



CHESS SA

**SOUTH AFRICAN JUNIOR CLOSED
CHESS CHAMPIONSHIPS 2026**

28 MARCH TO 2 APRIL 2026

Hosted by Chess South Africa

In collaboration with the North West Province Chess Association

[REGISTRATION LINK](#)

Inquiries: **sajccc2026@chessa.co.za**

Circular 3 - 11 March 2026



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1. VENUE

- 1.1 Kgaswane Country Lodge, R24, Olifants Nek, Rustenburg 0299
- 1.2 Venue Map: [CLICK HERE](#)

2. LOCAL ORGANISING COMMITTEE (LOC)

2.1 Tournament Director:	Carol Lefyedi
2.2 Chief Arbiter:	Ronel Piek
2.3 Logistics & Communications:	Thandi Boshoma
2.4 NW Representative:	Sabatha Matsitse
2.5 Safeguarding Officer:	Goitsewang Ramaboa
2.6 Technical Coordinator:	Martin Nkuna
2.7 Media Officer:	Engela Mostert
2.8 Marketing	Lesego Molefe
2.9 Member:	Keabetse Kwape
2.10 Member:	Khutsi Molefe
2.11 Chess SA Rep:	Shaun Levitan
2.12 Chess SA Rep :	Liezel Bothma
2.13 Chess SA Rep:	Fungile Ngqenga

3. REGISTRATION

- 3.1 All registrations must be done online using the official registration link: <https://chessworks.co.za/tournament/south-african-junior-closed-chess-championship-2026>
- 3.2 Registration Fee: **R875** per player.
- 3.3 Registration closing date: **14 March 2026** at midnight (2026/03/15 - 00h00).
- 3.4 No late registration will be accepted.
- 3.5 Registration is the responsibility of the player/parent.

4. PAYMENTS

- 4.1 All payments for registration will be processed via the ChessWorks platform.



5. TOURNAMENT FORMAT

- 5.1 The format of the tournament will be an Individual Swiss, played over 9 rounds.
- 5.2 There will be no combined sections.
- 5.3 Time Control: 90/90 + 30SIPM
- 5.4 Tie-Breaks:
 - 5.4.1 Direct Encounter
 - 5.4.2 Sum of Progressive scores
 - 5.4.3 Buchholz
 - 5.4.4 Sonneborn-Berger
 - 5.4.5 Buchholz Cut-1
- 5.5 The Tournament rules will be finalized by the LOC/Chief Arbiter and the published rules will supersede all other rules.

6. COMMUNICATION

- 6.1 Only publications by the Tournament Director will be regarded as official.
- 6.2 For easier communication leading up to and during the tournament, join the following **WhatsApp Group: [2026 SAJCCC WhatsApp](#)**
- 6.3 Pairings and results to be published on chess-results.com
- 6.4 Inquiries regarding the tournament can be directed to sajccc2026@chessa.co.za

7. ACCOMMODATION

- 7.1 All players and parents are responsible for arranging their own accommodation.
- 7.2 Limited accommodation is available at Kgaswane Country Lodge Call/WhatsApp 0639840398 or tsholo@kgaswanecountrylodge.net or reception@kgaswanecountrylodge.net or at the accommodation of your choice. It is the responsibility of the players / parents to book accommodation. Chess SA and/ or the LOC is not involved.



8. TOURNAMENT SCHEDULE

DATE	TIME	ACTIVITY
SATURDAY 28 MARCH	13h00 - 15h00	Collection of accreditations by players
	16h00	Opening Ceremony
	16h45	Players moving to the playing hall for scanning
	17h45	Players seated & official announcements
	18h00	Round 1
SUNDAY 29 MARCH	09h00	Round 2
	16h00	Round 3
MONDAY 30 MARCH	09h00	Round 4
	16h00	Round 5
TUESDAY 31 MARCH	09h00	Blitz Event
	16h00	Round 6
WEDNESDAY 1 APRIL	09h00	Round 7
	16h00	Round 8
THURSDAY 2 APRIL	09h00	Round 9
	13h30	Prize Giving



9. BLITZ EVENT

- 9.1 **Format:** 9 Round Individual Swiss
- 9.2 **Time Control:** 3/3 + 2sipm
- 9.3 **Date:** Tuesday 31 March
- 9.4 **Time:** 09h00 – 12h30 (rounds will be accelerated)
- 9.5 **Rated:** Chess SA & FIDE Rated
- 9.6 **Sections:** One Open section
- 9.7 **Entry Fee:** R200 per player
- 9.8 **Registration & Payment:**
 - 9.8.1 All registrations and payments will be handled through the ChessWorks platform.

Register using the link or QR code below



<https://chessworks.co.za/tournament/south-african-junior-closed-chess-championship-2026-blitz>

- 9.8.2 Registration Deadline – **Monday 30 March** at midnight (2026/03/30 - 00h00)
- 9.9 **Tie-Breaks:**
 - 9.9.1 Direct Encounter
 - 9.9.2 Sum of Progressive scores
 - 9.9.3 Buchholz
 - 9.9.4 Sonneborn-Berger
 - 9.9.5 Buchholz Cut-1
- 9.10 **Prizes:** Trophy for winner and medals for Top 3.



