2020 GCT Tiebreak Regulations

1. Preamble

This document specifies the Regulations for tiebreaks and playoffs for all Events of the 2020 Grand Chess Tour as well as for circumstances where there is a tie in 2020 Grand Chess Tour Points at the end of the 2020 regular season. A Playoff shall only take place in the event of a tie for first place in an individual Event or in the final Tour standings.

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

2.1. In the event of a tie for first place in any of the 2020 Rapid & Blitz GCT Events, there shall be a playoff amongst all the players involved in the tie.

2.2. Playoffs shall be scheduled in conjunction with the local event organisers and shall commence at least fifteen minutes after the end of the last game of the final round. Where agreed with local organisers, the playoff may be scheduled to take place the day after the completion of the last round where the local event schedule allows for this.

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 increment 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 2 second increment 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. Colors shall be determined by the toss of a coin, conducted by the Event Chief Arbiter. The winner of the toss shall have choice of color.

2.6. The playoff shall determine the winner of the Rapid & Blitz Event as well as the distribution of the Event level prize money which shall be allocated as follows:

> **1.** 60% of the prize monies 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 40% of the prize money for first place.
> **3.** The other players in the tie shall share equally an additional allocation equal to 40% 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 for Rapid & Blitz events refer to Example 1 in the Addendum below.

2.7. 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.

2.8. 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 2020 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 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 twenty-five 25 minutes with a 10 second increment 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 increment 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 2 second increment 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 colors 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. 60% 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 40% of the prize money for first place.

    3. The other players in the tie shall share equally an additional allocation equal to 40% 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 for Classical events refer to Example 2 in 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 2020 Grand Chess Tour**

4.1. If there is a tie for first place in the overall standings of the 2020 GCT at the end of the 2020 Sinquefield Cup, the tie shall be broken as set out in the Regulations for Classical events as specified in section 3 above.

4.2. The playoff shall determine the overall winner of the 2020 Grand Chess Tour as well as the distribution of the GCT Tour Bonus Prize Fund which shall be allocated as follows:

   1. 60% 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 40% of the prize money for first place.
   3. The other players in the tie shall share equally an additional allocation equal to 40% 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 for the overall standings of the 2020 GCT refer to Example 3 in the Addendum below.

4.3. Where there is a tie for any other place other than first in the overall standings of the 2020 Grand Chess Tour, the tie(s) shall not be broken, and the place(s) shall remain tied for the purposes of the final published overall standings. If the overall placement of the tied positions (other than for first place) qualify the tied players for a GCT Bonus payment, then the bonus payment shall be split equally between all players involved in the tie.

Addendum

This Addendum illustrates the allocation of prize money in the event of a tie in either of the 2020 GCT Classical Events or in the final Tour standings. The example explains the application of Regulation 3.8 above (Hort System Modified).

Example 1: Prize money split in the case of a tie for 1st and 2nd place in a GCT Rapid & Blitz event

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

Position	Prize Money	Percentage
1	$37,500	60.0%
2	$25,000	40.0%
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Pool	$62,500	100.0%

Shared Portion (60%) = $37,500
Divisible Portion (40%) = $25,000

Step 2: Calculate the allocation after the playoff is complete

Position	Shared Portion 60% Split Evenly	Divisible Portion 40% Split 60/40	Total Due
Winner	$18,750	$15,000	$33,750
Loser	$18,750	$10,000	$28,750
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Totals	$37,500	$25,000	$62,500
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Example 2: Prize money split in the case of a tie for 1st and 2nd place in a GCT Classical Events

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

Position	Prize Money	Percentage
1	$90,000	60.0%
2	$60,000	40.0%
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Pool	$150,000	100.0%

Shared Portion (60%) = $90,000
Divisible Portion (40%) = $60,000

Step 2: Calculate the allocation after the playoff is complete

Position	Shared Portion 60% Split Evenly	Divisible Portion 40.0% Split 60/40	Total Due
Winner	$45,000	$36,000	$81,000
Loser	$45,000	$24,000	$69,000
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Totals	$90,000	$60,000	$150,000
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Example 3: Prize money split in the case of a tie for 1st and 2nd place in the overall GCT Standings

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

Position	Prize Money	Percentage
1	$100,000	66.6%
2	$ 50,000	33.3%
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Pool	$150,000	100.0%

Shared Portion (60%) = $90,000
Divisible Portion (40%) = $60,000

Step 2: Calculate the allocation after the playoff is complete

Position	Shared Portion 60% Each Split	Divisible Portion 40% Split 66.6%/33.3%	Total Due
Winner	$45,000	$40,000	$85,000
Loser	$45,000	$20,000	$65,000
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Totals	$90,000	$60,000	$150,000
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