2023 British Chess Championships Tournament Rules

Section A: General Rules for All Tournaments

Rating

All tournaments will be submitted to the English Chess Federation (ECF) and FIDE for rating unless otherwise indicated. It is a condition of playing in the British Chess Championships that the data submitted at the time of entry will be forwarded to the ECF and FIDE as required to enable the games played to be rated by the ECF and FIDE.

Allocation of Ratings in All Sections

The ratings used for entry into each tournament will be in the order of priority shown below, with letters as indicated ---

- E ECF / National Rating (May 2023)
- Q ECF Rapidplay Rating (May 2023)
- S ECF Blitz Rating (May 2023)
- F FIDE Rating (May 2023)
- R FIDE Rapidplay Rating (May 2023)
- B FIDE Blitz Rating (May 2023)

A,B means rating type A has priority over rating type B.

MAX (A,B) – Denotes the maximum of the two ratings A and B where a player has both ratings.

NB - For the pairing all events, the July 2023 list will be used.

Championship	F,E	Under 10	Max(F,E)	Under 1600	Max(F,E)
Major Open	F,E	Under 9	Max(F,E)	Under 1450	Max(F,E)
Over 50	F,E	Under 8	Max(R,Q),	W/e Open - Atkins	Max(F,E)
Over 65	F,E		Max(F,E)	W/e U1750 - Soanes	Max(F,E)
Under 16	Max(F,E)	AM Open	Max(F,E)	W/e U1500 - Yates	Max(F,E)
Under 14	Max(F,E)	Under 2050	Max(F,E)	Rapidplay	Max(R,Q), Max(F,E)
Under 12	Max(F,E)	Under 1900	Max(F,E)	Blitz	Max(B,S),
Under 11	Max(F,E)	Under 1750	Max(F,E)		Max(R,Q), Max(F,E)

- 1) Where a player has none of the above, the organisers will assign an estimate based on all available data on a case-by-case basis, failing which the player will be assigned a rating of 0
- 2) ECF ratings will be considered to be equivalent to FIDE ratings
- 3) The ratings allocated by this process will be used in the calculation of any relevant prizes. (See Prize Calculation below for more information.)

Obtaining a FIDE Identification Number

All entrants must have a FIDE Identification Number at the time of submitting their entry, unless they wish their FIDE nationality to be England. English players without a FIDE Identification Number will have one created at the time the rating files are submitted to FIDE. *Please note: At the time of writing, changing this nationality later costs up to 250 Euros, payable by the player.*

Players with a FIDE registration of RUS or BLR will not be eligible to enter events as per current ECF policy. They may, however, use FIDE's fast track procedure to change their FIDE affiliation to FID as a basis for entering and providing they are otherwise eligible.

Over-Running Games & Delay of Game

A player whose game finishes less than 30 minutes before the scheduled start time of their next game at the Championships - either in that tournament, or in another tournament they have entered – will be offered a 30-minute break before the start of that game. An arbiter will inform the player's opponent accordingly, and delay the start of that game until the new start time.

Section B: Tournament Specific Regulations

\sim	am				
ľ'n	2m	n	\sim	2	1IN
	4111				

Number of Rounds 9 0 Number of Half Point Byes Permitted

See Section G Tie-Breaks

British Championship Qualifying Places See 2023 British Championship Qualifying Regulations

Time Control 40/90 + Game/30 + 30'

Default Time 30 minutes

ECF & FIDE Rated Rating

Schedule Round 1 Saturday, 22nd July 1430 Sunday, 23rd July Round 2 1430

> Monday, 24th July Round 3 1430 Tuesday, 25th July Round 4 1430 Wednesday, 26th July Round 5 1430 Thursday, 27th July Round 6 1430 Friday, 28th July Round 7 1430

Saturday, 29th July 1430 Round 8 Round 9 Sunday, 30th July 1000

Playoff Regulations See Section G Pairings Published for each Round 2100 (or before)

