



28th Asian Youth Chess Championships 2026

Open & Girls under 8, 10, 12, 14, 16 & 18

15th to 25th July 2026 ★ Shenzhen, China

INVITATION

The Chinese Chess Association, under the auspices of the Asian Chess Federation (ACF) and the International Chess Federation (FIDE), has the honour of inviting all Asian National Chess Federations to participate in the 28th Asian Youth Chess Championships, to be held in Shenzhen, China, from 15th July 2026 (arrival) to 25th July 2026 (departure).

1. General Rules & Regulations

The Championships shall be governed by the General Regulations for FIDE Competitions and the FIDE Laws of Chess.

2. Participation

2.1. There shall be 6 categories; namely Under-08, Under-10, Under-12, Under-14, Under-16 and Under-18 with separate events for Open and Girls.

2.2. Players are eligible to participate if they have not reached the relevant age before 1 January 2026, as shown in the table below:

Age	Birthdate	Age	Birthdate
Under 8	Born on or after 1 st January 2018	Under 14	Born on or after 1 st January 2012
Under 10	Born on or after 1 st January 2016	Under 16	Born on or after 1 st January 2010
Under 12	Born on or after 1 st January 2014	Under 18	Born on or after 1 st January 2008

2.3. Each Asian National Chess Federation may register one official player in each Open and Girls category of Under-8, Under-10, Under-12, Under-14, Under-16 and Under-18, for a maximum of 12 official players. No substitution from another category shall be permitted if there is no official player in any category. Each federation may also nominate one Head of Delegation, whose accommodation and meals shall be covered by the Organizer.

2.4. All champions of the Standard Chess event from the previous edition shall have the personal right to participate in this year's event in their eligible category as official players, provided that the requirements of Article 2.2 are met.

- 2.5. Invited national chess federations shall have the right to send as many additional players as they wish but they are responsible for all their own expenses.
- 2.6. If an age group has fewer than ten players representing fewer than five federations, that group may be merged with another group.
- 2.7. Registration shall be made only through the national federations. Individual registrations will not be accepted. All participants must have a FIDE ID for registration.

3. Financial Regulations

- 3.1. Entry Fee: The entry fee is USD 75 for official players and USD 150 for additional players, and must be paid by **15th June 2026**. After 15th June 2026, a late-entry surcharge of USD 50 per person shall apply. Entries received after 1st July 2026 shall not be accepted.
- 3.2. Registration after 1st July 2026 may be accepted only at the sole discretion of the Organizing Committee.
- 3.3. Registration Fee: According to the regulations all players and accompanying persons must pay a registration fee of **110 USD** to the organizer.
- 3.4. Payment deadline for hotel is **1st July 2026**. A 50% prepayment for hotel accommodation shall be transferred to the Organizer by this deadline. Incomplete registrations will not be accepted.

All payments shall be transferred only to the bank account provided to the federations. Individual players may not remit fees directly; all payments must be settled by the respective federations.
- 3.5. The remaining balance must be paid upon arrival. Participants shall not be included in the pairings until all accommodation and tournament fees have been fully settled.
- 3.6. All travel costs shall be borne by the participants themselves or by their respective National Chess Federations.

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4. Playing Venue & Official Hotels

4.1. The playing venue shall be at a **5-star hotel**. All foreign participants and accompanying persons are obliged to lodge at the official Hotel, booked through the organizers.



4.2. All twelve (12) Official players and one (1) Head of Delegation per country are entitled to free Board and lodging starting from 15th July (after 14.00) to 25th July (before noon) at the Official Hotel in double or triple rooms. Room upgrades shall be charged extra. Arrangement of rooms are on first registered first served basis. Early check in and late departure are covered by the participants.

4.3. All additional players and all other accompanying persons shall pay the cost for board and lodging (with breakfast, lunch & dinner) per person per day as given below. If the specified room type is not available when the organizer receives the payments, the organizer has the right to modify the room type according to availability.

4.4. Hotel fees are as below:

Hotel Rates (per person/per night) full board

Single room **120 USD** (total \$1,200.00 for ten days)

Deluxe Double room **100 USD** (total \$2,000 for ten days)

Double room **90 USD** (total \$1,800 for ten days)

Triple room **80 USD** (total \$2,400.00 for ten days) (only 30 Rooms available)

5. Format of Play

5.1. Standard and Blitz categories shall be conducted in the Swiss System of 9 rounds. Rapid chess shall be conducted in the Swiss System of 7 rounds.

5.2. Time control in Standard: Each player shall have 90 minutes for the game with the addition of 30 seconds per move starting from the first move.

Time control in Rapid: Each player shall have 15 minutes for the game with the addition of 5 seconds per move starting from the first move.

Time control in Blitz: Each player shall have 3 minutes for the game with the addition of 2 seconds per move starting from the first move.

5.3. Default time for arriving to the chessboard is 15 minutes for Standard game & Rapid game and 3 minutes for Blitz game.

