



## FIDE World Senior Teams Chess Championships

18-29 April 2026

Hotel Grand Blue Fafa (\*\*\*\*\*) Durres/Albania



### **1. Invitation**

This is the official invitation to all senior women and men throughout the world to participate in the FIDE WORLD SENIOR TEAMS CHESS CHAMPIONSHIPS (categories 50+ and 65+) organized in Durres (Albania) from 18<sup>th</sup> April (arrival) to 29<sup>th</sup> April 2026 (departure) under the aegis of Albanian Chess Federation and FIDE – World Chess Federation.

### **2. Participation**

The FIDE World Senior Teams Chess Championships is open to all players, regardless of rating and title, who reach their age of 50 and 65 by 31st December 2026 and represent National Chess Federations which are members of FIDE. Teams can register only through their national chess federations. There is no limit in the number of teams per federation (club teams, city teams, regional teams, national teams, etc. may start in the championship, there is no limitation). There is only one limitation – all team players must be members of the same chess federation. According to the FIDE tournament rules, the World Championship will be played in four categories: age 50+ and 65+ (Open and women). A separate tournament will take place only with a minimum of 10 teams from at least 2 continents. If these conditions are not met, then the teams may participate in the corresponding age category in the Open Section, or (in case of Women 65+), they can take part in the Women's section 50+. All teams are obliged to be accommodated in the official hotel through the organizer.



### **3. Registration fees and registration and Visa information**

The Registration fee is 120 EUR per player and accompanying persons. It includes accreditation and transportation from / to Tirana airport and Grand Blue Fafa on 18 and 29 April. The registration period ends on 18<sup>th</sup> February 2026 (application deadline). Late registration entry fee is 240 EUR per player.

Requests for Visa invitation letter will be included in the application form and submitted before the application deadline. These requests can be processed earlier by e-mail if required.

The person responsible for the team's application will pay the entry fee for all players and the deposit for the accommodation of all players, including accompanying persons, until the end of registration.

The Organizing Committee will contact each of the teams to confirm the registration and booking

The rest payment for accommodation will be paid before the 1<sup>st</sup> round of the event

In addition to the written application, personal attendance and accreditation by a responsible person at the venue before the start of the tournament is also required.

Players who are not so accredited will not be included in the draw and their entry fees will be forfeited.

Access to playing areas, venues and the hotels will be allowed only to people accredited by the organizer.

4. Accommodation and boarding

The participating teams shall staying the official hotel for the championship. Bookings are possible only through the Organizing Committee.



OFFICIAL HOTEL: 5-star GRAND BLUE FAFA (\*\*\*\*\*)

- ☑ Full board included: breakfast, lunch, and dinner daily.
- ☑ Free Wi-Fi, use of hotel swimming pools and hotel parking.
- ☑ All taxes (including Municipality and Tourism Tax).

Prices in euros per person per day

Triple/quadruple room	Double room	Single room
69 euros	86 euros	116 euros

The deadline for registrations and bookings is 18<sup>th</sup> February 2025, together with a 30% deposit for accommodation package. The deposit payments shall be sent to the organizing agency’s bank account, free of bank charges. Pro-forma payment instructions, including bank account details of the organizing agency, will be provided upon each confirmed application.

Full payment for the hotel accommodation of participants and accompanying persons must be completed before the start of the 1<sup>st</sup> Round.

Extra nights can be requested in advance and, upon availability, can be charged at the same rate



## 5. Tournament schedule

Day	Date	Hours	Activity
Saturday	18 April		Arrivals
Sunday	19 April	10:30	Technical meeting
Sunday	19 April	15:00	Round 1
Monday	20 April	15:00	Round 2
Tuesday	21 April	15:00	Round 3
Wednesday	22 April	15:00	Round 4
Thursday	23 April	15:00	Round 5
Friday	24 April		Free day
Saturday	25 April	15:00	Round 6
Sunday	26 April	15:00	Round 7
Monday	27 April	15:00	Round 8
Tuesday	28 April	14:00	Round 9
Tuesday	28 April	21:00	Closing Ceremony
Wednesday	29 April		Departures

## 6. Rules and regulations

The FIDE Tournament Rules should be followed. The championship will be played by a 9-rounds Swiss system. It will be played on 4 chessboards with 1 allowed reserve player (teams can consist of 4 or 5 members). The time control is 90 minutes/40 moves + 30 minutes for the rest of the game + 30 sec for each move from the first move. Default time for all 9 rounds is 30 minutes.

## 7. Anti-Cheating guidelines

The FIDE Anti-Cheating guidelines are also valid for the World Senior Team Chess Championship. During the championship random AC inspections are possible.

## 8. Appeals procedure

A protest against the decision of an Arbiter must be submitted in writing to the Chief Arbiter, within 1 hour after the end of the game. A protest fee of 200 Euro has to be paid to FIDE and it is refundable if the protest is upheld. The Appeals Committee may also decide to refund the fee if it considers the appeal was not frivolous.

## 9. Tie-break criteria

1. number of match points (win = 2 points, draw 1 point, lost game 0 points)
2. number of game points (score)
3. mutual game
4. Buchholz Cut 1
5. Buchholz
6. Sonneborn-Berger

The team with a free lot will obtain 2 match points and 50% of points to the score. If the opponent default the match, the team will obtain 2 match points and 100% of points to the score. Prizes for teams, which get the same number of match points and game points, are distributed according to the Hort system (among such number of teams which corresponds to the number of advertised prizes).

## 10. Chess equipment

The FIDE approved chess equipment will be used for the event.

## 11. Awards and titles

The winning team of the FIDE World Senior Team Chess Championship in +50 category receives the title “World Senior Team Champion 2026 in the category +50”. The winning team of the FIDE World Senior Teams Chess Championship in +65 category receives the title “World Senior Team Champion 2026 in the category +65”. The winning women team of the FIDE World Senior Team Chess Championship in the women category +50 receives the title “World Senior Team Champion 2026 in the women category +50”. The winning women team of the FIDE World Senior Team Chess Championship in the women category +65 receives the title “World Senior Team Champion 2026 in the women category +65”.

## 12. Prizes (in EUR)

Prize fund	WSTCC open	WSTCC open	WSTCC women	WSTCC women
Rank	Category 50+	Category 65+	Category 50+	Category 65+
1	1500	1500	500	500
2	1000	1000	200	200
3	700	700	100	100
4	500	500		
5	300	300		
6	200	200		

## 13. Parallel activities

Rapid tournament during the free day

## 14. Airport transfer

The organizer arranges the transfer for participants and accompanying persons from the TIRANA airport (IATA: TIA) to the official hotel only on the arrival day (18th April) and back on the departure day (29th April) free of charge

## 15. Applications and information

Contact person: IO Nikos Kalesis

email: [worldseniorteam@fide.com](mailto:worldseniorteam@fide.com)

website: [worldseniorteam2026.fide.com](http://worldseniorteam2026.fide.com)