



FIDE Chess Olympiad 2026

Regulations for the Main Competition

1. Scope

1. 1. The Chess Olympiad shall be organised in 2026.
1. 2. The governing body is the International Chess Federation (FIDE).
1. 3. FIDE Global Strategy Commission (hereinafter referred to as GSC) is in charge of preparing Regulations for the Main Competition of the FIDE Chess Olympiad (hereinafter referred to as the Main Competition), communicating with the Organiser and the participating federations, conducting inspections.
1. 4. The body responsible for adopting and changing these Regulations is the FIDE Council (upon GSC's recommendations).
1. 5. At any time, any circumstance or unforeseen situation not covered in these Regulations shall be referred to the FIDE President for the final decision.
1. 6. International Chess Federation (FIDE) reserves the right to change the format of the Main Competition in case of force-majeure events, including pandemics and pandemic restrictions set up by relevant government. Changes to the format of the Main Competition, as well as restrictions imposed due to such circumstances, do not affect the financial and commercial rights and obligations of the Organiser to the maximum extent permissible.

2. Preparation for the Main Competition

2. 1. The Organiser of the FIDE Chess Olympiad is responsible to FIDE for the whole organisation of the Main Competition. The detailed contract shall be signed between FIDE and the Organiser.
2. 2. Not later than 24 months before the start of the Main Competition the organising committee shall be created. The Organiser shall appoint a Tournament Director, who shall be the head of the Organising Committee and be responsible for all technical issues relating to Main Competition. At least two FIDE representative shall be included in the organising committee.
2. 3. Not later than 24 months before the start of the Main Competition, two officials appointed by GSC shall be invited to inspect the venue. At least 2 more inspections shall be arranged. The organiser shall be responsible for paying all reasonable expenses, including travel expenses.
2. 4. Not later than 12 months before the start of Main Competition, the Organiser shall send to GSC a draft of the invitation to the event, which contains full information on the following:
 - a) Exact dates;
 - b) Venue;
 - c) List of the official hotels (4-star minimum);
 - d) Hotel rates including meals – for extra members of delegations and guests;
 - e) Conditions for visas;
 - f) Medical restrictions (if there are any).
2. 5. The draft invitation mentioned in [Article 2.4](#) shall receive confirmation of GSC, with (if appropriate) a note of any modification which GSC deems to be in line with the contract signed between FIDE and the Organiser and FIDE Regulations.
2. 6. Not later than 6 weeks before the Opening Ceremony all participating federations shall be provided with the time of the Opening Ceremony, the start of the first round, the end of the final round and the Closing Ceremony.
2. 7. Not later than 6 weeks before the Opening Ceremony, the Organiser shall send written invitations to the FIDE Principals. Copies of these invitations go to GSC and the FIDE Secretariat.
2. 8. Not later than 4 weeks before the Opening Ceremony, the Organiser shall ensure that necessary actions are taken on the matters arising from the inspection(s) (see [Article 2.3](#)), unless otherwise specified after the last inspection.

2. 9. Four days before the Opening Ceremony, the Chief Arbiter is expected to arrive in order to oversee final preparations of the playing venue and to discuss the plan for instruction, deploying and supervising the Arbiters.

2. 10. The other FIDE Principals (see [Article 4.14](#)) are expected to arrive 3 days before the Opening Ceremony.

3. Registration to the Main Competition

3. 1. The Main Competition shall be held in two sections: Open and Women.

3. 2. The national teams of all member federations have right to participate in the Main Competition. Affiliated Organisations that are representing an autonomous territory which is contained within no more than one Federation have right to participate upon FIDE Council's approval.

3. 3. Not later than 6 months before the start of the Main Competition, the Organiser shall send the invitation to all eligible entrants (see [Article 3.2](#)). Copies of the invitation shall be forwarded to the FIDE Secretariat.

3. 4. Not later than 4 months before the start of the Main Competition, each federation intending to participate in the Main Competition shall confirm its participation to the Organiser. Copies of the confirmation are to be forwarded to the FIDE Secretariat.

3. 5. Not later than 2 months before the start of the Main Competition, every participating federation shall register its team(s) providing the Organiser with the following details:

- a. Full name of the Chief of delegation;
- b. Full name of the Captain(s) and his/her/their FIDE IDs;
- c. Full names of all players and their FIDE IDs;
- d. Full names of all accompanying persons;
- e. All required information related to visas.

Any Federation which registered its teams, but failed to attend may be sanctioned by FIDE Council.

3. 6. Registration of new delegation members (or/and substitution of registered members) later than 2 months before the start of the Main Competition shall be subject to a fee of one hundred (100) euros per person paid to the Organiser or a legal entity appointed by the Organiser. Visa support and accommodation cannot be guaranteed to the new delegation members.

3. 7. Not later than 1 month before the start of the Main Competition, every participating federation shall pay the Organiser or a legal entity appointed by the Organiser the full amount due for accommodation of all delegation members (accompanying persons, guests) whose accommodation expenses are not taken in charge by the Organiser (see [Articles 4.8.2 and 4.8.3](#)). In case of delay accommodation cannot be guaranteed to the respective delegation members.

3. 8. The deadlines in [Articles 3.3. – 3.7.](#) may be altered upon approval of the FIDE President.

4. Main Competition Regulations

4. 1. Format & System

In both sections: Swiss system, 11 rounds. The pairing system is described in "FIDE Olympiad Pairing Rules". The teams ranked first in the pairing list shall have the white pieces on the odd-numbered boards, the black pieces on the even-numbered boards.

4. 2. Composition of Teams

4. 2. 1. In both sections, the teams shall be made up of four players plus one reserve.

4. 2. 2. Each team shall have a captain, who may also be one of the players. The captain shall be permitted to appoint a deputy to exercise his/her functions, the Chief Arbiter shall be informed in writing of such a substitution.

4. 2. 3. Each federation shall be represented by a Chief of delegation. It may either appoint a person exclusively to this function, or entrust the team captain, or one of the players or the reserve(s). The chief of delegation is responsible for all administrative matters and relations with the Organiser.

4. 3. Beginning of play and time control

4. 3. 1. Digital screens with countdown timers indicating the time remaining to the beginning of the round shall be installed in visible places at the playing area.

