



FIDE CANDIDATES TOURNAMENT 2020

Yekaterinburg, Russia, 16th March – 5th April 2020

Chief Arbiter's information

Date: The FIDE Candidates Tournament 2020 takes place in Yekaterinburg (Russia) from 16th March until 5th April.

Tournament Venue: The playing hall is located in the Hyatt Regency Hotel (second floor), Borisa Yeltsina Street 8, Yekaterinburg, Sverdlovsk Oblast, Russia, 620014.

Format & System: The 8 players play a double round robin tournament (14 rounds). The winner qualifies for the 2020 FIDE World Chess Championship Match.

Pairings and draw of colors: The draw for pairings and colors was made in the Ministry of Sport of the Russian Federation in Moscow, with the presence of the FIDE President, Mr. Arkady Dvorkovich. The participants have the following starting numbers:

SNo.		Name	IRtg	FED
1	GM	Vachier-Lagrave Maxime	2767	FRA
2	GM	Ding Liren	2805	CHN
3	GM	Giri Anish	2763	NED
4	GM	Grischuk Alexander	2777	RUS
5	GM	Alekseenko Kirill	2698	RUS
6	GM	Nepomniachtchi Ian	2774	RUS
7	GM	Wang Hao	2762	CHN
8	GM	Caruana Fabiano	2842	USA

Note: Teimour Radjabov (SNo.1) is replaced by Maxime Vachier-Lagrave.

Pairings:

Round 1

SNo.		Name	Rtg	Res.		Name	Rtg	SNo.
1	GM	Vachier-Lagrave Maxime	2767	-	GM	Caruana Fabiano	2842	8
2	GM	Ding Liren	2805	-	GM	Wang Hao	2762	7
3	GM	Giri Anish	2763	-	GM	Nepomniachtchi Ian	2774	6
4	GM	Grischuk Alexander	2777	-	GM	Alekseenko Kirill	2698	5

Round 2

SNo.		Name	Rtg	Res.		Name	Rtg	SNo.
8	GM	Caruana Fabiano	2842	-	GM	Alekseenko Kirill	2698	5
6	GM	Nepomniachtchi Ian	2774	-	GM	Grischuk Alexander	2777	4
7	GM	Wang Hao	2762	-	GM	Giri Anish	2763	3
1	GM	Vachier-Lagrave Maxime	2767	-	GM	Ding Liren	2805	2

Round 3

SNo.		Name	Rtg	Res.		Name	Rtg	SNo.
2	GM	Ding Liren	2805	-	GM	Caruana Fabiano	2842	8
3	GM	Giri Anish	2763	-	GM	Vachier-Lagrave Maxime	2767	1
4	GM	Grischuk Alexander	2777	-	GM	Wang Hao	2762	7
5	GM	Alekseenko Kirill	2698	-	GM	Nepomniachtchi Ian	2774	6

Round 4

SNo.		Name	Rtg	Res.		Name	Rtg	SNo.
8	GM	Caruana Fabiano	2842	-	GM	Nepomniachtchi Ian	2774	6
7	GM	Wang Hao	2762	-	GM	Alekseenko Kirill	2698	5
1	GM	Vachier-Lagrave Maxime	2767	-	GM	Grischuk Alexander	2777	4
2	GM	Ding Liren	2805	-	GM	Giri Anish	2763	3

Round 5

SNo.		Name	Rtg	Res.		Name	Rtg	SNo.
3	GM	Giri Anish	2763	-	GM	Caruana Fabiano	2842	8
4	GM	Grischuk Alexander	2777	-	GM	Ding Liren	2805	2
5	GM	Alekseenko Kirill	2698	-	GM	Vachier-Lagrave Maxime	2767	1
6	GM	Nepomniachtchi Ian	2774	-	GM	Wang Hao	2762	7

Round 6

SNo.		Name	Rtg	Res.		Name	Rtg	SNo.
4	GM	Grischuk Alexander	2777	-	GM	Caruana Fabiano	2842	8
5	GM	Alekseenko Kirill	2698	-	GM	Giri Anish	2763	3
6	GM	Nepomniachtchi Ian	2774	-	GM	Ding Liren	2805	2
7	GM	Wang Hao	2762	-	GM	Vachier-Lagrave Maxime	2767	1

Round 7

SNo.		Name	Rtg	Res.		Name	Rtg	SNo.
8	GM	Caruana Fabiano	2842	-	GM	Wang Hao	2762	7
1	GM	Vachier-Lagrave Maxime	2767	-	GM	Nepomniachtchi Ian	2774	6
2	GM	Ding Liren	2805	-	GM	Alekseenko Kirill	2698	5
3	GM	Giri Anish	2763	-	GM	Grischuk Alexander	2777	4

Round 8

SNo.		Name	Rtg	Res.		Name	Rtg	SNo.
8	GM	Caruana Fabiano	2842	-	GM	Vachier-Lagrave Maxime	2767	1
7	GM	Wang Hao	2762	-	GM	Ding Liren	2805	2
6	GM	Nepomniachtchi Ian	2774	-	GM	Giri Anish	2763	3
5	GM	Alekseenko Kirill	2698	-	GM	Grischuk Alexander	2777	4

