

9th International Open SKG

August 6 – 11, 2026 | Thessaloniki, Greece

Official Playing Venue:

Holiday Inn Hotel Thessaloniki
8 Monastiriou Str., Thessaloniki, Greece
<https://maps.app.goo.gl/spPeoS28yqBFQC4M7>

1. Organizing Committee

The chess club 'SATH White Tower', in cooperation with the **Municipality of Thessaloniki**, **ESO Papafi "To Hroniko"**, and **SA Moudanion**, with the official support of the **ESSTH-H (Chess Clubs Association of Thessaloniki-Halkidiki)**, proudly present the **9th Open International SKG Chess Tournament**.

2. Tournament System & Groups

- **Group A:** 9-round Swiss System. Open to all players with a FIDE Rating ≥ 2000 (≥ 1900 for female players).
- **Group B:** 9-round Swiss System. Open to players with a FIDE Rating from 0 to 1999.
- **Group C:** 7-round Swiss System. Open strictly to junior players up to 12 years old (U12).

Important Technical Notes:

- **FIDE Rating Lists:** All groups will be evaluated for FIDE and National ratings based on lists effective August 1, 2026.
- **Group A Exceptions:** A maximum of 10 players rated between 1850 and 1999 may be accepted into Group A with an increased fee.
- **Requested Absences (Byes):** Up to two (2) half-point (0.5) byes are permitted. Valid up to (and including) Round 5 for Groups A & B, and up to (and including) Round 3 for Group C.

3. Time Control & Default Time

- **Groups A & B:** 90 minutes for the entire game, with a 30-second increment per move starting from move one.
- **Group C:** 60 minutes for the entire game, with a 30-second increment per move starting from move one.
- **Default Time:** 30 minutes from the scheduled start of the round.

4. Official Playing Schedule

Groups A & B Schedule

Round / Event	Day & Date	Start Time
Round 1	Thursday, August 6	17:00
Round 2	Friday, August 7	10:00
Round 3	Friday, August 7	17:30
Round 4	Saturday, August 8	10:00
Round 5	Saturday, August 8	17:30
Round 6	Sunday, August 9	10:00
Round 7	Sunday, August 9	17:30
Round 8	Monday, August 10	17:00
Round 9	Tuesday, August 11	10:00
Closing Ceremony	Tuesday, August 11	15:00

Group C Schedule (Juniors)

Round / Event	Day & Date	Start Time
Round 1	Thursday, August 6	17:00
Round 2	Friday, August 7	10:00
Round 3	Friday, August 7	17:30
Round 4	Saturday, August 8	10:00
Round 5	Saturday, August 8	17:30
Round 6	Sunday, August 9	10:00
Round 7	Sunday, August 9	17:30
Closing Ceremony	Sunday, August 9	30 mins post-game

5. Tie-Break Criteria

1. Buchholz Cut-1: Sum of opponents' scores, excluding the lowest-scoring opponent.
2. Sonneborn-Berger: Total score of defeated opponents plus half the score of drawn opponents.
3. Buchholz Sum: Total sum of all opponents' scores.
4. Direct Encounter: Results of matches between tied players (if all tied have played each other).
5. Number of Victories: The player with the highest total number of wins.

6. Prize Fund & Regulations

Total Guaranteed Cash Prize Fund: €4,000

General Standings Prizes

Position	OPEN A	OPEN B	OPEN C
1st Place	€1,200 + Trophy	€400 + Trophy	Trophy
2nd Place	€700 + Trophy	€200 + Trophy	Trophy
3rd Place	€450 + Trophy	€100 + Trophy	Trophy
4th Place	€200 + Medal	€50 + Medal	Medal
5th Place	€150 + Medal	€50 + Medal	Medal

Special Category Prizes

Category	OPEN A	OPEN B	OPEN C
1st Female	€100 + Trophy	€50 + Trophy	—
1st U2250	€200 + Medal	—	—
Best Performance	€50 + Medal	€50 + Medal	—
1st Veteran (50+)	—	€50 + Medal	—
1st U16 / Female U16	—	Trophy	—
2nd-3rd U16 (Open/Fem)	—	Medal	—
1st U14 / Female U14	—	Trophy	—
2nd-3rd U14	—	Medal	—

(Open/Fem)			
1st U12 / Female U12	—	—	Trophy
2nd-3rd U12 (Open/Fem)	—	—	Medal

- **Hort System:** The Hort system will be implemented for cash prize distribution among tied positions up to the 6th place.
- **One Prize Rule:** If a player qualifies for more than one cash prize, they will receive only the highest single award.
- **Best Performance:** Defined as performance minus initial rating. For unrated players, 1400 is assigned as initial.
- **Minimum Participation:** Special categories require more than four (4) participants to be included in the awards.
- **Attendance Requirement:** Winners must be personally present at the Closing Ceremony or forfeit the prize. (In special cases, notification of the organisers in advance is required)
- **Youth Incentives:** All children in U10 category (Group C) get medals. Gifts will be given to all Group C participants.
- **Dynamic Pool:** Cash prizes and categories might increase depending on registration numbers.