Entry Fee and Prizes See entry form and website

Senior Championships - Over 50

Number of Rounds 7 Number of Half Point Byes Permitted 0

British Championship Qualifying Places See 2023 British Championship Qualifying Regulations

Time Control 40/90 + Game/30 + 30'

Default Time 30 minutes ECF & FIDE Rated Rating

Monday, 24th July Schedule 1430 Round 1

Round 7

Tuesday, 25th July Round 2 1430 Wednesday, 26th July Round 3 1430 Thursday, 27th July Round 4 1430 Friday, 28th July Round 5 1430 Saturday, 29th July Round 6 1430

Sunday, 30th July

1000

Pairings Published for each Round 2100 (or before)

Entry Fee and Prizes See entry form and website

Senior Championships - Over 65

Number of Rounds 7 Number of Half Point Byes Permitted 0

British Championship Qualifying Places See 2023 British Championship Qualifying Regulations

Time Control 40/90 + Game/30 + 30'

Default Time	30 minutes		
Rating	ECF & FIDE Rated		
Schedule	Round 1	Monday, 24 th July	1430
	Round 2	Tuesday, 25 th July	1430
	Round 3	Wednesday, 26 th July	1430
	Round 4	Thursday, 27 th July	1430
	Round 5	Friday, 28 th July	1430
	Round 6	Saturday, 29 th July	1430
	Round 7	Sunday, 30 th July	1000
Pairings Published for each Round	gs Published for each Round 2100 (or before)		
Entry Fee and Prizes See entry form and website			

Junior Championships

Under 16, Under 14, Under 12, Under	10				
Number of Rounds	7				
Number of Half Point Byes Permitted	0				
British Championship Qualifying Places	_	tish Championship Qualifyi	ng Regulations		
Time Control	Game/90 + 3				
Default Time	30 minutes				
Rating	ECF & FIDE	Rated			
Schedule	Round 1	Sunday, 23 rd July	0915		
	Round 2	Monday, 24th July	0915		
	Round 3	Tuesday, 25th July	0915		
	Round 4	Wednesday, 26th July	0915		
	Round 5	Thursday, 27th July	0915		
	Round 6	Friday, 28th July	0915		
	Round 7	Saturday, 29th July	0915		
Pairings Published for each Round	2100 (or before)				
Entry Fee and Prizes	See entry form and website				
Under 11					
Number of Rounds	6				
Number of Half Point Byes Permitted	0				
British Championship Qualifying Places	See 2023 British Championship Qualifying Regulations				
Time Control	Game/75 + 10'				
Default Time	30 minutes				
Rating	ECF & FIDE Rated				
Schedule	Round 1	Friday, 21 st July	0915		

British Championship Qualifying Places	See 2023 British Championship Qualifying Regulations			
Time Control	Game/75 + 10'			
Default Time	30 minutes			
Rating	ECF & FIDE Rated			
Schedule	Round 1	Friday, 21 st July	0915	
	Round 2	Friday, 21 st July	1245	
	Round 3	Friday, 21 st July	1615	
	Round 4	Saturday, 22 nd July	0915	
	Round 5	Saturday, 22 nd July	1245	
	Round 6	Saturday, 22 nd July	1615	
Pairings Published for each Round	2100 (or before) for Rounds 1&4			
	As soon as available for all other rounds			

Entry Fee and Prizes See entry form and website

Under 9

Number of Rounds 6 Number of Half Point Byes Permitted 0

British Championship Qualifying Places See 2023 British Championship Qualifying Regulations

