



# **Blue Chevaliers International Open**

**13-19 July 2025**

**Novotel Phuket Resort, Thailand**

**Presented by the Blue Chevaliers in partnership with Red Knight Chess Club**



## Our Commitment-Continuous Improvement

We are committed to improving and developing our tournament each year. In 2025, our commitment is being fulfilled in the following ways:

- **Capacity increased** from 125 players to up to 160 players. This has been achieved by sourcing an additional playing room, with no compromise to player comfort.
- **Open prizemoney increased** by 25% from 248,000 baht to 310,000 baht. The total number of prizes awarded in the open and female championship categories has also been expanded from 16 to 19.
- Introduction of **“Bami’s Blitz”** a nine round 5/2 tournament which offers still further prizemoney.



*Patong Beach is the most central of the three beaches pictured.*

## Invitation

The Blue Chevaliers, together with our partners Red Knight Chess Club, invite chess players to our fourth international open tournament, to be played at Novotel Phuket Resort on Patong Beach, Thailand from 13-19 July 2025.

This is the same venue at which the tournament was held in 2023 and 2024.



*Patong Beach*

## The Tournament

A nine round swiss system tournament will be played over seven days. Each player will be given 90 minutes for all moves, plus a 30 second increment that will be added after each move played. All games will be processed for rating by FIDE.

## Excellent Playing Conditions

We strive to provide a high level of player comfort at our tournaments. Our two playing rooms are modern, carpeted and fully air-conditioned. The majority of boards are accommodated on tables dedicated to a single game.



## Capacity

It was a disappointment to us when in 2024, we were unable to accept the entry of every player who wished to join. We have therefore sourced an additional playing room, very near to the main playing room, which can be used if necessary. This boosts our comfortable capacity from 125 players to as many as 160 players.

Entries will be immediately closed should capacity be reached. **Players are therefore encouraged to enter early to secure their place in the tournament.**



## Eligibility

Players of any nationality, Thai or foreigner, may enter this “open” tournament.

Entrants must have a FIDE ID number and a minimum standard ELO of 1400. A player with a rating only slightly above 1400 may enter the tournament, **but must retain their rating in the FIDE ratings list to be published on 1 July 2025 to maintain eligibility**. Only rated players will be admitted to the open tournament (however, unrated players with a FIDE ID number may enter Bami’s Blitz).

Entrants under the age of 18 on 1 July 2025 will be subject to assessment pursuant to our “competitive fairness” policy, which aims to encourage fair ratings, and junior participation in open tournaments where they will encounter adult players. The following are exempt from this assessment:

- a) Thai nationals;
- b) Players permanently resident in Thailand for 12 months or more;
- c) Past participants in the Blue Chevaliers International Open;
- d) Participants in the 2025 ASEAN Age Groups Championships.

Organisers reserve the right to decline the entry of any player at their own discretion, without necessarily providing a reason.



*The 2024 Open Champion IM Oleg Badmatsyrenov.*

## The Venue

Novotel Phuket Resort is nestled in a quiet corner of Patong Beach. The tournament will be played at the “Siam Conference Centre” within the resort.



*Resort guests enjoy a multitude of bars, swimming pools and recreational facilities*

Secure the following discounted room rates (which include all taxes and charges, and a full breakfast) by booking directly with the resort via email to [suwannee.onsuwan@accor.com](mailto:suwannee.onsuwan@accor.com) and [namfon.pattha@accor.com](mailto:namfon.pattha@accor.com) and quoting “Blue Chevaliers International Open Participant.” These rates will apply to our chess players within the period 11 July to 21 July.

Superior Room (double or twin)	<b>3,200</b> baht per night
Deluxe Seaview Room (double or twin)	<b>4,500</b> baht per night
Deluxe Pool Access	<b>4,800</b> baht per night
Deluxe Family Room with bunk bed	<b>5,200</b> baht per night

**Note: These discounted room rates are only valid until 20 June 2025. A limited number of each room type have been reserved for the tournament. Players keen to stay at the venue resort should book early to secure their accommodation.**

### Tournament Room Shuttle Service

The tournament playing room is accessed by a short walk up a steep hill. Although players are welcome to undertake this climb by foot if they so prefer, a continuous tuk-tuk shuttle service will operate from the base of the hill from 30 minutes before each round.



*Guest rooms at Novotel Phuket Resort are quiet and well appointed.*

**All players, whether staying at Novotel Phuket Resort or elsewhere, will receive a 15% discount on resort spa, food and non-alcoholic beverages during the tournament.** If asked to do so, players should identify themselves to resort staff as a player by displaying our “blue knight” logo using their mobile phones.

