

## **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](http://shamakhiopen2025.chess.az)) and [www.chess-results.com](http://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](http://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

- 6.1. The total prize fund is **23.150** AZN.
- 6.2. The prize fund is provided by the Azerbaijan Chess Federation.
- 6.3. 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.
- 6.4. 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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