Approved by
Gulmira Dauletova
Executive Director
Kazakhstan Chess Federation

_____ 2026

Regulations
of the Finals of the Kazakhstan Chess Cup 2026
among Men and Women

1. General Provisions

1.1. The Final of the Kazakhstan Chess Cup 2026 among men and women (hereinafter referred to as the Kazakhstan Cup) shall held in in accordance with the Kazakhstan Chess Federation's (KazChess) schedule of sporting events to:

- promote chess in Kazakhstan;
- develop professional chess in Kazakhstan;
- train Kazakhstan's leading chess players.

2. Organising Committee

2.1. The Kazakhstan Chess Federation (KazChess) is responsible for organising the Cup, with support from the Ministry of Tourism and Sports of the Republic of Kazakhstan and the Almaty Akimat (Mayor's Office).

2.2. The Tournament Directors and Arbiter Panels, approved by the Praesidium of KazChess, shall oversee the conduct of the Cup.

3. Dates and Venue

Dates: 30 November 2026 (arrival) – 13 December 2026 (departure).
Venue: Dedeman Hotel Almaty (67 Timiryazev St., Almaty)

4. Tournaments and Their Conditions

4.1. The Cup shall consist of two tournaments:
— **Kazakhstan Open Cup 2026 (men's tournament);**
— **Kazakhstan Women's Cup 2026 (women's tournament).**
4.2. The tournaments shall be rated by FIDE.
4.3. The tournaments shall be played over 11 rounds using the round-robin system, in accordance with FIDE rules, with 12 participants.
4.4. Pairings shall be generated using the Swiss Manager programme.
4.5. Time control: 90 minutes + 30 seconds per move from move one.
4.6. A player arriving more than 30 minutes late for a round shall be forfeited.
4.7. Draw offers shall not be permitted before move 30.
4.8. Anti-cheating measures shall be implemented in line with the FIDE Anti-Cheating Guidelines, with standard levels of protection. Live broadcasts will be delayed by 15 minutes.
4.9. All players must adhere to the dress code (business casual or elegant casual; shorts and slippers are not permitted).

5. Appeals

5.1. 10To resolve disputes, an Appeals Committee (AC) shall be elected at the technical meeting, consisting of the AC Chairperson and two regular AC members.
5.2. A player may appeal any decision of the Arbiter Panel by submitting a written appeal to

the AC no later than one (1) hour after the completion of the round, along with an appeal fee of KZT 100,000.

5.3. The decision of the Appeals Committee shall be final.

5.4. If an appeal is upheld, the appeal fee shall be refunded in full.

5.5. **Schedule**

Date	**Event**
30.11.2026	Arrival 21:00 – Technical Meeting
01.12.2026	14:00 – Opening Ceremony Right after the Opening Ceremony – Round 1
02.12.2026	15:00 – Round 2
03.12.2026	15:00 – Round 3
04.12.2026	15:00 – Round 4
05.12.2026	15:00 – Round 5
06.12.2026	15:00 – Round 6
07.12.2026	15:00 – Round 7
08.12.2026	15:00 – Round 8
09.12.2026	15:00 – Round 9
10.12.2026	15:00 – Round 10
11.12.2026	10:00 – Round 11 19:00* – Closing Ceremony
12.12.2026	Departure

** The Tournament's Arbiter Panel may adjust the schedule of rounds.*

6. Submission of Applications/Registration

6.1. The Finals shall be open to chess players meeting the following criteria:

- **6 participants** with the highest number of points scored during the Kazakhstan Chess Cup 2026 stages;
- **3 invited players** (wild card) from the Republic of Kazakhstan nominated by the Kazakhstan Chess Federation (KCF);
- **3 invited international players** (wild cards) nominated by the Kazakhstan Chess Federation (KCF).

6.2. Confirmation of participation shall be sent to tournaments@kazchess.kz.

6.3. Applications for invited (local) participant shall be submitted to tournaments@kazchess.kz **no later than 13 November 2026 (inclusive)**.

6.4. All participants in the Finals, including both eligible and invited participants, shall be provided accommodation, meals and air tickets.

6.5. Accommodation: all participants shall be accommodated in single rooms.

6.6. The organisers will provide air tickets.

6.7. All arrangements, including hotel check-in and check-out times, meal plans, expense reimbursement procedures and other organisational details shall be communicated to participants individually in official invitation letters issued by the organisers.

