

2019 GCT Tiebreak Regulations**1. Preamble**

This document specifies the Regulations for tiebreaks and playoffs for all Events of the 2019 Grand Chess Tour as well as for circumstances where there is a tie in 2019 Grand Chess Tour Points at the end of the 2019 regular season. A Playoff shall only take place in the event of a tie for first place in an individual Event.

2. Regulations in the case of ties for first place in any of the Rapid & Blitz GCT Events

- 2.1.** In the event of a tie for first place in any of the 2019 Rapid & Blitz GCT Events, there shall be a playoff amongst all the players involved in the tie.
- 2.2.** The playoff shall take place on the same day and shall commence thirty minutes after the end of the last game of the final round.
- 2.3.** The players involved in the tie shall initially contest a Rapid or Blitz Round Robin, with the pairing numbers determined by lot.
 - 1.** Where there are two players in the tie, they shall contest a Rapid Double Round Robin (a mini-match consisting of two games) where the time limit shall be game in 10 minutes with a 5 second delay per move from move 1.
 - 2.** Where there are three or more players involved in the tie, they shall contest a Blitz Round Robin where the time limit shall be game in 5 minutes with a 3 second delay per move from move 1.
- 2.4.** If there is still a tie after the Round Robin is complete, the players in the remaining tie shall contest single "Armageddon" games on a knockout basis as required to split the tie.
 - 1.** Where the number of players in the remaining tie is not 2, 4 or 8, some players shall receive byes as necessary to reduce the number to 2, 4 or 8 in the next round. The pairings and the byes shall be determined by lot.
- 2.5.** In each Armageddon game:
 - 1.** White shall have 5 minutes and Black shall have 4 minutes, without any increment or delay.
 - 2.** In the event of a draw Black shall be declared the winner.
 - 3.** Colours shall be determined by the toss of a coin, conducted by the Event Chief Arbiter. The winner of the toss shall have choice of colour.
- 2.6.** The playoff shall determine the winner of the Event only. The playoff shall not affect the distribution of the Event prize money nor the allocation of the Event GCT Points, both of which shall be divided evenly amongst all players involved in the tie for first place. No GCT Bonus Points will be assigned if a playoff is required to determine the winner of an Event.

- 2.7.** Where there is a tie for any position other than first place in an Event, both the Event prize money and the Event GCT Points shall be divided equally amongst all the tied players.

3. Regulations in the event of a tie in either of the Classical GCT Events

- 3.1.** In the event of a tie for first place in either of the 2019 Classical GCT Events, there shall be a playoff amongst all the players involved in the tie.
- 3.2.** The playoff shall be conducted on the day immediately following the end of the last scheduled round, which day shall be held as a dedicated reserve day to cater for the possibility of playoffs.
- 3.3.** The players in the tie shall initially contest a Rapid Round Robin, with the pairing numbers determined by lot.
- 1.** Where there are two players in the tie, they shall contest a Double Rapid Round Robin (a mini-match consisting of two games) where the time limit shall be game in 25 minutes with a 10 second delay per move from move 1.
 - 2.** Where there are three or more players in the tie, the time limit for the Rapid Round Robin shall be game in 10 minutes with a 5 second delay per move from move 1.
- 3.4.** If there is still a tie after the Rapid Round Robin is complete, the players in the remaining tie shall contest a Blitz Round Robin at a time limit of game in 5 minutes with a 3 second delay per move from move 1.
- 1.** If there is still a tie after the Blitz Round Robin, further Blitz Round Robins shall take place with the players still in the remaining tie, until the tie is resolved, subject to the provisions of Regulation 3.5 below.
 - 2.** If at any stage there are only two players in the remaining tie, future Round Robins shall be Double Round (a mini-match consisting of two games) rather than Single Round.
- 3.5.** If a tie remains after four Round Robins have been held (one Rapid and three Blitz), the Grand Chess Tour Chief Arbiter or his appointed deputy shall be empowered, after consulting with the players, to direct that the tie be resolved by other means.
- 3.6.** Where the players in a remaining tie are the same as at the start of the previous Round Robin, the next Round Robin shall take place with colours reversed.
- 3.7.** Where the players in a remaining tie are fewer than at the start of the previous Round Robin, there shall be a fresh draw for the pairing numbers in the next Round Robin.