4.3.2. The playing session shall start by the announcement of the Chief Arbiter.

4.3.3. The default time shall be 15 minutes. Any player who arrives at the chessboard after the default time shall lose the respective game.

4.3.4. The games shall be played using the electronic clocks and boards approved by FIDE.

4.3.5. The time control shall be: 90 minutes for the first 40 moves, followed by 30 minutes for the rest of the game with an increment of 30 seconds per move starting from move 1.

4.4. Draw by mutual agreement

The players cannot draw a game by mutual agreement before black's 30th move. A claim for a draw before black's 30th move is permitted only in case of threefold repetition (see [Article 9.2](#) of the FIDE Laws of Chess) or stalemate.

4.5. Conditions of victory

4.5.1. In each section, matches are scored by match points. A win scores 2 points. A draw scores 1 point. A loss scores 0 points. A team with the highest number of match points in the relevant final standings shall be declared Olympiad Champion. The tie-break system is described in [Appendix 2.I](#).

4.5.2. The standings in the combined classification (open & women) shall be determined by the sum of places (open team + women team): the federation having the lower number shall be declared Combined Classification Winner. The tie-break system is described in [Appendix 2.II](#).

4.6. Prizes

4.6.1. Trophies

4.6.1.1. The winning team in the open section of the Main Competition shall receive the "Hamilton-Russell Cup".

4.6.1.2. The winning team in the women section of the Main Competition shall receive the "Vera Menchik Cup".

4.6.1.3. The winning federation in combined classification of the Main Competition shall receive the "Nona Gaprindashvili Trophy".

4.6.1.4. The dates of the Main Competition and the name of the winning federation shall be engraved on the base of the respective Cup.

4.6.1.5. The federation of the respective winning teams have custody of the Trophies, which are property of FIDE, until the following Chess Olympiad.

4.6.2. Team Medals

4.6.2.1. In each section, every member of the winning team (players, reserves and captain) shall receive a gold medal. Similarly, the team finishing second shall receive silver medals and the team in third place shall receive bronze medals.

4.6.2.2. Before Round 3, in each section, the teams are divided by TAP (see [Article 4.17](#)) into five rating categories, on the basis of their position in the initial overall ranking list; as far as possible, the categories shall contain equal numbers of teams.

4.6.2.3. Every member of the team that finished with the highest score for its category (excluding the highest rated), provided that it has not won medals in accordance with [Article 4.6.2.1](#), shall receive a gold medal. Similarly, the team finishing with the second score shall receive silver medals and the team in third place shall receive bronze medals.

4.6.2.4. All team medals shall be provided by the Organiser. Their design shall be approved in writing by GSC.

4.6.2.5. One copy of each team medal (gold, silver, bronze) shall be donated to FIDE.

4.6.3. Individual Board Medals

4.6.3.1. Players assigned to the same board number in their respective team lists compete for individual board prizes namely: gold, silver and bronze medals. A player needs to play at least eight games to be eligible for a board prize.

4. 6. 3. 2. The board medals shall be awarded according to players' performance ratings (TPR). The tie-break system is described in [Appendix 2.III](#).

4. 6. 3. 3. All board medals shall be provided by the Organiser. Their design shall be approved by GSC.

4. 6. 4. Certificates

After the end of the Main Competition, all the participating federations shall be sent certificates by the FIDE President, recording the success of their teams.

4. 7. Schedule

Day	Event
1	Arrival, Opening Ceremony, Technical Meeting
2	Round 1
3	Round 2
4	Round 3
5	Round 4
6	Round 5
7	Round 6
8	Free day*
9	Round 7
10	Round 8
11	Round 9
12	Round 10
13	Round 11, Closing Ceremony
14	Departure

* On the evening of day 7 and the free day, a cultural program shall be proposed by the Organiser to all delegations and FIDE Principals.

Once the Main Competition begins, the schedule may be modified only upon approval of the FIDE President.

4. 8. Travel and Accommodation

4. 8. 1. Teams' travel expenses shall be covered by their federations. FIDE Council shall approve a list of federations eligible for full or partial reimbursement of travel expenses based on established criteria.

4. 8. 2. The Organiser shall provide all the teams with free accommodation with full board in two standard double rooms and two single rooms (4-star hotel minimum) for 5 players + 1 captain for 14 days - from the day before the Opening Ceremony (dinner) until the departure day (breakfast).

4. 8. 3. The Organiser shall provide each Chief of Delegations (if he/she is not one of the persons mentioned in [Article 4.8.2](#)) with free accommodation with full board in a standard single room (4-star hotel minimum) for 14 days - from the day before the Opening Ceremony (dinner) until the departure day (breakfast).

4. 9. Playing venue

4. 9. 1. The Organiser is responsible for the furnishing and upkeep of the playing venue and its surrounding areas.

4. 9. 2. During the whole event, the tournament venue shall be used only for the FIDE Chess Olympiad and its side events approved by GSC.

4. 9. 3. The maximum distance from the playing venue to any of the official hotels shall not exceed 30-minute drive.

4. 9. 4. GSC shall ensure the playing venue and its environs meet the requirements of the FIDE Regulations for the organisation of Top-Level Tournaments ([FIDE Handbook C.01](#)), unless otherwise approved by GSC.

4. 9. 5. The playing venue shall be decorated with the FIDE flag, the flags of the host and the participating nations.

4. 9. 6. The playing venue shall be clearly divided into the playing area and the spectators' area. The playing area shall be in accordance with FIDE technical requirements (6n square metres in size, where n is the number of players), excluding additional facilities such as relaxation areas, congress/exhibition venues, press centre and VIP room, a minimum of ten offices. The spectators shall have the opportunity to follow the matches directly but the players shall not be disturbed by the spectators.

4. 9. 7. The Organiser shall provide, free of charge, water, coffee, tea and soft drinks for the players, the Principals, VIPs and accredited media.

4. 9. 8. The Organiser shall provide the Press Centre and VIP room with catering services according to the contract signed between FIDE and the Organiser.

4. 9. 9. In order to get access to the playing venue, each person shall comply with the event's medical protocol.

