

Blindfold Chess Exhibition 2016

GM Timur Gareyev



Organizer's Manual



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BLINDFOLD CHESS EXHIBITION ORGANIZER MANUAL

Dear Chess Organizer:

Thank you for your interest in hosting a Blindfold Chess Exhibition with Blindfold Chess Expert GM Timur Gareyev.

We would like your event to go smoothly and have created this guide to help answer any questions you may have.

We are excited to work with you to create a unique chess experience and plan to create memories for you and your chess club participants for years to come.

Feel free to contact us at blindfoldking@gmail.com with any further questions or feedback.

www.blindfoldking.com





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PRICING:

Blindfold Chess Events:	Cost:	Appx. Time:	Notes:
10 person blindfold simul	\$1,000	3 hours	
15 person blindfold simul	\$1,500	5 hours	
20 person blindfold simul	\$2,100	7-8 hours	
30 person blindfold simul	\$5,000	11-12 hours	
Blindfold Blitz		3 hours	
Special Events:	Contact for cost		
64 Game Blitz Breakthrough		12-13 hours	
Chess Lecture	\$500	3 hours	
Full Day Workshop	\$1,000	6 hours of instructions	8 hour day (lunch and breaks)
Traditional Simul	\$500-800	2-4 hours	10-20 participants
Side Events:			
Group Lessons	\$180/hr		Group of 3-5
One on One Lessson	\$100/hr		

Travel Expenses are additional to fees above.

We try to schedule multiple events in adjacent cities to limit travel expenses. If a family is willing to host Timur in their home, it will save on travel costs. Once we have a date and a location, we can give you an estimate on travel costs.

We have found that some chess clubs charge an entry fee to their participants to help offset the cost to the organizer. Others have found local businesses to sponsor their events.

SCHEDLUING AN EVENT:

Once a date and location are set, we will put the event on the calendar and provide a link on the www.blindfoldking.com website to your site or any flyer you provide with registration and event details.



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ROOM SET UP:

The Room for a Blindfold Simul should be large enough to hold both participants and spectators.

1. Participant tables should be set up in a U-shape or L-shape with space for spectators to walk behind the players. Do not back them up to a wall.
2. Provide a comfortable chair or stability ball for Timur to sit on. If you can also provide a stationary bike, that is preferred.
3. Timur prefers to have a side table or chair next to him to hold snacks and water. This table must be at bar height if on an exercise.
4. Do not place Timur near a door way or where foot traffic flows.
5. Timur needs to have a quiet room free of competing noise.
6. Please have some chess clocks on hand in case a few games run long and Timur needs to put a clock on the game.
7. Timur requires all games to be recorded using a scoresheet. He will need to be provided with the correct notation of each game at the conclusion of the event. This may be a photo-copy of the original scoresheet.

Here are some examples of room set up from past events.





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BOARD SET UP:

Boards should be set up alternating colors. Board 1-White, Board 2-Black and so on.

THE MOVER:

There needs to be someone assigned to be the MOVER. This is an important responsibility because this person is Timur's eyes, ears and hands. This person must have command of the board and know chess notation. This person will move Timur's pieces for him and look out for illegal moves of the participants and make sure participants wait until board is called.



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BREAKS:

Timur will need a 10-15 minute break after 2 hours. He will use this time to use the restroom and stretch out his legs. Try to not disturb him by engaging him in lengthy discussions during his breaks. There will be time to talk to him, take photos and have him sign boards after the simul.

PARTICIPANTS:

Participants can be of all ages and rating levels. We find it is helpful to have a printed participation sheet next to each board with the participants BOARD NUMBER, NAME, AGE, RATING. This helps if press is present to communicate who the players are in any photos.

