more than 30 minutes duration, immediately after each game.

4. 12. 6. The players must attend the final press conference after the event has ended and provide an exclusive interview for the Match and the FIDE websites and not less than five media outlets if requested by the FIDE Press Officer.

4. 12. 7. The players are obliged to participate in at least 2 promotional events of the Match, the World Championship cycle and FIDE, including events with the participation of FIDE partners and sponsors, free of charge (without receiving additional fees), but with applicable expenses covered by FIDE. Exact conditions for such events shall be determined by FIDE in personal contracts with the participants of the Match.

The players shall also fulfil other promotional duties indicated in their contracts.

4. 12. 8. If a player fails to fulfil his duties listed in Articles 4.12.1 – 4.12.7 – 4.12.7, undermines the reputation of FIDE, the Organiser and sponsors, his opponent, hosting country or city, or conducts himself in a manner contrary to the spirit of sportsmanship or the FIDE Code of Ethics, he shall be penalised as follows: 5% of his prize money shall be forfeited to the Organiser and a further 5% to FIDE for each breach. In cases of serious or repeated misconduct, the player may be disqualified from the event. Such decisions can be taken and approved by FIDE Council.

4. 13. Principals

The Principals are:

a) FIDE President;
b) FIDE Deputy President;
a) Chief Arbiter
b) Deputy Chief Arbiter/Fair Play Officer;
c) FIDE Supervisor-Chairman of the Appeals Committee;
d) Two Appeal Committee members;
e) FIDE Press Officer and his/her Deputy;
f) Member of the FIDE Medical Commission (if needed);
g) Two GSC members (if needed).

4. 14. Arbiters

4. 14. 1. The Chief Arbiter and the Deputy Chief Arbiters are nominated by GSC after consulting both players and providing them with a list of five candidates. None of them can be from the same federation as one of the players unless both players are members of the same federation.

4. 14. 2. During play, either the Chief Arbiter or his Deputy must be present in the playing area.

4. 14. 3. Within one week after the end of the event, the Chief Arbiter must submits a report in English to GSC. If there were any difficulties, conflicts or incidents, they should be described together with the measures taken to deal with them.

4. 15. Appeals Committee

4. 15. 1. The Appeals Committee shall be appointed and act in accordance with FIDE Handbook, C11 (see Appendix 1.d).

4. 15. 2. The Chairman of the Appeal Committee shall also fulfil duties of FIDE Supervisor (see Article 4.16).

4. 16. FIDE Supervisor

4. 16. 1. The FIDE Supervisor is above the Organising Committee in all issues involving:

a) fairness concerning the treatment of both players in respect of organisational issues;
b) equal playing conditions;
c) fair-play measures;
d) fair publicity of both players through the FIDE Press Officer.

4. 16. 2. The FIDE Supervisor can request, at the Organiser's expense, any additional security arrangement he finds necessary in order to secure a fair Match and equal conditions for the players.

4. 16. 3. The Organiser shall implement the decisions of the FIDE Supervisor in all issues involving the above aspects before and during the FIDE World Championship Match 2023.

4. 16. 4. Any decision of the FIDE Supervisor before the Match can be appealed by one of the Players only to the FIDE President. Any decision of the FIDE Supervisor after the start of the Match can be appealed by one of the Players only to the Appeals Committee.

4. 17. Ceremonies

4. 17. 1. The Opening Ceremony shall take place two days prior to the first game.

4. 17. 2. The program of the Opening Ceremony shall be approved by FIDE Supervisor. Such approval shall not be unreasonably withheld. The cultural programs and speeches will have a duration of approximately 60 minutes. The FIDE Anthem and the Anthem of the hosting country are played.

4. 17. 3. The Closing Ceremony shall take place on the day of the last game or one day thereafter (see Article 4.6.1.). A victory garland, a FIDE trophy and FIDE medals (gold and silver) shall be provided by the Organiser. The garland, the trophy and the medals shall be approved by FIDE Supervisor. The FIDE Anthem, the Anthem

of the winner's country and the Anthem of the hosting country shall be played.

5. Media

5. 1. Website

The Organiser is responsible for managing, updating and reviewing the official web domain which is used for the event: **www.fideworldchampionship.com**.

5. 2. Communications

5. 2. 1. All official written communications, in print or online form, as well as activities, shall identify FIDE as the Governing Body of the FIDE World Championship Match 2023.

5. 2. 2. Official communications shall use the official name for the event, in full: FIDE World Championship Match 2023.

5. 2. 3. All pre-tournament public communications regarding FIDE World Championship Match 2023 (e.g. joint press releases from FIDE and the Organiser) shall be co-written, scheduled in coordination, and approved with/by the FIDE Chief Marketing and Communications Officer. FIDE's CMCO will also oversee all official audiovisual materials created around the event, from branding and designs to promotional materials.

5. 3. Press Officer designated by FIDE

5. 3. 1. GSC shall appoint the Press Officer for the FIDE World Championship Match 2023. The Organiser shall cooperate with the Press Officer regarding the accreditation and hospitality for journalists and media and the facilities available at the Press Centre that the Organiser chooses to provide and assists him/her in establishing contacts with the local media.

5. 3. 2. All content shown at **www.fideworldchampionship.com** shall be reviewed and approved by the FIDE Chief Marketing Communications Officer (before the event), or the Press Officer (during the event). All live images, live broadcasting (Internet TV) pictures and all the other content for the full event are carried on official domains, plus any other web domain that has been agreed between the Organiser and GSC prior to the FIDE World Championship Match 2023. In cases of conflicting information and press statements, the views expressed by the Press Officer shall be the authentic version.

