

EUROPEAN SMALL NATIONS ASSOCIATION HYBRID CHAMPIONSHIP 2021

2021, APRIL 17TH – 25TH

REGULATIONS

1. PREAMBLE

Following a unanimous decision by the ten ESNA member countries of Zone 1.10, the Championship will be organized in a hybrid format in line with the FIDE Online Chess Regulations 2021.

The event will be organized with the kind support of the International Chess Federation (FIDE) and the European Chess Union (ECU). The winner of the event will be granted one of the ECU spots in the forthcoming FIDE World Cup 2021.

2. ELIGIBILITY

Each member Federation is allowed to nominate one of its players to represent it by not later than 23rd March 2021. If a Federation decides it is not in a position to provide the conditions required for the supervision of the player in their country, then that player will be replaced by the first highest rated player in the zone. Further replacements will be carried out using the same procedure working down the rating list. Notwithstanding, no country can have more than two players participating in the event.

3. FORMAT

The tournament will be held as a ten-player round robin and the pairings will be notified to each Federation and its representative by not later than March 31st, 2021.

The starting numbers of the players will be determined by drawing of lots.

Tie Breaks criteria are, in order: Direct encounter, The greater number of wins, Sonneborn-Berger, Koya System.

The time control for the event is 120 minutes for the game for each player, with 30 seconds increment per move from move 1.

A player will default his game if he turns up later than 30 minutes from the start of the round. However, in case of unforeseen circumstances any game may be delayed upon agreement of the involved players with the approval of the Chief Arbiter for a maximum of 60 minutes from the start of a round.

The players will have to play from one official venue, which cannot change, designated by his/her Chess Federation, according to art. 6.

4. DATES AND SCHEDULE

The schedule of the event will be as follow:

DATE	TIME	ROUND/ACTIVITY
23 rd March 2021	2100h (CEST)	Technical Meeting
17 th April 2021	1750h (CEST)	Opening Ceremony
17 th April 2021	1800h (CEST)	RD. 1
18 th April 2021	1800h (CEST)	RD. 2
19 th April 2021	1800h (CEST)	RD. 3
20 th April 2021	1800h (CEST)	RD. 4
21 st April 2021	1800h (CEST)	RD. 5
22 nd April 2021	1800h (CEST)	RD. 6
23 rd April 2021	1800h (CEST)	RD. 7
24 th April 2021	1800h (CEST)	RD. 8
25 th April 2021	1800h (CEST)	RD. 9

5. VIRTUAL PLAYING VENUE AND CONNECTION

The Championship will be played on the platform Tornelo.com

It is every player's individual responsibility to come to the venues designated by the relevant Federations with a working laptop to be used as a playing device, provided it has a camera and it can be connected to the internet.

Playing devices such as mobile phones and tablets will not be allowed.

During a game, if a player disconnects from the playing zone, his/her clock shall be immediately stopped by the Chief Arbiter upon information by the Local Arbiter.

After investigating the reasons of the disconnection, the Chief Arbiter will determine whether and when the clock has to re-start or the game has to be definitely discontinued.

In case the clock is restarted, if the player can reconnect to the game before his/her remaining thinking time elapsed, he/she shall continue playing with the thinking time remaining on his/her clock.

In any case, if the player cannot reconnect to the game before his/her remaining thinking time is elapsed, then that player shall lose the game. However, the game is drawn if the position is such that the opponent cannot checkmate the player's king by any possible series of legal moves.

6. AUTHORISED VENUES

Every player will play from a designated venue, decided by his/her Chess Federation, which cannot change during the Tournament unless major events bind the player or the Federation to do so.

The venue will consist in one room and a connected toilet.

No extra room can be considered a part of the playing venue: in case the players need some refreshment, which are not available in the room, they might be allowed to walk away, upon supervision

of the arbiters according to art. 7.

Every venue will be supervised by one local arbiter who will connect a second camera to grant a full sight of the venue itself.

All the venue cameras will be connected to a specific videoconference that will be set up and circulated by the Chief Arbiter.

