



Sharjah Masters 2026 International Chess Championship Under the Patronage of

H.H. Sheikh Dr. Sultan bin Muhammad Al Qasimi
Supreme Council Member & Ruler of Sharjah (UAE)

1. Prospectus

The Sharjah Cultural & Chess Club is pleased to invite you to participate in the 9th Sharjah Masters 2026, which will be held at the Club's premises, Under date April 30 (Arrival) to 03 (Departure), 2026.

2. Participation & Registration

Tournament is open to all FIDE-rated players in the following categories:

- **Sharjah Masters A** : For players rated 2500 (FIDEStandard)and above.
- **Sharjah Masters B** : For players rated 1900 (FIDEStandard)and above.
- **Sharjah Masters C** : For players rated 1400-1899 (FIDEStandard).
- Registration is only accepted online via the following link : <https://shjchess.com/en/>
- Last day of registration & payment is 30th March 2026

The organizers reserve the right to grant a wild card entry to any player, allowing participation in the tournament at their discretion.

- For each federation a maximum of twenty (20) players will be allowed to participate. An exception will (might) be given to (proven) resident players of the United Arab Emirates.
- Organizing committee reserves the right to accept or deny a participant's registration according to FIDE Rules and regulations and UAE Laws.

3. Data

- Rounds : 9 Rounds Swiss System
- Time Control for A,B,C Tournaments are 90 minutes/30+ seconds increment per move for the whole game.
- Default Time : 10minutes delay will apply
- The Playing Hall will be at the Sharjah Cultural & Chess Club (Sharjah, UAE) premises.

4. Events Sections & Entry Fees

- The event will be held as per the following sections, as per the FIDE Rating List (Standard) of 01.03.2026:

Sharjah Masters A : Rating +2500	Sharjah Masters B : Rating +1900	Sharjah Masters C : Rating 1899-1400
180 Players	150 Players	120 Players
- Rating +2000: USD 8	- GMs & IMs & WGMs: 350-5	- Rating 1899-1800 USD 108
- Rating 2100-2000: USD 105	- Rating 2399-2300: USD 260	- Rating 1799-1700 USD 118
	- Rating 2199-2100: USD 380	- Rating 1699-1600 USD 308
	- Rating 2099-1900: USD 350	- Rating 1599-1500 USD 318
		- Rating 1499-1400 USD 308



5. Visa and Accommodation:

- Participants Visa fees : USD 100.
- Coaches & Accompanying Persons: USD 150.
- All Visa Fees for Coaches & Accompanying Persons must be paid in advance.
- Entry Visas to the UAE will be issued for the eligible VIPs, Participants, Coaches & Accompanying Persons and will be valid for thirty (30) days from the date of arrival in UAE.
- All Visa Applications are subject to the approval of the UAE Authorities.
- All Visa Application fees are non-refundable.

6. Arbitration & Appeals Committee:

- The SCCC shall nominate the Chief Arbitrator and the Arbiters.
- In the Technical Meeting an Appeals Committee will be selected.
- Appeals against decisions of the Chief Arbitrator and/or the Arbiters must be submitted in written and signed form to the Chairman of the Appeals Committee within one hour after the completion of the round.
- An Appeal shall be submitted with an accompanying fee of USD 200 or its equivalent in the local currency.
- If the Appeal is accepted, the above fee will be returned; otherwise, it shall be forfeited to the Organizing Committee.

7. Tie-Breaks:

- The tie-break criteria (for all three sections) will be (by order):
- Direct Encounter.
- Buchholz-out1 (1 Lowest score not counted).
- Buchholz-out2 (2 Lowest scores not counted).
- Highest Number of Wins with black (played).
- Rating Performance.

8. Dress-Code & Forbidden Items:

All participants are obliged to follow the dress code of business casual or elegant casual, with no shorts, slippers, etc..

Any electronic equipment (computers, cameras, mobile phones, tablets, hand-watches, pencils, etc.) is strictly forbidden in the Playing Hall, as per FIDE Handbook.





9. Playing Schedule

- The Sections will be played according to the following Schedule (UTC Timing - GMT +8).

