

The ACO World Amateur Chess Championship 2018 takes place from 12th -21th May 2018 on the island of Kos (Greece) as an open tournament. Any player with a rating below 2400 can represent his country and become ACO World Champion in his rating group!

**Accommodation for all players and accompanying persons:**

5-star Hotel Helona Resort Kos. Built by Hilton Hotel Group.

The playing hall is located inside the hotel.

**Division of groups:**

The tournament is played in the following rating groups:

Group A: 2201 – 2400

Group B: 2001 – 2200

Group C: 1801 – 2000

Group D: 1601 – 1800

Group E: 1401 – 1600

Group F: 1201 – 1400

Group G: 0 (unrated) – 1200

Every group plays separately meaning you only play opponents of similar playing strength in your group. For the division of groups we consider your ELO/national rating at the moment of registration. For players having both an ELO-rating and a national rating, the higher rating counts. In exceptional cases the organizer decides on written application of the participant.

**Mode and time control:**

9 rounds Swiss System.

**Rate of play:**

90 minutes for 40 moves + 15 minutes for the rest of the game with an increment of 30 seconds per move starting from move 1. Default time: 30 minutes.

**Starting fee (only for players)**

50 EUR

**Prizes: 5.000 EUR** (based on 100 entries)

**Group A**

**2201 – 2400**

1st place: 500 EUR

2nd place: 200 EUR

3rd place: 100 EUR

**Group B**

**2001 – 2200**

1st place: 400 EUR

2nd place: 200 EUR

3rd place: 100 EUR

**Group C**

**1801 – 2000**

1st place: 400 EUR

2nd place: 200 EUR

3rd place: 100 EUR

**Group D**

**1601 – 1800**

1st place: 400 EUR

2nd place: 200 EUR

3rd place: 100 EUR

**Group E**

**1401 – 1600**

1st place: 400 EUR

2nd place: 200 EUR

3rd place: 100 EUR

**Group F**

**1201 – 1400**

1st place: 400 EUR

2nd place: 200 EUR

3rd place: 100 EUR

**Group G**

**0 – 1200**

1st place: 400 EUR

2nd place: 200 EUR

3rd place: 100 EUR

**1st place of each rating group becomes ACO World Champion. Places 1-3 receive trophies.**

**Tournament Rules and Regulations:**

The ACO cannot provide any conditions for titled players. All players and accompanying persons are obliged to stay in the official hotel. All booking must be made directly through the ACO.

**Weather:**

The temperatures in May are mild and sunny with temperatures up to 28 degrees Celcius. May is considered to be one the most beautiful months.

**Extra nights:**

If you wish to arrive prior to the event or want to extend your stay in Helona Resort, please send us an email to [kos@amateurchess.com](mailto:kos@amateurchess.com)

**Transfer from the airport:**

The hotel is 10 minutes away from the airport. The costs for a taxi are ca. 20 EUR, the costs for a busticket ca. 3 EUR.

The following services are included for all players & accompanying persons:

- ✓ 9 overnight stays in 5-star Helona Resort Kos
- ✓ Full board Plus:  
Breakfast, lunch and dinner including non-alcoholic drinks  
Helona Resort Kos normally offers half board only. Full board plus will be served **exclusively for the participants and accompanying persons** of the ACO World Amateur Chess Championship 2018.
- ✓ Drinks flatrate (value 150 EUR)  
Unlimited non-alcoholic drinks during the meals.
- ✓ Alcoholic drinks for a special price  
If you want to enjoy alcoholic drinks during or after the meals, the hotel offers special coupons for ACO guests to a much reduced price of 2 EUR per drink. A coupon costs 20 EUR and is valid for 10 drinks, like beer, wine/red wine, long drinks and more. You can buy as many coupons at the reception as you want.
- ✓ Free drinks & snacks during the chess games (value 80 EUR)  
Water, coffee, orange juice as well as snacks are included. Unlimited, you can drink as much as you want to!
- ✓ Free game analysis with GM Spyridon Skembris & GM Zigurds Lanka  
After the end of your games, you can analyze them with the Greek national coach Spyridon Skembris and world famous coach Zigurds Lanka
- ✓ Free grandmaster chess lectures  
The grandmasters Skembris and Lanka will hold two lectures during the tournament about different chess topics (Duration about 1,5h each).
- ✓ Free chess side program (participation is voluntary)  
Each evening there will be a different chess event. For example blitz tournaments (Individual or teamblitz), grandmaster simultaneous exhibition etc.
- ✓ Private hotel beach (sandy beach)
- ✓ Free internet access



