



Regulations for the FIDE World Women's Team Championship 2021

26 September – 3 October 2021, Sitges, Spain

1. Scope

1. 1. The FIDE World Women's Team Championship 2021 (hereinafter referred to as the Event) shall be organised from 26 September to 3 October 2021.
1. 2. Governing Body of the Event is the International Chess Federation (FIDE).
1. 3. FIDE Global Strategy Commission (hereinafter referred to as GSC) is in charge of preparing Regulations, conducting inspections, communicating with the Host Federation (hereinafter referred to as HF) and the participating Federations.
1. 4. The body responsible for adopting and changing these Regulations the FIDE Council, upon recommendation by GSC.
1. 5. At any time, any circumstance or unforeseen situation not covered in these Regulations shall be referred to the FIDE President for the final decision.

2. Qualification

2. 1. Twelve participating teams of the Event shall be determined according to the following criteria:
 - a) Best team by rating from each of the four Continents (Africa, Americas, Asia, Europe): federations with the highest average rating of the best four female players in the FIDE Rapid June 2021 Rating List from each Continent. If two or more federations of the same Continent have equal average ratings, rating of the fifth best player of each federation shall be taken into account. If the average ratings are still equal, rating of the sixth player shall be taken into account etc.
 - b) Five teams representing federations with the highest average ratings of the best four female players in the FIDE Rapid June 2021 Rating List, not qualified by path 2.1.a. If two or more federations have equal average ratings, rating of the fifth best player of each federation shall be taken into account. If the average ratings are still equal, rating of the sixth player shall be taken into account etc.
 - c) HF team. If this team is qualified by path 2.1.a or 2.1.b, the qualification spot goes to the next non-qualified team by rating as described in Article 2.1.b.
 - d) Two teams nominated by the FIDE President.
2. 2. If any replacements are needed including due to a withdrawal or a refusal of participation, the qualification spot goes to the next non-qualified team by average rating as described in Article 2.1.b. The automatic replacements by average rating are in force till 4th reserve team, after which any replacement shall be subject to GSC decision.

3. Registration

3. 1. Not later than eight weeks before the start of the Event, HF shall send the invitation to all Federations entitled to participate as well as to the top four reserve teams according to Article 2.1.
3. 2. Not later than seven weeks before the start of the Event, each team qualified for the Event shall confirm its participation to HF and GSC.
3. 3. Not later than six weeks before the start of the Event, every participating Federation shall pay FIDE one thousand (1,000) euros entry fee for each participating team.
3. 4. Not later than six weeks before the start of the Event, every participating Federation shall provide HF and GSC with the following details regarding the participating team:
 - a) Full name of the chief of delegation;
 - b) Full name of the captain;
 - c) Full name of each team member and her FIDE ID;
 - d) All required information related to visas.

3. 5. The deadlines in Articles 3.1. – 3.4. may be altered upon approval of the FIDE President.

4. Technical Regulations

4. 1. Composition of Teams

4. 1. 1. Teams shall be made up of four main players and one reserve.

4. 1. 2. Each team shall have a captain, who may also be one of the main players or the reserve. Each team's definite fixed board order shall be confirmed by the team's captain at the Technical Meeting (see Article 4.3). There is no requirement to assign board numbers in rating order. Each player shall be assigned a number from 1 to 5. This creates a board order, which cannot be changed and remains fixed throughout the tournament.

4. 1. 3. Each team's composition shall be announced by the team's captain not later than thirty minutes prior to the start of each regular match (see Articles 4.2.1.1.3, 4.2.1.1.4, 4.2.1.2.3 and 4.2.1.2.4) and not later than ten minutes prior to the start of each tie-break match (see Article 4.2.1.2.5). A team captain who fails to submit their team composition in a round will be deemed to have chosen the players assigned to boards 1, 2, 3 and 4 in that round.

4. 1. 4. Each federation may be represented by a Chief of delegation; it may either appoint a person exclusively to this function, or entrust the team captain, one of the main players or the reserve. The Chief of delegation is responsible for all administrative matters and relations with GSC and HF.

