



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 data April 30 (Arrival) to May 10 (Departure), 2026.

2. Participation & Registration

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

- **Sharjah Masters A** : For players rated 2500 (FIDE Standard) and above.
- **Sharjah Masters B** : For players rated 1900 (FIDE Standard) and above.
- **Sharjah Masters C** : For players rated 1400-1899 (FIDE Standard).
- Registration is only accepted online via the following link : <https://shjchess.com/sm/>
- Last day of registration & payment is 10th April 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 : 30 minutes delay will apply
- The Playing Hall will be at the Sharjah Cultural & Chess Club (Sharjah, UAE) premises.

4. Event's 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.
100 Players	150 Players	100 Players
- Rating +2600: USD 0.	- GMs & IMs & WGMs: USD 0.	- Rating 1899-1800: USD 100.
- Rating 2599-2500: USD 100.	- Rating 2399-2200: USD 200.	- Rating 1799-1700: USD 150.
	- Rating 2199-2100: USD 300	- Rating 1699-1600: USD 200.
	- Rating 2099-1900: USD 350.	- Rating 1599-1500: USD 250.
		- Rating 1499-1400: USD 300.



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 Arbiter and the Arbiters.
- In the Technical Meeting an Appeals Committee will be selected.
- Appeals against decisions of the Chief Arbiter 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-cut1 (1 Lowest score not counted).
- Buchholz-cut2 (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

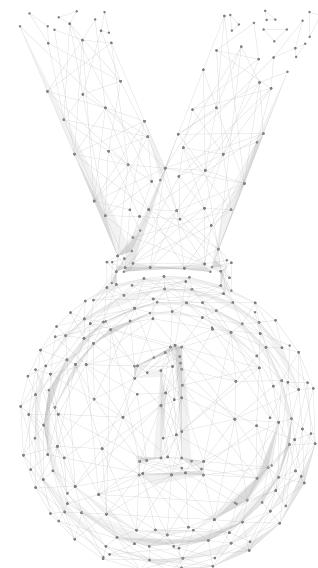
- The Sections will be played according to the following Schedule (UAE Timing - GMT 4+).

Sharjah Masters A, B & C			
Dates	Day	Time	Activity
April 30	Thu	12:00	Arrival
May 01	Fri	12:00	Technical Meeting
		15:30	Opening Ceremony
		16:00	Round 1
		16:00	Round 2
May 02	Sat	16:00	Round 3
May 03	Sun	16:00	Round 4
May 04	Mon	16:00	Round 5
May 05	Tue	16:00	Round 6
May 06	Wed	16:00	Round 7
May 07	Thu	16:00	Round 8
May 08	Fri	16:00	Round 9
May 09	Sat	15:00	Round 9
		20:30	Closing Ceremony
May 10	Sun	12:00	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 (66000\$)	Masters B (14000\$)	Masters C (6000\$)	Medals
1st	15,000	3,000	1,800	Gold Medal + Cup
2nd	10,000	2,000	1,200	Silver Medal
3rd	9,000	1,500	1,000	Bronze Medal
4th	7,000	1,200	800	
5th	5,000	1,000	700	
6th	4,000	900	Best U -1600 300	
7th	3,000	800	Best SHJ Player 200	
8th	2,500	700		
9th	2,000	600		
10th	1,500	500		
11th	1,400	Best U -2200 500		
12th	1,300	Best U -2100 500		
13th	1,200	Best U -2000 500		
14th	1,100	Best Female 200		
15th	1,000	Best SHJ Player 200		
Best Female	1,000			





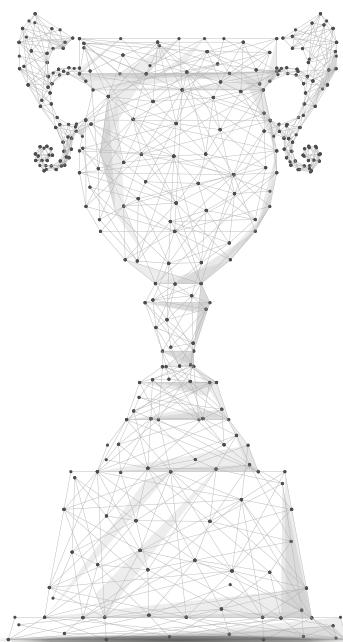
Chessify Prizes

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 Women	1st 40,000	Best Women
2nd 100,000	1st 35,000	2nd 25,000	1st 8,000
3rd 80,000	2nd 20,000	3rd 20,000	2nd 5,000
4th 60,000	3rd 15,000	4th 15,000	3rd 4,000
5th 50,000	Best U20	5th 10,000	Best U20
6th 45,000	1st 35,000	6th 10,000	1st 8,000
7th 40,000	2nd 15,000	7th 10,000	2nd 5,000
8th 35,000		8th 8,000	
9th 30,000		9th 8,000	
10th 25,000		10th 6,000	
11th 20,000		11th 5,000	
12th 15,000		12th 4,000	
13th 10,000		13th 3,000	
14th 10,000		14th 3,000	
15th 10,000		15th 3,000	



Chessify





11. Hotel Accommodation

- The Centro 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 170 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 SCCC 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



Registration Request

Submit a registration request to participate in the tournament.



Organizer Approval

The organizing committee reviews and approves the registration request.



Payment Link

Once approved, a payment link will be sent via email, or payment can be made in cash at the Sharjah Cultural and Chess Club



Participation Confirmation

After receiving the payment participation is officially confirmed



Paid

Payments must be completed in full before the deadline (1st of April 2026).





13. Invited Players & Arbiters

- The Organizing Committee, taking into reference the Standard FIDE Rating List of 01.03.2026 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 50 per night.
- To apply for invitation you **must** register online first via link :<https://shjchess.com/sm/>
- 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 (shjchessmasters2020@gmail.com).

14. Force Majeure

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

15. Contact/Information

- Tournament Director IA/IO Murad Abdulla
- Head of Technical Committee IA Faisal Alhammadi.
- Fair Play Officer IA/FPO Gopakumar M S
- Website: <https://shjchess.com/sm/>
- E-mail: shjchessmasters2020@gmail.com

