

VI LLINARS INTERNATIONAL CHESS OPEN 2026

Llinars, vila d'escacs



Tournament rules

1. Format: The tournament will be played in 9 rounds using **FIDE Swiss System based on rating (Dutch)**. The tournament participates in the **Catalan Chess Circuit** of International Opens in **Category A**.

2. Playing venue: The playing venue will be the **Llinars del Vallès Auditorium** (Ronda Sant Antoni 19) at the Llinars exit towards Sant Celoni, next to the Mercadona roundabout.

3. Schedule: It will be played on days **25th, 26th, 27th, 28th, 29th and 30th of June, and 1st, 2nd and 3rd July 2026**. The games will start at **05:00 pm**, except the last round which will be at **04:00 pm**.

4. Groups: The tournament will be played in two FIDE and FCE rated groups.

- Group A: Players with a valid FIDE license and a minimum of 1850 FIDE Rating (or Catalan Rating if they don't have FIDE rating)
- Group B: Players with a valid FIDE license and a maximum of 2000 FIDE Rating (or Catalan Rating if they don't have FIDE rating)

If a player between 1850 and 2000 FIDE rating doesn't specify which group they wish to play in, they will be allocated in Group A.

5. Time control: 90 minutes per player plus 30 seconds per move.

6. Rating: The tournament participates in the **22nd Catalan Circuit of Chess International Opens** in category A main section and category B rating section. All groups will be FIDE and FCE rated. Group A will be also valid for international norms.

7. Initial ranking: The players will be ranked firstly according to their **FIDE Rating** and then by their **Catalan Rating**, according to the rating lists published on June 1st 2026. The pairings will be supported by the "Swiss Manager" software.

8. Forfeits: Any player who arrives at the chessboard more than **60 minutes** after the start of the round shall lose the game by **forfeit**.

9. Registration fees

- General fee: Group A: 53 €
 Group B: 46 €
- Reduced fee for people with disabilities, women and seniors over 65:
 Group A 44 €
 Group B 37 €
- Fee under 14 Group B: 37 €.
- 6 € discount for Llinars Chess Club players.
- All players who register **before June 17th** will be entitled to **register for free** to the **Blitz tournament** that will be held on June 28th at the same venue.
- There will be a **taxi service** from the Llinars Station to the Auditorium which will include all the outward journeys for 5 €

Registrations will not be considered valid until the payment has been made. It shall be done in advance by depositing it in the **Banco de Santander account**:

IBAN: ES08 0049 2160 1228 1402 7031 - Swift/BIC: BSCHESMM

Players residing abroad may pay the registration with the **WISE platform**:

IBAN: BE05 9679 3799 1275 - Swift/BIC: TRWIBEB1XXX

(send an e-mail to the organizers if you wish explanations of the procedure)

It is compulsory to indicate the name, surname and club.

Players invited by the organization are exempt from the registration fee.

Due to the limited number of participants and following the recommendations of the International Circuit (<http://www.escacscircuit.cat>), cash payments will not be allowed.

Players will be withdrawn from the tournament if they don't attend the first round or two consecutive or alternating rounds, without justifying or notifying the Tournament Management before the pairing has been made.

It will not be possible to request more than three byes. No points will be awarded for byes, and must be requested in writing, and no later than the day before the round, until 8:00 pm. The pairings will be published at the end of the round, and not earlier than 9:30 pm.

10. Registration forms:

A. Using the registration form on our website:

www.llinarsopen.cat

B. By email to:

internationalchessopen@escacslinars.cat

Any questions regarding the tournament will be answered **by e-mail at the same address** or by **WhatsApp** at the phone number **+34 644 722 997**.

Deadline for registration: Tuesday 23rd June at 8:00 pm (Entries received after this date, if accepted, will be entries into the second or later - rounds of the championship).

Registration could be limited to a maximum number of players depending on the capacity protocol indicated by the health authorities. In that case, the admission would be in order of registration formalized once the payment has been made. If the limit is exceeded, a waiting list will be created. Any payment made without having access to the event will be refunded.

11. Daily prize: There will be a daily prize of a Gift basket of Local Products (LPL), which will be given every day to the winning player **on the boards 19 and 39 of group B (the number of boards can be changed according to the number of registrations)**. In the event of a draw, the prize will be won by the player with the black pieces. The prize will be awarded at the end of the game.

12. Prizes¹: Prizes per section will be awarded using the FIDE Rating.

The following prizes are set:

PRIZES GROUP A

1st	2.000 € + trophy + LPL²
2nd	1.200 € + trophy + LPL
3rd	700 € + trophy + LPL
4th	500 € + LPL
5th	300 € + LPL
6th	220 € + LPL
7th	160 € + LPL
8th	120 € + LPL

1st Section 2250-2400	90 € + LPL
1st Section 2100-2249	85 € + LPL
1st Section 1950-2099	80 € + LPL

1st female	220 € + LPL
2nd female	110 € + LPL
1st senior (over 65)	220 € + LPL
2nd senior (over 65)	110 € + LPL

PRIZES GROUP B

1st	350 € + trophy + LPL
2nd	300 € + trophy + LPL
3rd	250 € + trophy + LPL

¹For prizes exceeding €300, the income tax withholding required by current legislation will apply.

