



JERUSALEM RAPID OPEN 2026

TOTAL PRIZE FUND €45,000

17-18 NOVEMBER 2026 • RAMADA HOTEL • JERUSALEM, ISRAEL

1 INVITATION

1.1 The Israeli Chess Federation warmly invites all players to participate in the Jerusalem Rapid Open, to be held on 17-18 November 2026 in Jerusalem, Israel

1.2 The venue for the event is the Ramada Hotel Jerusalem, 6 Ze'ev Vilnay Street, Jerusalem

FORMAT	Swiss system 9 rounds • 15 minutes + 10 seconds • FIDE Rapid rated
TRAVEL	The first 40 titled GM/WGM/IM/WIM players to register will be eligible for a travel allowance of €700 for GMs/WGMs and €500 for IMs/WIMs. This offer is available to players representing a foreign federation and residing outside Israel. The invitation and travel allowance are subject to the player providing a copy of their flight ticket; otherwise, the stated travel allowance cannot be guaranteed.

For more information please contact: elitechess.israel@gmail.com or WhatsApp +972546850024

SPECIAL	The winner and runner-up will have the opportunity to participate in a 12-player closed rapid tournament in Jerusalem, featuring a total prize fund of USD 250,000. The tournament will take place from 23 to 26 November 2026.
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2 PARTICIPATION

2.1 The tournament is open to all players with a valid FIDE ID

2.2 Registrations will be accepted on a first-come, first-served basis, subject to the capacity of the playing hall. The maximum number of participants is 400

2.3 The organizer reserves the right to accept or decline registrations in accordance with the tournament regulations

3 SCHEDULE

DATE	TIME	PROGRAM
17 November 2026	13:00	Opening Ceremony*
17 November 2026	14:00	Rounds 1–5
18 November 2026	14:00	Rounds 6–9
18 November 2026	19:00	Closing Ceremony**

*Attendance at the Opening Ceremony is mandatory for all players **Approximate time, depending on the end of the last game

4 REGISTRATION AND ENTRY FEES

4.1 Registration and payment deadline: 1 November 2026

ENTRY FEE	€40 • Israeli players are required to hold a valid Israeli Chess Federation player card for 2026. Players without a valid card will be required to pay an additional €15 fee.
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4.2 GMs and WGMs may enter free of charge

4.3 IMs and WIMs are entitled to a 50% discount on the entry fee

4.4 Jerusalem residents are entitled to a 50% discount on the entry fee

4.5 The registration fee is compulsory and constitutes confirmation of participation

4.6 Registration and payment must be completed through: <https://jerusalem.chess.org.il/register/>

4.7 Players are responsible for ensuring that they appear on the list of registered players on Chess-Results. Players' names are expected to be updated on Chess-Results within 72 hours of payment

4.8 Participants are responsible for ensuring that the personal information submitted during registration is accurate

4.9 After the registration deadline, organizers reserve the right to decline late registrations

5 HOTEL

5.1 Players are responsible for booking their own accommodation if needed. Payment should be made directly to the hotel. Recommended hotel: [Ramada Hotel](#). Reservations are made on a first-come, first-served basis

5.2 Players are not obliged to use the hotel recommended by the Organizing Committee

5.3 Nearby accommodation options: [Prima Park Jerusalem Hotel](#), [Yizhak Rabin Jerusalem Hostel](#), [Afi Hotels](#)



6 TECHNICAL REGULATIONS

- The tournament will be held according to FIDE tournament rules and the Laws of Chess
- FIDE anti-cheating rules and guidelines apply to the tournament
- The FIDE rapid rating will be used for pairings and for prize categories. If a player does not have a FIDE rapid rating, the highest rating between the classical or blitz ratings will be used for the same purposes
- An unrated player (for all three ratings) cannot win a rating-category prize
- The tournament will be rated according to FIDE regulations
- The final ranking is determined by the number of points scored
- Tie-break criteria: 1. Direct Encounter; 2. Buchholz Cut 1; 3. Buchholz; 4. Number of games played with Black (byes/forfeits count as White); 5. Greater Number of Wins
- The decisions of the Chief Arbiter are final

7 PRIZES - TOTAL PRIZE FUND €45,000

OVERALL RANKING	PRIZE	CATEGORY	1st PRIZE	2nd PRIZE	3rd PRIZE
1st place	€7,500	Female	€2,500	€1,500	€1,000
2nd place	€5,000	Senior (65+)	€1,000	€800	€500
3rd place	€3,000	Junior (under 18)	€1,000	€800	€500
4th place	€2,500	Rating U2400	€1,000	€800	€600
5th place	€2,000	Rating U2300	€800	€700	€500
6th place	€1,800	Rating U2200	€700	€600	€400
7th place	€1,500	Rating U2000	€600	€500	€300
8th place	€1,200	Rating U1800	€500	€300	€200
9th place	€1,000	Rating U1600	€400	€200	€100
10th place	€700				

7.1 Foreign players' prizes are subject to a 25% Israeli withholding tax. Prizes will be paid by bank transfer after the tax deduction, and an official tax withholding certificate will be provided

7.2 Players who do not attend the closing ceremony will be subject to a 20% reduction in their prize money

7.3 All prizes will be awarded according to the stated tie-break criteria and the number of prizes announced. If a player qualifies for more than one prize, only the highest prize shall be awarded

8 VISA INFORMATION

8.1 Participants are responsible for checking the entry and visa requirements applicable to their nationality. Please check the [official Israeli Ministry of Foreign Affairs website](https://www.mfa.gov.il/) for the latest information regarding visa requirements and ETA-IL

8.2 Players who require a visa to enter Israel are advised to contact the Organizing Committee as early as possible. The organizers will provide the necessary invitation documents upon request

9 ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

- Free parking is available on a first-come, first-served basis
- Players are required to follow an appropriate dress code during the competition
- The Organizing Committee reserves the right to amend the schedule or operational arrangements when necessary. Any significant changes will be communicated to registered participants

10 CONTACT INFORMATION

TOURNAMENT DIRECTOR	FA Andrei Gurbanov • WhatsApp or Telegram +972522967665
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WEBSITE	https://jerusalem.chess.org.il/ • Participant List on chess-results
FOLLOW US	Facebook @israelichessfed • Instagram @israel_chess

WE LOOK FORWARD TO SEEING YOU IN JERUSALEM