



## Freestyle Chess

[Source: IE](#)

Recently, **Chess World No 1 Magnus Carlsen** faced off against world champion Ding Liren across the chess board in a new, innovative tournament, called **Freestyle Chess**.

- More recently, [Grandmaster D Gukesh](#) of India defeated World No. 1 Magnus Carlsen of Norway, Levon Aronian of Armenia and ultimately the reigning world champion Ding Liren of China on the opening day of the Weissenhaus Chess Challenge.
- Freestyle chess goes by multiple names: **Fischer Random Chess, Chess 9LX, and Chess 960** where 960 is the number of possible starting positions on the board when you shuffle your pieces on the last ranks of the board.
  - This form of chess **differs from the other forms is in the placement of the pieces on the board at the start of the game**. All the eight pawns of each colour remain in the second and the seventh ranks on the board like in regular chess.
  - The position of the rest of the pieces - the rooks, the bishops, the knights, the queen, and the king - on the first and the last rank changes **randomly at the start of the game**.
    - It must be noted that the pieces still retain their regular characteristics in action: rooks travel in straight lines, bishops saunter diagonally, and so on.

**Read More:** [FIDE Grand Swiss Open 2023](#), [Olympics](#)

PDF Reference URL: <https://www.drishtias.com/printpdf/freestyle-chess>