



Addressed: Honourable Heads of Arab and African Chess Federations
Subject: Invitation to Participate in the Arab-African Online
Individual Open Chess Championship 2021

Dear All,

Based on the role of the Arab and African chess federations in exercising their missions:

- Raising the level of the Arab and African players.
- Continuity of work to improve the game of chess.
- Competitive activity and development of skills in practicing the game.
- Communication between member players of the two regions.
- Cooperation between the Arab Chess Federation and the African Chess Confederation.

It has been agreed to establish an open championship that brings together Arab and African players, especially in this ordeal that the whole world is going through due to the Covid-19 global pandemic.

The Arab Chess Federation and the African Chess Confederation have the honour of inviting all Arab and African chess players to participate in the Arab and African Online Individual Open Chess Championship, which will be held from 25th to 27th February 2021 via the lichess.org website.

May God protect you and protect all of humanity from any harm.

Accept the assurances of my highest consideration.

Saud bin Abdul Aziz Al Mualla
Head of the championship's Organising Committee
President of the Arab Chess Federation





Arab-African Online Individual Open Chess Championship for 2021
25th to 27th February 2021

Regulations

I: Participation Rights

All Arab and African players who have an international identification number (FIDE ID) are entitled to participate in this championship.

II: System

1. The championship will be held in four stages (preliminary, men's semi-final, female's final, and men's final).
2. The time control specified for each round is three minutes for each player, with an additional two seconds for each move played.
3. The championship will be held as mentioned above in four stages as follows:
 - 3.1. **The preliminary stage:** Arab and African players who hold a classic international rating (Standard rating) of less than 2000 points are entitled to participate in addition to those who are not classified according to the FIDE list for January 2021.
 - 3.1.1. The first thirty winners qualify to the semi-final stage for men from the category of male players. From this stage the female players who are ranked in the first twenty places will qualify for the final stage for female players.
 - 3.1.2. This stage of the championship will last for approximately two 2 hours (Arena Championship).

* The start of the championship (preliminary stage) will be on 4:00 pm (GMT) on Thursday 25.02.2021.
 - 3.2. **The semi-final stage for men:** Arab and African male players who hold a classic international rating (Standard rating) between 2000 and 2400 rating according to the FIDE list for January 2021, in addition to the 30 first-placed players who qualified from the preliminary stage, are entitled to participate in the semi-final stage.
 - 3.2.1. The twenty top placed players will qualify to the final stage for men.
 - 3.2.2. This stage of the championship will be run on the Swiss System.
 - 3.3. The final stage for female players: Arab and African players who hold a classic international rating (Standard rating) of 2000 rating or above, according to the January 2021 FIDE list, are entitled to participate, in



addition to the twenty top placed female players qualified from the preliminary stage to participate in the final stage of female players.

3.3.1. The first placed female winner has the right to participate in the men's final round.

3.3.2. This stage of the championship will be run on a Swiss System basis.

3.3.3. **The start date of the championship (the semi-final stage for men and the final for female players) will be at 4:00 pm (GMT) on Friday, 26.02.2021.**

3.3.4. **Note:** All players in the female's final stage will be monitored via the Zoom platform, so all female finalists are required to enter the Zoom Platform and share the camera, sound and screen, and all participants must enter the Zoom meeting in the name of the player as it is registered on the FIDE website. And they must enter the Zoom link half an hour before the start of the championship.

3.3.5. Link and details of the Zoom meeting for the females' final stage:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81274372176?pwd=bG1iNjdpb1JHTnVNZzg5cnQySOZBUT09>

Meeting ID: 812 7437 2176

Passcode: 130370

4. The final stage for men: Arab and African male players who hold a classic international rating (Standard rating) higher above 2400 rating, according to the FIDE list for January 2021, are entitled to participate, in addition to the first twenty placed players who qualify from the semi-final stage for men and the first placed winner of the females' final stage.

4.1. This stage of the championship will be run on a Swiss System basis.

4.2. The start of the championship (the final stage) will be on 4:00 pm (GMT) on Saturday 27.02.2021.

4.3. Note: All final-stage players will be monitored via the Zoom platform, so all finalists are required to enter the Zoom platform and share the camera, sound and screen, and all participants must enter the Zoom meeting on the player's name as it is registered on the FIDE website. And they must enter the Zoom link half an hour before the start of the championship.

