

REGULATIONS FOR THE ARMAGEDDON CHAMPIONSHIP SERIES ONLINE REGIONAL CUPS 2022

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”). These regulations address the organisation of the online events of the Series. For offline events, please refer to the separate document (Offline Regulations).

2. GENERAL

Armageddon Championship Series Online Regional Cups (or “Online Regional Cups”) is the first stage of the Armageddon Championship Series 2022-2023 and includes numerous qualifying tournaments (based on the number of registered participants) organised on a regional basis and three Regional Finals. Two winners from each region will qualify for the regional offline events.

Apart from the Armageddon Online Regional Cups, the Series include certain offline tournaments. For more information on them please refer to the respective Regulations of the offline stages.

3. REGIONS

Armageddon Championship Series Online Regional Cups and Armageddon Championship Series Regionals are organised on a 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. SERIES’ PLATFORM

FIDE Online Arena (“FOA”) is the official platform of the Series. All the online tournaments are played on this platform.

5. DATES

The Series’ online events are organised in accordance with the following schedule:

All online tournaments last one day. The starting time of the tournament is determined by the Organiser and announced on the Series’ section on the website.

Qualifying tournaments are held during the period between October 22, 2022 and December 18, 2022.

The schedule for the first 5 qualifying tournaments:

– Tournament #1:

October 22, 2022; 13:00 UTC (Asia & Oceania)

October 23, 2022; 16:00 UTC (Europe & Africa)

October 30, 2022; 21:00 UTC (Americas)

– Tournament #2:

November 5, 2022; 16:00 UTC (Europe & Africa)

November 6, 2022; 13:00 UTC (Asia & Oceania)

November 12, 2022; 21:00 UTC (Americas)

– Tournament #3:

November 19, 2022; 07:00 UTC (Asia & Oceania)

November 20, 2022; 11:00 UTC (Europe & Africa)

November 27, 2022; 17:00 UTC (Americas)

– Tournament #4:

December 3, 2022; 11:00 UTC (Europe & Africa)

December 4, 2022; 07:00 UTC (Asia & Oceania)

December 10, 2022; 17:00 UTC (Americas)

– Tournament #5:

December 11, 2022; 14:00 UTC (Asia & Oceania)

December 18, 18:00 UTC (Europe & Africa)

December 18, 23:00 UTC (Americas)

The dates for additional qualifying tournaments are to be announced by the Organiser at its discretion.

The Armageddon Online Cup regional finals schedule:

– Europe & Africa: January 8, 2023;

– Americas: January 15, 2023;

– Asia & Oceania: January 22, 2023.

The Organiser may amend the schedule at its own discretion.

6. PARTICIPANTS

Qualification criteria for tournaments are presented in the table below:

Stage	Tournament(s)	Qualification criteria
Armageddon Championship Series Online Regional Cups	Qualification tournaments (up to 300 players per tournament)	All participants shall (1) have a FIDE Online Arena PRO (FIDE ID) subscription; (2) shall belong to the region of the tournament; and (3)

		<p>shall have their blitz FOA rating determined (you need to be assigned your initial blitz FOA Rating before joining the tournament, so you'll have to score at least 1 draw or win and play 4 more FOA rated games).</p> <p><u>Each player can participate in up to three qualification tournaments.</u> Top-20 players from each tournament will qualify for the participation in the regional finals. Each player can qualify only once, after the first qualification, he/she will not be included in the top-20 for qualification purposes.</p> <p>The players join the tournaments on a “first-come, first-served” basis with a maximum of 300 players for the tournament.</p> <p>As the verification process takes time, the Players are advised to register and purchase an Arena PRO subscription at least one week before their first tournament.</p>
	Finals (200 players per tournament)	<p>The Top-20 players from each qualifying tournament and the 50 players with the highest FOA Blitz rating for each region.</p> <p>The lists of qualifying players will be published on the FIDE Online Arena website in the Series’ section.</p>

If any of the players meeting the qualification criteria cannot participate in the tournament for any reason, the Organiser shall decide on the substitute procedure.

Participants in the online tournaments are bound by these Rules & Regulations and the Terms of Service of the Series’ online platform.

The two winners of each Armageddon Online Cup regional finals qualify for participation in the Armageddon Series offline regionals (please refer to the offline events regulations). Participants of the offline tournaments shall sign a player’s contract governing commercial aspects of these tournaments (accommodation, commercial rights, promotional activities).

7. FORMAT FOR ONLINE TOURNAMENTS

All online tournaments are organised using the Swiss pairing system and 5 min blitz time-control. If two or more players have the same total number of points, the Buchholz system is used to determine the winner. Each player is awarded one point for the win, half a point for the draw and zero points for the loss.

8. PRIZES

Stage	Tournament(s)	Prizes (where applicable - for each tournament)
Armageddon Championship Series Online Regional Cups	Qualification tournaments (total prize fund - 1000 EUR for each tournament)	1st place - 500 EUR 2nd place - 250 EUR 3rd place - 75 EUR 4th-10th places - 25 EUR each
	Armageddon Online Regional Cups. Finals (total prize fund - 10,000 EUR for each tournament)	1st place - 3,000 EUR; 2nd place - 2,000 EUR; 3rd-4th places - 1,000 EUR each; 5th-10th places - 250 EUR each; 11th - 20th places - 150 EUR each.

The winners of the tournament are announced not later than within 10 calendar days following the end of the respective tournament. The list will be published on the event's page.

The prizes are transferred within 30 calendar days following the end of the respective tournament to the bank accounts of the player using SWIFT transfers ([SWIFT - Wikipedia](#)). Any player who cannot be reached within 90 days following the announcement of the prizes forfeits his/her right to the prize. The Organiser will use the email used for registration on the FIDE Online Arena as the main means of communication.

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 a 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.

9. SPONSORSHIP

No personal sponsorship promotion in connection to the tournament is allowed without prior written authorisation from the Organiser.

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 issues at its sole discretion.

11. COMMERCIAL RIGHTS

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

- 11.1. 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;
- 11.2. 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;
- 11.3. 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);
- 11.4. 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;
- 11.5. Ancillary activities in connection with the Series;
- 11.6. 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 such player in an unfavourable manner.

12. FAIR PLAY

The players agree to abide by the Fair-Play Policy of the 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.

All participants in the regional finals must join a zoom video-conference moderated by the tournament Arbiters. All participants will be sent an invite link to join a zoom conference to the email they signed up with at the FIDE Online Arena. Interruption in the video stream may result in disqualification.

Any decision taken by the arbiter of the Anti-Cheating Officer in relation to the Series tournament is final and is not subject to an appeal.

13. 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, Series, its partners, sponsors or other players, as long as the latter are not in default hereunder.

14. DISQUALIFICATION

In case of repeated or gross violation of these Regulations or fair play regulations the Organiser reserves the right to disqualify the player from participation in the Series. A 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.

15. CHANGES TO THE 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, Isle of Man, 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, Cayman Islands, 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, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, 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