## Schedule ACO World Amateur Chess Championship 2018

Saturday	May 12th		Arrival
		From 6:00 PM	Registration & welcome drink at the pool
		7 to 11 PM	Dinner
Sunday	May 13th	9:00 AM	Draw of pairings for Round 1
		9:30 AM	Opening ceremony
		10:00 AM	Round 1
		6:30 PM	Blitz tournament (individual)
Monday	May 14th	10:00 AM	Round 2
		4:00 PM	Round 3
Tuesday	May 15th	10:00 AM	Round 4
		4:00 PM	Grandmaster lecture
		6:30 PM	Blitz tournament (in teams)

Wednesday	May 16th	10:00 AM	Round 5
		4:00 PM	Round 6
Thursday	May 17th		Free day
Friday	May 18th	10:00 AM	Round 7
		4:00 PM	Grandmaster lecture
		6:30 PM	Simultaneous exhibition
Saturday	May 19th	10:00 AM	Round 8
		6:30 PM	Blitz tournament (individual)
Sunday	May 20th	10:00 AM	Round 9
		6:00 PM	Farewell Drink at the pool + prize-giving ceremony
		7:00 PM	Final dinner
Monday	May 21st		Departure

The participation at the side program like for example blitz tournaments, lectures or simultaneous exhibition is voluntary.

## ACO World Amateur Chess Championship Kos 2017 - South American superstar plays chess incognito

Who like me, commutes a lot between 2 federal states, knows what it meant, especially this spring to have to sweeten its existence with a gray cloudy weather. In the last few weeks, we rarely had more than 10 degrees, mostly with rain and strong winds, so that we wanted to escape this climate. What is more beautiful if you have a flight ticket to the Mediterranean and at the beginning of May, at 9 degrees at the airport Hamburg, board an airplane to escape this tristesse, towards the Mediterranean. The goal once again was the Mediterranean island of Kos and the ACO World Championship, which is held for the 6th time and is constantly enjoying increasing demand. The organizer was finally able to welcome 314 participants, which on the one hand meant a new entrant's record, and on the other hand, that the organizer had a great confidence in the work of the last few years. Thus, the tournament was already booked in September for the Helona Resort Hotel (5 stars), so that now, participants could also be accommodated in the Lakitira hotel (4 stars), 300 meters away.

In personal conversations with the foreign participants, it is always conveyed to me that they were here on recommendations which lead them to this place, e.g. From Sweden or even from Australia. For example, Elliot Renzis, 69 years old, traveled directly from Melbourne and was so enthusiastic that he decided during the tournament to book again next year. Already on the evening before the start of the tournament, there is a reception at the pool bar with a small drink, this clearly attests to the fact that the organizer tries his best to be forthcoming to the visitors. A cheerful togetherness with good old friends but also with the opportunity to meet new ones.

The fact that the choice for the venue was once again at the Helona Resort hotel, is not surprising, if one was here before. As every year, most of the first-time participants are on the road with the camera on the day of arrival in order to capture the various impressions. 5 players already took part for the sixth time. The youngest participant was the 6 year old Filip Ochedzan from Poland and the oldest, Luis Friedland, 90 years old, came from France. The participants are from Europe, Chile, USA, Argentina, India, Siberia and last but not least Australia. This is likely to be the only tournament with nearly all participants coming by plane. Once again the participants of GM Spiridon Skembris were supported in their post mortem analyzes. In addition, this year, 2 island excursions with German and English speaking tour guides were offered on the day off, a trip to the historical places, alternatively a trip to an olive factory and a wine tasting. To my astonishment, the seats were almost all gone before the start of the tournament.

It was played in 7 groups starting with category 2201 to 2400. On Sunday, 07.05. In the morning at 9:30 am the welcoming and instruction of the players took place, punctually at 10:00 am went on, followed by a double round on Monday. Tuesday the 4th round and Wednesday again a double round, respectively at 10:00 am and 4:00 pm. Thursday was a day off, until from Friday one Game was played each day until Sunday. There were also other framework events in the form of chess and lightning tournaments. On Sunday at 4 pm, all the winners were determined. Sunday was the closing ceremony. For the first time this was held outdoors, with an excellent panoramic view of the volcano island of Nisyros and the sea, next to the hotel lobby, by the pool. Most of the participants appeared in a suit appropriate to the occasion, very much to the pleasure of the organizer. After a compulsory pool photo, Chairman Lothar Hirneise opened the closing ceremony.



Right at the beginning, he surprised everyone with a note that among the participants was a famous musician from Chile, who is very successful in South America as a singer and dancer, but is absolutely unknown in Europe. She played in the F group, got three points, but in the entertainment business so his statements would have earned you more than 2800 ELO points according to our chess knowledge. Her given name is Maria Jose Yarur. She is a celebrated artist in South America, under the name of JUGA. Lothar Hirneise was pleased to note that she would now give us a taste of her art. As far as this could be judged as a muscular layman, the voice and mastery of the music instrument brought along were a dream, soft and harmonious in sound. She performed four songs from her repertoire. She stunned with a revamped version of the music classic "From head to toe set on love". Among other things, the classic magic word was replaced by Schachmatt. Fierce applause for an extraordinary artist, as well as a very beautiful woman, who makes the men's hearts beat faster. Yes a great event is once again over, old friendships were cultivated, new ones were found. What a pity you were not there!

