**Rapid & Blitz Rating Regulations**

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| **Article (Old)** | **Old Version****1 July 2018 to 31 December 2021** | **New Version****1 January 2022** | **Note** |
| 0.1 | The following regulations shall be altered by the General Assembly upon recommendation of the Qualification Commission (QC).Any such changes shall come into effect on 1st July of the year following the decision by the General Assembly. For tournaments, such changes will apply to those starting on or after that date. | The following regulations may be altered by the FIDE Council upon recommendation of the Qualification Commission (QC).For tournaments, changes will apply to those starting on or after the date upon which they become effective. | FIDE Charter now requires changes to be made by Council not the General Assembly.The application date is now included as part of the regulations. 1st January chosen in order to be consistent with the standardplay rating list implementation date. |
| 0.2 | The tournaments to be rated shall be pre-registered by the federation that will be responsible for the submission of results and rating fees. The tournament and its playing schedule must be registered three days before the tournament starts. The QC Chairman may refuse to register a tournament. He may also allow a tournament to be rated even though it has been registered less than three days before the tournament starts. Tournaments where norms will be available must be registered 30 days in advance. | The tournaments to be rated shall be pre-registered by the federation in whose territory it is held and they will be responsible for the submission of results and rating fees. Council may additionally designate these rights and responsibilities to Affiliated Organisations that are representing an autonomous territory which is contained within no more than one Federation.The tournament and its playing schedule must be registered three days before the tournament starts. The QC Chairman may refuse to register a tournament. He may also allow a tournament to be rated even though it has been registered less than three days before the tournament starts.All tournaments played under Hybrid conditions as described in 2.1 must be approved individually by the QC Chairman. | This copies the rule from the main rating regulations (as amended on 1 February 2021).The “Affiliated Organisations (…)” is for the Isle of Man motion passed by Council at the 2020 General Assembly.Hybrid rapid and blitz tournaments are now permitted for rating. |
| 0.3 | All arbiters of a FIDE rated tournament shall be licensed otherwise the tournament shall not be rated. | \*\* deleted \*\* | This is not a change – it is just a relocation of the regulation by mutual agreement between ARB and QC. |
| 2.1 | Play must take place according to the FIDE Laws of Chess. | Play shall be governed by the FIDE Laws of Chess or the Regulations for Hybrid Chess Competitions (Part IIIb within the FIDE Online Chess Regulations). | A logical consequence of the change in 0.2 permitting FIDE rated hybrid tournaments. |
| 4.1 | For tournaments, a period not greater than 30 days, but the QC Chairman may give prior approval to tournaments of a longer duration. | \*\* deleted \*\* | QC is not aware of any rapid or blitz tournaments that last this long! |
| 5.1 | Whether these occur because of forfeiture or any other reason, they are not counted. Any game where both players have made at least one move will be rated. | Whether these occur because of forfeiture or any other reason, they are not counted. Except in case of force majeure, any game where both players have made at least one move will be rated, unless the regulations relating to Fair Play require otherwise. | For example: If a player is taken ill during a game and is unable to finish it. |
| 6.1 | If an unrated player scores zero in his first tournament, his score and that of his opponents against him are disregarded. Otherwise if an unrated player has played rated games, then this result is included in computing his overall rating. | \*\* deleted \*\* | The whole section 6.1 to 6.4 has been deleted. It was written on the assumption that FIDE rates tournaments. However, the emphasis has now shifted such that FIDE rates games, and not tournaments. Thus all of this section is unnecessary.6.2 formally removes the iteration process as a means of gaining an initial rating, a consequence of the prior reduction from 9 games against rated opponents to 5 to get a rating.6.3 is covered elsewhere and reduced to a 1/2 point. |
| 6.2 | In a round-robin tournament at least one-third of the players must be rated. Subject to this requirement,If the tournament has less than 10 players, at least 4 must be rated.In a double round-robin tournament with unrated participants, there must be at least 6 players, 4 of whom must be rated.National Championships played as round-robin shall be rated if at least 3 players (or 2 women in events exclusively for women) had official FIDE Ratings before the start of the tournament. | \*\* deleted \*\* |
| 6.3 | In a Swiss or Team Tournament:For an unrated player’s first performance to count, he must score at least 1 point.For rated players, only games against rated opponents are counted. | \*\* deleted \*\* |
| 6.4 | In the case of a round-robin tournament where one or more games are unplayed, the results of the tournament must be reported for rating as if for a Swiss system tournament. | \*\* deleted \*\* |
