**Checkmate Covid-19**

**Prizes, Rules and FAQ**

**Prizes and the Rules.**

Because the prizes are very subjective and one man’s meat is another man’s poison, we have decided that the first 10 prizes shall be chosen in order by the winners, subject to the constraints of the other rules such as no mailings outside the UK – a rule designed to avoid high postage costs and preserve funds for the British Red Cross.

In other words, if the winner of the tournament is John Smith, living in the UK, he gets first choice and he can choose any prize except for those U1800 FIDE rating or juniors (unless he also falls into those categories).

Then we will approach the second placed player and tell him or her what has gone and they will make their choice and so on for the first ten prizes.

After that the prizes will be allocated as per the list order below with the exception that any player in a sub-group – either a junior or an U1800 player, who is not in the first ten, will get the first available prize for their subgroup rather than the next prize in the longer list. If the prizes for the sub-groups have gone the player will get the next prize in the main list.

We will accept Chess.com’s decisions on all matters relating to fair play, and players with a chess.com account closure for fair play reasons will not initially be eligible for a prize. They will however be entitled to appeal the prize award to the ECF who will consider an appropriate way forward on a case by case basis. Appeals should be made within 5 working days of the judgement.

Please note the English Chess Federation have donated £300 directly to the British Red Cross coffers and our only cost to be taken from that is postage and packing, so if you have won a prize and would prefer for us to save the postage costs and the money go to the British Red Cross please let us know.

All the other rules are the normal ones that apply for a Chess.com Arena tournament (see below).

**Checkmate Covid-19 - FAQ**

A 24-hour chess marathon of 5 minute a side games in aid of the British Red Cross

**When?**It starts at 5pm (UK time) on Saturday 23rd May and runs until the same time on Sunday.

One hour before the tournament starts you will be able to join at <https://www.chess.com/live#r=194078>

**Who can play?**Anyone who is a member of chess.com and the Open Club <https://www.chess.com/club/english-chess-federation> is welcome to play. The Club is open to all (you do not need to be a member of the ECF)

**Is there a minimum number of games?**

You can play as many or as few games as you like over the course of the 24 hours.

**It is an Arena tournament - how do they work?**

As it’s an Arena Tournaments you are trying to score as many points as you can in the 24 hours it is running. There are no rounds in an Arena Tournament. Players are paired nonstop after their games until the timer runs out unless, of course, they have paused the tournament and not re-joined.

A win is worth 2 points, a draw is worth 1 point, and a loss is worth 0. If you win multiple games in a row, the value of each successive win increases! For your 2nd win in a row, you'll receive 3 points. For your 3rd win in a row and every consecutive win thereafter, you'll receive 4 points.

**Does it cost money to enter?**

You do not have to donate (although it would be very much appreciated). Note: to win one of the prizes you need to have donated at least £5. The ‘physical’ prizes, for example, signed books, are only open to those with UK addresses.

