MALAYSIAN CHESS FEDERATION (MCF)
PERSEKUTUAN CATUR MALAYSIA

1st NATIONAL INDIVIDUAL ONLINE RAPID CHESS CHAMPIONSHIP 2020

REGULATIONS

1. **Invitation**
    - The Malaysian Chess Federation invites all Malaysian Chess Players to participate in its inaugural 1st National Individual Online Rapid Chess Championship 2020

2. **Event Date**
    - The event is scheduled to take place in October 2020 over a period of two (2) weekends
    - Qualifying Rounds : 17th and 18th October 2020
    - Final Rounds: 24th and 25th October 2020
    - The organizer reserves the right to change the format if deemed necessary depending on the final number of participants registering for the championship

3. **Participation**
    - The event is open to Malaysian Citizens only
    - By competing in the event, each participant agrees that his/her real legal first name and passport size photo, will be shown in his/her profile in www.chess.com
    - The Malaysian Chess Federation reserves the right to publish the real names and/or photos of the participants, and the nicknames they use in www.chess.com for promotion and marketing purposes, and other purposes deem fit by the Federation.
    - By registering, each player hereby agrees to abide by the Regulations of the Championship, including the anti-cheating rules specified herein

4. **Registration**
    - Players must register using the application form and submit – together with proof of payment, to the following email addresses to confirm their participation:
        i.   MCF Secretary – mcfsecretariat@malaysiachess.org
        ii. MCF Treasurer – drziner@gmail.com
    - Deadline for registration is before 11:59pm on 8th October 2020
    - All completed registration form needs to be accompanied with a scan copy of the entry fees for the championship

5. **Schedule**
    (Qualifying Rounds – Group A and Group B)

Time	Activity	Time	Activity
8:30am	Logged into www.chess.com / zoom application		
9:00am	Briefing via Zoom		
9:30am	Round 1	10:15am	Round 2
11:00am	Round 3	11:45pm	Round 4
1:00pm	Lunch	2:00pm	Round 5
2:45pm	Round 6	3:30pm	Round 7

    (Final Round)

Date	Time	Activity	Time	Activity
24th October	9:00am	Logged into www.chess.com / zoom application		
	9:30am	Briefing via Zoom		
	10:00am	Round 1	10:45am	Round 2
	11:30am	Round 3	12:15pm	Round 4
	Break for the Day			
25th October	9:00am	Round 5	9:45am	Round 6
	10:30am	Round 7	11:15pm	Round 8
	12:00noon	Round 9		
	2:00pm	Publish Final Results		

For more information, please contact:
Secretary: FA Najib Abdul Wahab at +6016.338.2542 / mcfsecretariat@malaysiachess.org
Asst. Secretary: Iwan Schani Ibnu at +6017.564.5183 / inquiries@malaysiachess.org

6. **System of Play**
- All players are requested to join the Malaysian Chess Federation (MCF) Club in www.chess.com
- All players should login into www.chess.com via the MCF Club login page at least 30 minutes before the start of the first agenda for the day
- Format Play
  Qualifying Round   - Seven (7) rounds single play Swiss System tournament
  Final Round   - Nine (9) rounds single play Swiss System tournament
- Tiebreaks shall be as follows:
  i. Personal Encounter
  ii. Bucholz Cut 1
  iii. Bucholz
  iv. Sonneborn Berger
  v. Cumulative Score
- Draws by the server
  i. All draws declared by the server will be considered as valid and final
  ii. In such a case, no appeal from either player shall be accepted
- A completed game
  i. For all completed game, both players shall share the game result to the Chief Arbiter via the agreed Whatsapp channel
  ii. For all completed game, both players to download the PGN file format of their respective game and share the file with the Chief Arbiter via the agreed Whatsapp group as mentioned in (i) above
  iii. Failure to submit the scores and/or the PGN file may result in a player being given a loss for failure to comply with the event regulations
- Registration Limitations
  i. If the total number of players participating is less than 64 players, only the Final Round will be played as per the schedule given on 24th and 25th October 2020.
  ii. Players registration is limited to 200 players only i.e. 100 player per Qualifying Group