A range of alternative accommodation is also available in the vicinity of the resort to cater for all budgets. However, we request that players consider supporting our partner resort, knowing that a stay at Novotel Phuket Resort will be a memorable experience for our players.



### Schedule

Round 1	4.00pm Sunday 13 July
Round 2	9.30am Monday, 14 July
Round 3	3.00pm Monday, 14 July
Round 4	9.30am Tuesday, 15 July
<b>Bami's Blitz</b>	<b>7.00pm Tuesday 15 July</b>
Round 5	2.00pm Wednesday, 16 July
Round 6	9.30am Thursday, 17 July
Round 7	3.00pm Thursday, 17 July
Round 8	2.00pm Friday, 18 July
Round 9	9.30am Saturday, 19 July

### Presentation of Prizes

Presentation of prizes is scheduled for 3.00pm on 19 July. Any person is most welcome to attend the presentation. **The winner of a prize must be present to collect it at the presentation ceremony, or it will be forfeited.**

### Draw Offers

An offer of a draw may be ventured at any time, without requirement for a specific number of moves to have been made.



*No need to fight if you don't want to.*



## Entry Fees-Blue Chevaliers International Open

Entries are now open. Entry fees are as follows:

- a) **3,500 baht** for players rated 2000 or higher
- b) **4,500 baht** for players rated below 2000.

Entry is **free** for all of the following:

- a) any player with a standard ELO rating of 2400 or higher
- b) any female player with a standard ELO rating of 2300 or higher
- c) any player holding the “GM” or “WGM” Grandmaster title
- d) the 2024 Open Champion (IM Oleg Badmatsyrenov)
- e) the 2024 Female Champion (WFM Bayanmunkh Amin-Erdene)
- f) all members of Thailand’s 2024 Olympiad Teams (open and female)
- g) The 2025 Thailand Open Champion and Women’s Champion.

A 500 baht surcharge will be applicable to entries received after **20 June 2025**. In the event of cancellation by an entered player, their entry fee will be refunded in full if cancellation is advised by **16 June 2025**. The absolute closing time for entries is at 2.00pm on 11 July, **or as soon as the capacity of 160 players is reached.**

## Bami’s Blitz

Separate entry fees will apply for Bami’s Blitz. Players entering the Blue Chevaliers International Open should indicate if they wish to also play in Bami’s Blitz when submitting their entry for the principal event, in which case 400 baht will be added to their total entry fee obligation. A player wishing to enter the blitz tournament may also do so in person in the playing room between 5.30pm and 6.30pm upon paying an entry fee of 500 baht. Entry into Bami’s Blitz is free for any player qualified for free entry into the Blue Chevaliers International Open tournament.

The blitz tournament will be held over 9 rounds at a time control of 5/2. Prizemoney will be as follows:

1 <sup>st</sup>	6,000 baht	2 <sup>nd</sup>	5,000 baht	3 <sup>rd</sup>	4,000 baht
	4 <sup>th</sup>	3,000 baht	5 <sup>th</sup>	2,000 baht	

Unrated players with a FIDE ID number are welcome to enter Bami’s Blitz.

## Grandmaster Accommodation Offer



The offer detailed below is conditional on the following:

- a) a minimum standard ELO of 2450.
- b) a limit of 5 rooms being allocated at the tariff rates set out in the offer. These will be allocated on a "first come first served" basis to GM titleholders.

### The Offer

- a) The GM will be accommodated at Novotel Phuket Resort (the venue for the tournament);
- b) The room must be occupied for at least 6 nights within the period 12-20 July;
- c) The discounted tariff for the room will be 2,000 baht per night. This includes a full buffet breakfast, and all taxes and charges;
- d) The GM will be automatically upgraded upon arrival from a "Superior" room to a "Deluxe Seaview" room.**
- e) The GM may elect to choose a Deluxe Seaview twin room (subject to availability) and share it with any other person (titleholder or non-titleholder). This option would result in each guest paying just 1,000 baht per night (including full breakfasts and all taxes and charges).

On expressing interest in being allocated a room, a room (if still available) will be allocated to the GM on a provisional basis for up to 7 days. The allocation will be confirmed upon payment of the applicable invoice by the GM concerned within that 7 day period. In the event of non-payment, the room will be returned to the pool of available rooms

Any interested Grandmaster is invited to make direct contact with Peter Frost at [peter.frost3@yahoo.com.au](mailto:peter.frost3@yahoo.com.au). All room allocations pursuant to this offer will be handled in the first instance by Peter. Therefore, Grandmasters should proceed directly through Peter, and not initially through Novotel Phuket Resort.