10. TOURNAMENT RATING & REGULATIONS

- 10.1 The results of this competition will be submitted for rating to the CHESS SA Rating Bureau. Certain sections will be FIDE rated.
- 10.2 The latest FIDE rules will apply.
- 10.3 All other relevant information will be published via the WhatsApp groups and other official platforms.
- 10.4 According to the SASCOC policy, only players who are South African citizens will qualify for SA colours.
- 10.5 An appeal must be submitted in writing to the Chief Arbiter or the Tournament Director within 30 minutes of the completion of the game in question and before the next round is published. The appeal must be accompanied by the game notation and a fee of R500, which will be refunded if the appeal outcome is successful.
- 10.6 The list of players who qualify to register for the SAJCCC 2026 is included as an addendum to this circular, as approved and signed off by the Chess SA Selections Committee. Any inquiries or discrepancies regarding the published names must be directed to the Chess SA Selections Committee.
- 10.7 Players withdrawing during the event will forfeit their entry fees.
 - 10.7.1 Player withdrawing from the event after registration closing date will forfeit their entry fees.
 - 10.7.2 If a player withdraws during the event, rating penalties will be applied as per Chess SA Rating Regulations if no valid and acceptable reason(s) are provided by the player.

11. CITIZENSHIP VERIFICATION

- 11.1 All players are required to submit a copy of their ID, Passport or Birth Certificate in order to verify their citizenship status. Documents can be uploaded using the secure online portal: <https://sajccc.chessa.co.za/documents>
- 11.2 By submitting these documents, the player, parent, or legal guardian consents to the processing of personal information in accordance with the POPI Act. All information provided will be stored securely and will be accessible only to the event organisers.



12. AGE AND GENDER GROUPS

- 12.1 U08 Open & Girls born: 2018 & later
- 12.2 U10 Open & Girls born: 2016 & 2017
- 12.3 U12 Open & Girls born: 2014 & 2015
- 12.4 U14 Open & Girls born: 2012 & 2013
- 12.5 U16 Open & Girls born: 2010 & 2011
- 12.6 U18 Open & Girls born: 2008 & 2009
- 12.7 U20 Open & Girls born: 2006 & 2007

13. PRIZES

- 13.1 The winners of each age and gender category will receive a trophy. Medals will be awarded to the top three (3) finishers. All participants will receive certificates of participation.
- 13.2 Each of the category winners will be awarded the title of **“South African Junior Closed Chess Champion 2026”**.

14. REPLACEMENT CRITERIA

- 14.1 All replacements will be done according to Rating, GPX & Mzansi qualifiers. All replacements will be done by 16 March 2026.
- 14.2 All sections must comprise of an even number of players.

15. INTERNATIONAL PARTICIPATION

- 15.1 Players who qualify for Continental and International participation based on their final standings at the SAJCCC 2026 will be announced during the prize-giving ceremony.

16. SAFEGUARDING POLICY STATEMENT

- 16.1 Chess South Africa is deeply committed to creating and maintaining a safe, inclusive, and respectful environment for all its members, players, coaches, officials, and stakeholders.
- 16.2 Everyone associated with Chess South Africa has the right to participate in an environment free from any form of discrimination, harassment, abuse, or misconduct.



16.3 As such, Chess South Africa adopts a zero-tolerance stance towards all forms of abuse, including but not limited to physical, sexual, emotional, and bullying.

16.4 Any allegations of misconduct will be taken seriously, thoroughly investigated, and dealt with swiftly and appropriately.

16.5 For this reason, it will be compulsory for all administrators and arbiters involved in the 2026 SAJCCC to have a Level 1 or Level 2 safeguarding certificate to be involved in the tournament.

16.6 These certificates must be submitted to the LOC as required.

16.7 The following are some of the examples of recognised online safeguarding courses

- [WCPSC Safeguarding Awareness](#)
- [FIFA Level 1 & 2](#)
- Gymnastics SA Level 1& 2.
- The Guardian BSA (Level 1)
- The Guardian – DSO (Level 2).

17. FAIRPLAY POLICY

17.1 Prohibited Devices

17.1.1 No electronic devices, including cell phones, watches, hoodies or earphones, are allowed in the playing area. Devices must be stored in a designated area or left outside the venue.

17.2 Body Scanning

17.2.1 All players must undergo a mandatory body scan when entering the playing area, as well as before and after using the toilets, to ensure compliance with Fair Play regulations.

17.3 Zero Tolerance for Cheating.

17.3.1 Any form of cheating, including the use of external assistance or unauthorized software, will result in immediate forfeiture or disqualification, and the incident will be reported to the relevant chess authorities.



17.4 Surveillance and Monitoring

- 17.4.1 Players are subject to monitoring by Fairplay officials through live observation, cameras, and anti-cheating software. Compliance with these measures is mandatory.

17.5 Random Inspections

- 17.5.1 Random inspections may be conducted during the tournament. Players must cooperate fully with Fairplay officials during checks.

17.6 Player Conduct

- 17.6.1 Unauthorized communication among players is strictly prohibited during the games. Violations will result in penalties, including disqualification.

17.7 Spectator Restrictions

- 17.7.1 Spectators are not allowed to communicate with players during the games and must stay in designated areas away from the playing area.
- 17.7.2 These regulations ensure a fair and transparent tournament environment. By participating, players agree to abide by these rules.

18. MEDICAL SERVICES

- 18.1 There will be first aid facilities on site. Hospitals are also in close proximity.

19. MEDIA

- 19.1 All prospective media representatives are required to inform the organisers in advance by emailing sajccc2026@chessa.co.za in order to obtain access to the venue and receive official accreditation cards.
- 19.2 Strict tournament and fair-play regulations will be enforced at all times. Cell phones are strictly prohibited inside the playing venue and may only be used in the designated and approved media area. Failure to comply with these regulations may result in removal from the venue and withdrawal of accreditation.



20. ARBITER APPLICATIONS

20.1 Arbiters will be appointed by the AOC. Interested individuals are invited to apply for the available arbiter positions: [2026 SAJCCC Arbiter Application](#). Applications close on the 4th of February 2026 at 12pm.

21. ARBITER SEMINAR

21.1 An AOC Candidate Provincial Arbiter (CPA) seminar will take place during the tournament. Interested candidates are required to register via the official [online application form](#).