

## 2024 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 ---

Championship	F,E	AM Open	F,E	W/e Open - Atkins	F,E
Major Open	F,E	Under 2050	F,E	W/e U2000 - Penrose	F,E
Over 50	F,E	Under 1900	F,E	W/e U1750 - Soanes	E,F
Over 65	F,E	Under 1750	E,F	W/e U1500 - Yates	E,F
		Under 1600	E,F	Rapidplay	R,Q, F,E
		Under 1450	E,F	Blitz	B,S, R,Q, F,E
Under 16	F,E, R,Q	Under 16 Rapid	R,Q, F,E	Under 16 Blitz	B,S, R,Q, F,E
Under 14	F,E, R,Q	Under 14 Rapid	R,Q, F,E	Under 14 Blitz	B,S, R,Q, F,E
Under 12	F,E, R,Q	Under 12 Rapid	R,Q, F,E	Under 12 Blitz	B,S, R,Q, F,E
Under 10	F,E, R,Q	Under 10 Rapid	R,Q, F,E	Under 10 Blitz	B,S, R,Q, F,E
Under 8	F,E, R,Q	Under 8 Rapid	R,Q, F,E	Under 8 Blitz	B,S, R,Q, F,E

E - ECF / National Rating (June 2024)

Q - ECF / National Rapidplay Rating (June 2024)

S - ECF / National Blitz Rating (June 2024)

F - FIDE Rating (June 2024)

R - FIDE Rapidplay Rating (June 2024)

B - FIDE Blitz Rating (June 2024)

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

NB - For the pairing all events, the July 2024 list will be used.

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) 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 FIDE registered nationality at a later stage will cost 50 Euros notification fee payable by the player to the ECF/ FIDE. Additional transfer and compensation fee charges may also apply as set out in the FIDE handbook for titled and higher rated players

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**

### **Championship**

Number of Rounds	9		
Number of Half Point Byes Permitted	0		
Tie-Breaks	See Section G		
British Championship Qualifying Places	See 2024 British Championship Regulations	Qualifying	
Time Control	40/90 + Game/30 + 30'		
Default Time	30 minutes		
Rating	ECF & FIDE Rated		
Schedule	Round 1	Saturday, 27 <sup>th</sup> July	1430
	Round 2	Sunday, 28 <sup>th</sup> July	1430
	Round 3	Monday, 29 <sup>th</sup> July	1430
	Round 4	Tuesday, 30 <sup>th</sup> July	1430
	Round 5	Wednesday, 31 <sup>st</sup> July	1430
	Round 6	Thursday, 1 <sup>st</sup> July	1430
	Round 7	Friday, 2 <sup>nd</sup> Aug	1430
	Round 8	Saturday, 3 <sup>rd</sup> Aug	1430
	Round 9	Sunday, 4 <sup>th</sup> Aug	1000
Playoff Regulations	See Section G		
Pairings Published for each Round	2100 (or before)		
Entry Fee and Prizes	See entry form and website		

### **Major Open**

Number of Rounds	9		
Number of Half Point Byes Permitted	2		
British Championship Qualifying Places	See 2024 British Championship Regulations	Qualifying	
Time Control	40/90 + Game/30 + 30'		
Default Time	30 minutes		
Rating	ECF & FIDE Rated		
Schedule	Round 1	Saturday, 27 <sup>th</sup> July	1430
	Round 2	Sunday, 28 <sup>th</sup> July	1430
	Round 3	Monday, 29 <sup>th</sup> July	1430
	Round 4	Tuesday, 30 <sup>th</sup> July	1430
	Round 5	Wednesday, 31 <sup>st</sup> July	1430

Round 6	Thursday, 1 <sup>st</sup> Aug	1430
Round 7	Friday, 2 <sup>nd</sup> Aug	1430
Round 8	Saturday, 3 <sup>rd</sup> Aug	1430
Round 9	Sunday, 4 <sup>th</sup> Aug	1000

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	2024	British Championship Qualifying
Regulations			
Time Control	40/90 + Game/30 + 30'		
Default Time	30 minutes		
Rating	ECF & FIDE Rated		
Schedule	Round 1	Monday, 29 <sup>th</sup> July	1430
	Round 2	Tuesday, 30 <sup>th</sup> July	1430
	Round 3	Wednesday, 31 <sup>st</sup> July	1430
	Round 4	Thursday, 1 <sup>st</sup> July	1430
	Round 5	Friday, 2 <sup>nd</sup> Aug	1430
	Round 6	Saturday, 3 <sup>rd</sup> Aug	1430
	Round 7	Sunday, 4 <sup>th</sup> Aug	1000
Pairings Published for each Round	2100 (or before)		
Entry Fee and Prizes	See entry form and website		
Open to those players – born 31/12/1974 or earlier			

