

PokerStarsMacau

POKERSTARS MACAU TOURNAMENT RULES

(Note that due to local legislation rule 8 does not conform with usual PokerStars tournament rules)

1. Seating assignment will be determined by random draw and will not be transferable.
2. A draw for the button will be held at each table at the beginning of the tournament and also at the final table.
3. Players will be allocated the exact same number of chips as all other players and this amount bears no relation to the buy-in of the event.
4. All chips must be visibly displayed at all times. A player's highest denomination chips cannot be 'hidden' and must be visible at all times. Players may not have tournament chips in their pockets at any time. A player who has chips in his pocket will forfeit the chips and will receive a penalty as per (32). The forfeited chips will be taken out of play from the tournament.
5. There will be no foreign chips allowed on the table except for a maximum of one card cap.
6. When it is time to colour-up chips, they will be raced off with a maximum of one chip going to any player. The chip race will always start in the No 1 seat. A player cannot be raced out of a tournament. In the event that a player has only one chip left, the regular race procedure will take place. If that player loses the race, he will be given one chip of the smallest denomination still in play.
7. Betting will be in clockwise order and must be in turn.
8. Verbal declarations in turn are binding. Action out of turn may be binding:
 - a. If a player bets out of turn and the intervening player checks, then the out of turn player is forced to check. Likewise, if a player raises an initial bet out of turn and the intervening player only calls the initial bet, then the out of turn player is also forced to call.
 - b. If a player bets out of turn and the intervening player bets a higher amount, then the out of turn player has all options as usual to call, re-raise or fold, however, if he chooses to fold he forfeits his initial bet to the pot.
9. If a player puts in a raise of 50% or more of the previous bet, he will be required to make a full raise. The raise will be exactly the minimum raise allowed.
10. An oversized chip placed in the pot before the flop with no verbal declaration will be considered a call; after the flop an oversized chip put into the pot will constitute the size of the bet.
11. When raising, a player must put the amount of the raise out in one motion or state the raise amount. By stating the word 'raise' a player protects his right to raise, but the raise must be made in one additional motion unless the player states the amount of the raise.

12. Over-blinds (straddles) are not permitted in tournament play.
13. Under-raises are only permitted if a player is going "all-in". Less than a full raise does not re-open the betting to a player who has already acted.
14. Players must be at their seat when the dealer finishes the deal. If the player is not in their seat then the dealer will muck their hand immediately.
15. All cards will be turned face up once a player is all-in and all action is complete.
16. Tournament play will use a 'dead button'.
17. When time has elapsed in a round and a new round is announced, the new limits apply to the next hand. A hand has begun with the first riffle.
18. Players may not ask for deck changes.
19. The one player to a hand rule will be enforced.
20. No rabbit hunting is allowed.
21. A player who intentionally dodges his blinds when moving from a broken table may forfeit the blinds and incur a penalty. The money will be put into the next pot and considered dead money.
22. A player wanting to use a cellular phone for speaking must step away from the table. Texting or messaging is allowed at the table only if not in the hand.
23. Verbal declarations regarding your own hand are not binding and commenting on the possible contents of an opponent's hand is allowed for the purposes of the televised tournament. However this only applies to players involved in the hand and not to players who have already passed their hand.
24. Players who are not in the hand may not discuss the hand in play until all action is completed. Discussing cards discarded is not allowed.
25. No player will be allowed to expose his or her cards during a hand. A penalty may be assessed.
26. It is a player's responsibility to protect their own hands at all times. If a dealer kills an unprotected hand, the player will have no redress and will not be entitled to his money back. An exception would be if a player raised and his raise had not been called yet, he would be entitled to receive his raise back.
27. Dealers cannot kill a winning hand that was turned face up and was obviously the winning hand.
28. Floor people are to consider the best interest of the game and fairness as top priority in the decision making process. Unusual circumstances can, on occasion, dictate that the technical interpretation of the rules be ignored in the interest of fairness. The floor manager's decision is final.
29. If two or more players are eliminated at the same table, the player with the higher chip count will receive the higher finishing place. During regular play, if two or more players are eliminated at separate tables, they will be assigned a finishing place based on the order of his/her elimination. In the event it is impossible to determine the order of elimination, they will equally split the prizes involved. During "Hand for Hand" play, if two or more players are eliminated at separate tables, they will equally split the prizes involved.
30. Management reserves the right to cancel or alter any event at its sole discretion in the best interest of the tournament or its players.
31. Tournament tables will be balanced all the time. Players will be moved from the big blind to the worst position.

32. A player can be issued the following penalties: (a) verbal warning, (b) missed hand penalty, (c) have a hand declared dead, (d) disqualification, or (e) elimination.

A missed hand penalty will be assessed as follows: At the beginning of the next hand, the offender will be required to miss one hand for every player (including the offender) who is at the table. A floor supervisor can assess a stipulated number of missed hands or a one-, two-, three-, or four-round penalty (For example: 7 players x3-rounds = 21 missed hands). While on a penalty, the offender must remain away from the table. Repeated infractions are subject to escalating penalties.

Note: If a player is moved while on a penalty, he/she will sit-out the remainder of the penalty at the new table. This action may require a player to miss and pay more than one set of blinds.

Players who are disqualified will not be entitled to a refund, their chips will be removed from play and their standing in the tournament will be established based on the time the chips are removed from play. A severe infraction of the rules may also result in a player being eliminated from the tournament meaning additionally the player will not be entitled to any prize money.

33. Calling for the clock procedures: Once a reasonable amount of time has passed and a clock is called for, a player will be given one minute to make a decision. If action has not been taken by the time the minute is over, there will be a 10-second countdown. If a player has not acted on his hand by the time the countdown is over, the hand will be dead.
34. The use of bad language is strictly forbidden and will lead to penalties being imposed on the offending player/s.
35. In the event of any disputes arising during any tournament at PokerStars Macau the Tournament Director's decision is final.
36. A player who leaves a tournament at any stage and for whatever reason is deemed to have forfeited any right to the cost of entry. The chip stack of such player will continue to be blinded off, however, should the player finish in the money once all chips have been blinded off, the player shall remain eligible for the prize which corresponds to the order of his/her finish.
37. In circumstances where there is a guaranteed prize pool, such guarantee will not apply in the event where player attendance at the tournament is affected as a result of acts, events, omissions or accidents beyond the reasonable control of PokerStars Macau such as acts of God, including but not limited to fire, flood, earthquake, windstorm or other natural disaster; war, threat of or preparation for war, terrorist attack, civil war, civil commotion or riots; voluntary or mandatory compliance with any law (including a failure to grant any licence or consent needed or any change in the law or interpretation of the law); fire, explosion or accidental damage; adverse weather conditions (eg Typhoon Warning of 8 or higher).