But before I forget, the event next year is from 12.05.2018 to 21.05.2018. Due to the holiday constellation, e.g. From 10.05. Until 21.05. Only 6 holidays. You see, it's worth it! See you there!

Uwe Ritter, Kos, 15th May 2017



## Notes about the registration

- For the tournament in May 2017, Helona Resort was already booked out before September 30th, 2016. Therefore the hotel recommends an early booking to guarantee a place.
- Out of experience, rooms with sea view as well as rooms with Shared Pool are very popular and therefore booked out very early.
- For the booking of extra nights before or after the tournament, for example to connect with bridging days (May 10th and May 21st are public holidays), please send an email to **[kos@amateurchess.com](mailto:kos@amateurchess.com)**
- Extra nights can be booked for the same conditions like during the ACO World Amateur Chess Championship Kos 2018.

- The booking of rooms for accompanying persons who don't take part in the tournament is also possible.
- It is possible to have a few more days of vacation after the event and to bring an accompanying person.
- Chess teachers or chess clubs who arrive with groups of 10 or more persons may get special conditions.

In case of any questions about the hotel, tournament, registration or anything else please do not hesitate to contact us:

### Contact and registration:

Mrs. Marianne Volk  
**[kos@amateurchess.com](mailto:kos@amateurchess.com)**

# Registration form

## ACO World Amateur Chess Championship 2018

Organizer: Amateur Chess Organization GmbH, Cannstatterstr.13, 71394 Kernen, Germany

### Step 1: Fill out this form (one form per person, also accompanying persons)

Fill out this form and send it either  
by email to: kos@amateurchess.com  
by fax to: 0049 7151 910221

### Step 2: Confirmation

You will receive a confirmation from ACO of the tournament and for your hotel booking

### Step 3: Transfer money

Transfer the **initial payment of 20% of the total amount**  
free of bank charges, to following bank account:

Bank:	Postbank
SWIFT/BIC:	PBNKDEFF
IBAN:	DE65 6001 0070 0951 5937 03
Address of bank:	70148 Stuttgart, Germany
Beneficiary:	Amateur Chess Organization GmbH
Reason for transfer:	Kos, Your name

### The remaining amount has to be transferred till 12th April 2018.

To register, please tick the following box:

Yes, I agree to the below terms and conditions (on the next two pages)

Please indicate if you are a:

Player **Rating:** \_\_\_\_\_

Accompanying person

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date, Signature

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ First name: \_\_\_\_\_

Land: \_\_\_\_\_ Date of birth: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone number: \_\_\_\_\_

How did you hear about us? \_\_\_\_\_

Please choose your accommodation (tick the box on the right)

Helona Resort (12th - 21th May 2018) Registration until 30.09.2017	Price per person	Price per room	
Double room Standard	749 EUR	1498 EUR	<input type="checkbox"/>
Double room Sea view	849 EUR	1698 EUR	<input type="checkbox"/>
Double room Standard / Shared Pool	999 EUR	1998 EUR	<input type="checkbox"/>
Double room Sea view / Shared Pool	1149 EUR	2298 EUR	<input type="checkbox"/>
Single room Standard	1099 EUR	1099 EUR	<input type="checkbox"/>
Single room Sea view	1199 EUR	1199 EUR	<input type="checkbox"/>
Single room Standard / Shared Pool	1399 EUR	1399 EUR	<input type="checkbox"/>
Single room Sea view / Shared Pool	1549 EUR	1549 EUR	<input type="checkbox"/>
Family room 2 adults + 1 child up to 16 years		1999 EUR	<input type="checkbox"/>
Family room 2 adults + children up to 16 years		2199 EUR	<input type="checkbox"/>
Suite (63m <sup>2</sup> ) for 2 persons	1599 EUR	3198 EUR	<input type="checkbox"/>
Villa (120m <sup>2</sup> ) for 2 persons	2299 EUR	4598 EUR	<input type="checkbox"/>
Villa (120m <sup>2</sup> ) for 3 persons	1799 EUR	5397 EUR	<input type="checkbox"/>
Villa (120m <sup>2</sup> ) for 4 persons	1599 EUR	6396 EUR	<input type="checkbox"/>
Villa (120m <sup>2</sup> ) for 5 persons	1499 EUR	7495 EUR	<input type="checkbox"/>