



21st Caspian Sea Cup

International Chess Festival

10th to 18th February 2025 - Anzali Free Zone, Gilan, IRAN

Invitation

This is the official invitation for participation in the “21st Caspian Cup” which will be held in *Rasht, Gilan, Iran*, from 10th of February (arrival) till 18th of February (departure) 2025. The competition will be organized and held by Gilan Chess Association under the auspices of Chess Federation of I.R. IRAN.

1. General Regulations & Rules

1.1 The Tournament shall be governed by the FIDE Laws of Chess and FIDE Competition Rules.

2. Participation

2.1 The categories are as below:

- **Category A** Master tournament- for Masters (GM, IM, WGM and WIM) and players with Rating 1900 and higher.
- **Category B** for players with Rating less than 2000.
- **Category C** for cadets and youth under 14.
- **Category D** Rapid Cup.
- **Category E** Blitz Cup.

2.2 The tournaments are open to all local chess players and foreign players who have FIDE ID.

2.3 Players age categories are as below:

- Under 6: Born on or after 1 January 2019
- Under 8: Born on or after 1 January 2017
- Under 10: Born on or after 1 January 2015
- Under 12: Born on or after 1 January 2013
- Under 14: Born on or after 1 January 2011
- +65: Born on 1960
- +50: Born on 1975

3. Financial Regulations

- Entry Fee: The entry fee is free for GMs, IMs, WGMs and WIMs.
- All other players must pay an entry fee of 70 EUR. to the organizer for A, B, C, D & E Category.



4. Playing Venue & Accommodation

4.1 The playing venue & official hotels are located in the Rasht.

4.2 Free full board accommodation for GMs and IMs will be provided by the organizer from 10th of February (arrival) to 18th of February (departure). (First Come First Served)

4.3 All participants and all accompany persons are obliged to lodge at the official Hotel. Bookings of official Hotel for the event should be done through the organizers' only.

5. Technical Regulations

5.1 Time control:

Standard: Each player shall have 90 minutes with the addition of 30 seconds per move starting from the first move.

Rapid: Each player shall have 8 minutes with the addition of 3 seconds per move starting from the first move.

Blitz: Each player shall have 3 minutes with the addition of 2 seconds per move starting from the first move.

5.2 Each category shall be conducted in the Swiss System of 9 or 11 rounds, depending on number of participants. (150 participants and less be 9 rounds, 151 to 200 participants be 11 rounds and more than 200 participants be Baku Acceleration System.)

5.3 Default late time is 30 minutes.

5.4 The Pairings will be made using Swiss Manager program and shall be announced as soon as possible after each round finishes. Pairings will be published on the www.chess-results.com website.

5.5 During play, a player is forbidden to have any electronic device not specifically approved by the Chief arbiter in the playing venue.

5.6 A player may talk only to an arbiter, or with his opponent as permitted by the Laws of Chess.

5.7 During the playing session, players are not allowed to leave the playing venue without the permission of the Chief Arbiter.

5.8 Players cannot "informally" tell an arbiter that they suspect that another player is cheating. This also applies to any other person having a FIDE Identity Number. All cheating-related communications shall be duly recorded, and the arbiter should ask player to make an official In-Tournament complaint.



5.9 If players inform the Chief Arbiter to be absent in one round, they will be scored 0.5 (half-point bye). No player may request a half-point bye after round 5. **This option does not exist in Category A for GM's, WGM's, IM's and WIM's.**

6. Tie-break System

6.1 The final ranking order of the players is determined by the number of points scored. If at the end of the tournament two or more players are tied for the first place or for any prize, the tie shall be broken as in accordance to the following:

No.	Category A	Category B & C & D & E
1	Direct Encounter	Direct Encounter
2	Rating Performance	Buchholz Cut 1
3	Buchholz Cut 1	Buchholz Cut 2
4	Sonneborn-berger	Sonneborn-berger
5	Sum of Buchholz	Sum of Buchholz

7. Schedule

9 rounds (categories with 150 players and less)

Date	09:30	16:30
2025/02/10	-	Blitz Cup (15:00)
2025/02/11	-	Round 1
2025/02/12	-	Round 2
2025/02/13	Rapid Cup	Round 3
2025/02/14	Round 4	Round 5
2025/02/15	-	Round 6
2025/02/16	-	Round 7
2025/02/17	-	Round 8