Round 9

SNo.		Name	Rtg	Res.		Name	Rtg	SNo.
5	GM	Alekseenko Kirill	2698	-	GM	Caruana Fabiano	2842	8
4	GM	Grischuk Alexander	2777	-	GM	Nepomniachtchi Ian	2774	6
3	GM	Giri Anish	2763	-	GM	Wang Hao	2762	7
2	GM	Ding Liren	2805	-	GM	Vachier-Lagrave Maxime	2767	1

Round 10

SNo.		Name	Rtg	Res.		Name	Rtg	SNo.
8	GM	Caruana Fabiano	2842	-	GM	Ding Liren	2805	2
1	GM	Vachier-Lagrave Maxime	2767	-	GM	Giri Anish	2763	3
7	GM	Wang Hao	2762	-	GM	Grischuk Alexander	2777	4
6	GM	Nepomniachtchi Ian	2774	-	GM	Alekseenko Kirill	2698	5

Round 11

SNo.		Name	Rtg	Res.		Name	Rtg	SNo.
6	GM	Nepomniachtchi Ian	2774	-	GM	Caruana Fabiano	2842	8
5	GM	Alekseenko Kirill	2698	-	GM	Wang Hao	2762	7
4	GM	Grischuk Alexander	2777	-	GM	Vachier-Lagrave Maxime	2767	1
3	GM	Giri Anish	2763	-	GM	Ding Liren	2805	2

Round 12

SNo.		Name	Rtg	Res.		Name	Rtg	SNo.
8	GM	Caruana Fabiano	2842	-	GM	Giri Anish	2763	3
2	GM	Ding Liren	2805	-	GM	Grischuk Alexander	2777	4
1	GM	Vachier-Lagrave Maxime	2767	-	GM	Alekseenko Kirill	2698	5
7	GM	Wang Hao	2762	-	GM	Nepomniachtchi Ian	2774	6

Round 13

SNo.		Name	Rtg	Res.		Name	Rtg	SNo.
7	GM	Wang Hao	2762	-	GM	Caruana Fabiano	2842	8
6	GM	Nepomniachtchi Ian	2774	-	GM	Vachier-Lagrave Maxime	2767	1
5	GM	Alekseenko Kirill	2698	-	GM	Ding Liren	2805	2
4	GM	Grischuk Alexander	2777	-	GM	Giri Anish	2763	3

Round 14

SNo.		Name	Rtg	Res.		Name	Rtg	SNo.
8	GM	Caruana Fabiano	2842	-	GM	Grischuk Alexander	2777	4
3	GM	Giri Anish	2763	-	GM	Alekseenko Kirill	2698	5
2	GM	Ding Liren	2805	-	GM	Nepomniachtchi Ian	2774	6
1	GM	Vachier-Lagrave Maxime	2767	-	GM	Wang Hao	2762	7

Schedule:

Date	Time	Event	Place
March 15 th		Arrivals	
March 16 th	4:00 pm	Technical Meeting	Hyatt Regency Hotel
March 16 th	7:00 pm	Opening Ceremony	Congress Center Ekaterinburg Expo, 2, Expo boulevard
March 17 th	4:00 pm	Round 1	Hyatt Regency Hotel
March 18 th	4:00 pm	Round 2	Hyatt Regency Hotel
March 19 th	4:00 pm	Round 3	Hyatt Regency Hotel
March 20 th		Free day	
March 21 st	4:00 pm	Round 4	Hyatt Regency Hotel
March 22 nd	4:00 pm	Round 5	Hyatt Regency Hotel
March 23 rd	4:00 pm	Round 6	Hyatt Regency Hotel
March 24 th		Free day	
March 25 th	4:00 pm	Round 7	Hyatt Regency Hotel
March 26 th	4:00 pm	Round 8	Hyatt Regency Hotel
March 27 th	4:00 pm	Round 9	Hyatt Regency Hotel
March 28 th		Free day	
March 29 th	4:00 pm	Round 10	Hyatt Regency Hotel
March 30 th	4:00 pm	Round 11	Hyatt Regency Hotel
March 31 st	4:00 pm	Round 12	Hyatt Regency Hotel
April 1 st		Free day	
April 2 nd	4:00 pm	Round 13	Hyatt Regency Hotel
April 3 rd	3:00 pm	Round 14	Hyatt Regency Hotel
April 3 rd	9:30 pm	Closing Ceremony	Sima-Land. 86, bld.8, Chernyakhovsky street
April 4 th	TBC	Tie-breaks (if needed)	Hyatt Regency Hotel

* Note: The closing ceremony can be moved to the 4th April in case there are tie-breaks

If a player withdraws after completing 50% or more of the games, the rest of his games are lost by default. In case a player completes less than 50%, all his results are annulled.

No postponement of any game is allowed.

For tie-break games, there is a separate drawing of lots conducted by the Chief Arbiter.

Playing session: Each playing session starts at 4:00 pm, except for the last round which starts at 3:00 pm.

