

## **WBC 2018 preliminary schedule**

This schedule is not official and is subject to changes. It is intended to merely give a general idea about the tournament duration and pace. The schedule is created under the assumption that there will be 16 groups, 4 players in each.

If the World Team Gomoku Championship 2018 is organised in the period of the WBC 2018 and involves any of the non-eliminated participants of the WBC 2018, then we will provide an appropriate break or round extension. The World Team Gomoku Championship 2018 is expected to take about one week.

There may be other reasonable short extensions or breaks in the WBC 2018 due to major live tournaments in gomoku or renju, e.g., due to the World Team Renju Championship 2018. Decisions will be made on the case-by-case basis after consultations with the players involved.

27 Jan, 28 Jan, 4 Feb: Qualification tournaments. These dates are firmly fixed.

5-11 Feb: Random draw for the group stage, including a survey of experts

12 Feb - 4 Mar: Group stage

5-18 Mar: Round 1 of the double elimination (DE) stage: 16 matches in the upper bracket, 16 matches in the lower bracket. The random draw for the entire DE stage is planned to be performed on its first day.

19 Mar - 1 Apr: Round 2 of the DE stage: Lower bracket only, 16 matches

2-15 Apr: Round 3 of the DE stage: 8 matches in the upper bracket, 8 matches in the lower bracket

16-29 Apr: Round 4 of the DE stage: Lower bracket only, 8 matches

30 Apr - 13 May: Round 5 of the DE stage: 4 matches in the upper bracket, 4 matches in the lower bracket

14-27 May: Round 6 of the DE stage: Lower bracket only, 4 matches

28 May - 10 June: Round 7 of the DE stage: 2 matches in the upper bracket, 2 matches in the lower bracket

11-24 June: Round 8 of the DE stage: Lower bracket only, 2 matches

25 June - 8 July: Round 9 of the DE stage: 1 match in the upper bracket, 1 match in the lower bracket

9-22 July: Round 10 of the DE stage: Lower bracket only, 1 match

23 July - 5 Aug: Round 11 of the DE stage: Match between the winners of the upper and lower brackets

6-19 Aug: One more match between them if Round 11 of the DE stage is won by the winner of the lower bracket