

2026

KCB OPEN

CHESS CHAMPIONSHIP

-Grand Prix Circuit

01 WELCOME & EVENT AT A GLANCE

The 2026 KCB Open Chess Tournament brings together competitive players, corporate participants and young chess players for tournament chess at the KCB Leadership Centre in Karen, Nairobi.



2026 KCB OPEN Chess Championship -Grand Prix Circuit



KCB Leadership Centre,
Karen, Nairobi



Prestige Grand Prix • Challengers

17-20 October 2026



Junior Section:

17-18 October 2026

REGISTER NOW



02 TOURNAMENT SECTIONS

Masters Section — Grand Prix

17th-20th October 2026 | 8 rounds | 90 minutes + 30 seconds increment per move

Masters Open and Masters Ladies entries will compete together in one pool for the first six rounds. The final two rounds will be separated into Open and Ladies.

Challengers Section

17th-20th October 2026 | 8 rounds | 90 minutes + 30 seconds increment per move

Eligibility: Under 1800 Elo for Open players and Under 1700 Elo for Ladies players. Open and Ladies players will compete together in one pool for the first six rounds; the final two rounds will be separated into Open and Ladies.

Junior Section

17th-18th October 2026 | 6 rounds | 60 minutes + 5 seconds increment per move

The Junior Section features 12 categories: U7 Boys, U7 Girls, U9 Boys, U9 Girls, U11 Boys, U11 Girls, U13 Boys, U13 Girls, U15 Boys, U15 Girls, U17 Boys and U17 Girls.

Junior eligibility

For this event, juniors are considered players born on or after 1 January 2008.

Pairing structure

No accelerated pairing will be used.

REGISTRATION LINK (STK PROMPT PAYMENT)

www.alphapass.co.ke/event/kcb-open



KCB

BANK



KINGS. CASTLES. BISHOPS.

And every other piece await you at the **KCB Chess Open 2026.**

GRAND PRIZE

KES **150,000**

REGISTRATION FEES:

KES **2,500**

DATE

17TH - 20TH
October

VENUE

KCB Leadership
Centre, Karen

[Click here to register](#)

For People. For Better.

Regulated by Central Bank of Kenya



**KCB CHESS
OPEN 2026**

03 PRIZE POOL— MASTERS

Masters Open

Position	Prize
1st	KES 150,000
2nd	KES 70,000
3rd	KES 30,000
4th	KES 15,000
5th	KES 10,000

Masters Ladies

Position	Prize
1st	KES 100,000
2nd	KES 70,000
3rd	KES 30,000
4th	KES 15,000
5th	KES 10,000

Additional Masters awards

Male KCB Team Player	1st KES 20,000 • 2nd KES 10,000
Female KCB Team Player	1st KES 20,000 • 2nd KES 10,000
PWD Male	1st KES 20,000
PWD Lady	1st KES 20,000
University / College Male	1st KES 20,000 • 2nd KES 10,000 • 3rd KES 5,000
University / College Female	1st KES 20,000 • 2nd KES 10,000 • 3rd KES 5,000

Tie rule: In the event of a tie, Masters' prizes will be split EQUALLY.

04 PRIZE POOL – CHALLENGERS

Challengers Open – Under 1800 Elo

Position	Prize
1st	KES 30,000
2nd	KES 20,000
3rd	KES 10,000

Challengers Ladies – Under 1700 Elo

Position	Prize
1st	KES 30,000
2nd	KES 20,000
3rd	KES 10,000

Pool structure

- Rounds 1-6: Open and Ladies players compete in one combined pool.
- Rounds 7-8: Players are separated into Challengers Open and Challengers Ladies.

Tie rule: In the event of a tie, Challengers prizes will be split EQUALLY.

