RULES AND REGULATIONS

International Draughts Tournament (100 squares)
MIAMI OPEN – 2027

All amounts are stated in U.S. dollars. All times are local.

1. Purpose and Organizer

The organizer is the National Draughts Federation of the USA (NDF-USA), whose membership geographically includes players from various states across the country. NDF-USA is not a member of the FMJD, but in its work it cooperates with FMJD and follows its principles and supports its objectives while developing draughts in the United States and organizing MIAMI OPEN – 2027.

The objectives of the MIAMI OPEN tournaments are

-to develop international draughts in the United States and the Americas;

-attract children and young people; promote FMJD ideas within the draughts community;

-popularize draughts through broadcasts, digital platforms, and social media;

-develop Miami as a center for mind sports; ensure fair play and transparency in competition;

-strengthen friendship among people of different countries and faiths.

NDF-USA plans to hold the tournament annually, expand international participation, and organize parallel competitions for children and youth in the future.

2. Venue and Accommodation

The official hotel and tournament venue is Residence Inn by Marriott Miami Sunny Isles Beach, 17700 Collins Ave, Sunny Isles Beach, FL 33160; telephone: +1 (305) 933-5224.

The hotel is located near the Atlantic Ocean beach, with cafés and restaurants nearby. Rooms are equipped with a kitchen, refrigerator, microwave, coffee maker, shower, television, air conditioning, telephone, safe, and high-speed internet. An outdoor swimming pool and fitness room are available. The organizers will provide bottled water to participants during rounds.

The rate is $150 per room per night for single or double occupancy; a place in a double-occupancy room costs $75 per night. Breakfast for two guests is included in the room rate. The room rate is not reduced for single occupancy. Two additional nights before and two nights after the official tournament dates are available at the same rate, subject to room availability.

A credit card is required at check-in for the hotel’s security deposit. Participants are responsible for their personal expenses, parking, and any damage they cause. A special parking rate of $15 per day is available to participants.

The room rate is $150 per night and includes accommodation and breakfast for all guests staying in the room: up to two adults in a room with one King bed, or up to four adults in a room with two Queen beds. No additional charge is made for guests or breakfast within these occupancy limits. Single occupancy in a King room is also $150 per night, as the rate is per room, not per person.

Travelers may use either Fort Lauderdale Airport (FLL) or Miami International Airport (MIA). Participants should choose the airport based on airfare and transfer costs.

3. Dates, preliminary schedule, and format

The tournament will take place September 4-12, 2027. All times are local.

Date	Program
September 4	Arrival and registration; hotel check-in from 4:00 p.m.; technical meeting at 7:00 p.m.
September 5	Opening ceremony at 10:00 a.m.; Round 1 at 11:00 a.m.
September 6	Round 2 at 9:00 a.m.; Round 3 at 4:00 p.m.
September 7	Round 4 at 9:00 a.m.
September 8	Round 5 at 9:00 a.m.; Round 6 at 4:00 p.m.
September 9	Round 7 at 9:00 a.m.
September 10	Round 8 at 9:00 a.m.; Round 9 at 4:00 p.m.
September 11	Blitz at 9:00 a.m.; closing ceremony at 4:00 p.m.
September 12	Departure; rooms must be vacated by 11:00 a.m.

Both competitions will be held under FMJD rules, using the Swiss system, over 9 rounds.

Time control: Classic -1 hour 20 minutes plus 1 minute per move; Blitz — 5 minutes plus 3 seconds per move (Fischer increment).

In the event of a tie on points, the full truncated Solkoff coefficient will be applied in accordance with Rule 3.1(d): the lowest opponent score is successively excluded from the total of opponents' points, then the two lowest, three lowest, and so on, until the tie is broken.

4. Prizes

The total prize fund is $15,000, including $13,500 for Classic and $1,500 for Blitz.

Place	Classic	Blitz
1st	$4,000	$800
2nd	$3,000	$500
3rd	$2,200	$200
4th	$1,400	—
5th	$800	—
6th	$600	—
7th	$400	—
8th	$200	—

The top three finishers in each competition will also receive trophies and certificates.

Additional Classic prizes: best result among women — $500, provided at least five women participate;

best combination, selected by the organizers — $100;

best results among U16 players — $150, $100, and $50 for 1st, 2nd, and 3rd place, respectively.