4. 10. Drawing of colours

The draw of colours for Round 1 shall be made during the Opening Ceremony.

4. 11. Playing Conditions

4. 11. 1. The Anti-Cheating Protection Measures for Level 1 events shall be applied (see [Appendix 1](#)).

4. 11. 2. Except with the permission of the Chief Arbiter, only the players, the captains, the FIDE Principals, accredited media and stewards are allowed in the playing area. The Organiser shall provide easily visible passes for the players, the captains, FIDE Principals and accredited media.

4. 11. 3. During a playing session, the players and the captains are forbidden to have any electronic device not specifically approved by the Chief Arbiter in the playing venue. In case of this rule violation by a player, he/she loses the current game. In case of this rule violation by a non-playing captain, he/she shall not be allowed to the playing venue until the end of the Main Competition.

4. 11. 4. The players and the captains are not permitted to bring into the playing venue technical and other equipment extraneous to play, which may in any way disturb or upset their opponents. The Chief Arbiter decides what constitutes extraneous equipment disturbing the opponent.

4. 11. 5. During play, the players may talk only to an arbiter, to their captain or communicate with their opponents, as permitted by the Laws of Chess (see [Appendix 1](#)). The captains shall refrain from interfering in any way. The captains are entitled to convey demands made by his/her players.

4. 11. 6. The captain and players of his/her team shall not stand behind the opposing team during play.

4. 11. 7. While his/her game is in progress, a player may leave the playing venue only with the permission of the Chief Arbiter and only if he/she is accompanied by one of the arbiters.

4. 11. 8. During a playing session, the players and the captains are not permitted to return to the playing venue once they have left it, except if the permission of the Chief Arbiter has been given.

4. 11. 9. The tournament physician(s) shall be available for the participants for the duration of the tournament.

4. 11. 10. The Organiser shall fulfil the requirements of the medical protocol as per standards of the FIDE Medical Commission and host country requirements.

4. 11. 11. The anti-doping test procedure shall be regulated by the FIDE Medical Commission according to WADA requirements.

4. 12. Scoresheets

4. 12. 1. The Organiser shall provide scoresheets according to specifications provided by GSC.

4. 12. 2. At the end of each match the players' original scoresheets shall be given to a Match Arbiter. Refusal of either player to sign the scoresheets may be penalised according to [Article 12.9](#) of the Laws of Chess. After the players have signed the scoresheets, the Match Arbiter shall countersign to confirm the results.

4. 13. Players and Captains conduct

4. 13. 1. The team captains are expected to attend the Technical Meeting. If necessary, the Chief Arbiter may call other Technical

Meetings.

4.13.2. The players and the captains are invited to be present at all official functions approved by GSC during the event including official receptions and the Opening and the Closing Ceremonies.

4.13.3. The players are expected to co-operate with the media. The players are required to make themselves available for short interviews immediately after each game.

4.13.4. The players are required to be available for the daily press conference.

4.13.5. The first top 3 teams of each section are required to attend the final press conference after the event has ended and to provide an exclusive interview for the tournament and FIDE website, if requested by the FIDE Press Officer.

4.13.6. The players and the captains shall strictly abide by all medical regulations approved by FIDE and/or the Organiser. The players and the captains shall be aware that the regulations are subject to change and at short notice. FIDE shall inform players about any changes as quickly as possible.

4.13.7. If a player or a captain fails to fulfil his/her duties listed in [Articles 4.13.3 – 4.13.6](#), he/she shall be penalised according to a decision of FIDE Council. In cases of serious misconduct, the player may be disqualified from the event.

4.13.8. If a player or a captain undermines the reputation of FIDE, the FIDE Chess Olympiad Organiser and sponsors, other players, hosting country or city or conducts him-/herself in a manner contrary to the spirit of sportsmanship, he/she shall be penalised in accordance with the FIDE Ethics & Disciplinary Code ([FIDE Handbook A.08](#)).

4.14. FIDE Principals

The FIDE Principals shall be Appointed at least 8 weeks before the beginning of the Main Competition.

The FIDE Principles are:

FIDE President;
FIDE Council Member;
3 Management Board Members;
Chief Arbiter;
2 Deputy Chief Arbiters;
12 Sector Arbiters;
FIDE Supervisor (Technical Delegate);
3 Fair-Play Officers;
4 TAP Members and their Technical Adviser;
Chairman of the Appeals Committee;
2 Members of the Appeals Committee;
Press Officer;
Deputy Press Officer;
Member of the FIDE Medical Commission;
GSC Member.

4.15. Arbiters, Fair-Play Officers and Experts

4.15.1. The Chief Arbiter, the 2 Deputy Chief Arbiters, the 12 Sector Arbiters, the Match Arbiters shall be appointed by GSC. All the Arbiters shall meet the requirements of the FIDE Regulations for the Classification of Arbiters ([FIDE Handbook, B.06.3](#)).

4.15.2. The Chief Arbiter, 2 Deputy Chief Arbiters and 12 Sector Arbiters shall belong all to different federations. There shall be one male Deputy Chief Arbiter and one female Deputy Chief Arbiter.

4.15.3. During play either the Chief Arbiter or a Deputy Chief Arbiter shall be present in the playing area.

4.15.4. The Sector Arbiters shall oversee and coordinate the work of the Match Arbiters.

4.15.5. The Match Arbiters have the following tasks:

- to ensure that the playing equipment is in order and set up is ready for the start of each game;
- to make sure that the clocks are set correctly for the start of play;
- to check that the players are correctly seated, with the correct colour and the correct opponent;
- to check that the clocks are going correctly during the game;

- to ascertain whether the required number of moves is made upon expiry of the allocated time;
- to give assistance as far as possible, if players express any wishes during play;
- to prevent any unnecessary conversation in the course of play;
- to complete the match result sheet provided by TAP;
- to hand the match result sheet and scoresheets to the Sector Arbiter immediately after the end of the match.

4.15.6. There shall be one Match Arbiter per match. At least one hundred Match Arbiters shall be from Federations not hosting the tournament. The number of foreign Match Arbiters may be increased by GSC, if the number of available local Match Arbiters is insufficient. At least 1/4 of the Match Arbiters shall be female. In each match, no Match Arbiter may belong to the same federation as either of the teams.