****ALL PRIZE PAYMENTS WILL BE DONE BY BANK TRANSFER WITHIN 7 WORKING DAYS OF TOURNAMENT ENDING.****

05 JUNIOR CHAMPIONSHIP

12 age-and-gender categories

Age Group	Boys	Girls
U7	Shopping vouchers KES 20,000	Shopping vouchers KES 20,000
U9	Shopping vouchers KES 20,000	Shopping vouchers KES 20,000
U11	Shopping vouchers KES 20,000	Shopping vouchers KES 20,000
U13	Shopping vouchers KES 20,000	Shopping vouchers KES 20,000
U15	Shopping vouchers KES 20,000	Shopping vouchers KES 20,000
U17	Shopping vouchers KES 20,000	Shopping vouchers KES 20,000

Junior prize structure

Each of the 12 junior categories carries assorted shopping-voucher prizes valued at KES 20,000 per category.

Junior event essentials

- Dates: 17th-18th October 2026.
- Six rounds.
- Time control: 60 minutes + 5 seconds increment per move.
- Junior eligibility: born on or after 1 January 2008.

07 TOURNAMENT REGULATIONS

1. FIDE Laws of Chess shall apply.
2. No accelerated pairing will be used in any section.
3. **Number of rounds:** 8 rounds for Prestige and Challengers; 6 rounds for Junior.
4. **Time control:** Prestige and Challengers – 90 minutes + 30 seconds increment per move; Junior – 60 minutes + 5 seconds increment per move.
5. **Default time:** A player arriving more than 45 minutes late for a round shall forfeit the game.
6. **Draw offers:** No draw offers are allowed before Black's 30th move.
7. **Missing rounds:** A player who misses a round without officially notifying the Chief Arbiter or organiser may be withdrawn from the tournament, subject to the event's disciplinary provisions.
8. **Electronic devices:** Players and arbiters must not use electronic devices in the playing hall during games. Players found with electronic devices may lose the game immediately. Wrist watches of all types are not allowed in the playing hall.
9. **Junior eligibility:** Juniors are players born on or after 1 January 2008.
10. **Sections:** Prestige Open, Prestige Ladies, Challengers Open, Challengers Ladies and the 12 Junior categories. Prestige and Challengers use combined pools for the first six rounds, then separate Open/Ladies pools for the final two rounds.

Prize provisions

- Prestige ties: prizes split equally.
- Challengers ties: prizes split equally.
- Junior prizes: shopping vouchers.

****ALL PRIZE PAYMENTS WILL BE DONE BY
BANK TRANSFER WITHIN 7 WORKING
DAYS OF TOURNAMENT ENDING.****

08 SCHEDULE, APPEALS & CONTACT

Tournament schedule

The detailed round-by-round tournament schedule will be issued by the organisers in a subsequent communication.

Section	Dates	Rounds / Time
<u>MASTERS & CHALLENGERS</u>	OPENING CEREMONY	8:30am
	17 th Oct	1 - 9:00am
	17 th Oct	2 - 2:00pm
	18 th Oct	3 - 9:00am
	18 th Oct	4 - 2:00pm
	19 th Oct	5 - 9:00am
	19 th Oct	6 - 2:00pm
	20 th Oct	7 - 8:30am
	20 th Oct	8 - 1:30pm
	CLOSING CEREMONY	5:30pm
<u>JUNIORS</u>	OPENING CEREMONY	8:30am
	17 th Oct	1 - 9:00am
	17 th Oct	2 - 11:30am
	17 th Oct	3 - 2:30pm
	18 th Oct	4 - 9:00am
	18 th Oct	5 - 11:30am
	18 th Oct	6 - 2:30pm
	CLOSING CEREMONY	5:00pm

Appeals Committee

Details of the Appeals Committee will be communicated by the organisers.

Contact information

More contact information will be provided in the official event communication.

At the venue

- KCB Leadership Centre, Karen, Nairobi.
- Players should follow instructions from the Chief Arbiter and tournament officials.
- All published pairings, results and administrative notices remain subject to official tournament communication.

Final note

This brochure consolidates the event information and proposed prize schedule supplied for the 2026 KCB Open Chess Tournament. Organisers may issue further official notices covering the schedule, appeals committee, contacts and other operational details.

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2026 KCB OPEN CHESS TOURNAMENT