Time Control Default Time Rating Schedule Pairings Published for each Round			0915 1245 1615 0915 1245 1615
Entry Fee and Prizes	See entry for	rm and website	
Under 8 Number of Rounds Number of Half Point Byes Permitted British Championship Qualifying Places Time Control Default Time Rating Schedule	Game/20 + 1 10 minutes	itish Championship Qualifyi 10' Rated - Rapidplay Sunday, 23 rd July Sunday, 23 rd July	ng Regulations 0915 1045 1215 1430 1600 1730
Pairings Published for each Round	,	ore) for Round 1 available for all other rounds	
Entry Fee and Prizes		rm and website	•
Major Open Number of Rounds Number of Half Point Byes Permitted British Championship Qualifying Places Time Control Default Time Rating Schedule Pairings Published for each Round	40/90 + Gam 30 minutes ECF & FIDE Round 1 Round 2 Round 3 Round 4 Round 5 Round 6 Round 7 Round 8 Round 9 2100 (or befo	Rated Saturday, 22 nd July Sunday, 23 rd July Monday, 24 th July Tuesday, 25 th July Wednesday, 26 th July Thursday, 27 th July Friday, 28 th July Saturday, 29 th July Sunday, 30 th July	ng Regulations 1430 1430 1430 1430 1430 1430 1430 143
Entry Fee and Prizes	See entry 101	rm and website	
Weekend Tournaments	_		

Number of Rounds 5 Number of Half Point Byes Permitted Time Control

Game/90 + 30'

Rating Default Time Schedule Pairings Published for each Round Entry Fee and Prizes Tournament Sections	As soon as a See entry fo	Friday, 21st July Saturday, 22nd July Saturday, 22nd July Saturday, 22nd July Sunday, 23rd July Sunday, 23rd July Jund 1; 2100 (or before) for Favailable for Rounds 2, 3 ard mand website s), Under 1750 (Soanes), U	nd 5
Weekday AM Tournaments Number of Rounds Number of Half Point Byes Permitted Time Control Default Time Rating Schedule for:	6 2 Game/90 + 3 30 minutes ECF & FIDE Round 1 Round 2 Round 3 Round 4 Round 5 Round 6		0915 0915 0915 0915 0915 0915
Pairings Published for each Round Entry Fee and Prizes Tournament Sections	•	rm and website r 1900, Under 1600	
Weekday PM Tournaments Number of Rounds Number of Half Point Byes Permitted Time Control Default Time Rating Schedule for:	6 2 Game/90 + 3 30 minutes ECF & FIDE Round 1 Round 2 Round 3 Round 4 Round 5 Round 6		1430 1430 1430 1430 1430 1430
Pairings Published for each Round Entry Fee and Prizes Tournament Sections	2100 See entry fo	rm and website Under 1750, Under 1450	1100
Rapidplay Number of Rounds Number of Half Point Byes Permitted British Championship Qualifying Places Time Control Laws of Chess	Game/10 + : The compet	ritish Championship Qualify 5' cition will be played in acc f Appendix A4	
Default Time	•	or is defaulted if time expir	es without having

moved

None; player is defaulted if time expires without having

Default Time

Rating Schedule Pairings Published for each Round Entry Fee and Prizes	Round 1 Round 2 Round 3 Round 4 Round 5 Round 6 Round 7 1415 for Rou	Rated - Rapidplay Monday, 24th July und 1; as soon as available rm and website	1430 1515 1600 1645 1730 1815 1900 for other rounds
Blitz (Wed) Number of Rounds Number of Half Point Byes Permitted British Championship Qualifying Places Time Control Laws of Chess Default Time	Game/3 + 2' The compete provisions of	ritish Championship Qualify tition will be played in acc f Appendix B4 er is defaulted if time expir	cordance with the
Rating Schedule	ECF & FIDE Round 1 Round 2 Round 3 Round 4 Round 5 Round 6 Round 7 Round 8 Round 9	Rated - Blitz Wednesday, 2nd July	1900 1915 1930 1945 2000 2015 2030 2045 2100
Pairings Published for each Round Entry Fee and Prizes	1845 for Rou	und 1; as soon as available rm and website	
Blitz (Sat) Number of Rounds Number of Half Point Byes Permitted British Championship Qualifying Places Time Control Laws of Chess Default Time Rating Schedule	Game/3 + 2' The competer provisions of None; player moved ECF & FIDE Round 1 Round 2 Round 3 Round 4 Round 5 Round 6 Round 7 Round 8 Round 9	tition will be played in acc f Appendix B4 er is defaulted if time expir E Rated - Blitz Saturday, 5th July Saturday, 5th July	1900 1915 1930 1945 2000 2015 2030 2045 2100
Pairings Published for each Round	1845 for Rou	und 1; as soon as available	for other rounds

Section C: Entry Fee and Prize Calculation

Deadlines for Postal Entries

No postal entries can be accepted after Wednesday, 19th July 2023.