4.15.7. The 3 Fair-Play Officers and 18 Fair-Play Experts shall be appointed by GSC. They shall be responsible for applying the anti-cheating measures according to the FIDE specified guidelines ([FIDE Handbook, A.09](#)).

4.15.8. Within 1 week after the end of the Main Competition the Chief Arbiter shall submit a report in English to GSC. The report shall contain the result of each individual game, the result of each match as well as the final standings and also a general description of the course of the event. If there are any difficulties, conflicts or incidents, they shall be described together with the measures taken to deal with them.

4.16. FIDE Supervisor (Technical Delegate)

4.16.1. The FIDE Supervisor (Technical Delegate) shall be above the Tournament Director in all organisational issues. The Organiser shall implement the decisions of the FIDE Supervisor (Technical Delegate) before and during the Main Competition.

4.16.2. The FIDE Supervisor (Technical Delegate) shall intervene if he/she thinks that:

- a. the organisation does not meet the required FIDE standards;
- b. some of the contractual obligations are not fulfilled by the Organiser;
- c. the participating teams are not provided with equal conditions.

4.16.3. Any decision of the FIDE Supervisor (Technical Delegate) can be appealed only to the FIDE President.

4.17. Technical Administration Panel

4.17.1. The Technical Administration Panel (hereinafter referred to as TAP) consists of a Chairman and three other members, each from a different federation.

4.17.2. GSC shall appoint the Chairman and two other members.

4.17.3. The fourth member appointed by the Organiser shall be a representative of the organising federation.

4.17.4. If necessary, a Technical Adviser can additionally be included to take care of the software and to adjust the software according to the local requirements or to internet transmission.

4.17.5. All the members of TAP shall be experienced in the field of electronic data processing and have to assure a backup function as each member shall be able to take over the work of any other member in case of technical or personal failure. Although the pairings are calculated with the help of a computer program, all the members of the Technical Administration Panel (TAP) are able to check and/or produce the pairings manually.

4.17.6. TAP has the following tasks:

- to prepare the data of players and teams;
- to establish the list of fixed board orders;
- to produce team pairings of each round;
- to provide captains with a means to submit their team compositions electronically for each round;
- to receive team compositions for each round and produce individual pairings;
- to receive match result sheets and to prepare result lists for teams and individuals;
- to prepare the rankings;
- to prepare the title results.

4.17.7. Any output of TAP shall be approved by the Chief Arbiter.

4. 17. 8. Technical equipment of TAP should be arranged by the Organiser according to recommendations of GSC.

4. 18. Procedure in case of infringement of the rules, disputes and improper conduct

4. 18. 1. In matters relating to the play, an initial decision is taken by a Match Arbiter. Appeals against his/her decision shall be addressed to a Sector Arbiter. Appeals against Sector Arbiter's decision shall be addressed to the Chief Arbiter.

4. 18. 2. In administrative matters, an initial decision shall be taken by the Tournament Director.

4. 18. 3. A written appeal against the decision of the Chief Arbiter or the Tournament Director shall be submitted to the Appeals Committee.

4. 19. Appeals Committee

4. 19. 1. GSC shall appoint the Chairman of the Appeals Committee, two other members of the Appeals Committee, the first and the second reserve members (2 latter shall work remotely), all from different federations.

4. 19. 2. A member of the Appeals Committee cannot sit in judgement in a dispute involving a player from his/her federation or involving his/her national team, he/she shall be replaced by one of the reserve members.

4. 19. 3. All appeals and protests shall be submitted in writing by the team Captain or the Chief of Delegation to the Appeals Committee not more than two hours after the relevant playing session, or the particular infringement complained against.

4. 19. 4. All appeals and protests shall be accompanied by a deposit fee of one hundred (100) euros or the equivalent in local currency. If the appeal or the protest is accepted, the fee shall be returned. If the it is rejected, the fee may be forfeited to FIDE upon a decision of the Chairman of the Appeals Committee.

4. 19. 5. The Appeal Committee may decide on the following matters:

- a) appeal against a decision by the Chief Arbiter or the Tournament Director,
- b) any appeal which the Appeals Committee considers relevant.

4. 19. 6. The Appeals Committee shall endeavour to find binding solutions that are within FIDE legal framework and the true spirit of the FIDE motto, Gens Una Sumus.

4. 19. 7. The Appeals Committee shall endeavour to make a decision within two hours after submission of a protest.

4. 19. 8. The written decision of the Appeals Committee arising from any dispute in respect of these Regulations shall be final.

4. 19. 9. Within one week after the end of the event the Chairman of the Appeals Committee shall submit a report in English to GSC.

4. 20. Ceremonies

4. 20. 1. The Opening Ceremony shall take place the day prior to the first round. All the players and officials are invited to take part in the Opening Ceremony.

4. 20. 2. The program of the Opening Ceremony shall be approved by GSC. A cultural program and speeches totalling up to 60 minutes are usually welcome. The building or hall where the ceremony is held shall be decorated with the FIDE flag and the flag of the hosting nation. The FIDE Anthem and the Anthem of the hosting nation shall be played.

4. 20. 3. The Closing Ceremony shall take place on the day of the last round. FIDE trophy for the winner and gold, silver and bronze medals in accordance with [Articles 4.6.1 – 4.6.3](#) shall be provided by the Organiser and approved by GSC. The FIDE Anthem, Anthems of the winner nations and the Anthem of the hosting nation shall be played.

5. Media

5. 1. Website

5. 1. 1. The Organiser is responsible for managing, updating and reviewing the official web domain which is used for the event: <http://olympiad.fide.com>. The live broadcasting displayed on the official website shall make use of the game viewer developed by FIDE.

5. 1. 2. The Organiser shall warrant that the official domain for the event is managed in a professional way and furthermore that it is capable of handling the traffic and publicity that is required for such event. Statistics of traffic and full reports on web performance shall be provided to GSC.