### **Senior Championships – Over 65**

Number of Rounds	7		
Number of Half Point Byes Permitted	0		
British Championship Qualifying Places	See	2024	British Championship Qualifying
Regulations			
Time Control	40/90 + Game/30 + 30'		
Default Time	30 minutes		
Rating	ECF & FIDE Rated		
Schedule	Round 1	Monday, 29 <sup>th</sup> July	1430
	Round 2	Tuesday, 30 <sup>th</sup> July	1430
	Round 3	Wednesday, 31 <sup>st</sup> July	1430
	Round 4	Thursday, 1 <sup>st</sup> July	1430
	Round 5	Friday, 2 <sup>nd</sup> Aug	1430
	Round 6	Saturday, 3 <sup>rd</sup> Aug	1430
	Round 7	Sunday, 4 <sup>th</sup> Aug	1000
Pairings Published for each Round	2100 (or before)		
Entry Fee and Prizes	See entry form and website		
Open to those players born 31/12/1959 or earlier			

### **Junior Championships**

#### **Under 16, Under 14, Under 12, Under 10, Under 8**

Number of Rounds	7
Number of Half Point Byes Permitted	0

British Championship Qualifying Places See	2024 British Championship Qualifying Regulations																					
Time Control	Game/90 + 30'																					
Default Time	30 minutes																					
Rating	ECF & FIDE Rated																					
Schedule	<table> <tr> <td>Round 1</td> <td>Sunday, 28<sup>th</sup> July</td> <td>0915</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Round 2</td> <td>Monday, 29<sup>th</sup> July</td> <td>0915</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Round 3</td> <td>Tuesday, 30<sup>th</sup> July</td> <td>0915</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Round 4</td> <td>Wednesday, 31<sup>st</sup> July</td> <td>0915</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Round 5</td> <td>Thursday, 1<sup>st</sup> July</td> <td>0915</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Round 6</td> <td>Friday, 2<sup>nd</sup> Aug</td> <td>0915</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Round 7</td> <td>Saturday, 3<sup>rd</sup> Aug</td> <td>0915</td> </tr> </table>	Round 1	Sunday, 28 <sup>th</sup> July	0915	Round 2	Monday, 29 <sup>th</sup> July	0915	Round 3	Tuesday, 30 <sup>th</sup> July	0915	Round 4	Wednesday, 31 <sup>st</sup> July	0915	Round 5	Thursday, 1 <sup>st</sup> July	0915	Round 6	Friday, 2 <sup>nd</sup> Aug	0915	Round 7	Saturday, 3 <sup>rd</sup> Aug	0915
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Pairings Published for each Round	2100 (or before)																					
Entry Fee and Prizes	See entry form and website																					
Under 16 – Open to those players born	1/1/2008 or later																					
Under 14 – Open to those players born	1/1/2010 or later																					
Under 12 – Open to those players born	1/1/2012 or later																					
Under 10 – Open to those players born	1/1/2014 or later																					
Under 8 – Open to those players born	1/1/2016 or later																					