7. **Internet Connection Setup**
- Each player should set up a webcam that is connected to their playing laptop or a smart device, and placed the device behind the chair that the player is sitting – either to his right or his left, to let the arbiter to see (via the camera), the player's computer screen, the table surroundings and the player's movement. Please refer to the Instruction documents to learn more on this setup.
- Each player should be using their own laptop with the following application running on their laptop:
  i. www.chess.com platform/website
  ii. Zoom meeting application – with audio and video on, to join meeting and listen to Arbiter's/Organizer's instruction.
  iii. Whatsapp web application – to submit scores, .pgn file (scoresheet), and to chat with the Arbiter.
- Only laptops are allowed
  i. The use or a smart device/handphone to play is strictly prohibited. If a player is caught doing so, the player is considered to have cheated and will be ejected from the tournament. All his previous scores will remain as is, but he will not be allowed to continue in the tournament
  ii. The use of a tablet is accepted provided it is set up with keyboard and stand that mimics a laptop and placed correctly on the table. The tablet shall not be removed from the desk during play.
- Default time
  i. By Laws of Chess, the event uses ZERO start ruling which requires a player to be seated at their seat when the round is scheduled to start. The Arbiter will declare a player as loss by default if the player is not presence at the start of the round.
  ii. If a server declares a game is defaulted because a player has been disconnected or timed out, and unable to reconnect even though his/her time is still available, then the decision by the server stands.
  iii. Any disconnection due to player's internet connection, power cut or laptop failure, will be the player's own responsibility. Failure to reconnect even though his/her time is still available will result in a loss for the player.

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- Hardware/Laptop Failure
  - i. Hardware/Laptop are the player's responsibility. If a player's laptop crashes during a game, he/she can use another laptop or desktop to reconnect but will need to set up the computer as per the event requirement i.e. webcam, etc.
  - ii. It is the player's responsibility to reconnect with the server in a timely manner before he/she is considered to have defaulted on his/her game. In such a situation, the player would have defaulted the current round only and may join for later rounds – with a replacement laptop, provided the event has not concluded.
- Server failure/downtime:
  - i. In a situation where there is a server failure or malfunction in the middle of a round, the following shall be decided:
    1. The result for all the games that have concluded, shall remain as is
    2. All the remaining games that have not completed, shall be replayed at a faster time control of 5 minutes to finish (no increment) – once the server is back up
    3. Once the server is up, the tournament will continue with a revised schedule if necessary
  - ii. In a situation where the server is down for a longer period, the event may be rescheduled to the next day/next available weekend/public holiday with the scheduled to be revised accordingly
  - iii. At the Arbiter's discretion, where necessary in order to continue with the event's schedule, the Arbiter may declare some of the games as drawn ONLY for pairing purposes, and the unfinished or replayed games to be played later in the day (or a later date) or during a break in the schedule, or after all the rounds have concluded. Once these games have concluded, the new score will be keyed in to replace the drawn score for the final standings to be tabulated.
  - iv. Any refusal or inability by any of the player to continue with the postponed/replayed games to be played, will result in a forfeited score by the player(s).
  - v. In extreme cases where www.chess.com downtime is longer than anticipated or malfunction indefinitely, the Organizer and the Chief Arbiter may decide to continue the remaining rounds and/or replayed games on another similar chess platform which will be decided by the Organizer
    1. The Organizer and the Chief Arbiter may also decide to return to www.chess.com once the server is back operational provided the return is done after a round has concluded.