**The number of rooms available to Grandmasters pursuant to this offer is limited to 5, and the offer will expire on 20 June 2025. Interested Grandmasters are encouraged to move early should they wish to secure a room on the terms available in this offer.**

Any player holding a GM title who is not eligible to participate in the accommodation offer will be granted free entry into the tournament.



## How to Enter

Players can enter the tournament via the following two step procedure:

- a) email [peter.frost3@yahoo.com.au](mailto:peter.frost3@yahoo.com.au) to advise of intent to enter. This email must include the player's name, FIDE ID number and date of birth. We will reply within 48 hours to advise whether the entry is able to be accepted.
- b) after receiving our reply, entrants based in Thailand must, within 5 business days, transfer their entry fee into the following Kasikorn Bank account:

Account Number	Name of Account Holder
062-1-75111-5	Red Knight Chess Co. Ltd

The entrant must simultaneously send an email to [peter.frost3@yahoo.com.au](mailto:peter.frost3@yahoo.com.au) with an image of their transfer deposit receipt. We will then confirm by reply email that the entry has been finalized.

Entrants NOT based in Thailand can confirm their entry simply by emailing an image of their flight booking. Such entrants will be able to pay their entry fee in cash when registering on the morning of the first round.

Only players who have fully complied with all these entry requirements, including making their payment, will be paired for round 1.

## Fair Play

A player in possession at the board of a mobile phone or other electronic device, or who is judged to have viewed a mobile phone in a bathroom or elsewhere outside the playing room, will forfeit the game. **Players judged to have deliberately cheated will be immediately removed from the tournament and banned from all future Blue Chevaliers events.**

Digital watches will be confiscated and returned to the offending player after play.

Rest rooms will be periodically examined by the arbiters.

All players who enter the tournament accept that they may be subjected to random scanning for electronic devices at any time, and that their image may be used in tournament reporting.



## Prizes

### Open Category (all players eligible)

1<sup>st</sup> 55,000 baht    2<sup>nd</sup> 35,000 baht  
3<sup>rd</sup> 25,000 baht    4<sup>th</sup> 20,000 baht    5<sup>th</sup> 15,000 baht    6<sup>th</sup> 12,000 baht  
7<sup>th</sup> 10,000 baht    8<sup>th</sup> 9,000 baht    9<sup>th</sup> 8,000 baht    10<sup>th</sup> 7,000 baht  
11<sup>th</sup> 6,000 baht    12<sup>th</sup> 5,000 baht

### Female Category

1<sup>st</sup> 20,000 baht    2<sup>nd</sup> 12,000 baht    3<sup>rd</sup> 9,000 baht    4<sup>th</sup> 8,000 baht  
5<sup>th</sup> 7,000 baht    6<sup>th</sup> 6,000 baht    7<sup>th</sup> 5,000 baht



*2024 Female Champion WFM Bayanmunkh Amin-Erdene*

Under Thai law, 5% of prizemoney won by foreign nationals must be withheld as tax payable to the Thailand government. However, this liability will be met separately by the organisers, and the cash prizes designated above will be paid in full at the prize-giving ceremony.

**All prizes are guaranteed, regardless of the number of entries actually received.**

## Sectional Prizes

The top 18 seeds will be deemed to be competing for the open prizes. From the 19th seed, the field will be divided into three further sections of equal numbers, in order of ELO rating. Sectional prizes will be awarded as follows:

1<sup>st</sup> 5,000 baht      2<sup>nd</sup> 4,000 baht      3<sup>rd</sup> 3,000 baht

A player may only win one cash prize. If a player qualifies for a prize in more than one category, the player will receive the highest cash prize to which they are entitled. If such prizes are equivalent, the hierarchy to determine the applicable award shall be open, female, and finally, sectional prizes.

Prizes will not be shared. Ties will be broken by applying the tie breaking procedures indicated on the tournament's page at [chess-results.com](http://chess-results.com).



## Trophies and Medals

Silver cups will be presented to the winners of the open, female, senior (over 50 years of age on 13 July 2025) and junior (under 18 years of age on 13 July 2025) categories. Gold, silver and bronze medals will be presented to the first three placegetters in each of these categories, as well as the sectional categories.

## Forfeits

We take very seriously the issue of players not appearing for a game after being paired for the applicable round. The following guidelines are provided in advance of the tournament.

1. A player not present within 1 hour of the scheduled starting time for a game will be forfeited.
2. A player may request via the arbiters not to be paired for any round, so long as such request is made before the pairings for the applicable round are prepared. No score will be allocated to the player for the applicable round.
3. Once paired for a round, a player is expected to take all reasonable steps to ensure their attendance for the game.
4. If a player does not appear for a game after being paired, the player will not be paired for the following round unless a timely and satisfactory explanation for their forfeit is provided to an Arbiter or [peter.frost3@yahoo.com.au](mailto:peter.frost3@yahoo.com.au)
5. Any player not providing a satisfactory explanation for a forfeit may be removed from the tournament to minimize the risk of further forfeits and will jeopardise their entry into our future tournaments.