4. 2. Format & System

4. 2. 1. Stages

4. 2. 1. 1. Stage 1. Pools

4. 2. 1. 1. 1. Twelve teams shall be divided into two pools of approximately the same strength. For this purpose, the participating teams shall be sorted by average ratings of their four main players (see Article 4.1.1) in the last FIDE Rapid Rating List. The pools' composition shall be as follows:

Pool A: teams ranked 1, 4, 5, 8, 9, 12.

Pool B: teams ranked 2, 3, 6, 7, 10, 11.

4. 2. 1. 1. 2. Each pool shall play a round robin tournament, five rounds. Pairings for Stage 1 shall be made during the Opening Ceremony.

4. 2. 1. 1. 3. The time control is 45 minutes for the whole game with an increment of 10 seconds per move starting from move 1.

4. 2. 1. 1. 4. Each match is scored by match points. A winner gets 2 points, a draw gives 1 point to each team, a loss - 0 points. The top four teams of each pool shall qualify for Stage 2. Ties shall be broken according to the tie-break system described in Article 4.2.1.1.5.

4. 2. 1. 1. 5. If the two or more teams score the same number of match points, the tie shall be broken as follows:

- a. Total number of gamepoints.
- b. Sonneborn-Berger (Matchpoints).
- c. Sonneborn-Berger (Gamepoints).
- d. Berlin System:

- win on Board 1 – 4 points;
- win on Board 2 – 3 points;
- win on Board 3 – 2 points;
- win on Board 4 – 1 point.

In case of drawn games, the points are shared.

If after the board-count, the tie is not broken, then the points of Board 4 are cancelled and so on upward.

- e. Drawing of lots.

4. 2. 1. 2. Stage 2. Play-off

4. 2. 1. 2. 1. Eight teams qualified from Stage 1 shall play a knock-out tournament.

4. 2. 1. 2. 2. The pairings are done as follows:

Quarter finals

- Duel 1: Winner of Pool A vs 4th place of Pool B
Duel 2: Runner-up of pool B vs 3rd place of Pool A
Duel 3: Winner of Pool B vs 4th place of Pool A
Duel 4: Runner-up of pool A vs 3rd place of Pool B

Semi-finals

- Duel 5: Winner of Duel 1 vs Winner of Duel 2
Duel 6: Winner of Duel 3 vs Winner of Duel 4

Final

- Duel 7: Winner of Duel 5 vs Winner of Duel 6

4. 2. 1. 2. 3. The time control is 45 minutes for the whole game with an increment of 10 seconds per move starting from move 1.

4. 2. 1. 2. 4. Each duel consists of two matches. In the first match, the first-named team in a duel has white on the odd-numbered boards and black on the even-numbered boards in the first match; and white on the even-numbered boards and black on the odd-numbered boards in the second match. The tie shall be broken as described in Article 4.2.1.2.5.

4. 2. 1. 2. 5. In the event of a drawn duel (each team wins one of the two matches, or both matches are drawn), board points shall not be used as the tie-break. The tie shall be broken as follows:

- a. After draw of colours, a blitz match shall be played with the time control 3 minutes + 2 seconds increment per move, starting from move 1.
- b. If the blitz match in Article 4.2.1.2.5.a is drawn, another blitz match shall be played with the time control 3 minutes + 2 seconds increment per move, starting from move 1. The colours shall be reversed.
- c. If the blitz match in Article 4.2.1.2.5.b is drawn, the procedure described in Article 4.2.1.2.5.b shall apply until the winner is determined.

4. 2. 2. Team Awards

4. 2. 2. 1. The team which wins the final duel shall be declared World Women's Team Champion 2021.

4. 2. 2. 2. The winner and the runner-up teams shall be awarded FIDE trophies.

4. 2. 2. 3. Every member of the winning team (players, reserves and captain) shall receive a gold medal. The runner-up team shall receive silver medals and the two teams eliminated in semi-finals shall receive bronze medals.

4. 2. 2. 4. All the semi-finalists shall secure their places in the next FIDE World Women's Team Championship.

4. 2. 3. Individual Board Awards

4. 2. 3. 1. Players assigned to the same board number in their respective team lists compete for individual board awards namely: gold, silver and bronze medals. A player needs to play at least five games to be eligible for a board award.