| 6.5 | Where a match is over a specific number of games, those played after one player has won shall not be rated. | Where a match is over a specific number of games, those played after one player has won shall not be rated. This requirement may be waived by prior request. | It has been possible for “dead” games to be rated in the past, but this makes it normal. |
| 7.1 | On the first day of each month, the QC shall prepare a list which incorporates the rated play during the rating period into the previous list. This shall be done using the rating system formula. | On the first day of each month, FIDE shall prepare a list which incorporates all rated play during the rating period into the previous list. This shall be done using the rating system formula. | In practice, the list is prepared by the Elista Office staff, specifically Vladimir Kukaev. QC’s role is limited to instructing Vladimir that it is safe for him to do so! |
| 7.14 | A rating for a player new to the list shall be published only if it meets the following criteria:If based on results obtained under 6.3, a minimum of 5 games.If based on results obtained under 6.4, a minimum of 5 games played against rated opponents.The condition of a minimum of 5 games need not be met in one tournament. Results from other tournaments played within consecutive rating periods of not more than 26 months are pooled to obtain the initial rating.The rating is at least 1000.The rating is calculated using all his results as if they were played in one tournament (it is not published until he has played at least 5 games) by using all the rating data available. | A rating for a player new to the list shall be published when it is based on 5 games against rated opponents. This need not be met in one tournament. Results from other tournaments played within consecutive rating periods of not more than 26 months are pooled to obtain the initial rating. The rating must be at least 1000. | This is a logical consequence of the deletions in 6.1. |
| 7.21 | Players whose ratings drop below 1000 are listed on the next list as 'delisted'. Thereafter they are treated in the same manner as any other unrated player. | Players whose ratings drop below 1000 are shown as unrated on the next list. Thereafter they are treated in the same manner as any other unrated player. | “Delisted” has come to mean the act of a Federation wilfully removing a player from the rating list. This removes that word. |
| 7.22 | Titled players who are unrated are published in a separate list concurrently with the list of rated players. | \*\* deleted \*\* | QC was aware that this is not done in practice, and saw no reason why it should be done – such information is available freely on ratings.fide.com if people want to look them up. |
| 7.23 | Inactive players are considered rated at their most recent published rating for purposes of rating and title results. | \*\* deleted \*\* | QC believed that this was implied as true if the regulation were deleted. |
| 8.21 | If an unrated player scores zero in his first event his score is disregarded.First determine the average rating of his competition 'Rc'.(a) In a Swiss or Team tournament: this is simply the average rating of his opponents.(b) The results of both rated and unrated players in a round-robin tournament are taken into account. For unrated players, the average rating of the competition 'Rc' is also the tournament average 'Ra' determined as follows:(i) Determine the average rating of the rated players 'Rar'.(ii) Determine p for each of the rated players against all their opponents.Then determine dp for each of these players. Then determine the average of these dp = 'dpa'.(iii) 'n' is the number of opponents.Ra = Rar - dpa x n/(n+1) | \*\* deleted \*\* | This is a logical consequence of the deletion in 6.1. |
| 8.3 | The Rating Rn which is to be published for a previously unrated player is then determined as if the new player had played all his games so far in one tournament. The initial rating is calculated using the total score against all opponents. It is rounded to the nearest whole number. | \*\* deleted \*\* | This is a logical consequence of the deletion in 6.1. |
| 8.54 | A difference in rating of more than 735 points shall be counted for rating purposes as though it were a difference of 735 points. | A difference in rating of more than 400 points shall be counted for rating purposes as though it were a difference of 400 points. In any tournament, a player may benefit from only one upgrade under this rule, for the game in which the rating difference is greatest. | The rule reverts to a 400 points to bring it into line with standardplay, but this exemption only occurs for 1 game. This is designed to minimise exploitation of the rating system by continually playing weak opponents. |
| 8.57 | The Rating Change is rounded to the nearest whole number. 0.5 is rounded up (whether the change is positive or negative). | The Rating Change for a Rating Period is rounded to the nearest whole number. 0.5 is rounded away from zero. | This is a change of language, but no change of substance or practice. |
| 8.58 | Determining the Ratings in a round-robin tournament. Where unrated players take part, their ratings are determined by a process of iteration. These new ratings are then used to determine the rating change for the rated players.Then the ΔR for each of the rated players for each game is determined using Ru(new) as if an established rating. | \*\* deleted \*\* | This is a logical consequence of the deletion in 6.1. |