THE RULES:

1. The room must be library quiet. The most distracting is that of a loud whisper.
2. All participants need to be ready with their move when they hear their BOARD number called out.
3. All moves should be called out using chess notation from where the piece is and where it is being move to. (e2 to e4)
4. All cell phones OFF.
5. Players may have water with them at their boards, but no loud wrappers and eating during the match.
6. Players will have time to get up and use the bathroom before their BOARD is called again. Interruptions needs to be kept at a minimum. Players must be back at their seat and ready with their move when their BOARD is called.



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7. Players should record games. Timur can sign their scoresheets after the match and also it serves as a record if Timur hears a wrong move and has to go back and replay the game.
8. When a participant resigns or is checkmated, Timur will say "Good Game". The player will need to quietly set his board back up so the MOVER can easily determine ongoing games.
9. Photos and video are encouraged during the match, but from a distance. Please be discreet and turn all flashes off. Please hold off on any posed photos with Timur. He will be able to pose with players for photos after the match.
10. Please do not walk in front of Timur during a match and absolutely no body contact such as tapping Timur on the shoulder during a match. This may seem like common sense, but we have seen it all.

THE FLOW:

At the start of the match, it is great to have the organizer introduce Timur. I have included a 1 page bio at the end of this manual for reference. Timur will then say a few words to the participants and explain the rules and how the match will work.

Timur will shake each player's hand and may ask the players to introduce themselves and give their age and rating. This is a good time to start videotaping if you want to document the event.

When Timur is ready, he will sit and put on his blindfold and process and feel the room. When he is ready, he will say his first move for white. The MOVER will be opposite Board 1 and move the pieces for Timur on that Board. When Timur says BOARD 1, Board 1 participant will make his move and communicate it loudly and clearly. Participants must be ready to call out their moves and moves should be called out using chess notation. Participants are asked to call out square to square. (e7 to e5 or Knight g8 to f6)

When ready, Timur will call out Board 2 to make their move. He may take some time between boards to process so each participant should wait to hear their Board number and be ready with their move.

After all games are completed, Timur will need another short break. He will then be ready to sign scoresheets and take photos and answer questions about games etc.



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ELECTRONIC CHESS BOARD:

For large simul, it is preferred to have as many electronic chess boards for spectators to follow games. An electronic chess board will allow for a game to be displayed on a computer or display board and allow for live games to be shown on the internet.

An electronic chess board is preferred for blindfold blitz as well. Because these games are played at a fast pace, it is a tremendous advantage to be able to display the game on a large screen so spectators can follow the live game without hovering over the board.

DGT (digital game technology) boards are the most often used electronic chess boards available. They are available for USB or Bluetooth.



Timur is seen here on an exercise bike while playing blindfold blitz. A DGT board is shown here projecting the live game on a screen behind Timur for spectators to follow.



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Timur Gareyev is a chess grandmaster originally from Uzbekistan. He has held the rank of 3rd highest rated chess player in the US and top 100 players in the world with a peak USCF rating of 2780. He is best known for his exceptional ability to play Blindfold chess. Blindfold Chess is a form of chess play where a player has no sight of the chess board or the positions of the pieces on the board.

Timur has participated in thousands of blindfold chess games in classic simuls, online events and practice games. On July 31, 2015, Timur made history by setting a new world record for playing Tandem Blindfold Chess with the current Blindfold Chess Champion, Marc Lang. In March 2016, Timur set a personal record when he won 32 out of 33 blindfold chess games (losing 1 and drawing 2). This event took 12 hours and was completed while on an exercise bike.

His current goal is to break the world record by playing 47 simultaneous games of chess blindfolded. His training will consist of thousands of hours of preparation. Timur is currently on a World Blindfold Chess tour in preparation for this event.

Timur has an adventurous spirit and is a licensed sky diver and BASE jumper. He enjoys traveling and meeting new people. He stays fit by hiking and practicing yoga. Timur is active in schools and serves as a consultant for the Karpov International School of Chess. Timur's brain is currently being studied by a team of researchers at UCLA. He has authored a Chess Tactics workbook called **C.A.T. Tactics** and is working on a new book titled **Get Off the Couch and Play Chess**.

