

Kasparov Chess Foundation Friendship Festival 2026

Rules and regulations

1. Game Rules

All games shall be played according to the FIDE Laws of Chess.

2. Rounds & Byes

There will be 9 rounds, scheduled as follows:

- Thursday, 25.06.2026: 15:30 (Opening ceremony)
- Thursday, 25.06.2026: 16:00 (Round 1)
- Friday, 26.06.2026: 9:30 (Round 2), 16:30 (Round 3)
- Saturday, 27.06.2026: 9:30 (Round 4), 16:30 (Round 5)
- Sunday, 28.06.2026 – Free days (Blitz tournament, Kasparov chess day)
- Monday, 29.06.2026: 9:30 (Round 6), 16:30 (Round 7)
- Tuesday, 30.06.2026: 9:30 (Round 8), 16:00 (Round 9)
- Tuesday, 30.06.2026: 21:00 (Closing ceremony)

Each player may request two half-point byes in **advance** for rounds 1–8. Requests must be made at least 2 round in advance. Byes are not allowed in the final round. Requests must be submitted by filling a form found at the arbiters desk.

3. Pairings

Pairings are made using the Baku Accelerated System (BAM - Swiss Manager software). Pairing numbers are assigned according to players' ratings in descending order. Unrated players will be listed alphabetically at the end.

4. Attendance & Defaults

A player must be present at the board within 15 minutes of the announced start time. Late arrival may result in forfeit unless the arbiter decides otherwise. Unexcused absence or repeated tardiness may result in exclusion from the tournament.

5. Time Control

Standard rate: 75 minutes per player, plus 30 seconds increment per move from move one, with 15 minutes of bonus time added after 40 moves are played.

6. Notation

Players must record moves using score sheets provided by the organiser. Completed score sheets signed by both players must be submitted to the arbiter at the end of each game.

7. Electronic Devices & Watches

No electronic devices, including phones and smart/analog watches, may be carried by players during play. Devices must remain switched off and stored away from the player (e.g., coat, bag, or tournament office, arbiters desk). If a device sounds or is used, the player loses the game. Arbiters are permitted to inspect players bags for devices at any time. Organizers hold the right to conduct random checks on players, in accordance to FIDE antichecking regulations.

8. Behaviour & Fair Play

Unsporting behaviour, cheating, or persistent disregard for regulations may lead to exclusion from the tournament. The chief arbiter will decide on disciplinary measures.

9. Final Standings

If two or more players have the same final score, the standings will be calculated using tie-breaks in the following order: Direct encounter, Buchholz cut 1, Buchholz, Number of wins, Greater number of Games with Black.

10. Appeals

Decisions of the arbiter may be appealed in writing to the organiser. Appeals must be lodged within 30 minutes of the conclusion of the relevant game, accompanied by a forfeit bond of 100 EUR. In the case of a favorable ruling the bond will be returned. The organisers decision is final.

11. Unforeseen Circumstances

In any situation not covered by these regulations, the arbiter and organisers will decide after due consideration.