Default time: Default time is 0 minutes. The start of the session is the moment when the Chief Arbiter announces it. The Chief Arbiter has to declare the game lost for the player who is not present at the chessboard.

Time control: The time control for each game is: 100 minutes for the first 40 moves, followed by 50 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 1.

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

Clocks: DGT3000 are used with standard preprogrammed available mode. The clocks are set in mode 14 for the classical games, implying that the extra time (50 minutes) for the second period will be added after the first flag fall. Also, the extra time (15 minutes) for the third period will be added after the first flag fall at the second period.

The players are informed during the Technical Meeting.

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 through the Chief Arbiter or his Deputy in case of threefold repetition.

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

- a) The results of the games between the players involved in the tie.
- b) Each tied player's total number of wins in the tournament.
- c) Sonneborn - Berger System.

After applying the tie-break procedure we can have the following cases:

- 1) A clear winner,
- 2) If there are two (2) players in tie for the first place after applying the procedure described above, a tie-break play-off is held between these players to determine the winner and the runner-up,
- 3) If there are more than two (2) players in tie for the first place after applying the procedure described above, the drawing of lots decides two (2) players who participate in a tie-break play-off to determine the winner and the runner-up.

Playing conditions:

The anti-cheating measures are applied according to the FIDE Anti-Cheating Guidelines.

Hand held metal detector is used for checking players.

Arbiters may perform random checks of the players, according to article 11.3 of the FIDE Laws of Chess.

Except with the permission of the Chief Arbiter, only the players, the principals and stewards are allowed in the playing area. A player may communicate with an arbiter or a steward.

The players are not permitted to bring into the playing area mobile phone or any other communication devices, watches, pens and other equipment extraneous to playing, which may in any way, disturb or upset the opponent. The Chief Arbiter shall decide which constitutes extraneous equipment is disturbing the opponent.

During the playing session, a player may leave the playing area only with the permission of the Chief Arbiter and only if he is accompanied by one of the arbiters.

The anti-doping test procedure is regulated by the contract between FIDE and the Organizer.

Live transmission: All games of every round are transmitted live on Internet.

Score sheets: At the end of each standard game the players' original score sheets are to be given to the Chief Arbiter. Refusal of either player to sign the score sheets shall be penalized according to Article 12.9 of the Laws of Chess.

In tie-break games, the players and the Chief Arbiter or his Deputy shall sign a result sheet.

Players conduct: The players are required to attend the Technical Meeting on the day of the Opening Ceremony. The Technical Meeting of the FIDE Candidates Tournament 2020 takes part on 16th March, at 4:00 pm at Hyatt Regency Hotel.

Also, the players are required to be present at all official events approved by GSC including official receptions, the Opening and the Closing Ceremonies.

Dress code: Players personal appearance should be a dignified one all the time during the event.

The dress code is strictly observed for the tournament and all the official events and press-conferences. That means: neat shirt and formal suit.

Any requests to wear national or traditional dress must be approved by GSC.

Arbiters and Director:

The Chief Arbiter of the FIDE Candidates Tournament 2020 is IA Nebojsa Baralic from Serbia and the Deputy Chief Arbiter is IA Andrew Howie from Scotland.

The Tournament Director is Mr. Albert Stepanyan from Russia.

Appeals Committee:

The Chairman of the Appeals Committee is Jeroen Van den Berg from the Netherlands, and the two other members of the Committee are IM Nino Gurieli from Georgia and IA Herman Van Riemsdijk from Brasil.

All protests must be submitted in writing to the Appeals Committee not more than two (2) hours after the relevant playing session, or the particular infringement that is complained against.

Each protest must be accompanied by a deposit fee of five hundred (500) euros or the equivalent in local currency. If the protest is accepted, the fee shall be returned. If the protest is rejected, the fee may be forfeited to FIDE.

The Appeals Committee endeavours to make a decision within two (2) hours after submission of a protest.

If there are tie-break games, a player willing to appeal is encouraged to do it within 15 minutes after the relevant tie-break game. The decision should be taken as soon as possible.

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

Health and safety measures at the FIDE Candidates Tournament:

The FIDE published on the website health and safety measures (<https://www.fide.com/news/411>) and they are closely following the developments regarding the Coronavirus as well as the situation in Russia and the steps taken by Russian authorities. There are the health and safety measures which will be in force. One of them is: Handshakes before and after the game are optional.

For more information please check:

The full Regulations for the FIDE Candidates Tournament:

https://handbook.fide.com/files/handbook/Regulations_for_the_FIDE_Candidates_Tournament_2020.pdf

The FIDE Laws of Chess, as valid since 1 January 2018 and published on the FIDE website:

<https://handbook.fide.com/chapter/E012018>

Anti-cheating Guidelines:

<https://handbook.fide.com/files/handbook/Anti%20Cheating%20Guidelines.pdf>

Health and safety measures at the FIDE Candidates Tournament

<https://www.fide.com/news/411>

The official website of the FIDE Candidates Tournament:

<https://en.candidates-2020.com/>

Belgrade, 7th March 2020.

IA Nebojsa Baralic, Chief Arbiter