



**FIRST INTERNATIONAL CHESS FESTIVAL
"KARDZHALI"
(Kardzhali 24 – 26 October 2025)**

Venue: town of Kardzhali, ceremonial hall of Arpezos Hotel.

Organizers: Municipality of Kardzhali and Chess Club "Arda", under the auspices of the Mayor of Kardzhali Municipality Mr. Erol Myumyun. Three tournaments will be held within the festival.

October 24 Blitz Tournament October 25-26 Rapid, Chess Tournament October 24-26 ,Classical Chess Tournament for children up to 16 years old

OPEN BLITZ TOURNAMENT – October 24

System of holding and eligibility: The tournament will be held according to the Swiss system in 11 rounds, all Bulgarian and foreign players have the right to participate chess players approved by the organizers who submitted their applications on time.

Game control: 3 minutes per competitor with an additional 2 seconds per move from the first turn.

Tournament Validity: The tournament is valid for FIDE BLITZ rating.

Participation fee:

25 BGN for all participants

All grandmasters, international masters and residents of Kardzhali District are exempt from participation fee.

Awards:

The prize pool is guaranteed!:

1st place – 1000 BGN (~500 EUR)	5th place – 200 BGN (~100 EUR)
2nd place – 700 BGN	6th place – 100 BGN
3rd place – 500 BGN	7th place – 100 BGN
4th place – 300 BGN	8th place – 100 BGN

Tournament program:

DATE	TIME	SCHEDULE
October 24 (Friday)	13:00	Registration of participants
24 October	14:00	Technical Conference
24 October	14:30	First round
24 October	14:50	Second round
24 October	15:10	Third round
24 October	15:30	Fourth round
24 October	15:50	Fifth round
24 October	16:10	Sixth round
24 October	17:00	Seventh round
24 October	17:20	Eighth Round
24 October	17:40	Ninth round
24 October	18:00	Tenth round
24 October	18:20	Eleventh Round
24 October	19:00	Closing ceremony

OPEN RAPID CHESS TOURNAMENT – 25 – 26 October

System of holding and eligibility: The tournament will be held according to the Swiss system in 11 rounds, all Bulgarian and foreign players have the right to participate chess players approved by the organizers who submitted their applications on time.

Game control: 15 minutes per competitor with an additional 5 seconds per move from the first move.

Tournament Validity: The tournament is valid for FIDE RAPID rating.

Participation fee:

35 BGN for all participants

All grandmasters, international masters and residents of Kardzhali District are exempt from participation fee.

PRIZES:

1st place – 2000 BGN (~1000 EUR)	5th place – 500 BGN (~250 EUR)
2nd place – 1500 BGN	6th place – 500 BGN
3rd place – 1000 BGN	7th place – 400 BGN
4th place – 700 BGN	8th place – 400 BGN

SPECIAL PRIZES:

CATEGORY	PRIZES
Seniors over 60 years old	300 BGN
Wife	300 BGN
International rating from 0 to 1800	300 BGN
International rating from 1801 to 2000	300 BGN
International rating from 2001 to 2200	300 BGN
Adolescent or girl up to 18 years old	300 BGN

PRIZES FOR LOCAL COMPETITORS: 1st place – 400 BGN (~200 EUR), 2nd place – 300, 3rd place – 200 BGN, 4th place – 100 BGN.

Tournament program:

DATE	TIME	SCHEDULE
October 25 (Saturday)	10:00	Registration of participants
25 October	11:00	Technical Conference
25 October	11:30	First round
25 October	12:30	Second round
25 October	13:30	Third round
25 October	15:30	Fourth round
25 October	16:30	Fifth round
25 October	17:30	Sixth round
26 October (Sunday)	10:00	Seventh round
26 October	11:00	Eighth Round
26 October	12:00	Ninth round
26 October	13:00	Tenth round
26 October	14:00	Eleventh Round
26 October	15:30	Closing Ceremony

YOUNGSTERS CLASSICAL CHESS TOURNAMENT 24-26 October

System and eligibility: The tournament will be held according to the Swiss system in 7 rounds; all Bulgarian and foreign players have the right to take part.

Chess players born after 31.12.2008 for tournament "A", and all Bulgarian and foreign chess players born after 31.12.2014, with a FIDE rating in classical chess not more than 2400, approved by the organizers, who submitted their applications on time.

Game control: 60 minutes per competitor with an addition of 30 seconds per move from the first move.

Tournament validity: The tournament is valid for FIDE rating in classical chess.

Participation fee:

35 BGN for all participants

Residents of Kardzhali District are exempt from participation fee.

Prizes for tournament "B" children up to 10 years old:

1. Place 200 (~100 EUR) 2. Place 150 3. Place 100 BGN Best performing competitor up to 8 years old - 150 BGN. The best performing girl - 150 BGN ,Cup for the winner up to 8 years old and for the winner up to 10 years old. The first three separately for girls and boys up to 8 and up to 10 years old receive medals.

Prizes for tournament "A" age groups 12, 14 and 16 years old.

1. Place 250 (~125 EUR) 2. Place 200 3. Place 150 4. Place 100 BGN 5. Place 100 BGN. The best performing girl up to 12, 14 and up to 16 years old 200 BGN (~100EUR) each. The best performing child up to 12 years old 150 BGN.Cup for the winner up to 12 years old, for the winner up to 14 years old and up to 16 years old.

The first three separately in girls and boys up to 12 and up to 14 years old and up to 16 years old receive medals.

Tournament program:

DATE	TIME	SCHEDULE
October 24 (Friday)	12:00	Registration of participants
24 October	13:00	Technical Conference
24 October	13:30	First round
24 October	16:30	Second round
October 25 (Saturday)	10:00	Third round
25 October	13:30	Fourth round
25 October	16:30	Fifth round
26 October (Sunday)	09:00	Sixth round
26 October	12:00	Seventh round
26 October	15:30	Closing Ceremony

Arbiter management:

Head referee IA Miroslav Mitev

Applications for participation in the Chess Festival are accepted until October 20, 2025 at e-mail: miroslav_mitev90@abv.bg

The organizers reserve the right to change the regulations!

Accommodation Arpezos Hotel

Single room - 79 BGN (~40 EUR)

double room - 129 BGN (~65 EUR)

apartment for 4 people - 229 BGN (~115 EUR)

the price includes breakfast, parking and fitness, internet

Phone for reservations at the hotel reception - +359 88 5919604 or any hotel