



Jerusalem Masters 2026

Objectives, Organizers and Safety of Participants

The competition is held to develop and promote chess and top-level Chess in Israel.

The Israel Chess Federation is the organizing body of the event.

Israel is generally a safe place. During the competition, safety of the participants will be ensured in accordance with the regulations of the Ministry of Sports of Israel.

Participants in the Competition and Interviews

12 players will participate in the competition:

5 players from the Israeli national team.

5 top chess players from around the world.

The top 2 winners from the **Jerusalem Open 2026**.

Tournament participants are required to attend press conferences and upon request provide short interviews to the media after their games.

Dates, Venue and Tournament Schedule

The competition will take place during November 23 to November 26, 2026, in Jerusalem.

22nd Nov– Arrival of participants.- November 23 to November 26 – Rapid chess tournament.

23rd Nov (Rounds 1–3):- Round 1 – 15:00- Round 2 – 16:00- Round 3 – 17:00

24th Nov (Rounds 4–7):- Round 4 – 15:00- Round 5 – 16:00- Round 6 – 17:00- Round 7 – 18:00

25th Nov (Rounds 8–11):- Round 8 – 15:00- Round 9 – 16:00- Round 10 – 17:00- Round 11 – 18:00

26th Nov- Semi-finals – 14:00 and 15:00- Finals and third-place match – 17:00 and 18:00

Rules and Results Determination, Appeals Committee

The Competitions are held in accordance with the FIDE Laws of Chess.

The mandatory Fair-Play control is carried out in accordance with the FIDE Anti-Cheating Guidelines.

A Rapid Chess time control round-robin tournament with 11 rounds. Article A.3 applies.

Time control: 15 minutes, with a 10-second increment starting from move 1.

Tiebreak system (with the exception of a tie for the semi-finals and finals)

* Direct encounter;

* The Sonneborn – Berger;

* The Koya system.

The Appeals Committee is elected by the organizers and would consist of three members and two reserve members.

Appeals against a Chief Arbiter's decision must be submitted in writing within five minutes after the respective round ends, accompanied with a \$500 USD security deposit.

Semi-Finals and Finals

The first 4 ranked players qualify to the semi finals. Semi finals pairings would be 1-4, 2-3.

The semi finals and finals shall consist of a mini-match as follows: Two 15-10 rapid games.

In case the score is tied after the two games (1–1), two 3-2 blitz games would be played and if the score is still tied, a decisive game (Armageddon) is to be played with 5 minutes for White and 4 minutes for Black, with a 3-second increment after each move, starting from move 61.

The color of the pieces is chosen by the participant who won the drawing of lots. The drawing of lots is conducted under Chief arbiter's discretion.

If the Armageddon game ends in a draw, the player who played with Black is declared the winner of the match.

The 2 winners of the semi finals qualify to the finals. The finals shall be conducted in the same mini-match format.

The 2 semi-finals runner-ups shall compete in a mini-match for the 3rd place.

Prizes

The total guaranteed prize fund is **\$250,000 USD**:-

1st place: \$101,000

2nd place: \$60,000

3rd place: \$35,000

4th place: \$20,000

5th place: \$10,000

6th place: \$6,000

7th-12th place: \$3,000 each

Prizes are not shared. Prizes are awarded in accordance with each player's final ranking in accordance with his tie-break.

Financing Terms, Travel expenses and Taxation

The Organizing Committee covers the expenses of the competition, including:- The total guaranteed prize fund (\$250,000 USD).- Meals, and accommodation for participants.Organizers shall reimburse reasonable travel expenses of the player from his domestic location to TLV. Each player shall contact the organizers who will approve in advance any travel expense reimbursement.

All prizes are gross amounts and are subject to 25% Israeli withholding tax. An official tax withholding certificate will be provided to each prize winner.

Contact Information

For more details and inquiries, please contact **Mrs. Miri Dan via email: office@chessfed.org.il**