² LPL = Gift Basket of Local Products

4 th	200 € + LPL
5 th	150 € + LPL
6 th	100 € + LPL
7 th	75 € + LPL
8 th	65 € + LPL

1 st Section 1800-1949	55 € + LPL
1 st Section 1650-1799	55 € + LPL
1 st Section 1500-1649	55 € + LPL
1 st Section under 1499	55 € + LPL

1 st female	75 € + LPL
2 nd female	65 € + LPL

1 st senior (over 65)	75 € + LPL
2 nd senior (over 65)	65 € + LPL

1 st Under 18 (U16 included)	55 € + LPL
1 st Under 14 (or lower)	55 € + LPL

Senior: Players who are sixty-five (65) or older during the current year.

Under 18 (U16 included): Players under the age of eighteen (18) and over the age of fourteen (14) before January 1st of the current year.

Under 14 (or lower): Players under the age of fourteen (14) before January 1st of the current year.

All the players will receive after the tournament by e-mail a nominal and generic **certifying diploma** the day of the closing ceremony.

13. Prize-giving ceremony: The prize-giving ceremony will be held once the last round has ended, on July 3rd and will follow the order indicated in these rules. Individual prizes are not cumulative and will be awarded to the winners at this event, which have to be present at the closing ceremony in order to receive their prize.

Players who are eligible for more than one prize will receive the one with the highest economic value.

To receive the prize, it will be necessary to attend personally to the closing ceremony. In no case will the awards be given and absent chess players will lose the right to receive awards won in the tournament.

Winning players must carry the ID, NIE or the passport to collect the prize.

The age prizes will be awarded to the age group to which each participant belongs, according to the criteria of the Catalan Chess Federation, and will not be eligible for higher age groups.

14. Tie-breaks: The following tie-breaks will be applied (See Annex)

1. Rounds one elected to play (REP)
2. Buchholz Cut-1 (BH-C1)
3. Buchholz (BH)
4. Greater number of games won (WON)
5. Average rating of opponents Cut-1 (ARO-C1)

6. Average of Buchholz (AOB)
7. Drawing of lots

15. Principals and Arbiters: The Tournament Director will be **Mr. Jaume Gayoso**. **Mr. Josep Maria Parra** will be acting as Deputy Director. The Arbiters' team will be led by **Mr. Carlos Giménez** (Chief Arbiter).

16. Appeals Committee: The Appeals Committee will be composed of the tournament director or the person he delegates, and two players of legal age, plus two reserve players chosen among the participants. Appeals must be submitted in writing to the Appeals Committee not more than one hour after the end of the round. Their decisions shall be final. Players will have at their disposal the official FCE claim forms.

17. Anti-cheating: According to the FIDE Chess Laws, during the games it will not be allowed for the player to carry mobile phones, smartwatches or any other electronic device.

The organization will provide the participants with a bag with their ranking number to in order to store inside all the devices they wish. At the participant's request, the organization will store these items before the start of each round. These bags will be kept in a locked area, but the organization will not be responsible for their safekeeping or loss, nor for any damage that may occur to such devices.

The registration to the tournament implies acceptance that security checks may be performed using hand-held detectors, both at the start of the round or at random at any time, and at the end of the games.

All the broadcasted games will have a delay of 15 minutes and will be sent to the antichecking FIDE server for further analysis.

Any failure to comply with these regulations will be considered a serious breach of the Fair Play regulations and will result in the loss of the game, expulsion from the tournament and, where appropriate, referral of the case to the relevant federation and to FIDE for further sanctions.

18. Image rights: Participating players shall grant image rights to the Llinars Chess Club. Llinars Chess Club will be able to use the images taken in the playing area, both on its website and on other regular communication channels that are linked to the sporting activity carried out.

19. Regulations: Any point not covered by the present regulations will be governed by the FIDE regulations or FCE regulations for open tournaments. **In case of discrepancy between the translations, Catalan version of the current rules will be applied.** Participation in the tournament implies full acceptance of these rules.

20. Official website:

www.llinarsopen.cat

ANNEX: TIE-BREAKS

Rounds one elected to play (REP): The number of rounds except the zero-point byes and the forfeit losses of the player.

Buchholz Cut-1 (BH-C1): Consists of the sum of the scores of all the opponents of a player, discarding the one with the lowest score.

Buchholz (BH): Consists of the sum of the points of all the opponents of a player.

Greater number of games won (WON): Number of games won (unplayed games will not be taken into account)

Average Rating of Opponents Cut-1 (ARO-C1): This is the sum of the ratings of the opponents of a player (FIDE rating), divided by the number of games played, excluding the player with the lowest FIDE rating. Should an opponent not have FIDE rating, the minimum FIDE rating will be used (currently 1400).

Average of Buchholz (AOB): The average of the Buchholz scores of the opponents of the player is calculated.

Unplayed rounds management in Buchholz: In Buchholz the games not played will be applied according to the Baku 2023 criteria (FIDE Handbook C07, Article 16)

- When an opponent has unplayed rounds, in order to calculate the tie-break of the opponents, the score will be considered with the real result, unless they are withdrawn or at the last round. In that case, unplayed rounds since the moment of the withdrawal are considered as drawn.

- To calculate the player's own tie-break, any of the unplayed rounds will be evaluated as if there was a game played against a dummy that concluded with the same points as the participant themselves, and ended with the corresponding result.

- When the lowest score is discarded, if the player has any round with a requested bye or forfeit, this particular round will be discarded instead of the lowest score.