4. 2. 3. 2. The board medals shall be awarded according to players' performance ratings (TPR) rounded up to the closest whole number.

4. 2. 3. 3. If two or more players have equal TPRs, the tie shall be broken as follows:

- a) Bigger number of games played.
- b) Drawing of lots.

4. 3. Schedule

DATE	TIME	EVENT	Time Control
26 Sep		Arrivals	

	TBA	Opening Ceremony, Technical Meeting			
27 Sep	3 pm	Poole Stage. 12 teams. Two pools of six teams each. Round Robins.	Round 1	45' + 10''	
	6 pm		Round 2		
28 Sep	3 pm		Round 3		
	6 pm		Round 4		
29 Sep	3 pm		Round 5		
30 Sep	3 pm		Quarter finals, Match 1	3' + 2''	
	6 pm		Quarter finals, Match 2		
	8:30 pm		Tie-breaks		
1 Oct	3 pm		Play-off. 8 teams. First four teams of each pool. Knock-out	Semi-finals, Match 1	45' + 10''
	6 pm			Semi-finals, Match 2	
	8:30 pm	Tie-breaks		3' + 2''	
2 Oct	3 pm	Final, Match 1		45' + 10''	
	6 pm	Final, Match 2			
	8:30 pm	Tie-break		3' + 2''	
	TBA	Closing Ceremony			
3 Oct	Departures				

4. 4. Default time

In case a player arrives at the chessboard with a delay of up to 15 minutes from the actual start of the game, her team shall be charged five hundred (500) euros, unless the Chief Arbiter decides otherwise, depending on the circumstances of the delay. In case of delay of more than 15 minutes, the player loses the game (without financial penalty), unless the Chief Arbiter decides that the delay was due to an event of force majeure.

4. 5. Draw by mutual agreement

The players cannot draw a game by agreement before black's 30th move. A claim for a draw before black's 30th move is permitted only in the case of a draw by repetition.

4. 6. Travel and Accommodation

4. 6. 1. HF is not responsible for reimbursing the travel expenses of the participating teams.

4. 6. 2. Free accommodation with full board in standard single rooms (4-star hotel minimum) shall be offered by HF to six persons of each team.

4. 7. Playing venue

4. 7. 1. GSC shall ensure the playing hall and its environs meet the requirements of the FIDE Recommendations for the organisation of Top-level Tournaments (FIDE Handbook, C.01).

4. 7. 2. HF shall provide, free of charge, coffee, tea and soft drinks for the players, the captains, the principals, VIPs and accredited media.

4. 8. Playing Conditions

4. 8. 1. The fair-play measures shall be applied according to the FIDE anti-cheating regulations for the top official events.

4. 8. 2. Except with the permission of the Chief Arbiter, only the players, the Principals and stewards shall be allowed in the playing area. A player may communicate with an arbiter or a steward.

4. 8. 3. During a playing session, the players are forbidden to have any electronic device not specifically approved by the Chief Arbiter in the playing venue. In case of this rule violation, the player loses the current game.

4. 8. 4. The players are not permitted to bring into the playing venue technical and other equipment extraneous to play, which may in any way disturb or upset their opponents. The Chief Arbiter decides what constitutes extraneous equipment disturbing the opponent.

4. 8. 5. While her game is in progress, a player may leave the playing venue only with the permission of the Chief Arbiter and only if she is accompanied by one of the arbiters. In case of this rule violation, the current game shall be declared lost by the player and the Chief Arbiter has the right to disqualify the player from the tournament.

4. 8. 6. Once finished her game, a player shall leave the playing venue and will not be allowed to come back until all the games are over.

4. 8. 7. The anti-doping test procedure shall be regulated by the contract between FIDE and HF.

4. 8. 8. HF has to fulfil the requirements of the medical protocol as per standards of the FIDE Medical commission.

4. 9. Players conduct

4. 9. 1. The dress code shall be strictly observed for the tournament and all the official events and press-conferences.

4. 9. 1. 1. Dress code: neat shirt/blouse with a collar (with or without a pullover), neat jacket/blazer, neat trousers/skirt or dress.