### **Rapidplay (Junior Champ)**

#### **Under 16, Under 14, Under 12, Under 10, Under 8**

Number of Rounds	7																											
Number of Half Point Byes Permitted	0																											
British Championship Qualifying Places See	2024 British Championship Qualifying Regulations																											
Time Control	Game/15 + 10'																											
Laws of Chess	The competition will be played in accordance with the provisions of Appendix A5																											
Default Time	None; player is defaulted if time expires without having moved																											
Rating	ECF & FIDE Rated - Rapidplay																											
Schedule	<table> <tr> <td>Round 1</td> <td>Friday, 26<sup>th</sup> July</td> <td>1030</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Round 2</td> <td>Friday, 26<sup>th</sup> July</td> <td>1150</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Round 3</td> <td>Friday, 26<sup>th</sup> July</td> <td>1310</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Round 4</td> <td>Friday, 26<sup>th</sup> July</td> <td>1430</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Round 5</td> <td>Friday, 26<sup>th</sup> July</td> <td>1550</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Round 6</td> <td>Friday, 26<sup>th</sup> July</td> <td>1710</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Round 7</td> <td>Saturday, 27<sup>th</sup> July</td> <td>0915</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Round 8</td> <td>Saturday, 27<sup>th</sup> July</td> <td>1035</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Round 9</td> <td>Saturday, 27<sup>th</sup> July</td> <td>1155</td> </tr> </table>	Round 1	Friday, 26 <sup>th</sup> July	1030	Round 2	Friday, 26 <sup>th</sup> July	1150	Round 3	Friday, 26 <sup>th</sup> July	1310	Round 4	Friday, 26 <sup>th</sup> July	1430	Round 5	Friday, 26 <sup>th</sup> July	1550	Round 6	Friday, 26 <sup>th</sup> July	1710	Round 7	Saturday, 27 <sup>th</sup> July	0915	Round 8	Saturday, 27 <sup>th</sup> July	1035	Round 9	Saturday, 27 <sup>th</sup> July	1155
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Round 8	Saturday, 27 <sup>th</sup> July	1035																										
Round 9	Saturday, 27 <sup>th</sup> July	1155																										
Pairings Published for each Round	1015 for Round 1; 2100 for Round 7; as soon as available for other rounds																											
Entry Fee and Prizes	See entry form and website																											
Under 16 – Open to those players born	1/1/2008 or later																											
Under 14 – Open to those players born	1/1/2010 or later																											
Under 12 – Open to those players born	1/1/2012 or later																											
Under 10 – Open to those players born	1/1/2014 or later																											
Under 8 – Open to those players born	1/1/2016 or later																											

### **Blitz (1<sup>st</sup> Thurs/Junior Champ)**

#### **Under 16, Under 14, Under 12, Under 10, Under 8**

Number of Rounds	9
Number of Half Point Byes Permitted	0
British Championship Qualifying Places	See 2024 British Championship Qualifying Regulations
Time Control	Game/3 + 2'
Laws of Chess	The competition will be played in accordance with the provisions of Appendix B3
Default Time	None; player is defaulted if time expires without having moved
Rating	ECF & FIDE Rated - Blitz
Schedule	Round 1 Thursday, 25 <sup>th</sup> July 1800 Round 2 Thursday, 25 <sup>th</sup> July 1815 Round 3 Thursday, 25 <sup>th</sup> July 1830 Round 4 Thursday, 25 <sup>th</sup> July 1845 Round 5 Thursday, 25 <sup>th</sup> July 1900 Round 6 Thursday, 25 <sup>th</sup> July 1915 Round 7 Thursday, 25 <sup>th</sup> July 1930 Round 8 Thursday, 25 <sup>th</sup> July 1945 Round 9 Thursday, 25 <sup>th</sup> July 2000
Pairings Published for each Round	1745 for Round 1; as soon as available for other rounds
Entry Fee and Prizes	See entry form and website
Under 16 – Open to those players born	1/1/2008 or later
Under 14 – Open to those players born	1/1/2010 or later
Under 12 – Open to those players born	1/1/2012 or later
Under 10 – Open to those players born	1/1/2014 or later
Under 8 – Open to those players born	1/1/2016 or later

### **Weekend Tournaments**

Number of Rounds	5
Number of Half Point Byes Permitted	1
Time Control	Game/90 + 30'
Rating	ECF & FIDE Rated
Default Time	30 minutes
Schedule	Round 1 Friday, 26 <sup>th</sup> July 1900 Round 2 Saturday, 27 <sup>th</sup> July 0915 Round 3 Saturday, 27 <sup>th</sup> July 1430 Round 4 Sunday, 28 <sup>th</sup> July 0915 Round 5 Sunday, 28 <sup>th</sup> July 1430
Pairings Published for each Round	1800 for Round 1; 2100 (or before) for Round 4 As soon as available for Rounds 2, 3 and 5
Entry Fee and Prizes	See entry form and website
Tournament Sections	Open (Atkins), Under 2000 (Penrose), Under 1750 (Soanes), Under 1500 (Yates)