5. Participants and Entry Fees

MIAMI OPEN – 2027 is a private international tournament organized by the nonprofit organization NDF-USA. The capacity of the playing hall and hotel is limited. Subject to the priority established for NDF-USA members, preference is given to players who submit applications earlier and, after approval, pay the tournament entry fee and, if booking hotel accommodation, the accommodation deposit on time.

Applications from foreign players and U.S. players who are not NDF-USA members are subject to approval by the NDF-USA Board. Approval is confirmed by including the participant on the Players List; no separate confirmation is required. Participation does not require leaving any other organization or federation.

Category	Classic	Blitz	Additional payments
NDF-USA members	$100	$30	2027 membership fee: $50
Invited foreign players	$120	$30	No administrative fee
U.S. players who are not NDF-USA members	$120	$30	Administrative fee: $60

The standard Classic entry fee is $120. The reduced fee for NDF-USA members reflects their membership payments and support for the Federation’s activities. The administrative fee covers organizational expenses for U.S. participants outside the NDF-USA membership system.

Invited foreign participants are exempt from the administrative fee to support international participation and sporting ties, raise the tournament’s level, and take account of significant international travel expenses. Bringing well-known players from different countries gives U.S. players a unique opportunity to compete against them without leaving the country.

For all visiting players staying outside the official hotel, the Classic and Blitz entry fees increase by 50%: Classic — $150 for NDF-USA members and $180 for all others; Blitz — $45. Membership and administrative fees apply according to the relevant category. Local players staying at home do not pay this surcharge.

The organizers reserve the right to refuse participation to a person if publicly available information establishes that the person’s actions or public statements are contrary to fair sporting competition or international law, or are intended to discredit participants or organizations, including through support for internationally recognized acts of aggression.

6. Applications, Priority, and Confirmation of Places

Applications should be sent to aakselrud@aol.com, with copies to ndfederation.usa@gmail.com and alexrud41948@gmail.com. The application must state the desired accommodation dates, whether a bed/place or an entire room is requested, and, if applicable, the name of the roommate.

Inclusion of a player's name on the published Players List confirms approval to participate, but does not guarantee a place definitively until payment is made on time. Players are responsible for monitoring updates to the list through the "Calendar 2027" section of the FMJD website or through the NDF website, ndf-usa.com. Individual notifications to each participant will not be sent.

Within 30 calendar days after first being added to the Players List, a player must pay the tournament entry fee and, if booking the official hotel, a deposit for three nights. Any applicable administrative fee must be paid at the same time. Receipt of the required payments on time confirms participation and the accommodation booking.

For NDF-USA members, the priority deadline for payment of the membership and tournament fees and, for those booking the hotel, the accommodation deposit is February 19, 2027. After this date, a priority place is not guaranteed; further participation depends on availability and confirmation by the organizers.

For all other players, payment is due within 30 days after being added to the list, but no later than August 2, 2027, inclusive. Being added to the list later does not extend this final deadline. Acceptance of hotel deposits ends after August 2, and accommodation is no longer guaranteed.

If payment is not made within the required 30-day period, the player loses the guarantee of participation and accommodation and may be moved to the waiting list. Before making payment after the deadline has expired, the player must obtain renewed confirmation from the organizers.

When all available places in the playing hall or hotel have been filled, further applications will be placed on a waiting list. If places become available, the organizers will confirm whether participation and payment are possible. Subject to these rules, priority is given to participants who first confirmed participation by making the required payments. Do not pay before being added to the main Players List or without renewed confirmation after a guarantee has been lost.

7. Hotel Reservations and Payments

The deposit for three nights is $225 per place in a double-occupancy room or $450 for an entire room. When booking multiple rooms, the deposit increases proportionally to the number of rooms.

When booking an entire room for oneself, one's family, or a chosen roommate, the full room deposit for three nights must be paid. If two players book together, both surnames must be provided; the $450 room deposit and each player's entry fees according to their

category must be paid. When booking one place, the deposit is $225, and the organizers may assign a second participant to the room at their discretion. If a player wishes to choose a roommate but has not yet found one, the player must book the entire room; any settlement between roommates is their own responsibility.

The tournament entry fee and hotel deposit must be sent to NDF-USA in a single payment.

The remaining balance for all reserved nights must be received no later than August 25, 2027. An exception may be made where payment of the balance in cash in USD on September 4, before hotel check-in, has been agreed with the organizers in writing in advance.

Check-in will not be permitted if the full accommodation cost has not been paid.