6. Schedule

Day	Date	Time (Shenzhen)	Activity
Wednesday	15 th July	Check in After 14:00	Arrival
		20:00	Technical Meeting
Thursday	16 th July	9:00	Opening Ceremony
		9:30-12:30	Rapid Rounds 1-3
		14:00-18:00	Rapid Rounds 4-7
		20:00	Awards Ceremony
Friday	17 th July	9:00	Round 1
Saturday	18 th July	9:00	Round 2
		15:00	Round 3
Sunday	19 th July	9:00	Round 4
		15:00	Round 5
Monday	20 th July	FREE DAY	
Tuesday	21 st July	9:00	Round 6
Wednesday	22 nd July	9:00	Round 7
Thursday	23 rd July	9:00	Round 8
Friday	24 th July	9:00	Round 9
		15:00	Blitz Rds 1 to 9
		20:00	Closing Ceremony
Saturday	25 th July	Before 12:00	Departure

NOTE: China GMT+8

7. Tie-break System

- 7.1. The final ranking order of the players is determined by the number of points scored. If at the end of the tournament two or more players are tied for the first place or for any prize, the tie shall be broken as in accordance to the following:
- 7.1.1. Direct Encounter
 - 7.1.2. Buchholz Cut 1
 - 7.1.3. Buchholz
 - 7.1.4. Sonnenborn-Berger system,
 - 7.1.5. Greater Number of Wins, byes and forfeits counted.

8. Awards

- 8.1. Champion's Trophies, Medals and certificates will be awarded to the top 3 players in each category.
- 8.2. Three best Federations, by ranking of medals collected in all groups in Standard Chess, will receive a trophy. For ranking, the number of gold medals will be considered first, and if there is a tie, then the number of silver medals, and if there is still a tie, then the number of bronze medals. If finally, this is still tied, then the total number of medal winners in Standard, Rapid and Blitz applies.
- 8.3. Team medals shall be awarded in each category based on the total score of the top three players from a federation. Federations with fewer than three players shall not be eligible for a team award. In the event of a tie, the placing of the highest-ranked player in the team shall decide.
- 8.4. Certificates of Participation shall be given to players, FIDE accredited trainers, managers, and the appointed Technical Officials.
- 8.5. The champions of Asian Youth Championships in standard chess shall have the personal right to participate in the World Youth Championship of the corresponding age-category or a higher age-category if the stipulated age limit is met. This privilege may be exercised once exclusively in the subsequent year following the year of qualification.
- 8.6. E-Certificates of Participation shall be given to all participants.

Direct titles

- 8.7. Gold medalists of U18 categories shall be awarded the title of International Master (IM)/Woman International Master (WIM). 1st equal player shall get IM norm. The Silver & Bronze Medal winners shall be awarded the FIDE Master (FM)/Woman FIDE Master (WFM) title.
- 8.8. Gold medalists of U16 category shall be awarded the title of FM/WFM and an IM/WIM norm. 1st equal player will get FM/WFM title. The Silver & Bronze Medal winners shall be awarded the Candidate Master (CM)/Woman Candidate Master (WCM) title.
- 8.9. Gold medalists of U12 & U14 categories shall be awarded the title of FM/WFM. The Silver & Bronze Medal winners shall be awarded the CM/WCM title.

8.10. Gold, Silver & Bronze Medal (after tie break up to 3 players) For Under-14, Under-16 & Under-18 categories, finishing first (after tie-break) shall be awarded the FM/WFM title. The Silver & Bronze Medal (after tie-break) winners shall be awarded the CM/WCM title. For Under-08, and Under-10, top 3 (after tiebreak) shall be awarded the CM/WCM title.

8.11. For a direct title to be awarded immediately an applicant has to have achieved at some time or other a minimum rating as follows:

Category	IM / WIM	FM /WFM	CM / WCM
U18	Gold – title 1 st equal – norm	Silver & Bronze - title	
U16	Gold – norm	1 st equal – title	Silver & Bronze - title
U14 & U12		Gold – title	Silver & Bronze - title
U10 & U08			Gold, Silver & Bronze - title
Minimum rating	2200 / 2000	2100 / 1900	2000 / 1800

9. Appeals Committee

9.1. The Appeals Committee shall be composed of the Chairman, appointed by the Asian Chess Federation President, two (2) other members and two (2) reserve members, all from different federations, selected among the present representatives. No member shall take part in a decision affecting a player of his own federation. They might only take part in the discussion.

9.2. A protest against the decision of an Arbiter must be submitted in writing to the Chief Arbiter, within a half an hour after the end of the respective Game. No appeals are accepted for rapid and blitz games.

9.3. A protest fee of USD 200 shall be paid to the Organizer which is refundable if the protest is upheld. The Appeals Committee may also decide to refund the fee if it considers that the appeal was not frivolous.

9.4. The decision of the Appeals Committee is final, binding and takes effect immediately.

10. Chief Arbiter and his assistants.

10.1. The Asian Chess Federation President will nominate the Technical Delegate and the Chief Arbiter, as well as the necessary assistant arbiters and other officials.

10.2. The Chief Arbiter may, in consultation with the Asian Chess Federation, issue additional written regulations to take care of other details not covered by these regulations.

11. Visa Applications

11.1. Those who need visas must submit their data the latest on 15th June 2026. Invitations shall be issued only after all the pre-payments are made. Organizers will not bear responsibility for visas of the late entries.

12. Transfer Information

- 12.1. Organizers shall provide airport transfers to the registered participants from Shenzhen International Airport and Guangzhou International Airport to the Official Hotel, and from the Official Hotel to the airport.

- 12.2. Therefore, all participants are required to send their flight details of arrivals and departures to Organizers before 15th June 2026 to provide transfer service. Otherwise, organizers will not bear any responsibility for the transfers.

Contacts :

Sign In to register: <https://aycc2026.chesstournament.org/>

Username and password will be sent to official national federation email address.

Organizing Committee:

For General Information and Visa applications:

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Asian Chess Federation

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