



GD BASQUETE DE LEÇA – CHESS CLUB

LEÇA CHESS OPEN – PORTUGAL 2026

from July 31st to August 6th

Leça da Palmeira's Sports Hall

Portugal Chess Tour 2025/2026

REGULATION

1. Organization

Leça Chess Open – Portugal 2026 tournament (from now on “The Tournament”) is organized by **Grupo Desportivo Basquete de Leça - Chess Club (GDBL Chess Club)**, with the support of the following entities: Matosinhos City Council, Matosinhos Sport, Leça da Palmeira Parish Council, Portuguese Chess Federation, Porto Chess Association and Eng. Fernando Pinto de Oliveira High School.

2. Schedule

Leça Chess Open – Portugal 2026 will consist of an **OPEN** tournament and a **BLITZ** tournament, according to the following schedules:

2.1 OPEN tournament

Rounds	Day	Date	Time
Welcome Reception	Friday	July 31	1:00pm - 5:00pm
Round 1	Friday	July 31	6:00 pm
Round 2	Saturday	August 1	10:00 am
Round 3	Saturday	August 1	5:00 pm
Round 4	Sunday	August 2	17:00 am
Round 5	Monday	August 3	10:00 am
Round 6	Monday	August 3	5:00 pm
Round 7	Tuesday	August 4	5:00 pm
Round 8	Wednesday	August 5	5:00 pm
Round 9	Thursday	August 6	10:00 am
Awards Ceremony	Thursday	August 6	3:00 pm



GD BASQUETE DE LEÇA – CHESS CLUB

2.2 BLITZ tournament

Blitz Tournament	Day	Date	Schedule
9 rounds	Sunday	August 2nd	10:00am -1:00pm

3. Place

Both OPEN and BLITZ tournaments will be held at Pavilhão Municipal de Leça da Palmeira (Leça da Palmeira's Sports Hall), located at Rua Margarida Ramalho, nº 61, 4450-337 Leça da Palmeira, Porto district, Portugal (<https://goo.gl/maps/o1GBhBrS4wzGiQ1g8>) – GPS coordinates: 41.2052038, - 8.6948434

4. Tournament Director, Arbiters and Technical Committee

Both tournaments will be managed by **GDBL Chess Club**, with the help of **FIDE Arbiters**. The tournaments will have a **Technical Committee (TC)**, composed by the Tournament Director, the Tournament Chief Arbiter and 3 Tournament players, that will take care of any extraordinary issue that may arise. The three players that will integrate the TC will be designated before the 1st round and will not be able to deliberate in processes where they are directly involved.

Appeals against the Chief Arbiter will have to be submitted in writing, in Portuguese or English languages, and delivered to the Technical Committee President, up to 30 minutes after the end of the round, accompanied by a guarantee-deposit of 100,00 € (one hundred euros), which will be returned to the complainant if the TC decision will be in his favor. If not, the guarantee-deposit will revert to the tournament organization.

5. Pairings System, Number of Rounds, Playing Time

5.1 OPEN tournament

System/Number of Rounds: the **OPEN** will have **9 rounds**, based on the Swiss pairing system.



GD BASQUETE DE LEÇA – CHESS CLUB

Playing time: each player will have **90 minutes** to finish the game, with a **30 second increment** per move, starting on move one.

The Tournament organization may choose to adopt the accelerated pairing system in the first two or three rounds (according to FIDE Tournament Regulations, article C.04.7.1, in force after February 1st, 2026), depending on the number of participants.

The **maximum default time** after the start of each round **will be 30 minutes**.

Draw offers before move 30 are not allowed, unless approved by the Arbiter.

5.2 BLITZ tournament

System/Number of Rounds: the **Blitz** tournament will have **9 rounds - Swiss** pairing system. **Playing time:** **3 minutes**, with an **increment of 2 seconds** per move.

6. Participants

Both Open and Blitz Tournaments are open to any chess player that loves chess. All players have to be affiliated with the Portuguese Chess Federation (PCF). The players that are not yet affiliated with the PCF may do so through the Tournament Organization, with no additional cost, sending an e-mail to lecachessopen@gmail.com for that purpose.

