

REGULATIONS

International Chess Festival

“Shamakhi Open - 2025”

1. Objectives

- 1.1. Promotion and development of chess in Azerbaijan;
- 1.2. Increasing the playing experience and international rating of chess players, fulfilling international norms;
- 1.3. Development of Azerbaijani children's chess;

2. Organizers

- 2.1. Azerbaijan Chess Federation
- 2.2. Vugar Gashimov Chess Foundation

3. Playing venue, date

- 3.1. Festival will be held in Shamakhi in “Educational Center”.
- 3.2. Festival will be held on 26 June (arrival) - 3 July (last round and closing) 2025.

4. Festival rules

- 4.1. The festival is organized in 4 groups – A (players rated 1900 and above), B (players rated 1899 and below), C (Rapid) and D (Blitz).
- 4.2. The competitions are held according to the FIDE rules of the game.
- 4.3. Chess players with FIDE IDs can participate in groups A, B, C and D.
- 4.4. The competition in groups A, B and D is held in 9 rounds according to the Swiss system.
- 4.5. The competition in group C is held in 7 rounds according to the Swiss system.
- 4.6. The game control time in groups A and B is 90 minutes until the end of the game, with 30 seconds added to each move from the first move (90 minutes + 30 seconds / each move).
- 4.7. The game control time in group C - (Rapid) is 10 minutes until the end of the game, with 3 seconds added to each move from the first move (10 minutes + 3 seconds / each move).
- 4.8. The game control time in group D - (Blitz) is 3 minutes until the end of the game, with 2 seconds added to each move from the first move (3 minutes + 2 seconds / each move).
- 4.9. The delay time for the round in groups A and B is 15 minutes.
- 4.10. The organizer may exclude up to 10 participants who do not meet the requirements from group “A”.

4.11. In case of equal points, the winning odds are determined in the following order:

In group A, B, C, D	
1.	Direct encounter (the results of the players in the same point group)
2.	Buchholts (cut 1)
3.	Buchholts
4.	Number of victories

4.12. The pairings of the tournaments will be done using the “Swiss-Manager” program. The results and pairings will be published daily on the competition website (shamakhiopen2025.chess.az) and www.chess-results.com.

4.13. The schedule of competitions is as follows:

Date	Event	Time	
26 june 2025	Arrival	During the day	
	Confirmation of registr.	10:00-20:00	
27 june 2025	Opening ceremony	10:00	
27 june 2025	1st round	Group A & B 11:00	
28 june 2025	2nd round	Group A & B 11:00	
28 june 2025	3rd round	Group A & B 16:00	
29 june 2025	4th round	Group A & B 11:00	Rapid 16:00
30 june 2025	5th round	Group A & B 11:00	
30 june 2025	6th round	Group A & B 16:00	
01 july 2025	7th round	Group A & B 11:00	Blitz 16:00
02 july 2025	8th round	Group A & B 11:00	
03 july 2025	9th round	Group A & B 11:00	
	Closing ceremony	16:00	

5. Registration and entry fee

- 5.1. Registration is open from the date of the festival announcement until June 15, 2025.
- 5.2. Registration is done online only: shamakhiopen2025.chess.az
- 5.3. The entry fee for participation in the festival is determined according to the following table:

Entry fee	
ELO above 2400	Free
ELO 2201-2400	40 AZN
ELO 2001-2200	50 AZN
ELO 1801-2000	60 AZN
ELO 1401-1800	70 AZN
Not rated	80 AZN
Rapid/Blitz	20 AZN

- 5.4. The following are free entry fees:
- Grandmasters (men and women)
 - International Masters (men and women)
 - Female chess players with an international rating above 2200
 - Chess players with an international rating above 2400
 - Chess players, who stays at the official hotel

6. Prizes

- The total prize fund is **23.150** AZN.
- The prize fund is provided by the Azerbaijan Chess Federation.
- For group A prize is **15.900** AZN, for group B is **4.950** AZN, for group C is **1150** AZN, for group D is **1150** AZN.
- Prizes are determined according to the following tables:

Place	Group A		
	General		
1	5.000 AZN	Best woman	500 AZN
2	3.500 AZN	ELO 1901-2000	300 AZN
3	2.000 AZN	ELO 2001-2100	300 AZN
4	1.000 AZN		
5	800 AZN		
6	700 AZN		
7	600 AZN		
8	500 AZN		
9	400 AZN		
10	300 AZN		

Place		Group B	
	General		
1	1.000 AZN	Best woman	200 AZN
2	800 AZN	ELO 1401-1500	200 AZN
3	600 AZN	ELO 1501-1600	200 AZN
4	500 AZN	ELO 1601-1700	200 AZN
5	400 AZN		
6	300 AZN		
7	200 AZN		
8	150 AZN		
9	100 AZN		
10	100 AZN		

Rapid		Blitz	
I place – 300 AZN		I place – 300 AZN	
II place – 200 AZN		II place – 200 AZN	
III place – 150 AZN		III place – 150 AZN	
IV place – 100 AZN		IV place – 100 AZN	
V place – 100 AZN		V place – 100 AZN	
ELO 1401-1600 – 100 AZN		ELO 1401-1600 – 100 AZN	
ELO 1601-1800 – 100 AZN		ELO 1601-1800 – 100 AZN	
ELO 1801-2000 – 100 AZN		ELO 1801-2000 – 100 AZN	

- 6.5. The amount of the prize fund is exempt from all types of taxes applied in the Republic of Azerbaijan.
- 6.6. If a participant takes several places eligible for a prize, he can only receive 1 prize (the highest one).
- 6.7. If two or more chess players score the same number of points, the prize is not divided, and the additional prize is awarded to the participant with the higher score.

7. Accommodation

- 7.1. The first applicants, 5 male chess players with an international rating of over 2500 and 3 female chess players with an international rating of over 2300 as of June 1, 2025 (a total of 8 people), will be hosted by the organizers, including 3 meals.

7.2. Hotel expenses for participants are proposed as per the table below:

Hotel	Double room		Single room	
	With breakfast	Full board	With breakfast	Full board
Shamakhi Educational Center	50 AZN	65 AZN	75 AZN	90 AZN
	(per 1 person)	(per 1 person)		

- If you have any additional questions regarding accommodation, you can contact the organizer.

8. Appeal

- 8.1. Objections against the decisions of the Chief Arbiter may be submitted to the Appeals Commission. The members of the Appeals Commission are selected and appointed by the Organizing Committee.
- 8.2. Protests can be submitted only in writing and upon payment of the appropriate fee - 200 (two hundred) AZN within 1 (one) hour after the end of the game.

9. Media

- 9.1. Only accredited media representatives are allowed to take photographs during the festival.
- 9.2. Photography using flash is only allowed during the first 5 (five) minutes after the start of the rounds.

10. Viza

- 10.1. E-visas can be easily obtained on the following link: <https://evisa.gov.az/az/>
- 10.2. List on eligibile e-visa countries is on <https://evisa.gov.az/az/countries>
- 10.3. Non-eligibile countries should contact Azerbaijan Embassy in the respective country.
- 10.4. In case of need the Organizing Committee provides invitation letter in obtaining an entry visa.

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