### **Weekday AM Tournaments**

Number of Rounds	6
Number of Half Point Byes Permitted	2

Time Control	Game/90 + 30'																		
Default Time	30 minutes																		
Rating	ECF & FIDE Rated																		
Schedule for:	<table> <tr> <td>Round 1</td> <td>Monday, 29<sup>th</sup> July</td> <td>0915</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Round 2</td> <td>Tuesday, 30<sup>th</sup> July</td> <td>0915</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Round 3</td> <td>Wednesday, 31<sup>st</sup> July</td> <td>0915</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Round 4</td> <td>Thursday, 1<sup>st</sup> Aug</td> <td>0915</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Round 5</td> <td>Friday, 2<sup>nd</sup> Aug</td> <td>0915</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Round 6</td> <td>Saturday, 3<sup>rd</sup> Aug</td> <td>0915</td> </tr> </table>	Round 1	Monday, 29 <sup>th</sup> July	0915	Round 2	Tuesday, 30 <sup>th</sup> July	0915	Round 3	Wednesday, 31 <sup>st</sup> July	0915	Round 4	Thursday, 1 <sup>st</sup> Aug	0915	Round 5	Friday, 2 <sup>nd</sup> Aug	0915	Round 6	Saturday, 3 <sup>rd</sup> Aug	0915
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Round 5	Friday, 2 <sup>nd</sup> Aug	0915																	
Round 6	Saturday, 3 <sup>rd</sup> Aug	0915																	
Pairings Published for each Round	2100																		
Entry Fee and Prizes	See entry form and website																		
Tournament Sections	Open, Under 1900, Under 1600																		

### **Weekday PM Tournaments**

Number of Rounds	6																		
Number of Half Point Byes Permitted	2																		
Time Control	Game/90 + 30'																		
Default Time	30 minutes																		
Rating	ECF & FIDE Rated																		
Schedule for:	<table> <tr> <td>Round 1</td> <td>Monday, 29<sup>th</sup> July</td> <td>1430</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Round 2</td> <td>Tuesday, 30<sup>th</sup> July</td> <td>1430</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Round 3</td> <td>Wednesday, 31<sup>st</sup> July</td> <td>1430</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Round 4</td> <td>Thursday, 1<sup>st</sup> Aug</td> <td>1430</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Round 5</td> <td>Friday, 2<sup>nd</sup> Aug</td> <td>1430</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Round 6</td> <td>Saturday, 3<sup>rd</sup> Aug</td> <td>1430</td> </tr> </table>	Round 1	Monday, 29 <sup>th</sup> July	1430	Round 2	Tuesday, 30 <sup>th</sup> July	1430	Round 3	Wednesday, 31 <sup>st</sup> July	1430	Round 4	Thursday, 1 <sup>st</sup> Aug	1430	Round 5	Friday, 2 <sup>nd</sup> Aug	1430	Round 6	Saturday, 3 <sup>rd</sup> Aug	1430
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Round 5	Friday, 2 <sup>nd</sup> Aug	1430																	
Round 6	Saturday, 3 <sup>rd</sup> Aug	1430																	
Pairings Published for each Round	2100																		
Entry Fee and Prizes	See entry form and website																		
Tournament Sections	Under 2050, Under 1750, Under 1450																		

### **Rapidplay**

Number of Rounds	7																											
Number of Half Point Byes Permitted	2																											
British Championship Qualifying Places Regulations	See 2024 British Championship Qualifying																											
Time Control	Game/15 + 10'																											
Laws of Chess	The competition will be played in accordance with the provisions of Appendix A																											
Default Time	None; player is defaulted if time expires without having moved																											
Rating	ECF & FIDE Rated - Rapidplay																											
Schedule	<table> <tr> <td>Round 1</td> <td>Saturday, 3<sup>rd</sup> Aug</td> <td>1030</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Round 2</td> <td>Saturday, 3<sup>rd</sup> Aug</td> <td>1140</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Round 3</td> <td>Saturday, 3<sup>rd</sup> Aug</td> <td>1250</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Round 4</td> <td>Saturday, 3<sup>rd</sup> Aug</td> <td>1400</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Round 5</td> <td>Saturday, 3<sup>rd</sup> Aug</td> <td>1510</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Round 6</td> <td>Saturday, 3<sup>rd</sup> Aug</td> <td>1620</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Round 7</td> <td>Saturday, 3<sup>rd</sup> Aug</td> <td>1730</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Round 8</td> <td>Saturday, 3<sup>rd</sup> Aug</td> <td>1840</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Round 9</td> <td>Saturday, 3<sup>rd</sup> Aug</td> <td>1950</td> </tr> </table>	Round 1	Saturday, 3 <sup>rd</sup> Aug	1030	Round 2	Saturday, 3 <sup>rd</sup> Aug	1140	Round 3	Saturday, 3 <sup>rd</sup> Aug	1250	Round 4	Saturday, 3 <sup>rd</sup> Aug	1400	Round 5	Saturday, 3 <sup>rd</sup> Aug	1510	Round 6	Saturday, 3 <sup>rd</sup> Aug	1620	Round 7	Saturday, 3 <sup>rd</sup> Aug	1730	Round 8	Saturday, 3 <sup>rd</sup> Aug	1840	Round 9	Saturday, 3 <sup>rd</sup> Aug	1950
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Round 6	Saturday, 3 <sup>rd</sup> Aug	1620																										
Round 7	Saturday, 3 <sup>rd</sup> Aug	1730																										
Round 8	Saturday, 3 <sup>rd</sup> Aug	1840																										
Round 9	Saturday, 3 <sup>rd</sup> Aug	1950																										

