

REGULATIONS FOR THE → FOA SWISS QUEENS WEDNESDAY TOURNAMENT



FIDE Online Arena

01. GENERAL

The FIDE Online Arena Swiss Queens Wednesdays Tournament Series (“Tournament”) is a weekly event series with a prize fund of at least 1,000 USD for titled female players. The Tournament is organised by World Chess Events Limited (“Organiser”) with FIDE support and hosted on FIDE Online Arena platform (chessarena.com). Annual prize fund can be increased by the Organiser as the series progresses to up to \$100,000.

02. QUALIFICATIONS

The tournament is open for all titled women chess players (i) holding any FIDE over-the-board title or FIDE Online Arena title and (ii) having a verified FIDE Online Arena Pro account (Pro accounts are free for players who hold the WIM, IM, WGM and GM titles).

As account verification takes a certain amount of time, it is recommended that the players register for the Pro account at least 72 hours prior to the start of their first Tournament.

03. FORMAT

The Tournaments start every Wednesday at 17:00 Central European Time. The format is a Swiss pairing system with 3+1 Blitz time-control. The players will be paired based on their FOA rating.

Tiebreaks are decided according to the following criteria:

1) BUCHHOLZ SYSTEM:

The sum of the scores of each opponent.

2) CUT BUCHHOLZ SYSTEM:

Similar to the Buchholz system, but with the lowest opponent score removed from the calculation.

3) NUMBER OF WINS:

The total number of wins a player has achieved during the tournament.

Each player is awarded one point for the win, half a point for the draw and zero points for the loss. The expected duration of the Tournament is 2.5 hours with 10 min pauses after fourth and eighth rounds.

04. PRIZES

The prize pool for each Tournament is 1,000 USD, which is to be distributed as follows:

1ST – 300 USD

2ND – 250 USD

3RD – 200 USD

4TH – 150 USD

5TH – 100 USD

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. The player who cannot be reached within 90 days following the announcement of the prizes forfeits her right to the prize. The Organiser will use email used for registration on FIDE Online Arena as the main source 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 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, due diligence and tax calculation purposes.

05. SPONSORSHIP

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

06. COMMERCIAL RIGHTS

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

- 1) The right to conduct the organisation, promotion, formation, carrying out, management, financing and exploitation of the Tournament by all manner and means, subject to the players' security and fairness concerns;
- 2) All marketing and commercial sponsorship of the Tournament and the sale, exploitation or other disposal of all commercial rights, facilities and licences, including product placement rights with respect to the Series;
- 3) The right to record, broadcast, exploit and transmit the Tournament, every game of the Tournament, 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);

- 4) The right to produce or authorise production of all official publications connected with the Tournament, including advertising and credits for the Series in the official program, bulletins, posters, press releases and other materials and tickets;
- 5) Ancillary activities in connection with the Tournament;
- 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 Tournament, provided that the Organiser does not portray such player in an unfavourable manner.

07. FAIR PLAY

The players agree to abide by the Fair-Play Policy of FIDE Online Arena, 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 from time to time.

The games are analysed by a Night Watch anti-cheating suite and double-checked by a team of anti-cheating experts. Any decision taken by an FOA anti-cheating officer in relation to the Tournament is final and is not subject to an appeal.

For fair play considerations, all the players will be asked to join a recorded Zoom meeting with their video and audio turned on during the whole Tournament. Broadcasting of such video conference calls is prohibited without explicit permission from the Organiser.

Players are not allowed to use headphones during the games.

Players must use their real name and photo during the tournament.

08. TECHNICAL ASPECTS

Disconnection of 60 seconds automatically results in a loss for the disconnected player.

In case of repeated disconnections or failure to comply with the Fair Play regulations, the arbiter will decide on the consequences (up to disqualification from the Tournament) in each individual case.

The Organiser shall not be responsible for possible technical issues during the games.

09. 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, FIDE, Series, its partners, sponsors or other players, in any communication or appearance linked to the Series.

10. 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 Tournament. Disqualified player forfeits any right to the prize fund and other amounts due to her in relation to her participation in the Series.

11. CASES NOT COVERED

In cases not specifically covered by the current regulations FIDE Rules of Chess and FIDE Online Chess Regulations shall apply. Where the issue is not covered neither by these nor by FIDE's regulations, the Organiser shall resolve such issue at its sole discretion.

12. 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.