6.8. The organisers have the right to refuse admission or reimbursement of expenses to any participant who fail to confirm their participation by the specified deadline.

7. Visas

7.1. An invitation number is required for visa processing. The timeline for document review by the authorised body responsible for issuing invitation numbers is two weeks or longer.

7.2. Players shall apply for an e-visa using the invitation number on their own via: https://www.vmp.gov.kz/ru/services/visa-service.

7.3. The e-visa must be printed out for presentation to border control officers and for use within Kazakhstan. E-visas permit their holders to enter and exit Kazakhstan only through international airports.

7.4. Participants shall apply for a visa to be affixed in their passports using the invitation number at the embassies of Kazakhstan.

7.5. The visa fee is USD 80. Note: the organisers will cover the visa fee for participants who are extended a fully sponsored invitation.

8. Selection of Winners. Award Ceremony

8.1. Winners shall be determined based on the highest total number of points scored across all rounds. In case of a tie in points, the following tie-break criteria shall be applied in order:

— Sonneborn-Berger score;
— direct encounter;
— greater number of wins;

8.2. The guaranteed prize fund at the Cup is **KZT 49,500,000**.

Open Cup 2026 (Men)			
1st place	₸9,000,000	**7th place**	₸1,500,000
2nd place	₸7,000,000	**8th place**	₸1,250,000
3rd place	₸5,000,000	**9th place**	₸1,000,000
4th place	₸3,500,000	**10th place**	₸750,000
5th place	₸2,500,000	**11th place**	₸500,000
6th place	₸2,000,000	**12th place**	₸500,000

Women's Cup 2026 (Women)			
1st place	₸3,500,000	**7th place**	₸750,000
2nd place	₸2,750,000	**8th place**	₸700,000
3rd place	₸2,000,000	**9th place**	₸650,000
4th place	₸1,100,000	**10th place**	₸600,000
5th place	₸1,000,000	**11th place**	₸550,000
6th place	₸900,000	**12th place**	₸500,000

8.3. All prizes shall be subject to taxation in accordance with the current laws of Kazakhstan.

8.4. The prizes shall not be shared.

8.5. Prize payments shall be transferred to the participant's bank account in KZT or USD within 30 calendar days of the submission of the required documents.

8.6. If a participant does not have a bank account, or their bank account is blocked, or if the transfer to their bank account is not possible due to sanctions or other circumstances, the participant must submit a notarised power of attorney for a third party to receive the prize money on their behalf.

9. Tournament Expenses

9.1. Tournament expenses shall be covered by KazChess.

10. Rights and Obligations of Participants and Accompanying Persons

10.1. Participants shall play in accordance with the FIDE Laws of Chess and these Regulations.

10.2. A participant who fails to record the game after two warnings from the arbiter shall be declared lost. If the situation recurs in a subsequent game, the participant shall be disqualified from the competition.

10.3. Participants, coaches, and accompanying persons shall comply with the code of conduct and rules of decency in public places as established by the legislation of the Republic of Kazakhstan.

10.4. In the event of systematic violation of playing discipline, intentional provocation of scandalous situations, or other violations, the participant shall be disqualified from the competition. In the event of similar violations by coaches or accompanying persons, the violators shall be deprived of the right to remain at the Cup.

10.5. Cup participants shall be entitled:

– to appeal to the Appeals Committee (see Clause 5.2);

– to receive primary medical assistance in the tournament hall.

10.6. In accordance with Article 145 of the Civil Code of the Republic of Kazakhstan and taking into account the requirements of Paragraph 8 of Article 15 of the Civil Code of the Republic of Kazakhstan, for the purpose of promoting the sporting events of the Kazakhstan Chess Federation and the activities of the Organizer, the Participant gives the Organizer their consent:

– For the Organizer and/or third parties acting on behalf of and/or in the interest of the Organizer to perform video and photography of the Participant’s image (photo and/or video) during the course of their participation in the Competition;

– For the Organizer to use the Participant’s name, and to publish, reproduce, and distribute the Participant’s image and/or other audio, video, or photographic materials obtained as a result of the Competition featuring the Participant, by any means and in any media without limitation on time or territory, including the right to edit said materials and transfer them to third parties.

11. Contact Details

Tournament Director: Anuar Ismagambetov
Chief Arbiter: as appointed by the Arbiter and Qualification Committee
Secretary: as appointed by the Arbiter and Qualification Committee
Tournament Manager: Duriya Sarsenbayeva
Email: tournaments@kazchess.kz