7. Entry Fees & Discounts

Group A Fees

Category / Rating Tier	Entry Fee & Conditions
Titled Players FIDE \geq 2500 [Women \geq 2400]	Free Entry + Double Room (B&B) OR €250 Pocket Money
Titled Players FIDE \geq 2400 [Women \geq 2300]	Free Entry + Triple Room (B&B) OR €200 Pocket Money
FIDE Rating 2300 - 2399 [Women 2200 - 2299]	€30
FIDE Rating 2200 - 2299 [Women 2100 - 2199]	€40
FIDE Rating 2100 - 2199 [Women 2000 - 2099]	€50
FIDE Rating 2000 - 2099 [Women 1900 - 1999]	€60
FIDE Rating 1850 - 1999 (Max 10 players accepted)	€90

Groups B & C Fees

Category / Rating Tier	Entry Fee & Conditions
Group B: FIDE Rating 1800 - 1999	€40
Group B: FIDE Rating 1400 - 1799	€50
Group B: Players without a FIDE Rating	€60
Group C: General Entry Fee (U12 Children)	€35

Discounts (Non-Cumulative):

- **Family Discount (2 members):** 10% reduction off the total aggregated fee amount.
- **Family Discount (3+ members):** 20% reduction off the total aggregated fee amount.
- **Players with Disabilities :** 50% standard reduction on entry fees.

8. Registration & Payment Procedures

Registration Deadline: Tuesday, August 4, 2026, at 22:00(EEST/GMT +3)

Registration Channels:

- **Online Form:** <https://chess-venue.vercel.app/en/tournaments/cmneftg6f000004I7v7fm1w15>
- **Bulk Registrations:** chess.tournament.skg@gmail.com (Include Name, FIDE ID, Group, and Phone)
- **Phone Registrations:** +30 6947879179

Official Payment Channels

- National Bank of Greece | IBAN: GR7201102110000021100854641 | Beneficiary: SATH 'Lefkos Pyrgos'
 - Revolut | IBAN: LT623250055097487321 | BIC/SWIFT: REVOLT21
 - IRIS Payments | Mobile ID: 00306948287015

Instructions: State the full name of the player and group in the transaction reference. Send proof of payment to chess.tournament.skg@gmail.com to finalize entry.

Transfer fees must be covered by the sender.

Payment of the entry fee is automatic inclusion in the 1st round pairings.

9. Officials, Fair Play & Appeals

- **Tournament Director:** Stylianos Lagogiannis
- **Chief Arbiter:** IA Prodromos Gerontopoulos
- **Deputy Chief Arbiter:** FA Dimitrios Kioutsoukos
- **Pairings & Live Games:** IA Kleon Ballas
- **Fair Play Officer:** IA Georgia Grapsa (FPL)

Fair Play: FIDE Anti-Cheating rules apply strictly.

They can be found at : <https://fpl.fide.com/anti-cheating-regulations/>

Appeals must be submitted in writing within 30 minutes after the end of the game to the relevant arbiter. There is a €60 fee (refundable if upheld).

The appeals committee, consisting of 5 members, will be appointed by the organisers before the start of round 1.

10. Accommodation & Rates : Holiday Inn, Thessaloniki

Room Type	Option I: Bed & Breakfast	Option II: Half Board
Single Room	€90.00 / night	€108.00 / night
Double Room	€100.00 / night	€136.00 / night
Triple Room	€115.00 / night	€169.00 / night

Policies: Mention the chess tournament to book these rates. Half board includes buffet breakfast, dinner (3-course menu, drinks not included).

High speed internet access is included in all package options.

A 35% advance deposit is required to book. Rates exclude the statutory Greek Climate Crisis Resilience Tax of €15.00 per room/night (during months April to October)

Contact: info@hithessaloniki.gr | +30 231 0563100

11. General Regulations & Media

- **Unexcused Absences:** Failing to appear for a round without informing the arbiters before the pairings of the next round are published, results in immediate exclusion from the tournament.
- **Photography:** Restricted to official media for use only by the organisers. Spectators are allowed to take photos only for the first five (5) minutes of each round.
- **Data Protection:** Visual assets will be exclusively used to promote chess under federal regulations.
- **Terms Acceptance:** Registering implies complete acceptance of all terms within this invitation.

Official Information Channels:

- **Official Website :** www.skakithessaloniki.gr
- **Viber Community :** <https://tinyurl.com/yym7paaa>
- **Facebook page :** <https://www.facebook.com/SkgChessOpen>

On Behalf of the Organizing Committee