



6th INTERNATIONAL SUMMER CHESS FESTIVAL “SERBIA OPEN 2026”

“MASTERS” TOURNAMENT RULEBOOK

1. From July 13 to 22, 2026, the Chess Federation of Serbia is organizing the **6TH INTERNATIONAL SUMMER CHESS FESTIVAL called “SERBIA OPEN 2026”**.

As part of the Festival, the **MASTERS** section will be held in the “Ivo Andrić” hall of the “Metropol Palace” hotel in Belgrade (Boulevard Kralja Aleksandra 69)

2. The right of players to participate in groups is determined by the organizer’s announcement.

3. The “**MASTERS**” tournament is played according to FIDE rules. Pairing is done by computer according to the Swiss system.

The tournament is played in 9 rounds and is rated by FIDE. The tempo of the game is 90 minutes per player for 40 moves and 30 minutes until the end of the game, with an additional 30 seconds for each move played, starting from the first.

During the first six rounds of the tournament and with previous notice, a player can pick a round to remain unpaired, with half a point attributed.

At the “**MASTERS**” tournament all norms for international titles can be won.

The players are allowed to be late for 45 minutes from the time scheduled for the start of the game.

Writing moves down is mandatory until the end of the game. Recorded party forms are the property of the organizers.

4. The date and time of the games are as follows:

	13.07.	14.07.	15.07.	16.07.	17.07.	18.07.	19.07.	20.07.	21.07.	22.07.
Masters	1 r. (16,00)	2 r. (16,00)	3 r. (16,00)	4 r. (16,00)	5 r. (16,00)	Day off	6 r. (16,00)	7 r. (16,00)	8 r. (16,00)	9 r. (10,00)

5. Placement of players is determined on the basis of points won. Additional criteria in case of division of places are:

1. mutual result-s
2. Buchholz criterion -1 (the weakest placed opponent is removed)
3. Buchholz criterion
4. Sonneborg-Berger system
5. More victories
6. Draw

6. The organizer has foreseen a prize fund in the total amount of €20,500 in the net amount, divided into 23 prizes that will be distributed to the participants, while the organizer will pay all the related taxes stipulated by the laws of Serbia. There are 15 regular prizes in the amount of €17,000, 5 women's prizes in the amount of €2,900 and 3 veteran prizes in the total amount of €600, namely:

REGULAR PRIZES: €17,000

1 st prize: €5,000	5 th prize: €1,200	9 th prize: €500	13 th prize: €200
2 nd prize: €3,000	6 th prize: €900	10 th prize: €400	14 th prize: €200
3 rd prize: €2,000	7 th prize: €750	11 th prize: €300	15 th prize: €200
4 th prize: €1,500	8 th prize: €600	12 th prize: €250	

SPECIAL PRIZES: € 3,500

WOMEN: €2,900

1 st prize: €1,000	4 th prize: €350
2 nd prize: €750	5 th prize: €250
3 rd prize: €550	

VETERANS: €600

1 st prize: €250
2 nd prize: €200
3 rd prize: €150

In case of division of places, regular prizes will be divided according to the "Hort" principle for 6,5 (or more) gained points. Other awards will be divided according to the placement determined according to additional criteria.

The competitor can achieve only one prize, the highest one in monetary amount, and if he/she acquires the right to two equal monetary prizes, he/she will win the one listed according to the order in the competition.

Participants born on December 31, 1961 and older are considered veterans.

All prize-winning players must be present at the closing ceremony which will take place 30 minutes after the end of the last game. If such player should not be present at the closing ceremony, a 20% of the prize will be reduced, with a minimum reduction of €100.

7. The chief arbiter of the tournament is Petar Katanic-Vujic, IA, and his deputy is Janko Babic, IA. The list of other arbiters will be published on the official website before the start of the tournament.

The decisions of the chief arbiter are final.

8. Players who have completed the game must leave the playing area and are not allowed to re-enter.

9. It is forbidden to bring mobile phones and other electronic devices into the play area. The organizer provided a place to leave phones and electronic devices during the game. In case of a foul, the player will lose the game by contumacy.

10. As part of the contest for the regularity of the competition and to promote respect of all participants, it is strictly forbidden to lose matches due to non-attendance, without prior notice for exemption from pairing given to the arbiter.

A disciplinary report will be filed against a player who does not justify the loss by disqualification with documentation, along with a request for a ban on playing tournaments in Serbia for a certain period of time.

11. Anti-cheating measures will be fully and thoroughly implemented at the tournament, in accordance with FIDE rules. Players are obliged to act at the request of the referees. In the event of a foul, the player will lose the game by contumacy and / or be removed from the tournament with a FIDE registration.

The organizer reserves the right to inspect a certain number of players with a metal detector. Players for the inspection will be determined by a draw before the start of the round.

12. A player is not allowed to leave the play area (playroom, toilet and smoking area). In case of a foul, the player will lose the game by contumacy.

13. Players will receive all the necessary information through the official website of the tournament www.serbiachessopen.com , as well as on the bulletin board in the lobby of the "Metropol Palace" hotel.

14. Competitors and judges are obliged to respect the minimum standard of clothing (shirts and T-shirts with sleeves covering the shoulders, shoes, sneakers or sandals). Sports shorts are not allowed, and bermuda shorts and skirts are allowed up to a minimum length of 8 cm above the knee.

15. The Rulebook prescribed the Chess Federation of Serbia as the organizer of the tournament, and by making their first move, the players give their consent to its content.

Belgrade, July 12, 2026

Chess Federation of
SerbiaPresident
Andrija Jorgić s.r