- 3.8.** The playoff shall determine the winner of the Classical Event as well as the distribution of the Event level prize money which shall be allocated as follows:
1. 50% of the prize moneys from all places involved in the tie will be shared equally by all players involved in the tie.
 2. The winner of the playoff shall receive an additional allocation equal to 50% of the prize money for first place.
 3. The other players in the tie shall share equally an additional allocation equal to 50% of the prize moneys allocated for the remaining places involved in the tie (other than first place).
 4. As a rule, integer amounts will be paid out.

For an example of the application of this Regulation refer to the Addendum below.

- 3.9.** The playoff shall not affect the distribution of Event GCT Points, which shall be divided evenly amongst all players involved in the tie for first place. No GCT Bonus Points will be assigned if a playoff is required to determine the winner of an Event.
- 3.10.** Where there is a tie for any position other than first place in an Event, both the Event prize money and the Event GCT Points shall be divided equally amongst all the tied players.

4. Regulations in the event of ties in the overall standings of the 2019 Grand Chess Tour at the end of the last regular season Event in India

- 4.1.** Where there is a tie for one or more of the first four places in the overall standings of the 2019 GCT at the end of the Tata Steel India Rapid & Blitz, the tie(s) shall be broken as set out in Regulations 4.3 and 4.4 below.
- 4.2.** Where there is a tie for fifth or any subsequent places in the in the Standings of the 2019 Grand Chess Tour at the end of the Tata Steel India Rapid & Blitz, the tie(s) shall not be broken, and the place(s) shall remain tied for the purposes of the final published overall standings.
- 4.3.** Should one or more ties need to be broken as specified in Regulation 4.1 above, the following tiebreaks shall apply in the order indicated below:
- 4.3.A The total Tour Points obtained in the two Classical Events by each player in the tie.
 - 4.3.B The total prize money won in the regular season Events by each player in the remaining tie.
 - 4.3.C The total prize money won in the two Classical Events by each player in the remaining tie.
- 4.4.** Where it is apparent at the end of the Sinquefield Cup that the provisions of Regulation 4.3 may not suffice to break all possible ties arising under Regulation 4.1, the GCT Advisory Board shall determine one or more additional tiebreaks to be applied should the need arise. Such additional tiebreaks shall be communicated to the players and published prior to the start of the Superbet Rapid & Blitz.

Addendum

This Addendum illustrates the allocation of prize money in the event of a tie in either of the 2019 GCT Classical Events. The example explains the application of Regulation 3.12 above (Hort System).

Example: Prize money split in the case of a tie for 1st to 4th place in either of the GCT Classical Events

Step 1: Calculate the amount and percentages in the tiebreak pool

| Position | Prize Money | Percentage |
|----------|-------------|------------|
| 1 | \$90,000 | 40.9% |
| 2 | \$60,000 | 27.3% |
| 3 | \$40,000 | 18.2% |
| 4 | \$30,000 | 13.6% |
| | ----- | ----- |
| Pool | \$220,000 | 100.0% |

Shared Portion (50%) = \$110,000

Divisible Portion (50%) = \$110,000

Step 2: Calculate the allocation after the playoff is complete

| Position | Shared Portion 25% Each Split | Divisible Portion 40.9%/59.1% Split amongst rest | Total Due |
|----------|----------------------------------|---|-----------|
| Winner | \$27,500 | \$45,000 | \$72,500 |
| Loser 1 | \$27,500 | \$21,667 | \$49,167 |
| Loser 2 | \$27,500 | \$21,667 | \$49,167 |
| Loser 3 | \$27,500 | \$21,667 | \$49,167 |
| | ----- | ----- | ----- |
| Totals | \$110,000 | \$110,001 | \$220,001 |
| | ----- | ----- | ----- |