5. 2. Press-centre

The Organiser sets up a press-centre which shall be:

- close to the playing area;
- large enough to contain all necessary professional equipment (and internet facilities), as well as leisure and refreshment facilities for journalists;
- under strict supervision to exclude anyone not in possession of a valid pass issued by the Organiser;
- open for a period before the tournament and for one day after the Closing Ceremony;
- manned by properly qualified personnel.

5. 3. Communications

5. 3. 1. All official written communications, in print or online form, shall identify FIDE as the Governing Body of the FIDE Chess Olympiad.

5. 3. 2. All official communications shall use the official name for the event, in full: FIDE Chess Olympiad 2026.

5. 3. 3. All pre-tournament public communications regarding the FIDE Chess Olympiad (e.g. joint press releases from FIDE and the Organiser) shall be co-written and scheduled in coordination with the FIDE Chief Marketing and Communications Officer.

5. 4. Press Officer designated by FIDE

5. 4. 1. GSC shall appoint the Press Officer for the Main Competition. The Organiser shall co-operate with the Press Officer regarding the accreditation and hospitality for journalists and media and the facilities available at the Press Centre that the Organiser chooses to provide, and assists him/her to establish contacts with the local media.

5. 4. 2. All content shown at <http://olympiad.fide.com> shall be reviewed and approved by the Press Officer. All live images, live broadcasting (Internet TV) pictures and all the other content for the full event are carried on official domains, plus any other web domain that has been agreed between the Organiser and GSC prior to the Main Competition. In cases of conflicting information and press statements, the views expressed by the Press Officer shall be the authentic version.

5. 4. 3. The Press Officer shall report to the FIDE Chief Marketing and Communications Officer.

5. 4. 4. The Press Officer shall be a member of the panel at any Press Conferences conducted during the Main Competition.

5. 5. Photography and video

5. 5. 1. Only photographers and camera crew expressly authorised by the Press Officer or the FIDE Chief Marketing and Communications Officer may work in the playing venue.

5. 5. 2. Television cameras shall try to minimise any inconvenience for the players and may only be allowed if the Chief Arbiter deems their use to be unobtrusive.

5. 5. 3. The use of flash is not allowed. An exception could be made by the Chief Arbiter only if the particularities of the venue force the photographers to stay more than 6 meters away from the players. Even in those exceptional circumstances, it is restricted to the first 5 minutes of play.

5. 5. 4. The Organiser shall provide FIDE with a copy of all the video footage filmed during the event. This includes a recording of the broadcast, interviews, press conferences, and Opening and Closing Ceremonies. This footage shall be provided in a physical support: DVD, flash drive, hard drive, etc. FIDE can make use of these materials as specified in [Chapter 8](#).

6. Selection of the Organiser of the FIDE Chess Olympiad and the FIDE Congress

6. 1. FIDE shall open a bidding procedure for the FIDE Chess Olympiad not later than four years before the beginning of the event.

6. 2. Any federation member of FIDE or any Organiser approved by a national federation may apply (bid) for the organisation of the FIDE Chess Olympiad.

6. 3. The Applicant who bids for the Chess Olympiad shall undertake to hold the Main Competition, the Competition for Players with Disabilities and the FIDE Congress ([FIDE Handbook, A.06](#)) for the same year and fulfil with the requirements of the relative Regulations. Exceptions may be made by the FIDE General Assembly or the FIDE President.

6. 4. Each application shall be filed in accordance with the form as provided in the [Appendix 3](#) to these Regulations. The applicant shall attach:

- Letters of support from a national federation and relevant local authorities.
- Guarantee issued by a first-class bank (or a government guarantee if approved by the FIDE Council) for the amount of three hundred thousand (300,000) euros to support the bid. In case the winner of the bidding procedure fails to fulfil the requirements set out in [Article 6.8](#), the entire amount shall be transferred in favour of FIDE.

6. 5. Financial obligations of the Organiser include (unless otherwise specified in the contract with the Organiser):

- a) Obligation to pay one million (1,000,000) euros net of any applicable local taxes not later than 18 months before the beginning of the FIDE Chess Olympiad as a lump sum including the FIDE contribution, charge for internet rights and commercial rights (see [Chapter 8](#));
- b) Obligation to pay at least one million five hundred thousand (1,500,000) euros for travel expenses for the delegations of federations eligible for full or partial reimbursement of travel expenses (see [Articles 4.8.1](#));
- c) Obligation to pay fifty thousand (50,000) euros in order to cover expenses related to inspections according to [Articles 2.3; 2.5](#) as well as to other expenses if necessary;
- d) Obligation to cover other expenses related to the organisation of the Main Competition, the Competition for Players with Disabilities and the FIDE Congress according to [Articles 7.3.1; 7.3.2; 7.4; 7.8.2](#) of these Regulations, Regulations related to the Competition for Players with Disabilities and the FIDE Congress Regulations and the contract signed between FIDE and the Organiser (which may contain other financial obligations according to usual practice for top-level events) not later than 2 months before the beginning of the Main Competition (see [Article 7.2](#)).
- e) Obligations as per [Article 6.4](#) with respect to the bank guarantee and in accordance with the [Articles 6.8 – 6.9](#) hereof.
- f) Obligation to cover expenses related to organising the events as specified in the [Article 6.3](#) hereof.

At the moment of applying for the organisation of the FIDE Chess Olympiad the Applicant pays a non-refundable fee of five thousand (5,000) euros.

6. 6. Upon receipt of the bidding form, GSC shall assign 2 officials to inspect the relevant facilities at the Organiser's expense. The inspectors shall submit the evaluation report to FIDE Council.

6. 7. Four years before the FIDE Chess Olympiad, the General Assembly shall make its final decision by ranking all the Applicants in order of the number of votes received.

6. 8. Within 1 month after being awarded the organisation of the Main Competition the winner of the bidding procedure shall transfer one hundred thousand (100,000) euros in favour of FIDE as a first payment.