7. Registration

7.1 OPEN tournament

Players registration may be done until the **deadline of July 25, 2026**, as follows:

REGISTRATION FEES OPEN					
Until May 31th, 2026		From June 1st to June 30th, 2026		From July 1st to July 25th, 2026	
General	Up to U14	General	Up to U14	General	Up to U14
50,00 €	40,00 €	60,00 €	45,00 €	70,00 €	50,00 €

All GM, WGM, IM, WIM and ELO FIDE > 2300 are exempt of registration fee.



GD BASQUETE DE LEÇA – CHESS CLUB

7.2 Blitz Tournament

Players registration may be done until the deadline of August 1st, 2026, as follows:

REGISTRATION FEES Blitz 3'+2''	
Up to August 1st	
OPEN players	OTHER players
20,00 €	30,00 €

For the exemption's purposes, the organization will consider the standard ELO FIDE that will be published on July 1st, 2026.

Registrations have to be submitted:

- by e-mail to lecachessopen@gmail.com
- through the link [Leca Chess Open 2026 Registration](#)

indicating:

- **Complete Name, Phone Number and E-mail Address;**
- **Date of Birth;**
- **Complete address (if not yet registered with the Portuguese Chess Federation);**
- **Citizen ID Card number and expiring date;**
- **FIDE Number and ELO;**
- **Club Name and Nationality;**

Registration fee payment can be done by **Bank Transfer** to this bank account data:

- **Beneficiary name** : Grupo Desportivo Basquete de Leca
- **Bank name** : Banco Santander Totta, S.A.
- **IBAN** : PT50 0018 0003 5246 0656 0204 0
- **SWIFT** : TOTAPTPL

Regarding Bank Transfers from outside the European Union, bank charges will have to be supported by the participants.



GD BASQUETE DE LEÇA – CHESS CLUB

Players's registrations will only be valid after the registration fee is paid and a proof of payment is sent to the e-mail lecachessopen@gmail.com.

8 Prizes

8.1 OPEN Tournament

2026	Prizes Open	
1st Place	2 000 €	Trophy
2nd Place	1 000 €	Trophy
3rd Place	700 €	Trophy
4th Place	500 €	Medal
5th Place	400 €	Medal
6th Place	300 €	Medal
7th Place	200 €	Medal
8th Place	150 €	Medal
9th Place	125 €	Medal
10th Place	100 €	Medal

1st Place Women	300 €	Trophy
2nd Place Women	150 €	Medal
3rd Place Women	100 €	Medal

1st Place ELO 2100-2300 FIDE	100 €	Medal
1st Place ELO 1800-2099 FIDE	75 €	Medal
1st Place ELO 0-1799 FIDE	50 €	Medal

1st Places U20/U18/U16/U14/U12/U10/U08	Trophy
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1st Place S65	Medal
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Tournament Most Improved Player	Trophy
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Top ranked GDBL player	Trophy
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1st/2nd/3rd Places GDBL U20	Medal
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Prizes are non-cumulative. Players will only be entitled to the Prize with the highest absolute value. Players will have to attend the Awards Ceremony to have the right to collect the prizes won.



GD BASQUETE DE LEÇA – CHESS CLUB

8.2 BLITZ Tournament

2026	BLITZ Prizes	
1st Place	300 €	Trophy
2nd Place	200 €	Medal
3rd Place	100 €	Medal
4th Place	50 €	
5th Place	25 €	

9 Tie-break criteria

For tie-break decisions, the Tournaments will be using the Portuguese Chess Federation tie-break criteria, in force after September 9th, 2025, as follows:

- Result between tied players, once having played among themselves [81];
- Corrected Buchholz [84] (0,0,1,-,-);
- Complete Buchholz [84] (0,0,0, -, -);
- Sonneborn-Berger [85] (0,0,0,-);
- Greatest number of games [65];
- Greatest number of wins [68] (WIN);
- Greatest number of games played with black [68] (BPH);
- Drawing, if no other criteria has been determined by the Tournament Regulations;

10 Homologation

Both Tournaments will be approved for FIDE ELO and the **OPEN** Tournament will be a part of the Portuguese Chess Federation “**Portugal Chess Tour 2025/2026**” Classic Circuit Calendar.