Pairings Published for each Round 1015 for Round 1; as soon as available for other rounds  
 Entry Fee and Prizes See entry form and website

**Blitz (Tues)**

Number of Rounds 9  
 Number of Half Point Byes Permitted 2  
 British Championship Qualifying Places See 2024 British Championship Qualifying Regulations  
 Time Control Game/3 + 2'  
 Laws of Chess The competition will be played in accordance with the provisions of Appendix B3  
 Default Time None; player is defaulted if time expires without having moved  
 Rating ECF & FIDE Rated - Blitz  
 Schedule  
 Round 1 Tuesday, 30<sup>th</sup> July 1900  
 Round 2 Tuesday, 30<sup>th</sup> July 1915  
 Round 3 Tuesday, 30<sup>th</sup> July 1930  
 Round 4 Tuesday, 30<sup>th</sup> July 1945  
 Round 5 Tuesday, 30<sup>th</sup> July 2000  
 Round 6 Tuesday, 30<sup>th</sup> July 2015  
 Round 7 Tuesday, 30<sup>th</sup> July 2030  
 Round 8 Tuesday, 30<sup>th</sup> July 2045  
 Round 9 Tuesday, 30<sup>th</sup> July 2100  
 Pairings Published for each Round 1845 for Round 1; as soon as available for other rounds  
 Entry Fee and Prizes See entry form and website  
 Tournament Sections Open, Under 1600

**Blitz (Thurs)**

Number of Rounds 9  
 Number of Half Point Byes Permitted 2  
 British Championship Qualifying Places See 2024 British Championship Qualifying Regulations  
 Time Control Game/3 + 2'  
 Laws of Chess The competition will be played in accordance with the provisions of Appendix B3  
 Default Time None; player is defaulted if time expires without having moved  
 Rating ECF & FIDE Rated - Blitz  
 Schedule  
 Round 1 Thursday, 1<sup>st</sup> Aug 1900  
 Round 2 Thursday, 1<sup>st</sup> Aug 1915  
 Round 3 Thursday, 1<sup>st</sup> Aug 1930  
 Round 4 Thursday, 1<sup>st</sup> Aug 1945  
 Round 5 Thursday, 1<sup>st</sup> Aug 2000  
 Round 6 Thursday, 1<sup>st</sup> Aug 2015  
 Round 7 Thursday, 1<sup>st</sup> Aug 2030  
 Round 8 Thursday, 1<sup>st</sup> Aug 2045  
 Round 9 Thursday, 1<sup>st</sup> Aug 2100

Pairings Published for each Round	1845 for Round 1; as soon as available for other rounds
Entry Fee and Prizes	See entry form and website
Tournament Sections	Open, Under 1600

### **Section C: Entry Fee and Prize Calculation**

Please see the BCC web site for details of Entry Fees and Prizes.

#### **Deadlines for Postal Entries**

No postal entries can be accepted after Wednesday, 19<sup>th</sup> July 2024.

#### **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  $W - W_e$ , where  $W$  is the number of points scored,  $W_e$  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.

To be eligible for the age-restricted sections, the following will apply:-

- Over 65 – born 31/12/1959 or earlier
- Over 50 – born 31/12/1974 or earlier
- Under 16 – born 1/1/2008 or later
- Under 14 – born 1/1/2010 or later
- Under 12 – born 1/1/2012 or later
- Under 10 – born 1/1/2014 or later
- Under 8 – born 1/1/2016 or later



## **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:
  - o To the information desk at the event, or
  - o By e-mail to [manager.british@englishchess.org.uk](mailto: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 re-arranged 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 4 v 5	QF: (1) 1 v 8 (2) 2 v 7 (3) 3 v 6 (4) 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 1<sup>st</sup> 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 2<sup>nd</sup> 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 1<sup>st</sup> January, 2023:

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. Alternatively, the device may be placed in a pieces bag or clock box closed and placed within the sight of both players. (in this context, devices shall include but not be limited to :- mobile phones, smart watches, fitbits etc.)

The only exception to these exclusions are for medical devices. All medical devices must be identified to the arbiters, and cleared by them, before each competition starts. If in doubt about any device that you are wearing, get the device cleared by the arbiter controlling your section.

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 of rounds, a number of days, or in their entirety, who shows dissent by word or action towards an arbiter.