4.4. Link and details of the zoom meeting for the men's final stage:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88366600063?pwd=a0JiODFNdmItT2FKUkQwbkNabEZPd09>

Meeting ID: 883 6660 0063

Passcode: 081614



III: Confirmation of Participation

The deadline for registration is on Friday 19.02.2021 at 06:00 GMT.

- 1- Players wishing to participate in the championship must have an account on the (lichess.org) website.
- 2- Players wishing to participate in the championship must register via the Arab Chess Federation's website:
<http://arabchessfederation.com>
- 3- After completing the data required in the previous clause, one must join the championship team via electronic links and according to the stage:
- 4- A- Players (team) of the preliminary stage:
<https://lichess.org/team/arab-africa-open-chess-championship-2021--preliminary-stage>
- 5- B - Players (team) for the semi-final stage of men:
<https://lichess.org/team/arab-africa-open-chess-championship-2021--semi-final-stage>
- 6- C - Female players (team):
<https://lichess.org/team/arab-africa-open-chess-championship-2021--female-final-stage>
- 7- D - Players (team) of the final stage of men:
<https://lichess.org/team/arab-africa-open-chess-championship-2021--final-stage>

IV: General Terms & Conditions of the Championship

1. It is prohibited to use any kind of chess engines or programs or any auxiliary means (cheating) of any kind, including assisting any other person during the championship.
2. The championship is monitored by the arbiters and the Anti-cheating Committee and by the management of the championship, which is the website Lichess.org.
3. To any player who is caught violating Paragraph 1 of this clause, a personal penalty will be applied, which is the denial of participation in all upcoming Arab Chess Federation and African Chess Confederation internet championships. Additionally, if a player has obtained any of the prescribed prizes, the prize will be withdrawn from him/her and given to the player who follows him according to the order of winners.
4. The decisions and judgments issued by the Arbiters and Anti-Cheating Committee are final and not subject to any kind of appeal.
5. The Arbiters and the Anti-Cheating Committee have the right to make decisions during the championship even 12 hours after the championship ends.



6. Once participating in the championship, the player accepts all of what is stated in its Regulations.

7. The Arab Chess Federation and the African Chess Confederation are not responsible for any technical defect that may occur to the Internet or to lichess.org during the championship.

V: Determining the Winners and the General Standings

1. The approved final standings (ranking) of the winners will be announced after the end of each stage of the championship within 12 hours, on the official website of the Arab Chess Federation: <http://arabchessfederation.com> by the Arbiters and Anti-Cheating Committee.

2. The individual prizes will not be shared, and the final ranking will be displayed on the championship's website.

VI: Championship Prizes in US Dollars (\$)

Prizes	
Preliminary Stage	
Best player under 1200	100
Best Female Under 1200	100
Best player under 1400	100
Best Female Under 1400	100
Best player under 1600	100
Best Female Under 1600	100
Best player under 1800	100
Best Female Under 1800	100
Best player under 2000	100
Best Female Under 2000	100

In the preliminary stage, if any participant receives more than one prize, he/she will only receive the highest one.



Preliminary Stage - Female		Preliminary Stage - Men	
1 st Place	\$400	1 st Place	\$400
2 nd Place	\$250	2 nd Place	\$250
3 rd Place	\$200	3 rd Place	\$200
4 th Place	\$150	4 th Place	\$150
5 th Place	\$100	5 th Place	\$100

Final Stage - Female		Semi-Final Stage - Men	
1 st Place	\$600	1 st Place	\$600
2 nd Place	\$400	2 nd Place	\$400
3 rd Place	\$250	3 rd Place	\$250
4 th Place	\$150	4 th Place	\$150
5 th Place	\$100	5 th Place	\$100

Men's Final Stage Awards	
1 st Place	\$1200
2 nd Place	\$800
3 rd Place	\$600
4 th Place	\$400
5 th Place	\$200

VII: The Organizing Committee



Chairman of the Organising Committee

Sheikh Saud bin Abdul Aziz Al Mualla

General Observer

Lewis Ncube

Vice-Chairman

Benard Wanjala

Technical Director

Sami Khader

Championship Director

Rajai Numan Al Sousi

Chief Arbiter

Faisal Al Hammadi

General Coordinator

Razan Al-Shuaibi

Media Officer

Omar Noaman Al Ali

Site Manager

Adeeb Tamer Zahrawi

Social media

Manal Hamarshah

Arbiters' Committee

Saud Muhammad Ahmad

Efstratios Grivas

Omer Deab

Ansumana Kamara

Mokhlis El Adnani