The Blitz entry fee may be paid in advance by bank transfer, PayPal, or Zelle, or in cash before the competition begins.

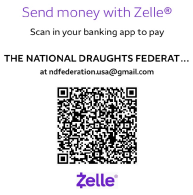
Payment methods:

- Bank transfer: Wells Fargo Bank, NA; bank address: 420 Montgomery St., San Francisco, CA 94104; beneficiary: The National Draughts Federation of the USA Inc; account number: 8161925824; beneficiary address: 2739 NW 54th Ave., Margate, FL 33063. International SWIFT/BIC: WFBIUS6S; domestic U.S. bank transfers ABA/RTN: 121000248. Add $15 to cover the bank's incoming-payment fee; the sender pays any other transfer charges.

- PayPal: ndfederation.usa@gmail.com; recipient: The National Draughts Federation of the USA. Under the organizers' policy, add a 3.7% PayPal transfer fee to the payment.



- Zelle: ndfederation.usa@gmail.com; recipient: The National Draughts Federation of the USA. No additional $15 fee is required.



Payments must be made in USD, and the organizers must receive the full amount due. Payment confirmation showing the players' surnames and payment purpose must be sent simultaneously to alexrud41948@gmail.com, ndfederation.usa@gmail.com, and tharutyunyan1992@gmail.com.

8. Withdrawal and Refunds

A participant withdrawing for any reason must send a message simultaneously to the three email addresses listed in Section 7 for payment confirmations. The withdrawal date is the date on which the organizers receive the message.

- Membership fee: non-refundable.
- Classic entry fee: refundable if withdrawal is received on or before August 2, 2027; non-refundable after that date.
- Administrative fee: if the participant withdraws, it will be refunded along with other refundable payments, less any applicable costs of the return bank transfer.
- Blitz entry fee: refundable if withdrawal is received at least 3 hours before the Blitz tournament begins; non-refundable for a later withdrawal.
- Accommodation: the amount retained is limited to the cost of a maximum of three nights for each booked place or room. Any accommodation payment exceeding this retained amount will be refunded.

Withdrawal date in 2027	Retention per place	Retention for entire room
Before August 24	$0	$0
August 24	$75	$150
August 25	$150	$300
After August 25	$225	$450

For multiple places or rooms, retained amounts are calculated proportionally. Any applicable costs of the return bank transfer will be deducted from the refund.

Refunds will be made to the original payer, using the same method and the same account from which the payment was received. Refunds will be issued no later than September 30, 2027.

Registration and payment of the tournament entry fee confirm the participant's acceptance of the MIAMI OPEN – 2027 Rules and Regulations.

9. Officiating, Appeals, and Requirements

Chief referee: Andriy Shcherbatyuk. Deputy referees: Alex Akselrud and Leonard Voronov.

A three-person Appeals Jury will be announced before the competition begins. Appeals must be submitted in writing within 20 minutes after the end of a game, accompanied by a $100 deposit. The deposit will be returned if the appeal is upheld.

Conversation in the playing hall is prohibited. The use of electronic devices during a game is prohibited. If a phone rings or any phone function is used after a round has begun, the player loses the game.

Participants must arrive no later than 5 minutes before a round begins. Being 30 minutes late results in a loss.

Attendance at the opening and closing ceremonies is mandatory. If a player is absent, the organizers may choose not to invite that player to future MIAMI OPEN tournaments.

Dresscode: beachwear; clothing with profanity or images of nude or semi-nude people; excessively revealing clothing; shorts; torn trousers or jeans; visibly dirty clothing; sunglasses; and sports caps are prohibited in the playing hall for players, coaches, and delegation leaders. A participant who fails to comply with these requirements will not be admitted to the current round.

10. Visa Support and Contacts

Requests for visa support should be sent to Alex Akselrud at aakselrud@aol.com, with copies to ndfederation.usa@gmail.com and alexrud41948@gmail.com. The following information is required: full name as shown in the passport, date of birth, citizenship, residential address, passport number, dates and place of issue, and expiration date.

NDF-USA: www.ndf-usa.com; ndfederation.usa@gmail.com.

- Andriy Shcherbatyuk: +1 (954) 952-9743, ndfederation.usa@gmail.com — general information.
- Alexander Rudnitsky: +1 (786) 543-1034, alexrud41948@gmail.com — general information.
- Alex Akselrud: +1 (847) 420-4007, aakselrud@aol.com — visa support.