5. 3. 3. The Organiser shall warrant that **www.fideworldchampionship.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 shall be provided to GSC.

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

5. 4. Photography and Video

5. 4. 1. Only photographers and camera crew explicitly authorised by the Press Officer or the FIDE Chief Marketing and Communications Officer may work in the playing venue.

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

5. 4. 3. The use of flash is not allowed. An exception could be made by the Press Officer only if the particularities of the venue force the photographers to stay more than six meters away from the players. Even in those exceptional circumstances, it is restricted to the first five minutes of standard games, the first three minutes of rapid games and the first minute of blitz games (for eventual tie-break games).

6. Financial Issues

6. 1. Direct Expenses Reimbursements

Before the end of the Match, FIDE shall be reimbursed for its direct expenses incurred in the organisation of the

World Championship Match 2023. This shall be a fixed amount agreed in the contract between the Organiser and FIDE. This sum includes pre-expenses (inspections), stipends, traveling expenses for the Principals and other expenses mentioned in these Regulations and the contract. If the World Championship Match takes place in the country of one of the players, the Organiser shall provide an amount of three thousand (3,000) euros to the foreign player as compensation for transportation and hospitality for inspection visits.

6. 2. Expenses of the FIDE Operational Team

The Organiser shall cover all the expenses of the FIDE operational team involved in the organisation of the World Championship Match 2023 (travelling, accommodation, remuneration) up to fifty thousand (50,000) euros. A detailed description of the team's functions shall be included in the contract signed between the Organiser and FIDE.

6. 3. Stipends

The stipends to be paid to the Principals of the World Championship Match 2023 by the Organiser are (in euros):

Principal	Stipend, €	Number	Sum, €
Chief Arbiter	6,300	1	6,300
Deputy Chief Arbiter / Fair Play Officer	4,900	1	4,900
FIDE Supervisor - Chairman of the Appeals Committee	5,300	1	5,300
Member of the Appeals Committee	3,900	2	7,800
Press Officer	5,300	1	5,300
Deputy Press Officer	3,900	1	3,900
Member of the FIDE Medical Commission	3,900	1	3,900
TOTAL			37,400

6. 4. Travel Expenses of the FIDE Principals

The FIDE President has the right to business class travel by air, sea or rail, at the Organiser`s expense. All other Principals are compensated by the Organiser for their travel expenses up to a maximum of one thousand two hundred (1,200) euros if travelling from the same continent, up to two thousand (2,000) euros if travelling from another continent.

6. 5. Accommodation of the FIDE Principals and media team

Accommodation with full board in a suite in an official (at least 4-stars) hotel shall be offered by the Organiser for the FIDE President. Accommodation with full board in a standard single room shall be offered by the Organiser for each Principal in the same hotel. Extra expenses shall be covered by the Organiser only for the FIDE President. The Organiser in cooperation with the FIDE Press Officer shall provide a total number of thirty hotel nights with full board in an official (at least 4-stars) hotel for FIDE media team.

6. 6. Broadcast and Commentary

6. 6. 1. The Organiser is responsible for covering all the expenses related to the high-quality live Internet broadcast on the official website **www.fideworldchampionship.com**

6. 6. 2. The Organiser is responsible for covering all the expenses related to the team of commentators.

6. 7. Local Transportation

The Organiser shall provide transfer from and to the airport, if necessary. A sufficient number of cars shall be made available for Principals; their use shall depend on the position of the hotels, playing hall and media centre. Alternatively, a daily allowance in local currency may be provided; the amount shall be agreed upon between the Organiser and GSC. Local transport shall also be provided for the players to official functions, if necessary.

6. 8. Personnel

The Organiser shall provide sufficient personnel to assist in the playing venue, press room, VIP room, and at Ceremonies and at Ceremonies according to the contract between the Organiser and FIDE.

6. 9. Fair-play Measures

The Organiser shall cover the costs associated with implementing the fair play regulations up to ten thousand (10,000) euros.

6. 10. Budget

The Organiser shall produce a detailed budget for the event, which shall be approved by GSC.

7. Commercial Issues

7. 1. FIDE retains all commercial and media rights of the event, including internet. These rights can be granted by FIDE to the Organiser on conditions specified in the contract signed between FIDE and the Organiser.

7. 2. The radio and television rights, including photo, video and film rights, belong to FIDE. These rights can be granted by FIDE to the Organiser on conditions specified in the contract signed between FIDE and the Organiser.

7. 3. FIDE has exclusive rights for live game transmission on the Internet. FIDE shall provide the Organiser the signal for online game display in the different function rooms as agreed between the parties. These rights, as described here, can be granted by FIDE to the Organiser.

7. 4. FIDE has the right to enter into advertisement agreements either with the Organiser or Sponsors of the event requiring players to wear attire with sponsors' branding.

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 the players' sponsors, without prior written permission by FIDE PR and Marketing Chief Officer.

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

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

The FIDE logo is displayed in a black on a white background, or its inverse, white over a solid-color background.

APPENDIX 1

Useful Links

a) **FIDE Laws of Chess taking effect from 1 January 2023 –** https://handbook.fide.com/chapter/E012023

b) **Anti-Cheating Regulations –** https://handbook.fide.com/files/handbook/ACCProtectionMeasures.pdf

c) **Basic Guidelines for playing venues of FIDE Top-Level Tournaments** – https://handbook.fide.com/chapter/C01

d) **Appeals Committee Procedural Rules –** https://handbook.fide.com/chapter/AppealsCommitteeProceduralRules