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**Vardaris
International
Chess
Tournament
19-23 Feb 2026
Thessaloniki - Greece**

www.vardaris.com



ANNOUNCEMENT

Organizers:

Chess Club “SACH” of Thessaloniki in co-organization with the Municipality of Thessaloniki, Region of Central Macedonia, Greek Chess Federation and Union of Chess Clubs of Thessaloniki.

Playing venue

Hotel Holiday Inn, 8th Monastiriou str., Thessaloniki

<https://maps.app.goo.gl/aEwVjnPU3AoVnYh9>

Website

www.vardaris.com

Viber channel

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Schedule

Round 1	19 Feb 2026	17:30
Round 2	20 Feb 2026	17:30
Round 3	21 Feb 2026	10:00
Round 4	21 Feb 2026	17:30
Round 5	22 Feb 2026	10:00
Round 6	22 Feb 2026	17:30
Round 7	23 Feb 2026	10:00
Closing Ceremony	23 Feb 2026	15:00

Mode - Groups

Swiss System seven (7) rounds in 3 Groups

GROUP A

Chess Players with Fide Int. Rating more than or equal to 1800

GROUP B

Chess Players with Fide Int. Rating less or equal to 2000 aged above 12 years old (born before 1/1/2014) and players with Int, Rating more than 1600 under 12 (born after 1/1/2014)

GROUP C

Chess Players with Fide Rating less or equal to 1800 aged under 12 (born after 1/1/ 2014)

Time Control

Ninety (90) minutes for the whole game, plus thirty (30) seconds per move (from the first move).

Players arriving thirty (30') minutes and more, after the scheduled start of a round, shall be forfeited.

Entry form

All subscriptions are through the registration form at the official website: www.vardaris.com

Alternatively, by e-mail at: info@vardaris.com , using as subject "Vardaris", indicating the following data:

Fide ID, Full name, Group, Tel

Registrations will be accepted until Monday, February 16, 2026, at the latest, provided that we have not exceeded the maximum number of participants.

Confirmation of participation

Payment of the fee is considered the confirmation of participation. For special cases and foreign chess players, please be present in person on Thursday, February 19 2026, between 10:00 and 14:00 at the playing venue.

Entry fees

GROUP A

GM, IM, WGM, WIM free on Entry Fee.

Players with Int. Rating 2300+ free on Entry Fee

Female players with Int. Rating 2100+ free on Entry Fee

Players with Int. Rating 1800-1999 80€

Players with Int. Rating 2000-2300 60€

GROUP B

Players with Int. Rating 1800-2000 40€

Players with Int. Rating 1400-1799 60€

Players without Int. Rating 70€

GROUP C

General Entry Fee 40€

Chess players with an ELO rating of 1600 or higher who belong to Group B and wish to compete in Group A may do so by paying a fee of €120.

Discounts

Additional discount especially for families:

For participation of 2 family members, total discount of 10%

For participation of 3+ family members, total discount of 20%

Chess players with disabilities, 50% discount.

Payment conditions

PAYMENT VIA BANK TO THE FOLLOWING ACCOUNT:

National Bank of Greece

Beneficiary: CHESS CLUB "SACH" THESSALONIKI

IBAN GR8601105150000051500134633

SWIFT CODE: ETHNGRAA

ANY BANK EXPENSES MUST BE COVERED BY CHESS PLAYER

Proof of payment via bank transfer, must be sent to the event's email address for verification (info@vardaris.com).

The participation fee will be refunded in full if cancellation is requested by Friday, February 13.

Otherwise, it will be forfeited in favor of the organization.

**Draws
Exceptions
Byes**

- The draw for the first round will take place on Thursday (February 19) at 15:30 and will be announced on chess results.
- Players who do not finalize their participation on time will participate from the second (2nd) round.
- For the convenience of the players, an exception from the draw for subsequent rounds may be requested up to ten (10) minutes after the end of the last game
- Until the third (3rd) round, players can get an exception by taking half ($\frac{1}{2}$) a point, and from the 4th round onwards without a point.
- Exception in the 1st round is only granted to those who have paid the participation fee in advance.
- Absence from any round without informing the organisers will automatically result in disqualification from the tournament.
- If a player is unable to attend a round, they must inform the arbiter ten (10) minutes after the end of their last game.
- Postponements of matches and changes to the start time are not permitted for any reason.
- If any athlete unjustifiably loses a game without playing and without informing the organizers, they will not be eligible to participate in the next “Vardaris” tournament.

Participants

The limit is set at 350 participants.

Important Notice

Concerning all the athletes, who travel from all over Greece and abroad to honor us with their participation in the tournament, any chess player who does not show up for a round without notification will not be accepted in the next Vardaris Tournament.

Tournament Director

The Tournament Director is Mr. Vlassis Georgios (FM)

Chief Arbiter

The Tournament Chief Arbiter is Mrs. Anagnostou Zoe (IA)

Anti-cheating

The organization reserves the right to check the players for the prevention and confrontation of electronic assistance (Anti cheating protection measures) in accordance with the current regulations of F.I.D.E.:

<https://handbook.fide.com/chapter/AntiCheatingRegulations>

5100
EUROS

Prizes

GENERAL PRIZES

	GROUP A	GROUP B	GROUP C
1st Place	1000€ Cup	400€ Cup	Cup
2nd Place	700€ Cup	250€ Cup	Cup
3rd Place	400€ Cup	150€ Cup	Cup
4th Place	250€	100€	
5th Place	250€	100€	
6th Place	250€	100€	
7th Place	150€		
8th Place	150€		
9th Place	150€		

SPECIAL PRIZES

	GROUP A	GROUP B	GROUP C
1st Woman	150€ Medal	100€ Medal	
1st Veteran Over 50	150€ Medal	100€ Medal	
1st U 2200	100€		
1st U 2000-	100€		
1st U 16 boy		Medal	
1st U 16 girl		Medal	
1st U 20 boy		Medal	
1st U 20 girl		Medal	
1st U 08 boy			Medal
1st U 08 girl			Medal
1st U 10 boy			Medal
1st U 10 girl			Medal

Tie-breaks System definitions

1. Sum of the scores of each of the opponents of a player (Buchholz)
2. Sum of the scores of each of the opponents according to the result (Sonneborn-Berger)
3. Sum of the Buchholz scores of the opponents

More info

For anything not covered by this announcement, the rules of FIDE and the decisions of the Board of Directors of Chess Club SACH Thessaloniki shall apply.

Σκακιστικός Ομιλός Σαχ
Επαγγελματικός λογαριασμός WhatsApp



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