

# **Chess.com Isle of Man International**

## **Terms & Conditions**

### **Isle of Man Masters**

#### **Eligibility:**

Open to all FIDE rated players with a rating on the September 2017 rating list of at least 1900, subject to a maximum of around 174 players. The Tournament Director reserves the right to limit the number of non-titled players rated below 2000 to a maximum of 6 players.

#### **Entry fees:**

- Free to GMs, IMs, WGMs, WIMs
- £30 for FMs, WFM and players with a FIDE rating of at least 2300
- £50 for those with a FIDE rating of 2200 to 2299
- £80 for those with a FIDE rating of 2000 to 2199
- £120 for those with a FIDE rating of less than 2000

The above entry fees will be reduced by 50% for Chess.com Diamond Members, on condition that they have Diamond membership both at the date of entry and at the date of the first round of the tournament. Please quote your Chess.com username in the relevant field of the entry form.

#### **Prizes:**

1<sup>st</sup> £50,000; 2<sup>nd</sup> £25,000; 3<sup>rd</sup> £12,500; 4<sup>th</sup> £6,250; 5<sup>th</sup> £4,000; 6<sup>th</sup> £3,500; 7<sup>th</sup> £3,000; 8<sup>th</sup> £2,500; 9<sup>th</sup> £2,000; 10<sup>th</sup> £1,500

Best relative rating achievement:

2500 – 2599	£1,250
2400 – 2499	£1,000
2300 – 2399	£750
2200 – 2299	£500
1900 – 2199	£500

#### **Ladies' Awards**

1<sup>st</sup> £6,000; 2<sup>nd</sup> £3,000; 3<sup>rd</sup> £1,500; 4<sup>th</sup> £1,250; 5<sup>th</sup> £1,000; 6<sup>th</sup> £500

Prizes (including the first prize) shall be shared where players have the same score. No player can win more than one complete prize.

A player forfeits the right to a rating prize if they are absent for the last round.

#### **Tie-break (for deciding who receives the award of a trophy):**

In the event of two players tying for first place in the open (i.e. not applicable to the ladies' awards), the winner of the tournament (plus an extra £500 prize money) will be decided by a play-off on the evening of 1 October, after the completion of all round-9 games. The play-off will consist of two rapid games with a rate of play of 15 minutes plus 10 seconds a move, with colours to be

determined by the toss of a coin. If the rapid match finishes equal then the winner will be determined by Armageddon with 5 minutes for White and 4 minutes for Black, Black having draw odds. A toss of a coin will determine colours.

In the event of three or more players tying for first place, the top two will be determined by tie-break, in the following order of priority, and will enter the play-off described above:

- The results between the players involved in the tie
- Sum of progressive score
- Sum of opponents' scores (Buchholz)
- Sonneborn-Berger
- Number of won games

#### **British Championship Qualifier:**

The highest placed eligible player not already qualified shall qualify for the right to play in the 2017 British Championship, subject to ECF regulations.

#### **Playing schedule:**

Saturday 23 September to Sunday 1 October 2017, 9 rounds, starting 1.30pm daily (12 noon for round 9), approximate 7 hour sessions.

#### **Rate of play:**

100 minutes for 40 moves, followed by 50 minutes for 20 moves, then 15 minutes for the remaining moves, with 30 seconds added per move from the start.

#### **No agreed draws before move 30:**

Draws by mutual agreement in fewer than 30 moves are not allowed. There must be no pre-arrangement to draw games of any length. **Penalties may involve loss of prize money and suspected pre-arrangement may see the players involved not being invited back!**

#### **Byes:**

Players may take one half-point bye in rounds 1 to 8, provided adequate notice is given.

#### **Fees / Appearance money ("conditions"):**

The Tournament Director has invited 56 titled players who have been offered conditions. Any further conditions offered will be STRICTLY BY INVITATION ONLY and so please do not enquire about conditions as you are highly likely to be disappointed!

#### **Conditions of Entry:**

1. Entries must be made online or on an official entry form, unless you have been offered conditions. **After submitting your entry, please wait for a personal email from the Tournament Director confirming your place in the tournament.**
2. Participants are expected to maintain acceptable standards of dress and behaviour.

3. Prize winners are expected to attend the prize giving to be held at approximately 9.00pm on Sunday 1 October 2017 at the Villa Marina, unless they have good reason and give prior notice to the Tournament Director.
4. Every effort is made to place entrants in the section of their choice but the right is reserved to transfer an entry to another appropriate section. The right is reserved to refuse an entry. The Isle of Man International Chess Committee may deduct an administration fee from any refund to players who withdraw.
5. England and Isle of Man players **MUST** be members of the English Chess Federation both at the date of entry and at the date of the first round of the tournament. Gold or Platinum membership is required for entry into the Masters. Quote your membership number on the entry form.
6. Masters entrants must quote their FIDE ID code on the entry form.

Entry to the Masters is deemed to be acceptance of these conditions.

#### **Registration and first round pairings:**

All players in the Masters tournament should register in person by 6.00pm, Friday 22 September at the Villa Marina. If unable to do so, they **MUST** contact the Tournament Director (Alan Ormsby: mobile 07624 453200 or email: [masters@iominternationalchess.com](mailto:masters@iominternationalchess.com)) to either confirm their arrival on the island or to confirm their travel plans.

The intention is that pairings for the first round will be issued no later than 10.00pm, Friday 22 September. Players who have yet to reach the island, or have failed to make contact with the Tournament Director, may be provisionally paired against each other. Provisional pairings may be subject to late change at the discretion of the arbiter.

#### **Swiss Pairing System, including a random draw for the first round pairings:**

The first round draw to determine pairings will be fully random, i.e. any player can be paired against any other player. The draw for the top seeds will be public. Lower seed pairings will be made at random by computer. This is a brief step-by-step process:

1. Number 1 seed draws manually for colour and his opponent is chosen by drawing a number from a bag.
2. The next highest seed still in the bag takes the opposite colour from the number 1 seed and draws a number from the bag, determining his opponent.
3. This process is repeated to produce the first 8 pairings. If a player draws their own number then it is put back into the bag and the player draws another number.
4. The process is handed over to the computer to produce the remaining pairings, with the stronger player in each fixture having the opposite colour to the stronger player on the board above.

As of round 2, pairings will be made according to the Dutch Swiss pairing system, using the most recent Swiss-Manager pairing program.

#### **Default time:**

Players arriving 30 minutes or more after the start of a session shall lose, unless the arbiter decides otherwise.

### **Anti-cheating measures**

The organisers and team of arbiters take anti-cheating measures very seriously, the most visible measure being the use of hand-held metal detectors for random checks of players before every round. We will also be using two independent statistical systems to evaluate all the games played, one of which will be Chess.com's "Fair Play Detection System".

### **Payment of prizes:**

Prizes shall be paid by cheque. However, after the prize presentation, a cheque can be replaced by an electronic wire transfer or PayPal payment by giving your bank account details to the Tournament Director.

For prizes totalling £250 or less, the cheque can be exchanged for cash. **For prizes over £250, cash will NOT be paid under any circumstances. NO EXCEPTIONS!**

### **Contact:**

Tournament organised by the Isle of Man International Chess Committee

Chairman and Tournament Director: Alan Ormsby

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**29 March 2017**