Singapore Masters A, B & C			
Date	Day	Time	Activity
April 20	Mon	17:00	Arrival
April 21	Tue	17:00	Technical Meeting
		18:00	Opening Ceremony
		19:00	Round 1
April 22	Wed	19:00	Round 2
April 23	Thu	19:00	Round 3
April 24	Fri	19:00	Round 4
April 25	Sat	19:00	Round 5
April 26	Sun	19:00	Round 6
April 27	Mon	19:00	Round 7
April 28	Tue	19:00	Round 8
April 29	Wed	17:00	Round 9
		20:00	Closing Ceremony
April 30	Thu	17:00	Departure

10. Awards & Prizes

- Awards & Prizes will be distributed according to the following table.

- Note that the Cash Prizes will be more than USD 90,000 (for all three sections). Cash Prizes will not be shared, but awarded by points and/or tie-break criteria, as per Article 7

Position	Masters A (160000)	Masters B (140000)	Masters C (80000)	Medals
1st	10,000	5,000	1,000	Gold Medal + Cup
2nd	10,000	2,000	1,000	Silver Medal
3rd	6,000	1,500	1,000	Bronze Medal
4th	7,000	1,000	800	
5th	5,000	1,000	700	
6th	4,000	800	Best U - 1600 100	
7th	2,000	600	Best 1st Player 100	
8th	2,500	500		
9th	2,000	400		
10th	1,500	300		
11th	1,500	Best U 2000 500		
12th	1,500	Best U 2100 500		
13th	1,500	Best U 2200 500		
14th	1,500	Best Female 500		
15th	1,500	Best 1st Player 100		
Best Female	1,000			





Chessify Prizes

Chessify is a powerful chess analysis platform that uses advanced cloud engines and a coins-based system, allowing users to purchase and spend coins for premium analysis — and for the first time, in collaboration with the Sharjah Masters, one million coins will be distributed.

Masters A		Masters B	
1st 150,000	Best Woman 1st 10,000	1st 40,000	Best Woman 1st 5,000
2nd 100,000	2nd 10,000	2nd 20,000	2nd 1,000
3rd 80,000	3rd 10,000	3rd 10,000	3rd 1,000
4th 60,000	4th 10,000	4th 10,000	4th 4,000
5th 50,000	Best U20 100,000	5th 10,000	Best U20 100,000
6th 40,000	1st 10,000	6th 10,000	1st 4,000
7th 40,000	2nd 10,000	7th 10,000	2nd 1,000
8th 10,000		8th 10,000	
9th 10,000		9th 10,000	
10th 10,000		10th 10,000	
11th 10,000		11th 10,000	
12th 10,000		12th 10,000	
13th 10,000		13th 10,000	
14th 10,000		14th 10,000	
15th 10,000		15th 10,000	



Chessify





11. Hotel Accommodation

- The Centre Rotana Sharjah will be the official Hotel of the tournament.
- The accommodation offer of the tournament is as following (no triple rooms are offered):
 - Single Room USD 120 per night (Full-board).
 - Double Room USD 175 per night (Full-board).
- Transportation will be only provided (to – from) the club for the official Hotel by the Organizing Committee:
 - * To and From the SOCC premises to the official Hotel (daily).
 - * From and To Sharjah airports to the official Hotel (invited Players Only)

12. Payment Methods

The entry fee and related payments must be paid in FULL before the deadline (1st of April, 2026). Payments will only be accepted via a payment link, which will be sent by email, or in cash at Sharjah Cultural and Chess Club. The exchange rate of the 1 US dollar to the UAE dirham is 3.8

Payment Process





13. Invited Players & Arbiters

- The Organizing Committee, taking into reference the Standard FIDE Rating List of 01.01.2026 and prior Application & Approval, shall provide:
 - Invited GMs rated +2700: Single-room accommodation with full-board.
 - Invited GMs rated 2600-2699: Shared double- room accommodation with full-board.
 - An upgrade from shared double to a single room accommodation, will cost USD 56 per night.
 - To apply for invitation you must register online first via link: <https://nhjchess.com/inv/>
 - If a Player is given any of the above privileges, the Organizing Committee will contact him/her directly with an Official form to be signed and returned as instructed, via the Official e-mail: nhjchessmasters2026@gmail.com.

14. Force Majeure

- The Musajik Cultural & Chess Club & the Organizing Committee are bearing no responsibility in case of a Force Majeure which might cancel or postpone the event.

15. Contact/Information

- Tournament Director Mr/Dr Munsif Abdulla
- Head of Technical Committee Mr Faizal Alhamrasi
- Fair Play Officer Mr/TPD Gopalakumar M S
- Website: <https://nhjchess.com/inv/>
- E-mail: nhjchessmasters2026@gmail.com

