

80th Tata Steel Chess Tournament, 12-28 January 2018 in Wijk aan Zee

The tournament has two main player groups, each with 14 players. They are known as the Tata Steel Masters and the Tata Steel Challengers.

Playing hall and starting times

All games will be played in De Moriaan, in Wijk aan Zee (except from rounds 5 and 10 in the Tata Steel Masters). Each round in Wijk aan Zee the games start at 13:30 hours. Exception is the last round, when all groups start at 12:00 hours.

The rounds in ‚Chess on Tour‘ will start at 14:00 hours.

Schedule Tata Steel Masters and Tata Steel Challengers:

Saturday 13 January 1st Round
Sunday 14 January 2nd Round
Monday 15 January 3rd Round
Tuesday 16 January 4th Round
Wednesday 17 January 5th round (Tata Steel Masters in Hilversum)
Thursday 18 January Free day
Friday 19 January 6th Round
Saturday 20 January 7th Round
Sunday 21 January 8th Round
Monday 22 January Free day
Tuesday 23 January 9th Round
Wednesday 24 January 10th Round (Tata Steel Masters in Groningen)
Thursday 25 January Free day
Friday 26 January 11th Round
Saturday 27 January 12th Round
Sunday 28 January 13th Round

Tournament rules

FIDE's Laws of Chess will apply.

14 Players are to take part in both Tournaments

The Tournament is a round-robin event;

The Tournament consists of 13 rounds.

The time control is 100 min for 40 moves + 50 min for 20 moves + 15 min for the rest of the game with an increment of 30 seconds per move, starting from move 1.

Regulations mobile phones

According to Article 11.3.2.1 of the FIDE Laws of Chess, during a game, a player is forbidden to have any electronic devices (i.e. including mobile phones) in the playing venue. We expect that all players in the two main tournaments will respect this regulation. There is also a camera (in closed circuit) installed in the coffee room, since FIDE has sharpened the regulations for the abuse of mobile phones and tablets, we will be extra strict and alert (also in the amateur events). We will also make the audience aware of the strict rules.

Ethical rules

All ethical rules have to be respected. We make the next ethical rules for players obligatory:

1. Talking in the playing area is not allowed. Players can only talk to the Arbiter(s) and to their opponent (in case of a draw or resigning). The Arbiters will be very strict in case players are talking to other persons.
2. Players are not allowed to leave the 'playing venue' without permission of the Arbiter. The playing venue is defined as the playing area, rest rooms, refreshment area, an area set aside for smoking (see next) and other places as designated by the Arbiter.
3. Handshake with your opponent before the start, and after the finish, of your game.
4. Being present in the playing hall when your game starts (13.30 hours in De Moriaan and 14.00 in rounds 5 and 10 for the Tata Steel Masters). Default time up to Article (6.7) of FIDE Rules is 30 minutes.

Additional competition rules

1. The players start the clocks themselves, after the gong signal.
2. The players are required to record their moves in any phase of the game.
3. Analyzing is not allowed in the playing hall.
4. Only the players and Arbiters will be allowed into the actual playing area, except with the express permission of the Chief Arbiter
5. Flash photography may be used only in the first 10 minutes of the playing session in the first round. In the rounds 2-13 this time is limited till 7 minutes.
6. Players of the Tata Steel Challengers are not allowed to enter the closed area of the boards of "Tata Steel Masters" (on the elevated part of the stage).
7. Players who have finished their games shall be considered to be spectators, Art. 11.4 of the FIDE Laws of Chess (up to conditions).
8. There is a ban of bringing bags to the playing venue (except "ladies-handbag").
9. We expect all players to read the Tournament Regulations and obey them.
10. The English text of these Tournament Regulations is the authentic version.

Determination of winner Tata Steel Masters

In case two or more players share first place, there will be a play-off after the last round, during the closing ceremony (on Sunday 28. January 2018). The time control depends on the number of shared winners and will be determined by the chief arbiter (Blitz or rapid, in both cases with increment). The money prizes will be shared, just like all other prizes (see the attached letter with prize fund details).

Promotion rules Tata Steel Challengers

The winner of the Tata Steel Challengers will receive an invitation for the Tata Steel Masters of next year. In case of an equal score, the winner will be determined according to the following rules respectively:

- a. The mutual result
- b. The Sonneborn-Berger score
- c. The Player with more number of games with black
- d. Drawing of lots