In addition, within 3 months after being awarded the organisation of the Main Competition Organiser shall sign a contract with FIDE specifying: (i) all financial and commercial aspects of the Main Competition, the Competition for Players with Disabilities and the FIDE Congress and (ii) an obligation to submit a financial guarantee issued by the bank, which is included in Top [100] World Banks from the rate published by the <https://www.thebankerdatabase.com/>, or another bank which may be agreed with FIDE for the amount of two million (2,000,000) euros related to the organisation of the Main Competition, the Competition for Players with Disabilities and the FIDE Congress (see [Article 6.4](#)) within one month after signing the contract. Alternatively, the Organiser may secure a direct prepayment of at least one million (1,000,000) euros to FIDE bank account instead of such guarantee.

6. 9. If the Applicant is unable to sign the contract within 3 months or provide FIDE within 4 months with the guarantee of the amount of two million (2,000,000) euros as stipulated in [Article 6.8](#), three hundred thousand (300,000) euros shall go to FIDE in accordance with [Article 6.4](#). This deadline may be extended by the FIDE President.

6. 10. If the Applicant fails to sign the contract (see [Article 6.9](#)), FIDE Council shall offer the privilege to the Applicant ranked second. The procedure stipulated in [Article 6.8](#) shall be repeated.

6. 11. If none of the first two Applicants is able to sign the contract, then FIDE Council shall offer the privilege to the Applicant ranked third or reopens the bidding procedure which shall be completed by the following FIDE Congress.

7. Financial issues

7. 1. The Organiser shall draw up as detailed a budget as possible, in consultation with GSC. GSC and the FIDE Treasurer shall be kept informed of the financial aspects of the Main Competition.

7. 2. Not later than 3 months before the beginning of the Main Competition, FIDE shall be reimbursed for its direct expenses related

to the organisation of the Main Competition. This shall be a fixed sum agreed in the contract between the Organiser and FIDE. This sum includes pre-expenses (inspections), stipends, traveling expenses for the Principals and other expenses mentioned in the contract.

7.3. Stipends

7.3.1. The stipends to be paid to the FIDE Principals by the Organiser are:

Principal	Stipend, €	Number	Sum, €
Chief Arbiter	5,000	1	5,000
Deputy Chief Arbiter	3,600	2	7,200
Sector Arbiters	2,700	12	32,400
Fair-play Officer	3,200	3	9,600
TAP Chairman	3,600	1	3,600
TAP Technical Advisor	3,600	1	3,600
TAP Member	2,700	3	8,100
FIDE Supervisor (Technical Delegate)	4,000	1	4,000
Chairman of the Appeals Committee	3,000	1	3,000
Member of the Appeals Committee	2,500	2	5,000
Press Officer	4,000	1	4,000
Deputy Press Officer	2,700	1	2,700
Member of the FIDE Medical Commission	2,700	1	2,700
GSC Member	2,700	1	2,700
FIDE Organising representatives	3,200	2	6,400
TOTAL			100,000

7.3.2. Any Principal who is active at the Main Competition for only part of the time shall receive only a pro rata portion of his/her stipend.

7.4. Travel expenses of the FIDE Principals

The FIDE President has the right to business class travel by air, sea or rail, at the Organiser's expense. If other travel conditions are not specified in the contract signed by the Organiser and FIDE, all other Principals shall be compensated by the Organiser for their travel expenses up to a maximum of one thousand (1,000) euros if travelling from the same continent, up to one thousand five hundred (1,500) euros if travelling from another continent.

7.5. Accommodation of the FIDE Principals

Accommodation with full board in a suite in a 4-5-star hotel shall be offered by the Organiser for the FIDE President. Accommodation with full board in a standard room in the same hotel shall be offered by the Organiser for each Principal. Alternatively, the Organiser may substitute full board with a daily allowance. The amount of the allowance shall be indicated in the contract between the Organiser and FIDE. Extra expenses shall be covered by the Organiser only for the FIDE President.

7.6. Local transportation

Transfer from and to the airport shall be provided by the Organiser, if necessary. A sufficient number of cars shall be made available for Principals and FIDE employees; their use shall depend on the position of the hotels, playing hall and media centre. Alternatively, a daily allowance in local currency may be provided, the amount shall be agreed between the Organiser and GSC. Local transport shall also be provided for the players to official functions, if necessary.

7.7. Medical care

7.7.1. The Organiser shall cover the costs of treating acute illnesses including the cost of medicines, but not chronic ailments of the players, captains, Chiefs of delegations, FIDE Principals and FIDE employees.

7.7.2. The Organiser shall cover the costs related to the medical protocol (see [Article 4.11.10](#)).

7.8. Provision for the Match Arbiters and Fair-Play Experts

7.8.1. The Organiser shall provide foreign Match Arbiters (at least one hundred) and 18 Fair-Play Experts with free accommodation with full board (place in a double room).

7.8.2. The Organiser shall pay each foreign Match Arbiter and each Fair-Play Expert the fee of one thousand five hundred (1,500) euros (if from the same continent) or two thousand (2,000) euros (if not from the same continent) including travel expenses.

7.8.3. All expenses and stipends for local Match Arbiters shall be covered by the Organiser.

7.9. Personnel

The Organiser shall provide sufficient personnel including security staff to assist in the playing hall, press room, VIP room, and at Ceremonies according to the contract between the Organiser and FIDE.

7.10. Fair-play measures

The Organiser shall cover the related costs associated with implementing the fair-play regulations according to requirements of the FIDE Fair-Play Commission, excluding all the expenses for the Fair-Play Officers and Fair-Play Experts.

7.11. Anti-doping control

The Organiser shall cover the costs related to anti-doping testing (see Article 4.11.11) in accordance with the requirements of the FIDE Medical Commission.

7.12. Broadcast

The Organiser shall provide quality broadcast of the Main Competition, Opening and Closing Ceremonies subject to the standards and requirements approved by FIDE and bear all the related costs. The Organiser shall be responsible for providing a quality commentary of the Main Competition in the language of the hosting country, in English language and at least two other languages to be approved by FIDE. Organisers also shall be obliged to deliver broadcast feed(s) to FIDE and its broadcasting partners as per FIDE's obligations with FIDE's broadcasting partners.

8. Commercial issues

8.1. The commercial rights of the Organiser include:

8.1.1. The non-exclusive right to conduct the organisation, promotion, formation, carrying out, management, financing and exploitation of the Main Competition by all manner and means without infringing the IOC Code of Ethics and the well-established practice regarding sponsorship implied by FIDE's recognition by the IOC, and unless otherwise provided or limited in these Regulations.