8. **Fair Play – Disclaimer**
   - By agreeing to participate in the tournament, each player has confirmed that they have read and accepted these regulations, together with the following:
     - i. All participants agree to abide by all rules and site policies stated at www.chess.com/legal
     - ii. The anti-cheating measures are based on www.chess.com resources. You can find more information on www.chess.com Fair Play and Cheat Detection Policy
     - iii. All participants shall comply and co-operate with www.chess.com Fair Play and Anti-cheating detection team.
   - A player who is caught by the system during the championship and eventually banned from playing, or unable to login, will be considered to have left the championship, and has defaulted all his remaining rounds. In such an event, the player is not allowed to create a new nickname profile in www.chess.com or be replaced by a new player.
   - All participants winning a prize will be additionally post-checked and can be disqualified after the tournament has concluded.
   - Any fair play actions taken against participants are in accordance with fair play policy of www.chess.com including but not limited to statistical analysis and manual review.
   - Upon a decision made by www.chess.com, while the player may not be allowed to continue playing in the server, MCF will not interfere nor appeal the decision made by www.chess.com for the player
     - i. All the players agree that they have no right to appeal the abovementioned action either through arbitration, consultation or in a court of law within any jurisdiction.
     - ii. Pending further investigation, MCF may still allow the player to continue playing in MCF sanctioned events.
   - The Malaysian Chess Federation will not be responsibility for technical problems faced by any player during the games.

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9. **Others**
- All players are not allowed to leave their seat during their game.
- Players may leave their seats between rounds with Arbiter's permission.
- Pairings will be made manually via Swiss Manager and participants are not allowed to appeal for pairings made. All results and pairings will be posted on www.chess-results.com
- By registering in the Championship, players will not have the right to claim any financial compensation or redress related to the Championship.
- The Malaysian Chess Federation has the right to change the schedule, update the regulations and/or decide on any matter that is not mentioned in the current regulations. Where deemed necessary by the Organizer/Arbiter(s), the matter shall be referred to the MCF President for the final decision.

10. **Entry Fees**

Titled Player	Free Entry to IM/WIM/NM/WNM		
Other Titled Players	RM 30 per player (FM/WFM/CM/WCM/Online Title AGM/AIM)		
Open	RM 60 per player	**Veteran (55+)**	RM 50 per player
Ladies/U18	RM 50 per player	**Special Abilities**	RM 40 per player
Unrated	RM 80 per player		

11. **Prizes**
- The Winning Player shall be declared as Malaysia's 1st National Individual Online Rapid Chess Champion 2020
- Prizes Offered

  Main Prizes:
  Champion (RM 500)
  Runner Up (RM 300)
  3rd (RM 220)   4th (RM 160)   5th (RM 120)
  6th (RM 100)   9th to 16th (RM 70 each)

  Category Prizes:
  Best Veteran/Ladies/U18/U12/OKU/Unrated (RM 90 each)
  2nd Veteran/Ladies/U18/U12/OKU/Unrated (RM 60 each)
  Note: Category prizes will only be awarded to players who qualify for the Finals only
- All winners will need to furnish their bank account number and details to the organizer for the prizes to transferred via online transfer

12. **Payment of Entry Fees**
- All payments for Entry Fees shall be banked into the following account:
  Account Name   **Persekutuan Catur Malaysia**
  Bank Name/Account Number **CIMB (80-0064972-5)**

13. **National Selection**
With FIDE and ASIAN Chess Federation continue to organize Online Chess Championships, the National Individual Online Chess Championship will be the main criteria used by the MCF Selection Committee in selecting Malaysia's representative(s) to World, Asian, ASEAN and other International Online chess events.

Winners and Finalists of this event will be considered as the main choice(s) to be offered as Malaysia's official representatives to any World, Continental, and Regional events where Malaysia is officially invited to participate.

At its discretion, MCF will also consider the Top Winners of the Online Chess Championship to join MCF Training/Selection Program for SEA Games 2021 to be held in Vietnam.

14. **Organizing Committee contact persons:**
- Event Director   FA Najib Abdul Wahab: mcfsecretariat@malaysiachess.org
- Chief Arbiter   IA Lim Poay Sim
- Zoom Coordinator, Deputy Arbiter, Pairing Arbiters and Other Official posts will be nominated later

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