Prize Calculation

The place prizes in all tournaments will be awarded to the player scoring the most points. There will be no tie-breaks applied, and in the event of a tie on points, the prize money will be shared equally between all tied players, except for the British Championship.

Rating Prizes

The rating prizes will be calculated on W-We, where W is the number of points scored, We is the expected number of points based on the difference between the ratings of the players in the game. A player is only eligible for a rating prize if:

- The player has not defaulted any games in the tournament, and
- The player had not withdrawn from the tournament (see the section on Byes below)

Players allocated a rating of 0 (see Allocation of Ratings in All Sections above) are not eligible for rating prizes.

Where there is a tie for a rating prize, the prize will be shared

Where a player wins a place prize and a rating prize, the player will win whichever prize is of the higher value.

Additional Prizes

The additional prizes are won in addition to any other prize a player might win.

Age-Restricted Sections and Prizes

Where a section or prize is restricted to players of a particular age, the FIDE definitions of age shall be used; i.e. the calendar year, rather than the academic year.

Prize Lists

Full prize lists for each tournament will be published online as soon as possible at the end of the tournaments.

Byes

Half Point Byes may be requested (or a request may be cancelled) either:

- At the time of entry, or
- At any point before the conclusion of the previous round in the tournament being played. (ie for a bye in round 3 the request must be made by the time the last game of round 2 is completed).
- Such requests should be made in one of two ways only:
 - To the information desk at the event, or

O By e-mail to manager.british@englishchess.org.uk — Please note: Do not use any other e-mail address you may have for one of the event organisers, as the people who access them will not necessarily be accessing e-mails as the publication deadline approaches. Bye requests missed by the organisers that have not been sent to the correct e-mail address will not have their request granted, and will instead score a 0 point bye in that round if the player chooses or is unable to play this game, and be subject to the Defaults regulation in Section D.

A player will score 0 if a Half Point Bye is requested in the last round. If a tournament permits two Half Point Byes, then a player will score 0 if the second Half Point Bye request is in the last round, or if both the Half Point Byes are requested in the last two rounds.

Players who miss more rounds than the number of Half Point Byes permitted in each tournament will be withdrawn from the tournament, unless the Chief Arbiter decides otherwise.

Section D: Defaults & Pairing Alterations

Defaults

A player who defaults a game will not be included in the pairings for the next round of the tournament, or any subsequent round, unless the Chief Arbiter decides otherwise. Should this be decided, the Chief Arbiter reserves the right to apply a bond of £50, which will be returned at the end of the tournament if the player takes part in all remaining rounds. A player who defaults a second game in the tournament will be expelled from it, and shall not have the bond returned to him.

Late Pairings

The Organisers may permit players to enter after the pairings have been published for Round 1 of a tournament. In general, these players will score 0 points in the rounds they have missed. However, the player may be paired against another player in this category, who has entered the same tournament, and that game shall be played as though part of the tournament. Should any players remain after this process, then they will be considered available for any of the pairing procedures below once the default time for the relevant tournament has elapsed, except for the Rapidplay and Blitz.

The remainder of this section applies to all tournaments other than the Rapidplay and Blitz. All rearranged games listed below will be rated by the ECF. They will also be rated by FIDE unless the Arbiter conducting the altered pairings informs both players otherwise.

Re-pairings

A player whose opponent does not arrive before the default time will be offered a re-pairing against someone in the same tournament as them. The player will have the following choices:

- (1) Accept the re-pairing
- (2) Decline the re-pairing, and have a 1 point bye.

If the player decides to accept the re-pairing, then the game will be played as though part of the tournament. The time limit for the game shall be decided on a case-by-case basis.