8.1.2. Non-exclusive marketing and commercial sponsorship rights with respect to the Main Competition and the sale, exploitation or other disposal of all commercial rights, facilities and licenses, including product placement rights with respect to the Main Competition.

8.1.3. The right to sell tickets for the admission of the paying general public as well as to offer complimentary admission and corporate hospitality.

8.1.4. The right to produce and sell, when appropriate or authorize production of all official publications connected with the Main Competition, including advertising and credits for Main Competition sponsors in the official programme, bulletins, posters and other materials and tickets.

8.1.5. The right to designate the Main Competition sponsors as (including but not limited to) "official sponsors" and "official suppliers".

8.1.6. The use and exploitation of any mascot, own logo design, symbol, legend or device, and name and designation of the event title in each case associated with the Main Competition. The development of a mascot, logo design, symbol and/or legend associated with the Main Competition shall be performed by the Organiser at its own expense, with the prior consent of FIDE and with the written final approval of their design by FIDE.

FIDE shall have the right to use any mascot, logo design, symbol and/or legend of the Main Competition without any consideration during the term of this Agreement. FIDE shall be entitled to use the mascot, logo design, symbol and/or legend while carrying out its activities with regards to the Main Competition, and sublicense the same rights to FIDE sponsors and partners. All intellectual rights on any mascot, logo design, symbol and/or legend of the Main Competition shall be transferred free of charge to FIDE after the end of the Main Competition.

8. 1. 7. The right to jointly devise with FIDE the marketing and communications strategies regarding the Main Competition, inter alia those relating to the official website of the Main Competition and social media (including the setup of social media accounts).

8. 1. 8. Franchises, concessions and other sales or display facilities where required by the Main Competition sponsors of all goods, services and products offered for sale or other distribution wherever these are located and all merchandising rights.

8. 1. 9. Distribution of premium gifts or giveaways at the Main Competition.

8. 1. 10. Activities in connection with the Main Competition, including side events, tournaments, exhibition matches, grandmaster classes and “learn to play” sessions held during the Main Competition and any other activities ancillary to or held in conjunction with the Main Competition which may be devised or organised by the Organiser totally at its sole expense.

8. 1. 11. Advertising for the Olympiad and to enter into any contracts and agreements as the Organiser sees fit in connection with any of the foregoing.

8. 1. 12. The Organiser and FIDE shall be permitted to use the picture, likeness, name, autograph, signature, image and biographical details of the Players, Captains, FIDE Officials, Arbiters, VIP’s and any other who attend in Event in connection with the advertisement, publicity, exhibition and commercial exploitation of the Main Competition in any reasonable way so long as such use does not imply personal endorsement of any product or service other than the Main Competition itself and save as the person concerned may otherwise agree in writing provided that the Organiser does not portray the person in an unfavourable manner. If any consent is required for such purpose, then such consent shall be obtained by the Organiser individually.

8. 1. 13. Within the term of the agreement with the Organiser and subject to limitations specified therein, the Organiser shall be granted the licence for the non-exclusive right to use the trademarks and/or logos of FIDE (“FIDE Logos”). The Organiser shall be entitled to use the FIDE Logos while carrying out its activities with regards to the Main Competition as set out in the relevant agreement and sublicense the same rights to all its commercial partners.

8. 2. The Organiser shall be entitled to receive and retain all revenues generated through the exploitation and use of its commercial rights and its broadcasting rights (as described in [Article 8.4](#)).

8. 3. The commercial rights granted to the Organiser shall be limited by the existing and future commitments of FIDE to its sponsors and commercial partners (hereinafter referred to as “FIDE Sponsors”). The amount of FIDE Sponsors, sponsors of the Organiser and the volume of their rights shall be specified in the agreement of the Organiser with FIDE. The Organiser shall avoid any form of cooperation with entities in the same areas of business as FIDE Sponsors, companies in the alcohol and tobacco industry or business as well as with companies carrying out other activities. If the Organiser is uncertain whether a cooperation with a third party would contravene the restrictions set out herein, he/she shall send a written request to FIDE asking for approval.

In any case, all revenues generated by use of commercial rights granted to FIDE Sponsors by FIDE shall be retained by FIDE. The Organiser shall be obliged to facilitate the execution of FIDE’s commitments as per this article and the relevant agreement with FIDE towards the existing and future FIDE Sponsors under relevant agreements between FIDE and the FIDE Sponsors.

8. 4. FIDE retains commercial, radio and broadcast rights, including photo, video and film rights. At the same time, the Organiser is granted with the exclusive linear broadcast rights and non-exclusive non-linear broadcast. All above-mentioned Organiser’s rights are valid only in the territory of hosting country. The Organiser also has other exclusive printed-media rights in the territory of hosting country.

8. 5. The Organiser shall provide free of charge IOC with the filming permission of the Main Competition for the non-commercial use only.

8. 6. The income from admission charges goes to the Organiser.

8. 7. No proposed sponsor shall be in conflict with the regulations of IOC.

8. 8. The FIDE logo and the head of the corporate logo shall be displayed below:



The FIDE logo shall be displayed in a black colour on a white background. The text describing any event shall not be larger than twice the size of the word FIDE reproduced in the logo.

The present Regulations are governed and interpreted in accordance with the laws of Switzerland. All disputes arising from or in relation to with the Regulations shall be submitted to CAS (art. 35.1 FIDE Charter). All disputes and claims arising from or in relation to the bidding procedure and obligations of the Organiser may also be submitted to the competent court of the City of Lausanne, Canton Vaud, Switzerland, unless otherwise agreed in the contract with the Organiser.

APPENDIX 1

FIDE LAWS OF CHESS & ANTI-CHEATING PROTECTION MEASURES

as valid since 1 January 2018 and published on the FIDE website:

<https://handbook.fide.com/chapter/E012018>

<https://handbook.fide.com/files/handbook/ACCProtectionMeasures.pdf>

APPENDIX 2

TIE-BREAK PROCEDURES

I. Team standings in Open and Women's sections (see [Article 4.5.1](#))

The position of teams that finish with the same number of match points shall be determined by application of the following tie-breaking procedure in order of priority:

TB1 – sum of IS(10) for the 10 best team opponents (excluding either the round where the team had a pairing-allocated bye, or if the team did not have a pairing-allocated bye, the team opponent which scored the lowest number of match-points). If there is a tie for the lowest number of matchpoints, then the lowest IS_i shall be excluded.

