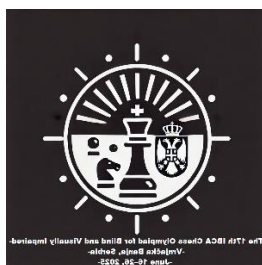

17th IBCA Chess Olympiad for the Blind and Visually Impaired



INVITATION

1. Dates, Location, and Venue

The **17th IBCA Chess Olympiad for the Blind and Visually Impaired** will be held from **June 16th (arrival day)** to **June 26th (departure day), 2025**.

The venue for the tournament is the **4-star Hotel Fontana**, located in **Vrnjačka Banja, Serbia**. For more information, visit the [hotel's official website](#).

2. Eligibility and Delegations

Each eligible national federation is entitled to register one team for the Olympiad. Federations may appoint a **Head of Delegation**, who can either be a dedicated appointee or one of the players.

The national Braille chess federations bear full responsibility for the conduct and behavior of their players throughout the event.

3. Event Schedule

June 16, 2025

- Arrival of delegations.
- Reception at **Belgrade** and **Niš airports**, as well as major train and bus stations.

- Transportation to **Hotel Fontana** in Vrnjačka Banja and accommodation arrangements.

June 17, 2025

- **10:00 a.m.:** Technical meeting to review tournament rules, clarify the duties of team captains, and submit team compositions for the first round.
- **12:00 p.m.:** Official opening ceremony, with speeches by dignitaries including prime ministers, ministers, and leaders of international organizations.
- **3:00 p.m.:** First round.
- **Rounds 2–9:** Matches commence daily at 3:00 p.m., except for the ninth round on **June 25th**, which begins at 2:00 p.m.

June 22, 2025

- **9:00 a.m.:** A brief three-hour excursion for participants.
- **3:00 p.m.:** Sixth round.

June 25, 2025

- **8:00 p.m.:** Festive dinner for all participants.

June 26, 2025

- Departure of delegations, with transport arranged to the airport, train, and bus stations.

Additional Note:

Each round will feature an official ceremonial draw to determine the first move for the white and black pieces.

4. Transportation Arrangements

The organizers will provide complimentary transportation for all participants between the following locations:

- **Nikola Tesla International Airport (Belgrade)** and **Niš Constantine the Great Airport**.
- Major train and bus stations.

Delegations are required to send their detailed arrival and departure information (**flight/train/bus number, date, and time**) to the Organizing Committee by **May 1, 2025**.

5. Game System and Tournament Rules

1. The tournament will consist of **9 rounds** following the **Swiss system**.
2. **Time control:** 120 minutes per player, with a **30-second increment** for every move until the conclusion of the game.
3. The event will adhere strictly to the official **FIDE Olympiad Rules**.

4. Pairings will be determined by the “Olympic Pairing Rules” outlined in the **FIDE Handbook**.
 5. Each team is led by a **captain**, who may also be one of the players or a reserve. Captains are responsible for team management and communication but must refrain from interfering during games.
 6. A **Head of Delegation** is responsible for all administrative tasks and serves as the primary liaison with the Organizing Committee. This role can be delegated to the team captain or any other member of the team.
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6. Tie-Break Criteria

In the event of a tie, team rankings will be determined by the following criteria, in descending order of priority:

- a) Greater number of match points.
 - b) Greater sum of Sonneborn-Berger points, which is calculated as follows: match points of each opponent, excluding the opponent who scored the lowest number of match points, multiplied by the number of game points achieved against this opponent.
 - c) Greater number of game points.
 - d) Greater sum of the match points of all the team opponents, excluding the lowest one.
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7. Appeals Commission

An Appeals Commission consisting of **three members** will be appointed during the technical meeting prior to the first round. The commission will require approval from both the **IBCA** and the Organizing Committee.

8. Required Equipment

Each team (4 players and up to 2 reserves) must bring the following:

- **4 Braille chess sets**
 - **2 Braille chess clocks**
 - Equipment for recording games.
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9. Accommodation Packages and Registration Fees

- **Registration Fee:** €300 per team.
- Note: Each participating country is required to pay the **annual IBCA membership fee** in addition to the registration fee.

Accommodation (Full Board):

- **Double Room:** €85 per person, per day.
- **Triple Room:** €80 per person, per day.

- **Single Room:** €90 per person, per day.

For organizational and security reasons, **all participants**, including players, coaches, and accompanying persons, are required to stay at the **Hotel Fontana**. The Organizing Committee will not accept participants who are not registered through the committee.

A deposit of 20% of the total amount for accommodation and meals is required by **April 20th, 2025**, with the remaining balance to be paid in full no later than **May 15th, 2025**.

10. Prizes

- The **1st, 2nd, and 3rd-placed teams** will be awarded **gold, silver, and bronze medals**, respectively.
- Individual medals will also be awarded to the best-performing players on each board.
- Prizes will be distributed during the **closing ceremony**, and players must collect their awards in person.

11. Contact Information

For countries requiring an official invitation for **visa purposes** or any other formal correspondence, please contact the **Organizing Committee**.

Primary Email for Participation Confirmation:

- **chess.ibca.serbia@gmail.com**

Please ensure that the following emails are copied (CC) on all correspondence:

- **president@ibca-info.org**
- **secretary@ibca-info.org**

For any urgent inquiries or emergencies, please contact us at:

- **Phone:** +381 60 602 6121 (Vladan Petrović)

12. Payment Instructions (EUR)

Intermediary Bank/Correspondent Bank

- **SWIFT-BIC:** DEUTDEFF
- **Name:** Deutsche Bank AG
- **City, Country:** Frankfurt am Main, Germany

Beneficiary's Bank

- **SWIFT-BIC:** KOBBSBG

- **Name:** Komercijalna Banka AD Beograd
- **Address:** Svetog Save 14, 11000 Belgrade, Republic of Serbia

Beneficiary

- **IBAN/Account Number:** RS35205007080003315097
- **Company Name:** Nacionalni Sportski Savez Slepih i Slabovidih Beograd
- **Address:** Ustanička 25, Belgrade, Republic of Serbia

