17 May 2021

To All FIDE Affiliated Chess Federations in Asia, Zones 3.1, 3.2, 3.3, 3.4, 3.5, 3.6 & 3.7

Asian Chess Federation on behalf of FIDE invites your Federation to participate in the Asian Open Continental Chess Championship from 20-30 May 2021 by hybrid chess.

RULES & REGULATIONS

The Championship will be played in accordance with the following rules and regulations:

1. Eligibility and Participation

Each Federation from FIDE Zones 3.1, 3.2, 3.3, 3.4, 3.5, 3.6 and 3.7 may enter players rated 2300 and above for the Open based on the 1st May 2021 FIDE Rating List. Exceptions for the rating floor may be made by the Continental President on request of national federations.

2. Tournament System

2.1. The tournament shall be conducted as a Swiss System competition of 9 rounds and will be played according to FIDE Hybrid Chess regulations.

2.2. Players should be together in one venue. Another venue may be added depending on distance and circumstances, preferably with minimum five (5) players in each venue.

3. Fair Play Rules

3.1. Players may play only on laptop or desktop and log into Zoom with their 3-letter country code or City + Tornelo name. The Local Chief Arbiter shall inspect the devices of players before the start of each game.

3.2. Only players and arbiters are allowed access to the playing area. During a game a player may leave the playing area or the playing venue only with the permission of the Local Chief Arbiter.

3.3. Each playing venue shall be monitored by cameras. Only players with approved webcam and panoramic cameras will be allowed to play. The panoramic camera should show clear view of the playing area.

3.4. In each playing venue, the fair play measures should be applied in accordance with the FIDE Anti-Cheating Regulations and FIDE Anti-Cheating Protection Measures. Unless authorized by the arbiter, it is forbidden for anybody to use a mobile phone or other kind of communication or electronic device in the playing venue or any contiguous area designated by the arbiter.

3.5. The Local Technical Assistant should see that each player is connected to Zoom. Audio should be open. It is not allowed for players to use headphones or virtual Zoom background. Playing venue should be well lit. There should be no external noise.

3.6. A traditional chessboard may be used by a player. Each player is responsible for moving pieces on his traditional board. The only allowed action on the traditional board is reproducing the moves played on the virtual board made by each side. The virtual chessboard and virtual chess clock remain the definitive record of the game.

3.7. In case two players playing from the same playing venue are paired together, the Local Chief Arbiter may decide the game between them may be played over the traditional board. Such a decision may be taken, only if the playing conditions are suitable and both players agree. Then, for such games, the FIDE Laws of Chess shall apply. The result and pgn file should be submitted after the round to the Chief Arbiter.

3.8. All participants shall comply and co-operate with the Fair Play rules. Players may be removed from the Championship at any time on final decision of the Chief Arbiter based on fair play rules.

3.9. All the players agree that they have no right to appeal the aforementioned actions either through arbitration, consultation or in a court of law within any jurisdiction.

3.10. Participants have no right to appeal for pairings made during the Championship.

3.11. By registering in the Championship, players will not have the right to claim any financial compensation or redress related to the Championship.

3.12. Asian Chess Federation has the right to change the schedule, update the regulations or decide for any matter that is not mentioned in the current regulations.

4. **Arbiters**

4.1. Each federation should propose one Local Chief Arbiter and one Local Technical Assistant for nomination by the Asian Chess Federation in consultation with FIDE GSC. Local Chief Arbiters should have FIDE license.

4.2. Before the game starts the Local Arbiter should make it mandatory that all computers run only one tab in one browser. No other website, application or software can be open on the playing device except Zoom.

4.3. Players should share their desktop screen in Zoom and make Task Manager “Always on top”. The images of the video conferencing platform may be recorded by the organiser. It must be ensured that only the Chief Arbiter, the panel of experts, if any, and the members of EDC and FPL may access it if necessary.

4.4. If there are more than ten players in a playing venue, then one additional arbiter is required for every 10 extra players or part thereof. Local expenses are the responsibility of each respective national federation.

5. Time Control:

The time control is 90 minutes for the first 40 moves followed by 30 minutes for the rest of the game with an addition of 30 seconds per move starting from move one. The clocks of all games shall be started by the Chief Arbiter. Default time is 30 minutes from starting time.

6. Pairings:

6.1. Swiss pairings shall be made on Tornelo (Javafo). The highest ranked shall receive White in the first round. In the last round, players from the same federation who have 50% or more shall not be paired together if alternate pairings are available. Forbidden pairings shall be controlled by Swiss Manager.

6.2. Pairings will be published in chess-results.com as soon as possible after each round unless there are pending appeals.