11 Byes, No Show/Exclusions

A maximum of 3 byes will be allowed for each player, for the entire OPEN Tournament. Byes will be valued at ½ point each for the first 4 rounds and zero points for the remaining rounds.



GD BASQUETE DE LEÇA – CHESS CLUB

Each bye has to be requested in the Tournament Registration Form (link), checking the corresponding box, or in writing, filling up an application form furnished by the organization, duly dated and signed by the player, and delivered to the Tournament Chief Arbiter 24 hours before a given round.

Byes for the 1st round will have to be communicated to the Tournament Organization prior 48 hours to the round 1 starting time.

Invited players will not be eligible for byes, except if they present a force majeure reason, accepted by the Tournament organization.

Players that will not show to a given round, without any previous notice to the Tournament Director/Chief Arbiter, will be excluded from the Tournament, unless a reasonable and extraordinary reason is attended and accepted by the Tournament Direction.

12 Accommodation/Hotels

LEÇA CHESS OPEN 2026 has preferential rates with this local Hotel, 2,0 Kms away from the Tournament place:

- **B&B PORTO EXPO AEROPORTO**
Av. Mário Brito, nº 4119
4455-496 Perafita

Special tariffs will be valid until July 15th, 2026, **subject to hotel availability.**

Room reservations will have to be paid upon hotel confirmation.

Non-refundable tariffs.

Room reservations must be made through:

- e-mail lecachessopen@gmail.com or
- phone **+351.917 001 245** (Raul Silva)



GD BASQUETE DE LEÇA – CHESS CLUB

Other hotels:

- HOTEL TRYP PORTO EXPONOR 4* (Leça da Palmeira) – 0,3 km
- HOTEL HOLIDAY INN EXPRESS PORTO 3* (Leça da Palmeira) – 0,9 km
- RESIDENCIAL LUSO-BRASILEIRA 3* (Leça da Palmeira) – 2,0 km
- SEA PORTO HOTEL 4* (Matosinhos) – 2,5 km
- URBAN HOTEL AMADEUS 4* (Matosinhos) – 3,0 km
- MOOV HOTEL PORTO NORTE 2* (Senhora da Hora) – 3,5 km

The Tournament organization will have a shuttle van available for players transportation, between the venue and the hotels above mentioned, if needed.

13 Communication

Any question or doubt about any specific aspect of the Tournament should be addressed to:

- by e-mail : lecachessopen@gmail.com
- by phone : +351.917 001 245 (Raul Silva)
- by phone : +351.968 062 567 (Pedro Soberano)

14 Final notes

- With their registration at **Leça Chess Open – Portugal 2026** Tournament, players do accept the Tournament Regulation Provisions, the FIDE and the Portuguese Chess Federation regulations.
- It is strictly prohibited to take any electronic device, including smartwatches, into the Tournament playing area.** In the entrance hall, mobile phones or any other electronic device must be delivered to the person in charge of the electronic devices reception. When leaving the playing area, each electronic device will be returned to its owner;



GD BASQUETE DE LEÇA – CHESS CLUB

- c) **All the players that will not show up to register with the Tournament until 5:00 pm on the reception day (July 31st) will not be paired for the 1st round;**
- d) Once the game is finished, players will have to leave the playing area, in order not to disturb the other players, or, if they want to, they can go to the **Game Analysis Room** next to the playing room;
- e) Players do authorize the Tournament Direction to use Tournament photos and videos where they may appear, exclusively for Tournament internet/social media communication purposes, if needed.
- f) Regarding any Tournament subject or situation that may occur and it is not described or stipulated in the present Regulation, the Tournament Direction, supported by the Technical Committee, will be the only valid entity to have the power to resolve and take decisions about them, always considering the FIDE and the Portuguese Chess Federation Regulations;
- g) The Tournament organization reserves the right to accept player entries and to amend these Regulations until the registration deadline.
- h) **More Tournament information on its webpage (www.lecachessopen.com).**

Leça da Palmeira, Porto

Portugal

March, 2026