4. 9. 1. 2. No players with t-shirts, jeans, shorts, sneakers/trainers, baseball caps or inappropriate dress shall be allowed in a playing venue. Any requests to wear national or traditional dress must be approved by GSC.

4. 9. 2. The captains are required to attend the Technical Meeting. If necessary, the Chief Arbiter may call other Technical Meetings.

4. 9. 3. The players are required to make themselves available for post-game press conferences, of not more than 5 minutes duration, immediately after the game.

4. 9. 4. The players are required to be present at all official functions approved by GSC during the event including official receptions, the Opening and the Closing Ceremonies.

4. 9. 5. The winner team is required to attend the final press conference after the event has ended and to provide an exclusive interview for the tournament and the FIDE websites if requested by the FIDE Press Officer or HF.

4. 9. 6. If a player or a captain fails to fulfil his/her duties listed in Articles 4.9.1 – 4.9.5, undermines the reputation of FIDE, HF and sponsors, other players, hosting country or city or conducts him-/herself in a manner contrary to the spirit of sportsmanship or the FIDE Code of Ethics, he/she may be penalised by the FIDE Council. In cases of serious misconduct, the player may be disqualified from the event. Such decisions can be taken and/or approved by the FIDE Council.

4. 10. Principals

The Principals are:

FIDE President;
FIDE Deputy President / FIDE Director General
Chief Arbiter;
Deputy Chief Arbiter;
Technical Delegate-Chairman of the Appeals Committee and two other members
Press Officer;
GSC member.

4. 11. Arbiters and FIDE Fair-Play Officer

4. 11. 1. The Chief Arbiter, the Deputy Chief Arbiter and the FIDE Fair-Play Officer shall be nominated by FIDE.
4. 11. 2. During play either the Chief Arbiter or his/her Deputy shall be present in a playing area.
4. 11. 3. HF shall appoint four Match Arbiters.
4. 11. 4. The Chief Arbiter is required to issue “Chief Arbiter’s Information” in consultation with GSC to inform details not covered by these Regulations.
4. 11. 5. Within one week after the end of the event the Chief Arbiter shall submit a report in English to GSC. The report shall contain the result of each individual game and a general description of the course of the event. If there are any difficulties, conflicts or incidents, they shall be described together with the measures taken to deal with them.

4. 12. Appeals Committee

4. 12. 1. GSC shall nominate the Technical Delegate-Chairman of the Appeals Committee, two other members of the Appeals Committee and a necessary number of reserve members working remotely, all from different Federations.
4. 12. 2. All protests shall be submitted in writing by a team captain to the Appeals Committee not more than 30 minutes after the relevant playing session, or the particular infringement complained against.
4. 12. 3. Each protest shall be accompanied by a deposit fee of five hundred (500) euros or the equivalent in local currency. If the protest is accepted, the fee shall be returned. If the protest is rejected, the fee may be forfeited to FIDE.
4. 12. 4. The Committee may decide on the following matters:
- a) appeal against a decision by an arbiter,
 - b) protest against a player's behaviour,
 - c) any appeal which the Committee considers relevant.
4. 12. 5. The Appeals Committee shall endeavour to find binding solutions that are within the true spirit of the FIDE motto Gens Una Sumus as quick as possible.
4. 12. 6. The written decision of the Appeals Committee arising from any dispute in respect of these regulations shall be final.
4. 12. 7. Within one (1) week after the end of the event the Chairman of the Appeals Committee shall submit a report in English to GSC.

4. 13. Ceremonies

4. 13. 1. The Opening Ceremony shall take place the day prior to Round 1.
4. 13. 2. The program of the Opening Ceremony shall be approved by GSC. Cultural program and speeches totalling up to 60 minutes are usually welcome. FIDE Anthem and the Anthem of the hosting nation shall be played.
4. 13. 3. The Closing Ceremony takes place on the day of the final. FIDE trophies (see Article. 4.2.2.2) and FIDE medals (see Articles 4.2.2.3 and 4.2.3.1) shall be awarded to the winners. The FIDE Anthem, the Anthem of the winners’ countries and the Anthem of the hosting nation shall be played.