Cross-pairings

Should a re-pairing against someone in the same tournament not be possible, then a player may be offered a cross-pairing against a player who has entered a different section running concurrently. The player will have the following choices:

- (1) Accept the cross-pairing
- (2) Decline the cross-pairing

Games involved in cross pairings will only count towards rating and each player will get 1 point bye in their tournament. The time limit for the game shall be decided on a case-by-case basis.

Filler pairings

Should neither a re-pairing nor a cross-pairing be possible, then the player may be offered a game against a filler. This will be a player who is not playing in any tournament going on at the time, but is nevertheless able to play a game at that time. The player will have the following choices:

- (1) Accept the filler pairing
- (2) Decline the filler pairing, and have a 1 point bye.

If the player decides to accept the filler pairing, then the game will count as though part of the tournament only if the filler is eligible to play in the tournament. If the player is not eligible, then the player will get 1 point bye in their tournament. The time limit for the game shall be decided on a case-by-case basis.

Section E: Appeals Procedure

Process

Decisions of an arbiter may be appealed to the Appeals Committee provided that

- Such appeal is received in writing within 30 minutes of the arbiter's decision or within 30 minutes of the end of the game, whichever is later, and
- Such appeal is accompanied by an appeal fee of £50 which will be returned if the appeal is successful or if the Appeals Committee accepts that there were significant grounds for the appeal.

Appeals Committee

The Committee ruling on an appeal will be composed of:

- One arbiter, appointed by the Chief Arbiter, who was not connected with the dispute; who will Chair the Committee, plus
- Two members of the Players' Panel, appointed by the Chair

The Appeals' Committee's decision is final and binding in all matters.

Players' Panel

A minimum of five players will be appointed to the Players' Panel by the Chief Arbiter. Players who are willing to serve on this Panel may do so by informing the Organisers at the time of entry, or by speaking to the Organisers at the event itself.

Publishing the Appeals Committee

A list of arbiters, and a list of members of the Players' Panel, will be published before the start of Round 1 of the Championships.

Section F: Spectators and the Press

For the purposes of this section, all members of the Press are considered to be spectators.

Use of Cameras/Video Equipment

Spectators are welcome to take photographs and/or video footage of the tournament for the following amount of time: -

The first 10 minutes of the first round of the Championship

The first 5 minutes of any other round.

Spectators must use either a camera or video equipment. The camera's flash should be switched off. Mobile phones may not be used to take photographs at any time during play.

The above regulations notwithstanding, the tournament's official Press Officers are entitled to take photographs and/or video footage at other time during play with the permission of an arbiter. Spectators and press officers who take photographs are reminded to respect the privacy of the individuals whose photographs they are taking. Players should be aware of the British Chess Championship's policy on official photographs and videos, which is on the tournament website.

Mobile Phones are Banned

A spectator will be asked to leave the playing area if during play any such device either

- (a) makes any sound; or
- (b) is found to be switched on; or
- (c) is found to be about their person or being carried by them.

Roped Off Areas

There may be an area, near the top boards, which is roped off to spectators. Spectators must stay behind this rope at all times. The official Press Officers are entitled to take photographs and/or video footage for the amount of time specified in the Use of Cameras/Video Equipment section above.

Expelling Spectators

All arbiters are empowered to enforce the entirety of Section F, and may not be appealed against. They are empowered to ask spectators or the Press to leave the playing area immediately should they be in breach of these regulations.

Section G: British Championship Tie-Break

In the event of a tie at the end of the Championship, there will be a playoff, held as soon as possible at the end of the Championship.

The n tied players will seeded, from 1 to n, based on their tournament performance rating (TPR) for the tournament. This TPR will be calculated using the assigned ratings outlined above in this document.

Where n > 8, only the top 8 players will qualify for the playoffs.

Where players are tied on TPR, then the winner of the head-to-head game between the players, if one was played, shall split the tie: The winner of the game shall be placed higher. If this game was a draw, then the higher seed shall be determined by lot.