| 9.1 | The Chief Arbiter of a FIDE registered tournament has to provide the tournament report (TRF file) within 7 days after the end of the tournament to the Rating Officer of the federation where the tournament took place. The Rating Officer shall be responsible for uploading the TRF file to the FIDE Rating Server not later than 30 days after the end of the tournament. | The Chief Arbiter of a FIDE registered tournament must provide the tournament report (TRF file) to the Rating Officer of the federation where the tournament took place.Once satisfied that the tournament was conducted in accordance with all relevant FIDE Regulations, the Rating Officer shall be responsible for uploading the TRF file to the FIDE Rating Server. This should be done in time for the tournament to be rated in the monthly list in which the tournament is registered or, if there are five days or less from the last day of the tournament to the end of the month, for the following list.If the tournament report is not submitted in time to be included in the third rating list after it ends, the tournament will not be rated. | It is up to Federations to give a deadline to their arbiters to send in a TRF – FIDE does not care so long as it receives the file in time for its deadlines!The deadline a logical consequence of the change in 4.1. It is reduced such that rating files should be submitted in time for that rating list, with some flexibility at the end of the month.QC provides some flexibility for very late submissions; this is now clearly written in the rules.Financial penalties for missing these deadlines are set out in the FIDE Financial Regulations. |
| 9.2 | Results of all international competitions must be submitted for rating unless the original invitations have made it clear the event was not to be FIDE rated. The chief arbiter must also announce this to the players before the tournament starts. | The regulations of a rated event must make clear that it will be rated. | This better reflects reality, where tournament entry forms say whether or not the tournament will be FIDE-rated. It also changes the emphasis to say that tournaments must opt-in to FIDE rating not opt-out; an issue in countries with their own national rating lists. |
| 9.3 | Each national federation shall designate an official to coordinate and expedite qualification and rating matters. His name and details must be given to the FIDE Secretariat. | Each national federation shall designate a Rating Officer to coordinate and expedite qualification and rating matters. Their name and details must be given to the FIDE Secretariat. | The official now has a title, and the gender-specific pronoun is removed. |
| 1011 | One of the functions of Congress is to establish the policies under which FIDE titles and ratings are awarded. The function of the rating system is to produce scientific measurement information of the best statistical quality to enable Congress to award equal titles for equal proficiencies of players. Thus the rating system must be properly scientifically maintained and adjusted on both a short and long term basis.The rating scale is arbitrary and open ended. Thus only differences in ratings have any statistical significance in terms of probability. Thus if the composition of the FIDE Rating pool were to change, the rating scale could drift with respect to the true proficiency of the players. It is a major objective to ensure the integrity of the system so that ratings of the same value from year to year represent the same proficiency of play.Part of the responsibilities of the Rating System Administrator is to detect any drift in the rating scale.A sufficient knowledge of statistical probability theory as it applies to measurements in the physical and behavioural sciences.Ability to design the surveys described under 12.3; to interpret the results of the surveys; and to recommend the Qualification Commission whatever measures are needed to preserve the integrity of the rating system.To be able to advise and assist any FIDE member federation in the establishment of a national rating system.To display a level of objectivity comparable to that of a FIDE Arbiter. | \*\* deleted \*\* | All very interesting, but they are not regulations. |
| 12.1 | To be included in the FRL or FIDE Rapid/Blitz Rating Lists, a player must be registered through a national chess federation which is a member of FIDE. The Federation must not be temporarily or permanently excluded from membership. | To be included in the FIDE Rating List, a player must be registered through a national chess federation which is a member of FIDE, unless otherwise approved by FIDE Council. The Federation must not be temporarily or permanently excluded from membership. | References to the main FRL are included in those regulations.“Unless otherwise approvved by FIDE Council” is flexibility for (e.g.) Bulgaria, when their membership was suspended but they were permitted to submit tournaments for rating. |
| 12.2 | It is the responsibility of national Federations to inform FIDE if players should not be included in the FRL. | It is the responsibility of the federation to report deaths of their players to FIDE. | Delisting is covered in other regulations. |
| 12.3 | Any player excluded from the rating list because he is unable to obtain membership of a national federation, may apply to FIDE for special dispensation to be included in the list. | \*\* deleted \*\* | Regulations regarding FID now exist. |