



ألعاب الماسترز
OPEN MASTERS GAMES
أبوظبي 2026 Abu Dhabi 2026

CHESS SPORT INFORMATION GUIDE

Chess

Chess requires focus and strategy. It's a game of precision where every move and sacrifice can shift the balance of power.

Competition dates

Chess competition for Open Masters Games Abu Dhabi 2026 (OMGAD2026) offers each athlete the opportunity to compete in three types of events; Standard Chess, Rapid Chess and Blitz Chess.

The provisional Chess competition schedule is as follows:

Dates	Feb 7 th Saturday	Feb 8 th Sunday	Feb 9 th Monday	Feb 10 th Tuesday	Feb 11 th Wednesday	Feb 12 th Thursday	Feb 13 th Friday	Feb 14 th Saturday
Rapid						Workshop & Chess for all		
Standard								
Blitz								

All dates and times are subject to change, pending final entries received. A detailed schedule for each age category will be developed throughout 2025.

Venue: Fatima Bint Mubarak Academy

 [Pin Location](#)

The venue may move to an alternative venue within the confines of Abu Dhabi City.

Competition Format

The events, divisions and age categories for chess are as follows:

Event	Division	Age Category
Standard Chess	Recreational & Competitive Grade	Men's / Women's: 30+, 40+, 50+, 60+, 70+, 80+
Rapid Chess	Recreational & Competitive Grade	Men's / Women's: 30+, 40+, 50+, 60+, 70+, 80+

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Blitz Chess	Recreational & Competitive Grade	Men's / Women's: 30+, 40+, 50+, 60+, 70+, 80+
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Grade Definitions

The following grade definitions have been determined for the Chess competition:

- **Competitive:** Open to players with and without a FIDE rating
- **Recreational:** For social and casual players. **FIDE-rated players are not allowed** to compete at this level.

If there are insufficient entries in an age category or division, these may be combined to conduct a viable competition. The awarding of medals will not be affected, that is, individuals will still be awarded medals in the age category or division in which they originally entered.

In line with the sport-specific rules, an athlete can compete in a younger age group, however, can only enter one age category and division per event.

OMGAD reserves the right to move a player into a different grade.

Athlete and Event Eligibility

Athletes can enter a maximum of three individual events: Standard, blitz & rapid chess, competitive or recreational grade* (*FIDE Rated players will play in the competitive grade tournaments). The age category entered in each of the individual events can be either the athlete's actual age category or a younger category.

Example #1: an 84-year-old female athlete can enter the 80+ or the 70+ or the 60+ etc women's.

Example #2: a 42-year-old male athlete can enter the 40+ men's or the 30+ men's. If he is an unrated player, he can join both the competitive and recreational grades.

Competition Details & Regulations

The Chess event will be conducted in line with the competition rules of the FIDE (International Chess Federation) and the UAE Chess Federation.

Standard Chess

- All Standard chess tournaments will be played in a Swiss System of 6 rounds (or Round-Robin system if the number of participants per category is below 8).
- Time control for each player in Standard Chess is 30 minutes plus 30 seconds increment from move 1.

Rapid Chess

- All Rapid chess tournaments will be played in a Swiss System of 7 rounds (or Round-Robin system if the number of participants per category is below 8).

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- Time control for each player in Rapid Chess: 10 minutes + 5 seconds increment from move 1.

Blitz Chess

- All Blitz chess tournaments will be played in a Swiss System of 9 rounds (or Round-Robin system if the number of participants per category is below 8).
- Time control for each player in Rapid Chess: 5 minutes + 3 seconds increment from move 1.

The scoring system will be: 1 point for victory, $\frac{1}{2}$ point for a draw, and 0 for a loss. The final standings will be decided based on the total number of points gained by each participant.

Technical Delegate

The Technical Delegate will be Mr. Bogdan Garbea. Mr. Garbea will oversee the implementation of all sport-specific rules and requirements at the Games.

Equipment

FIDE approved competition chess sets, clocks, and other materials will be provided for competition matches.

Updates

The final version of the competition guide will be released by December 1st. Important additional information, including the sports schedule, will be available at that time. In the meantime, please address all inquiries to: sports@omgad2026.ae