Playoff Match Formats

The playoffs will be run on a knockout basis, and matches within this format will be played in one of the following formats:

Format 1 – Two players are tied

Round 1 Two games, G/20 + 10'.

Round 2 If still tied, two games, G/5 + 3'.

Round 3 If still tied, an Armageddon game, white G/5, black G/4, 2' from move 61.

Format 2 – More than two players are tied

Round 1 Two games, G/10 + 5'.

Round 2 If still tied, an Armageddon game, white G/5, black G/4, 2' from move 61.

A coin toss will be performed before each round. The winner of the toss can choose to have white in the first or second game of that round. The player will have black in the other game. In the case of the Armageddon game, the winner of the toss can choose to have white or black in that game.

In the Armageddon game, the black player shall need only to draw the game to win the match.

The playoff match will end on the first occasion that a player is winning the match at the end of a round.

Players are entitled to a 5-minute break between each game within a match, and a 10-minute break between each match.

Pairings for the Playoff Matches

The pairings for the playoffs will be determined by the seeding established above.

3-player SF: 2 v 3

Final: 1 v Winner SF

4-player SF: (1) 1 v 4 (2) 2 v 3

Final: Winner SF1 v Winner SF2

5-player QF: 4 v 5

SF: (1) 1 v Winner QF (2) 2 v 3 Final: Winner SF1 v Winner SF2

6-player QF: (1) 3 v 6 (2) 4 v 5

SF: (1) 1 v Winner QF2 (2) 2 v Winner QF1

Final: Winner SF1 v Winner SF2

7-player QF: (1) 2 v 7 (2) 3 v 6 (3) 4 v 5

SF: (1) 1 v Winner QF3 (2) Winner QF1 v Winner QF2

Final: Winner SF1 v Winner SF2

8-player QF: (1) 1 v 8 (2) 2 v 7 (3) 3 v 6 (4) 4 v 5

SF: (1) Winner QF1 v Winner QF4 (2) Winner QF2 v Winner QF3

Final: Winner SF1 v Winner SF2

Prize Money

Where a Championship Tie-Break is required, the winner of the Tie-Break will receive the prize money for 1st place. All other players involved in the Tie-Break, or who were excluded from it based on their TPR, will be deemed to have finished in 2nd place, and the prize money for those players will be awarded in the normal way.

Section H: Miscellaneous

Anti-Cheating

In accordance with the Laws of Chess introduced on 1st January, 2018:

During a game, a player is forbidden to have any electronic device not specifically approved by the arbiter in the playing venue. The British Championships will permit such devices to be stored in a player's bag, provided the device is completely switched off. This bag must be placed as agreed with the arbiter. Both players are forbidden to use this bag without permission of the arbiter.

If it is evident that a player has such a device on their person in the playing venue, the player shall lose the game. The opponent shall win.

Hand-held security scanners will be at used at this event. Board(s) will be selected at random, and both players will be scanned before the start of the round. We reserve the right to scan any player, or a spectator who is in the playing area, at any time.

All games will be submitted to FIDE and may be processed through their checking tool.

Any concerns about cheating should be brought to the attention of the arbiter and nobody else. The arbiter will handle the situation. Please do not raise concerns with anyone else.

Players are reminded they must not talk about a game in progress with anyone.

Parental Responsibility

While outside the playing hall, parents or guardians are responsible for their children during the tournament. The organisers and helpers are not able to act "in loco parentis" and are not able to take responsibility for any child's actions, or for the actions of anyone that may affect your child.

Liability

The organisers accept no responsibility for any loss, theft or accident during the tournament.

Right to Refuse Entry and Transfer

The tournament controller reserves the right to refuse entry without being required to state a reason. The tournament controller also reserves the right to transfer players between tournaments at any time.

Zero Tolerance to Abuse

The Chief Arbiter is empowered to expel a player from all tournaments entered, either for a number or rounds, a number of days, or in their entirety, who shows dissent by word or action towards an arbiter.