## Tournament Information

The primary source for information in advance of the tournament, and for reports, photos and videos during the tournament, will be our tournament facebook page “Blue Chevaliers Chess Tournament”, which is now operative. All players and other interested persons are encouraged to “follow” this page to keep abreast of the latest tournament information. However, any key “need to know” information will also be announced in person to players prior to the commencement of each round.

The tournament will also feature a page at ‘chess-results.com’ which will regularly update entries received, and provide full details of the tournament. The games of the top ten boards will be viewable on this site within 24 hours of the conclusion of the applicable round.

### Past Champions

Year	Open Champion	Female Champion	Junior Champion	Senior Champion
2022	FM Jony Habla	WFM Sarocha Chuemsakul	Shin Jingjang	Ric Portugalera
2023	IM Konstantin Sek	WCM Jia-Tien Chua	Rishi Vijayakumar	IM Torben Sorensen
2024	IM Oleg Badmatsyrenov	WFM Bayanmunkh Amin-Erdene	Yu Shi	FM Ko Ko Ohn

### Registration

Every entrant must register their arrival in person in the playing room between **11.00am and 3.00pm** on the day of the first round. Foreign based players who have not yet paid their entry fee must do so when registering. **Only entrants who have presented themselves for registration will be paired for the first round.**

### Appeals

An Appeals Committee will be announced in advance of the tournament. An appeal must be lodged with an Arbiter by not later than ten minutes after the conclusion of the final game of the applicable round. A deposit of 2,000 baht will be required, which may or may not be refunded at the discretion of the Appeals Committee.

### Spectators

Spectators will be permitted to remain in the playing room for the first five minutes of a round. Photos may be taken during that period. Players may linger in the playing room to spectate other games after their own has ended, subject to the Chief Arbiter retaining full discretion to clear the room of spectators at any time he sees fit to do so.

### Mask Wearing

Mask wearing is optional for all players.



### Dress Code

Intending entrants are advised that Thailand is a conservative society regarding dress, particularly for organized events. We ask that players show respect for the tournament and for our partner resort by dressing appropriately in all public areas of the resort premises, including the playing rooms. **Players not adhering to the dress code will jeopardise their continued participation and their entry into our future tournaments.**

### Enquiries

Should any prospective player wish to ask any questions regarding the tournament, do not hesitate to do so via [peter.frost3@yahoo.com.au](mailto:peter.frost3@yahoo.com.au)

### Appreciations



The Blue Chevaliers and Red Knight Chess Club wish to acknowledge Thailand Chess Association, Southside Knights Chess Club, Big Rook Chess Academy, Double Bishop Chess Academy, and Hua Hin Chess Club for invaluable support in providing chess equipment. We also thank Mr Jeroen Wismeijer of Phuket for undertaking a variety of local tasks associated with the tournament.

The Blue Chevaliers International Open is presented by the Blue Chevaliers in partnership with Red Knight Chess Club.

### **The Blue Chevaliers**

The Blue Chevaliers (Bami, David, Jeremi, Matthieu, Nicolas and Peter) are foreign chess players active in South-East Asia.

We are strictly non-profit. We simply aim to be of service primarily to the Thailand chess community, but also to chess players throughout South-East Asia.

We particularly value and are keen to encourage standard time controls, and the participation of female players in chess tournaments.

In addition to presenting our annual international open tournament in Phuket, we also publish a regular online newsletter, "Tiger Chess!" which promotes and reports on standard tournaments in Thailand and South-East Asia. Subscription is free, and can be arranged by emailing [peter.frost3@yahoo.com.au](mailto:peter.frost3@yahoo.com.au)

### **Red Knight Chess Club**

Founded by our Deputy Arbiters Riste and Loreshyl, Red Knight Chess Club has produced a large number of Thailand youth champions and helped many young players in Bangkok to become strong and competitive chess players.

In addition to coaching, the club regularly organizes big international school competitions, as well as FIDE rated tournaments for players of all ages and levels.

You can find out more about Red Knight here: <https://redknightchess.com/our-facilities/>



*In August 2024, the Red Knight Chess Café was opened. With a new, modern design, this chess themed coffee shop is a must-stop place for chess players from all around the world, when visiting or passing through Bangkok.*

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We are excited at the prospect of once again welcoming our chess friends for a great week of chess on the glorious blue Andaman Sea.

**See you in Phuket!**



Blue Chevaliers International Open 2025