



CHESS SA

SOUTH AFRICAN JUNIOR CLOSED CHESS CHAMPIONSHIPS 2026

28 MARCH TO 2 APRIL 2026

Hosted by Chess South African

In collaboration with the North West Province Chess Association

REGISTRATION LINK

Inquiries: [**sajccc2026@chessa.co.za**](mailto:sajccc2026@chessa.co.za)

Circular 1 - 22 January 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: | TBA |
| 2.3 Logistics & Communications: | Thandi Boshoma |
| 2.4 NW Representative: | Sabatha Matsitse |
| 2.5 Safeguarding Officer: | Goitsewang Ramoboa |
| 2.6 Technical Coordinator: | Martin Nkuna |
| 2.7 Media Officer: | Engela Mostert |
| 2.8 Member: | Keabetse Kwape |
| 2.9 Member: | Khutsi Molefe |

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** by midnight.
- 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 To make communication effective, we have created 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	08h00	Round 9
	13h00	Prize Giving



9. TOURNAMENT RATING & REGULATIONS

- 9.1 The results of this competition will be submitted for rating to the CHESS SA Rating Bureau. Certain sections will be FIDE rated.
- 9.2 The latest FIDE rules will apply.
- 9.3 All other relevant information will be published via the WhatsApp groups and other official platforms.
- 9.4 According to the SASCOC policy, only players who are South African citizens will qualify for SA colours.
- 9.5 Only South African citizens and permanent residents will be eligible to participate in the SAJCCC.
- 9.6 Only South African citizens will receive South African Colours.
- 9.7 Players may apply to play in a higher age category however it may be granted or declined depending on the criteria.
- 9.8 The appeals committee will be announced after round 1. An appeal shall be submitted in writing to the CA or TD within 30 minutes after the completion of the specific game in question & before the publication of the following round. Accompanied by the notation & a fee of R500 (which will be returned if the appeal is successful)
- 9.9 Players withdrawing during the event will forfeit their entry fees.
 - 9.9.1 Player withdrawing from the event after registration closing date will forfeit their entry fees.
 - 9.9.2 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.



10. AGE AND GENDER GROUPS

- 10.1 U08 Open & Girls born: 2018 & later
- 10.2 U10 Open & Girls born: 2016 & 2017
- 10.3 U12 Open & Girls born: 2014 & 2015
- 10.4 U14 Open & Girls born: 2012 & 2013
- 10.5 U16 Open & Girls born: 2010 & 2011
- 10.6 U18 Open & Girls born: 2008 & 2009
- 10.7 U20 Open & Girls born: 2006 & 2007

11. PRIZES

- 11.1 The winners of each age and gender category will receive a trophy and the top three (3) finishers will receive medals, and all participants will receive certificates.
- 11.2 Each of the category winners will be awarded the title of **“South African Junior Closed Chess Champion 2026”**.

12. SELECTION CRITERIA

- 12.1 This selection criterion is only applicable for 2026.
- 12.2 The GPX and Rating Period of 1 October 2024 to 31 December 2025 is applicable.

13. REPLACEMENT CRITERIA

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

14. INTERNATIONAL PARTICIPATION

- 14.1 Players who qualified through the final standing at the SAJCCC 2026 for Continental and International participation will be announced at the prize giving ceremony.



15. SAFEGUARDING POLICY STATEMENT

- 15.1 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.
- 15.2 Everyone associated with Chess South Africa has the right to participate in an environment free from any form of discrimination, harassment, abuse, or misconduct.
- 15.3 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.
- 15.4 Any allegations of misconduct will be taken seriously, thoroughly investigated, and dealt with swiftly and appropriately.
- 15.5 For this reason, it will be compulsory for all administrators and arbiters involved in the 2025 SAJCCC to have a Level 1 or Level 2 safeguarding certificate to be involved in the tournament.
- 15.6 These certificates must be submitted to the LOC as required.
- 15.7 These are some of the examples of online safeguarding courses include:
- [WCPSC Safeguarding Awareness](#)
 - [FIFA Level 1 & 2](#)
 - Gymnastics SA Level 1 & 2.
 - The Guardian BSA (Level 1)
 - The Guardian – DSO (Level 2).



16. FAIRPLAY POLICY

16.1 Prohibited Devices

16.1.1 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.

16.2 Body Scanning

16.2.1 All players must undergo body scanning upon entering the playing area and before accessing the toilets to ensure compliance with Fairplay rules.

16.3 Zero Tolerance for Cheating.

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

16.4 Surveillance and Monitoring

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

16.5 Random Inspections

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

16.6 Player Conduct

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

16.7 Spectator Restrictions

16.7.1 Spectators are not allowed to communicate with players during the games and must stay in designated areas away from the playing area.

16.7.2 These regulations ensure a fair and transparent tournament environment. By participating, players agree to abide by these rules.



17. MEDICAL SERVICES

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

18. MEDIA

18.1 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.

18.2 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.

19. ARBITER APPLICATIONS

19.1 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.

20. ARBITER SEMINAR

20.1 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](#).