Each IS_i is determined as $GP_i \times FMP_i$,

where:

GP_i is the number of gamepoints scored in a match against opponent “i”,

FMP_i is the final number of matchpoints scored by opponent “i”.

TB2 – number of gamepoints scored

TB3 – sum of the matchpoints of 10 teams opponents, excluding the team opponent with the lowest number of matchpoints

Any ties unbroken after the application of TB3 shall remain tied, and the tied teams shall be assigned the top ranking of that set of teams.

II. Team standings in the combined classification (see [Article 4.5.2](#))

The position of teams that finish with the same sum of places (after application of the Tie-Breaks in [Appendix 2.I](#)) shall be determined by application of the following tie-breaking procedure in order of priority:

TB1 – sum of the number of matchpoints scored by the Open team and Women's team

TB2 – The sum of the Open team's TB1 ([Appendix 2.I](#)) and Women's team's TB1 ([Appendix 2.I](#)).

TB3 – The sum of the Open team's TB2 ([Appendix 2.I](#)) and Women's team's TB2 ([Appendix 2.I](#)).

TB4 – The sum of the Open team's TB3 ([Appendix 2.I](#)) and Women's team's TB3 ([Appendix 2.I](#)).

Any ties unbroken after the application of TB4 shall remain tied, and the tied teams shall be assigned the top ranking of that set of teams.

III. Individual standings (see [Article 4.6.3.2](#))

If two or more players have equal TPRs, the tie shall be broken as follows:

TB1 – Greater number of games played,

TB2 – Drawing of lots.

IV. Unplayed Matches in Tie-Break Calculations (see [Appendix 2.I](#) and [Appendix 2.II](#))

An Unplayed Match is a match where a team has been included in a round's pairings, and all games were scored as defaults. This does not include a pairing-allocated bye.

If a team is unpaired for a round, excluding when they have been awarded a pairing-allocated bye, for tie-break purposes only they will score 1 matchpoint for each round in which they are unpaired.

Calculation of GP

Unplayed win: $GP(uw) = 4$

Unplayed loss: $GP(ul) = 0$

Calculation of FMP

Unplayed win: $FMP(uw) = FMP + UR$

Unplayed win, but opponent plays no further matches: $FMP(uwx) = CMP + UR$

Unplayed loss: $FMP(ul) = FMP + UR$

Calculation of IS

Unplayed win: $IS(uw) = GP(uw) \times FMP(uw)$

Unplayed win, but opponent plays no further matches: $IS(uwx) = GP(uw) \times FMP(uwx)$

Unplayed loss: $IS(ul) = GP(ul) \times FMP(ul)$

where:

FMP (final matchpoints) is the final number of matchpoints scored by the opponent,

CMP (current matchpoints) is the number of team's matchpoints before the unplayed match by the opponent,

UR (unpaired rounds) is the number of rounds in which the opponent was unpaired, excluding pairing-allocated byes.

APPENDIX 3

FIDE Chess Olympiad and Congress 2026 Bidding Form

REQUIRED INFORMATION		
Organiser	Company	Full Name
Federation		
Contact	Email	Phone
Main Competition		
Dates		
Planned budget, €		
Name and address of the playing venue		
Playing venue surface available for the event, m ²		
Playing area surface, m ²		
Names, category and address of the official hotels		
Total number of hotel rooms (single, double and superior) available		
Distance from the main airport to the official hotels, km		
Distance from the playing venue to the official hotels, km		
Competition for Players with Physical Disabilities		
Dates		
Planned budget, €		
Name and address of playing venue		
Playing venue surface available for the event, m ²		
Playing area surface, m ²		
Distance between the Competition for Players with Physical Disabilities playing venue and the Main Competition playing venue		
Names and address of the official hotels		
Total number of hotel rooms (single, double and superior) available		
Distance from the main airport to the official hotels		
ORGANISER'S OBLIGATIONS		
<p>Submitting this bidding form to the FIDE General Assembly/Council the Organiser declares to be aware of the requirements listed below and confirms commitment to fulfil them.</p>		

The Organiser undertakes to fulfil all the financial requirements specified in the relative tournament regulations for the Main Competition and Competition for Players with Physical Disabilities, as well as financial and other requirements specified in the FIDE Recommendations for organisation of FIDE Top-Level events and in relevant regulations for the FIDE Congress.

The Organiser undertakes to provide all the participants/officials with his/her Country's visa support, without any exception. The Organiser undertakes to provide all the participants/officials with quarantine exemption (if any).

The Organiser undertakes to fulfil all the organisational requirements specified in the relative tournament regulations for the Main Competition and Competition for Players with Physical Disabilities, as well as financial and other requirements specified in the FIDE Recommendations for organisation of FIDE Top-Level events and in relevant regulations for the FIDE Congress.

The Organiser agrees that the Competition for Players with Physical Disabilities is an integral part of the World Chess Olympiad and undertakes to hold it concurrent with the Main Competition.

The Organiser undertakes to hold the Competition for Players with Physical Disabilities in one of the Official hotels.

The Organiser ensures the accessibility for disabled participants to the playing venue and official hotels where the Competition for Players with Physical Disabilities will be held and undertakes to provide special transportation for wheel chaired participants.

The Organiser shall ensure that official hotels where the Competition for Players with Physical Disabilities will be held will have at least 20 rooms available with accessibility for wheel chaired participants.

The Organiser hereby confirms its commitment to respect the rights of the FIDE partners and sponsors, including broadcasting partners

Signature/stamp

Place/Date

LIST OF THE REQUIRED DOCUMENTS ATTACHED

Letters of support from the national federation

Letters of support from the national authorities

Guarantee letter for the amount of EUR 300,000

Payment document to confirm the EUR 5,000 non-refundable fee

Promotional plan of the event (if any)

Other