5. Media

5. 1. Website

The official domain shall be: <https://worldwomensteams.fide.com> .

5. 2. Communications

5. 2. 1. All official written communications, in print or online form, shall identify FIDE as the Governing Body of the Event.
5. 2. 2. All official communications shall use the official denomination for the event: FIDE World Women’s Team Championship 2021.

5. 2. 3. All pre-tournament public communications regarding the event (e.g. joint press releases from FIDE and HF) shall be co-written and scheduled in coordination with the FIDE Chief Marketing and Communications Officer.

5. 3. Press Officer designated by FIDE

5. 3. 1. FIDE designates a FIDE Press Officer for the event. HF co-operates with the FIDE Press Officer regarding the accreditation and hospitality for journalists and media and the facilities available at any Press Centre that HF chooses to provide, and assists him/her to establish contacts with the local media.

5. 3. 2. All content shown at <https://worldwomensteams.fide.com> is reviewed and approved by the Press Officer. All live images, live broadcasting (Internet TV) pictures and all the other content for the full event are carried on both official domains, plus any other web domain that has been agreed between HF and GSC prior to the Event. In cases of conflicting information and press statements, the views expressed by the Press Officer shall be the authentic version.

5. 3. 3. All activities of both FIDE and HF shall identify FIDE being the Governing Body of the Event. HF shall warrant that <https://worldwomensteams.fide.com> is managed in a professional way and furthermore that it is capable of handling the traffic and publicity that is required for such events. Statistics of traffic and full reports on web performance are provided to both FIDE and HF.

5. 3. 4. The Press Officer reports to the FIDE Chief Marketing and Communications Officer.

5. 3. 5. The Press Officer is a member of the panel at any Press Conferences conducted during the event.

5. 4. Photography and video

5. 4. 1. Only photographers and camera crew expressly authorised by HF (in co-operation with the Press Officer) may work in the playing venue.

5. 4. 2. Television cameras shall try to minimise any inconvenience for the players and may only be allowed if the Chief Arbiter (acting reasonably) deems their use to be unobtrusive.

5. 4. 3. The use of flash is not allowed. An exception could be made only if the particularities of the venue force the photographers to stay more than six meters away from the players. Even in those exceptional circumstances, it is restricted to the first five minutes of semi rapid games and the first minute of blitz games.

5. 4. 5. HF should appoint a professional photographer to cover the Event. This photographer provides FIDE, the media and the sponsors with visual material that meets professional standards.

5. 4. 6. In order to develop his/her work in conditions of artificial light and a quiet environment, the photographer's equipment shall comply with the following conditions:

- a) Full-frame camera body.
- b) Silent shutter, or "Quiet mode".
- c) Long telephoto lens (80mm or higher), and luminous (f4 or wider)

5. 4. 7. HF shall ensure that, by the end of the event, FIDE is provided with at least 200 pictures in high quality, plus 20 minutes of video footage from the event. FIDE can make use of these audio-visual materials for any purpose, with no time or territorial restrictions of any kind.

6. Selection of HF

6. 1. Any federation member of FIDE or any organiser approved by the national federation may apply for organisation of the FIDE World Women's Team Championship 2021.

6. 2. Each application shall contain the following:

- a) Proposed dates.
- b) Proposed tournament venue.
- c) Commitment to cover all financial obligations to FIDE, including all the stipends.
- d) Commitment to cover all organisational costs, in accordance with the current Regulations.
- e) Invitation for at least two members of GSC to inspect the proposed venue and examine the other conditions, with all travel and hotel expenses paid by the applicant.
- f) Applicant's name, signature and authentication.

6. 3. Each applicant pays a refundable deposit of three thousand (3,000) euros. After the end of the Event, within one week, the deposit is reimbursed to HF. If the Event is granted to the applicant, but is failed to be held, the deposit is forfeited to FIDE.

6. 4. Upon FIDE's selection of HF, a contract is to be signed between FIDE and HF regarding all financial and commercial aspects of the event. HF is required to present all necessary bank guaranties for the whole amount all expenses related to the Event.

6. 5. GSC advises and helps HF on protocol, budget, infrastructure, media, commentary and other technical issues.