7. Qualification for the World Championships:

7.1. The top seven (7) in the Asian Continental Championship qualify for the World Cup 2021. If a player has previously qualified to the World Cup, the next in line in the Asian Continental Championship qualify.

8. **Appeals Committee:**

8.1. The Asian Chess Federation shall appoint an Appeals Committee comprising a Chairman and 2 members plus 2 reserves from among the participating federations. Protests should be submitted in writing to the Local Chief Arbiter within 10 minutes after the round together with a refundable protest fee of USD100 or its equivalent in local currency. If the protest is upheld the protest fee shall be returned. If the protest is denied, the Local Chief Arbiter shall transfer the protest fee to the Asian Chess Federation account below.

8.2. No member of the Appeals Committee shall sit in judgment in a dispute involving a player or party from his Federation except where the dispute is between two players or two parties from his Federation.

8.3. If possible, the Appeals Committee shall reach a decision not more than two hours after the submission of a protest. The Committee shall endeavor to find binding solutions that are within the true spirit of FIDE motto. The written decision of the Appeals Committee arising from any dispute in respect of these regulations shall be final.

9. **Tie Break:**

9.1. All players should complete the tournament. In case of a tie for qualifying place(s) for the World Cup, the following methods shall be used in the following order:

9.2. Ties shall be broken by the following tie break order:
a) Average Rating of Opponents Cut 1 (AROC 1)*
b) Buchholz Cut 1**;
c) Buchholz;
d) Direct encounter between the players in tie;

* Average Rating of Opponents, excluding the lowest-rated opponent.
** Buchholz score reduced by the lowest score of the opponents.

9.3. In case application of all of the above does not break a tie, qualification to the World Cup shall be decided by Armageddon playoff. In case more than two players are tied, the two highest rated play an Armageddon match.
Tied players will play one Armageddon game with 5 minutes for White and 4 minutes for Black. After move 60, both players receive an increment of 2 seconds per move starting from move 61. Colors shall alternate from the last previous game between the two. If there was no game between the players in the tournament, colors shall alternate from the previous game for the higher rated player. White needs to win and Black needs a draw to qualify.

10. Prizes:

A total of Sixteen Thousand U.S. Dollars ($16,000) in cash prizes shall be awarded as follows:

1st Place	$5,000
2nd Place	$3,000
3rd Place	$2,000
4th Place	$1,000
5th Place	$ 900
6th Place	$ 800
7th Place	$ 700
8th Place	$ 600
9th Place	$ 500
10th Place	$ 500
11th Place	$ 500
12th Place	$ 500

In case of ties, cash prizes are decided by tie break.

11. Schedule:

Note: UAE time. Players should login to Zoom one hour before start.

12 May	10:00 HRS	Trial Run
20 May	10:00	Technical Meeting
21 May	10:00	Round 1
22 May	10:00	Round 2
23 May	10:00	Round 3
24 May	10:00	Round 4
25 May	10:00	Round 5
26 May	10:00	Round 6
27 May	10:00	Round 7
28 May	10:00	Round 8
29 May	10:00	Round 9 and Armageddon if necessary
To be announced		Awards

12. Registration:

12.1. Entry fee is US$150 per player to be paid all together by their National Federation to the Asian Chess Federation. Entry fees shall be shared with the National Federation. Bank commissions should be paid by sender. All payments should be received before the Technical Meeting. Unpaid players will not be paired.

12.2. Only federations may send payment to the following account. Individual transfers are not allowed.

Account Name: Asian Chess Federation
Bank: Abu Dhabi Islamic Bank
Address: Al Murabba Branch, Al-Ain, United Arab Emirates
US Dollar Account Number: 11381190
SWIFT Code: abdiaead
IBAN: AE640500000000011381190

12.3. Entry fees should be received by 11 May 2021. Late receipt shall bear a $50 fine per player. Please email copy of bank transfer to asianchessfederation@yahoo.com with copy to rafiqchess@gmail.com and casto.abundo@gmail.com.

12.4. Entry forms should be received by 11 May 2021 at asianchessfederation@yahoo.com. with copy to Organizing Committee below:

13. Organizing Committee

Technical Delegate: ACF Executive Director Casto Abundo casto.abundo@gmail.com
Appeals Committee Chairman: ACF Deputy President Bharat Singh bharatsingh64@gmail.com
Chief Arbiter: ACF Commission Chairman IA Abdulrahim Mahdi, mahdi.abdulrahim2020@gmail.com
Tournament Director: ACF Treasurer IA Mehrdad Pahlevanzadeh mehrdad.pahlevanzadeh@gmail.com