7. FAIR PLAY

Before the beginning of every round the local arbiters will inspect the venue and the connected toilet and report it is clear.

The players will have to give any electronic device they have with them to the local arbiter at the beginning of the round: in case a player is found to have a device with him during the game or after the game but there is evidence that the particular device was with him during the game, the player will be forfeited, and the opponent shall win.

During the round nobody except the players and the local arbiter are allowed into the venue.

During the game, the players can move within the designated room, always staying in the local arbiter's sight, except when going to the toilet. The players are not allowed to talk to anyone, except the local arbiter himself.

In case the players need some refreshment, which is not available in the venue, they might be authorized by the local arbiter to get it from another room: the local arbiter will supervise the player's activity. No such permission can be given when it the player's turn to move.

The players will be connected during the whole tournament to a specific videoconference, sharing their screens and activating their cameras.

In the laptop used for the tournament, only the task manager, the video conferencing tool and the browser used to play can be operational. Headphones, earphones and any kind of audio device or electronic devices not used for playing are not allowed during the rounds.

Hats, caps, hoodies and any other unnecessary items covering the head are not allowed, except for religious matters.

The games will be supervised by a fair play panel which will also analyze the games with FIDE screening tool. The FPP shall consist of the Chief Arbiter and two fair play experts designated by the organization.

Based upon any evidence deemed as necessary and sufficient, FPP may establish a cheating incident and the Chief Arbiter is entitled to disqualify any player for a suspected fair play violation during the course or after the conclusion of any of the Championships event.

Neither ESNA, FIDE, nor the Hosting Internet Platform claims that the determination of a suspected fair play violation is proof of actual cheating or an admission of guilt of by the disqualified player.

Such a determination shall not affect the ordinary status of the player for over-the-board competitions

within the jurisdiction of FIDE or its members, unless FPP decides in the case of a clear or gross violation, or repeated violations, to refer the matter to the FIDE Ethics and Disciplinary Commission which may exclude the player from all official chess participation for a period up to 15 years.

By entering the event, each player accepts the above-mentioned fair play measures as a condition of entry in a voluntary sports event and agrees that his/her participation takes place subject to these fair play measures. Each player acknowledges and agrees that he/she consents to the transfer of all his/her personal data by HIP to the tournament staff and FIDE, including his/her real name, games played, evidence of non-compliance with the fair play rules, including audio or/and video recording of games (if any).

8. ARBITERS

The Chief Arbiter of the Championships is IA Mr. Marco Biagioli (ITA).

Every participating Federation shall appoint one or more local arbiters which will have to be FIDE licensed and will act in accordance to the present regulations.

9. APPEALS

ESNA appointed the Chairman, the two other members of the Appeals Committee, the first and the second reserve members, all from different Federations, in the persons of:

- Mr. IA Panagiotis Nikolopoulos (GRE) – Chairman;
- Mr. IA Paris Klerides (CYP) – Member;
- Mr. FA Geoffrey Borg (MLT) – Member;
- Mr. FM Patrick Van Hoolandt (MNC) – Substitute;
- Mr. Willy Iclicki (LIE) – Substitute.

A member of the Appeals Committee cannot sit in judgement in a dispute involving one player from his/her Federation, in such case, they should be replaced by one of the reserve members.

The Appeals Committee is entitled to make decisions on all disputes except Fair Play decisions.

All appeals and protests shall be submitted in writing to the Appeals Committee no later than 15 minutes after the completion of the relevant game or after the alleged infringement occurred. The appeal shall be sent to the Chairman of the Appeals Committee at the recipient takisnik@yahoo.com.

To make its judgement the Appeals Committee may summon the appellant to its session. The refusal to take part to the session is evaluated for the final decision.

The written decision of the Appeals Committee arising from any dispute is final.

10. FIDE ONLINE REGULATIONS

For any other matter not covered by these Regulations, FIDE Online Regulations shall apply.

In case of force majeure or any other unforeseen circumstances, any relevant decision will be taken by the Chief Arbiter in accordance with the ESNA.