Tourneygeek's Guide to Tournaments Preface

About Tournaments

What is a tournament

Maxims of tournament design

Skill and luck

Skill progression

The goals of a tournament designer

Participation

Spectacle

Efficiency

Tournament flow

Selection

Fairness

Fairness (A)

Fairness (B)

Fairness (C)

Main tournament types

Bracketed Tournaments

Structure and notation

By number of brackets

One: Single elimination

Two: Double elimination and consolation

Three or more: Triple elimination and last chance

Allocating Drops

Shifting Brackets

Reconciling Brackets

Recharges

Round Robin Tournaments

Swiss System Tournaments

Hybrid Tournaments

Elimination with group stages

Round robin with Playoffs

Swiss with playoffs

Qualification and Seeding

Qualification

Blind draw

Seeding

Why seed?

Static v. dynamic seeding

Tiered seeding

Byes

Earned byes
Allocating unearned byes

Trophies, prize money, and points

Dividing a prize fund Tie-breaking systems Rewarding participation

Appendix

Sample brackets
Sample round-robin rotations
Simulating tournaments
Glossary

Index