7. Financial issues

7. 1. Before the end of the event, FIDE shall be reimbursed for its direct expenses incurred in the organisation of the Event. This is a fixed sum agreed in the contract between HF and GSC. This sum includes pre-expenses (inspections), stipends, traveling expenses for the Principals and other expenses mentioned in the contract.

7. 2. Stipends

The stipends to be paid to the Principals of the Event by HF are (in euros):

Chief Arbiter:	2,700
Deputy Chief Arbiter:	2,000
Technical Delegate-Chairman of the Appeals Committee	2,200
Members of the Appeals Committee	1,500 each
Press Officer:	2,200
Member of the FIDE Medical Commission	1,500
TOTAL	13,600.

7. 3. Travel Expenses of the FIDE Principals

The FIDE President has the right to business class travel by air, sea or rail, at HF's expense. All other Principals are compensated by HF for their travel expenses in economy class up to one thousand (1,000) euros if travelling from the same continent, up to one thousand three hundred (1,300) euros if travelling from another continent.

7. 4. Accommodation of the FIDE Principals

Accommodation with full board in a suite in a 4-5-star hotel shall be offered by HF for the FIDE President. Accommodation with full board in a standard single room in the same hotel shall be offered by HF for each Principal. Extra expenses are covered by HF only for the FIDE President.

7. 5. Local transportation

Transfer from and to the airport shall be provided by HF. For the FIDE President, a chauffeur-driven car, for the other Principals, a number of cars shall be provided by HF. Their use shall depend on the position of the hotels, playing hall and media center. Alternatively, a daily allowance in local currency may be provided, the amount to be agreed between HF and GSC. Local transport is provided for players to official functions if necessary.

7. 6. Personnel

HF shall provide sufficient personnel to assist in the playing hall, press room, VIP room, and at ceremonies according to the agreement made with GSC.

7. 7. Trophies and medals

FIDE trophies (see Article 4.2.2.2) and FIDE medals (see Articles 4.2.2.3 and 4.2.3.1) shall be provided by HF and approved by GSC.

7. 8. Fair-play measures

HF shall cover all the related costs up to five thousand (5,000) euros.

8. Commercial issues

8. 1. FIDE, or its appointed commercial agency, retains all commercial and media rights of the Event, including internet. The right as described here can be granted by FIDE to HF.

8. 2. The radio and television rights, including photo, video and film rights, shall belong to FIDE or its appointed agency. The right as described here can be granted by FIDE to HF.

8. 3. FIDE has the exclusive rights for live games transmission on Internet. This right as described here can be granted by FIDE to HF.

8. 4. FIDE has the right to enter into advertisement agreements either with HF or Sponsors of the event requiring players to wear attire with the branding of sponsors.

8. 5. Players shall not wear, use or display any apparel, footwear, accessory or other item, including but not limited to any piece of attire or any article that is of an accessory nature (*e.g.* bag, eyewear, arm bands, gloves, socks, charms, beverage bottles etc.), bearing an identification of or advertising or otherwise promoting the players' sponsors, without prior written permission by FIDE or FIDE's commercial agency.

8. 6. The income provided by the Event through admission charges goes to HF.

8. 7. HF draws up a budget as detailed as possible. This is subject to approval of GSC.

8. 8. No proposed sponsor is in conflict with the regulations of the International Olympic Committee.

8. 9. The FIDE logo and the head of the corporate logo are displayed below:



The FIDE logo is displayed in a black colour on a white background. The text describing any event must not be larger than twice the size of the word FIDE reproduced in the logo.

8. 10. For brand consistency, all designs bearing the FIDE logo should be approved by the FIDE Chief Marketing and Communications Officer. This applies to both digital (websites, social media profiles, graphics) and printed materials (roll-ups, flags, banners, t-shirts, scoresheets, et cetera). The designs should be sent to marketing@fide.com.



FIDE World Women's Team Championship 2021

ANNEX 1

WORLD CHAMPIONSHIP TECHNICAL REGULATIONS (FIDE Laws of Chess)

The FIDE Laws of Chess are Annex 1, as valid since January 1st 2018 and published on the FIDE website:

<https://handbook.fide.com/chapter/E012018>