

1st Kuwait International Chess Festival Open Master Tournament 2025

From 5th to 13th January 2025



الهيئة العامة للرياضة
Public Authority for Sport



About the Festival

Kuwait Chess House Academy, with its prominent activities across Kuwait, is proud to announce the historical first ever chess Festival.

Do you have what it takes to win the chess championship trophy? Join us at the first Kuwait Chess Festival for various categories, and the anticipated Chess tournament next year, featuring top players from around the world. This tournament is open to all FIDE players, of all ages and skill levels, and offers a chance to showcase your talent, relish and compete for prizes.

Organized by Chess House Academy- Kuwait



➤ Tournament Itinerary:

Open Master	5 th To 13 th January
Open Challengers	5 th To 13 th January
Open Ladies	5 th To 13 th January
Open Rapid	9 th To 10 th January
Open Blitz	11 th January

▪ **Events:**

- **Open Masters Tournament:** Open to all Fide rated players with standard rating of 1900 ELO and above with an exception for all Kuwait Players and GCC Players, the tournament will be (9) Rounds Swiss System with a time control of 90 minutes for the first 40 moves followed by 30 minutes for the rest of the game with an addition of 30 seconds per move starting from move one.
- **1.2 Open Challengers:** open to all players with FIDE ID, The Tournament will be (9) Rounds Swiss System with Time Control of 60 Minutes plus 30 Seconds Increment from Move No.1.
- **1.3 Open Ladies:** Open to all players with FIDE ID, The Tournament will be (9) Rounds Swiss System with Time Control of 60 Minutes plus 30 Seconds Increment from Move No.1.
- **1.5 Open Rapid:** Open to all Player with FIDE ID, the tournament will be (9) Rounds with the Time Control of 10 Minutes plus 3 Seconds increment from Move No.1.
- **1.6 Open Blitz:** Open to all Player with FIDE ID, the tournament will be (9) Rounds with the Time Control of 3 Minutes plus 2 Seconds increment from Move No. 1



■ **Event Schedule:**

	Open Masters (9 Rounds) 90 Min+30 Sec	Open Challengers (9 Rounds) 60 Min+30 Sec	Open Ladies (9 Rounds) 60 Min+ 30 Sec	Open Rapid (9 Rounds) 10 Min+3 Sec	Open Blitz (9 Rounds) 3 Min+ 2 Sec
4th January Saturday	Arrival				
5th January Sunday	R1 -05:30 P.M.	R1 -05:00 P.M.	R1 -05:00 P.M.		
6th January Monday	R2 -05:00 P.M.	R2 -05:10 P.M.	R2 -05:10 P.M.		
7th January Tuesday	R3 -05:00 P.M.	R3 -05:10 P.M.	R3 -05:10 P.M.		
8th January Wednesday	R4 -05:00 P.M.	R4 -05:10 P.M.	R4 -05:10 P.M.		
9th January Thursday	R5 -05:00 P.M.	R5 -05:10 P.M.	R5 -05:10 P.M.	Round (1 To 5) 11:00 to 14:00	
10^h January Friday	R6 -05:00 P.M.	R6 -05:10 P.M.	R6 -05:10 P.M.	Round (6 To 9) 11:00 to 14:00.	
11th January Saturday	R7 -05:00 P.M.	R7 -05:10 P.M.	R7 -05:10 P.M.		Round (1 To 9) 11:00 to 14:00
12th January Sunday	R8 -05:00 P.M.	R8 -05:10 P.M.	R8 -05:10 P.M.		
13th January Monday	R9-11:00 A.M.	R9-11:10 A.M.	R9-11:10 A.M.		
Prize Distribution: 20:00 P.M. on 13th January 2025					



Open Masters 5th To 13th January 2025

Open to all Fide Rated players with standard rating of 1900 ELO and above
“Exception for all Kuwait Players and GCC Players”

■ Open Masters Tournament Prizes:

Place (\$9300)	Prize (USD)
1 st Place	\$2400
2 nd Place	\$1800
3 rd Place	\$1200
4 th Place	\$900
5 th Place	\$800
6 th Place	\$600
7 th Place	\$500
8 th Place	\$400
9 th Place	\$300
10 th Place	\$200
Best Kuwaiti Player	\$200



■ Other Tournament Prizes:

Open Challengers (\$1640)	Prize (USD)
1 st Place	\$400
2 nd Place	\$230
3 rd Place	\$165
Best Kuwaiti Player	\$165
1 st U1800	\$130
2 nd U1800 – (kw)	\$100
1 st Juniors (U18)	\$130
2 nd Juniors (U18)	\$100
1 st Veteran 55+	\$130
2 nd Veteran 55+ (kw)	\$100

Open Ladies (\$1615)	Prize (USD)
1 st Place	\$400
2 nd Place	\$230
3 rd Place	\$165
Best Female Kuwaiti Player	\$130
1 st U1800	\$130
2 nd U1800	\$100
1 st Juniors (U18)	\$130
2 nd Juniors (U18)	\$100
1 st Veteran 55+	\$130
2 nd Veteran 55+ (kw)	\$100



Open Blitz (\$555)	Prize (USD)
1 st Place	\$130
2 nd Place	\$100
3 rd Place	\$65
1 st KUW	\$65
1 st Juniors (U18)	\$65
2 nd Juniors (U18)	\$65
Female Best overall	\$65

Open Rapid (\$555)	Prize (USD)
1 st Place	\$130
2 nd Place	\$100
3 rd Place	\$65
1 st KUW	\$65
1 st Juniors (U18)	\$65
2 nd Juniors (U18)	\$65
Female Best overall	\$65



- ❖ The Prizes will be awarded based on Tie Break and will not be shared. A player cannot be awarded more than one Prize in a tournament, and he/she will be awarded the highest prize only.
- ❖ All Players will receive participation certificates digitally.
- ❖ Prize winners are obliged to follow the dress code of Business Casual/Elegant Casual or smart casual. No Shorts, Hats, Caps, Sneakers or Slippers.

■ Tie Breaks:

- 1) Direct Encounter
- 2) Buchholz.
- 3) Sonneborn (SB)-
- 4) Great Number of Victories with Black.



Registration

- 1) Registration is accepted online via the following link. <https://www.cha-kuwait.com>.
- 2) The last day of registration is **25 December 2024**.
- 3) Entry fee and related payments must be paid to confirm the registration.
- 4) All participating players and accompanying persons accept to fully comply with theregulations of the tournament and the organizer.
- 5) Organizing committee reserves the right to accept or deny a participant’s registration in accordance with FIDE Rules and Regulations, and Kuwait Laws.

Tournament Name	Rating	Entry fees Before 10 th December	Entry Fee After 10 th December
		USD	USD
KICF – Open Masters Tournament 2025	Rating 2300-2399 &IM’s Below 2300, WIM’s Below 2200	40	65
	Rating (2201-2299)	50	75
	Rating (2100-2199)	60	85
	Rating (1900-2000)	70	95
	All GCC Players including Kuwait players (Above 1700)	50	90
KICF – Open Challengers	All Players	50	90
KICF – Open Ladies	All Players	50	70
KICF – Open Rapid	All Players	40	55
KICF – Open Blitz	All Players	40	55

❖ Special Discount:

- ❖ If a player registers more than 2 events, he/she is eligible for a 20% discount applicable till 10th December 2024.



■ General Rules and Regulations

1. **Hotel Accommodation:** Players must stay in the same hotel of playing area. If they need any help with hotel booking, the Organizer will assist you with it.
2. All Players are expected to adhere to the dress code (**Business casual, elegant casual, or smart casual dress code, shorts and slippers are not always allowed**) during the event. This includes the playing hall and awards ceremony. Participants who do not comply with the dress code regulations may face penalties from the organizing committee.
3. Smoking is forbidden in the playing hall.
4. After each round, players must submit the original score sheets, signed by both players, to the arbiter.
5. Players who have finished their games shall be considered as spectators and are not allowed to stay in the playing area.
6. Players are instructed not to bring mobile phones or any other electronic devices, even if switched off, into the playing hall. Bringing any such device into the hall will result in the forfeiture of the game.
7. The Arbiter may require the players to allow his clothes, bags, or other items to be inspected in private. The Arbiter or a person authorized by the arbiter for inspection shall be of the same gender as the player. If a player refuses to cooperate with these obligations, the arbiter shall take measures in accordance with Article 12.9 of the laws of Chess.
8. Random checks of players may be carried out before and after every game.
9. Fair play measures will be taken according to the FIDE Anti-Cheating regulations.
10. The players shall take no action that will bring the game of chess into disrepute.
11. Players are obliged to obey the tournament regulations.
12. Photos may be only taken with flash during the first 10 minutes of the rounds. After that, only Media representatives holding an accreditation are allowed to film or photograph in the playing hall without flash.



13. Only players, Arbiters, Officials, and Organizers shall be allowed in the actual playing arena.

14. The weather in Kuwait in January is usually low and can range between 12°C and 19°C.

15. In Kuwait, power plugs and sockets (outlet) of Type C and Type G are used.

16. The Standard voltage is 240 V at Frequency of 50 Hz.

■ **Procedure of Appeals:**

In the event of a protest against a decision by the Chief Arbiter or any other arbiter, the protest must be submitted in written form to the Chairman of the Appeals Committee within one hour after the competition of the playing session, accompanied by a deposit of 100 EUR from the signatory.

If the protest is accepted and the decision changed, the deposit will be returned to the claimant. Otherwise, the money will be transferred to the Tournament Organising Committee.

The Appeals Committee will be made up of three persons selected by the majority of players during the Technical Meeting prior to the first round.



Residence of revenue the tournament will be held at the Kuwait Grand Hotel in the coastal area of Salmiya, known for its beautiful marine nature. The rooms and halls are equipped with the best facilities to welcome festival visitors.



GRAND HOTEL
KUWAIT



Salmiya, Block 3
Blajat street
Avenue 9314

السالمية، قطعة 3
شارع البلاجات
قسمة 9314



Room Type	شامل 3 وجبات Include 3 Meals	شامل الإفطار Include Breakfast	نوع الغرفة
Single Room (Per Day)	35 KWD	30 KWD	غرفة مفردة (يوميا)
Double Room (Per Day)	40 KWD	35 KWD	غرفة مزدوجة (يوميا)

Important Note for VISA

All Title holders and Foreign Players are requested to send their queries regarding VISA assistance to the below contacts:

Website: www.cha-kuwait.com

Email: chesshouse.kw@gmail.com

kicf.festival@gmail.com

Bashaer Al Zaid: +965 98049966 / +965 50803161