2025/02/18	Round 9	Dep.
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11 rounds (Categories with more than 200 players)

Date	09:30	16:30
2025/02/10	-	Blitz Cup (15:00)
2025/02/11	-	Round 1
2025/02/12	Round 2	Round 3
2025/02/13	Rapid Cup	Round 4
2025/02/14	Round 5	Round 6
2025/02/15	-	Round 7
2025/02/16	Round 8	Round 9
2025/02/17	-	Round 10
2025/02/18	Round 11	Dep. (12:30)

8. Prizes

A Category	
Rank	Prizes (IRR -Iranian Rial)
1 st Place	700.000.000
2 nd Place	400.000.000
3 rd Place	300.000.000
4 th Place	150.000.000
5 th Place	100.000.000
6 th Place	80.000.000
7 th Place	60.000.000
8 th Place	60.000.000
9 th Place	60.000.000
10 th Place	60.000.000
1 st Under Elo 2300	50.000.000
1 st Under Elo 2200	50.000.000
1 st Under Elo 2100	50.000.000
1 st Under Elo 2000	50.000.000
1 st Seniors +50	50.000.000
1 st Women	50.000.000
1 st under 14	50.000.000
1 st under 12	50.000.000



2nd Women	40.000.000
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B Category	
Rank	Prizes (IRR -Iranian Rial)
1st Place	350.000.000
2nd Place	220.000.000
3rd Place	150.000.000
4th Place	100.000.000
5th Place	80.000.000
6th Place	70.000.000
7th Place	50.000.000
8th Place	50.000.000
9th Place	50.000.000
10th Place	40.000.000
1st Under Elo 1800	40.000.000
1st Under Elo 1750	40.000.000
1st Under Elo 1700	40.000.000
1st Under Elo 1650	40.000.000
1st Under Elo 1600	40.000.000
1st Under Elo 1550	40.000.000
1st Under Elo 1500	40.000.000
1st without Rating	40.000.000
1st Women	40.000.000
1st Seniors +50	40.000.000
1st Seniors +65	40.000.000
2nd Women	30.000.000
2nd Seniors +50	30.000.000

C Category	
Rank	Prizes (IRR -Iranian Rial)
1st Place	120.000.000
2nd Place	100.000.000
3rd Place	80.000.000
4th Place	70.000.000
5th Place	60.000.000
6th Place	50.000.000
1st Under 12	40.000.000
1st Under 10	40.000.000
1st Under 08	40.000.000
1st Under 06	40.000.000



1st Girls Under 12	40.000.000
1st Girls Under 10	40.000.000
1st Girls Under 08	40.000.000
1st Girls Under 06	40.000.000
2nd Under 12	30.000.000
2nd Under 10	30.000.000
2nd Under 08	30.000.000
2nd Under 06	30.000.000
3rd Under 12	25.000.000
3rd Under 10	25.000.000
3rd Under 08	25.000.000
3rd Under 06	25.000.000

D Category

Rank	Prizes (IRR -Iranian Rial)
1st Place	120.000.000
2nd Place	80.000.000
3rd Place	50.000.000
4th Place	40.000.000
5th Place	30.000.000
6th Place	20.000.000
7th Place	15.000.000
8th Place	15.000.000
9th Place	15.000.000
10th Place	15.000.000
1st Under Elo 1900	8.000.000
1st Under Elo 1850	8.000.000
1st Under Elo 1800	8.000.000
1st Under Elo 1750	8.000.000
1st Under Elo 1700	8.000.000
1st Under Elo 1650	8.000.000
1st Under Elo 1600	8.000.000
1st Under Elo 1550	8.000.000
1st Under Elo 1500	8.000.000
1st without Rating	8.000.000
1st Women	8.000.000
1st Seniors +50	8.000.000
1st Under 14	8.000.000
1st Under 12	8.000.000
1st Under 10	8.000.000
1st Under 8	8.000.000



E Category	
Rank	Prizes (IRR -Iranian Rial)
1st Place	120.000.000
2nd Place	80.000.000
3rd Place	50.000.000
4th Place	40.000.000
5th Place	30.000.000
6th Place	20.000.000
7th Place	15.000.000
8th Place	15.000.000
9th Place	15.000.000
10th Place	15.000.000
1st Under Elo 1900	8.000.000
1st Under Elo 1850	8.000.000
1st Under Elo 1800	8.000.000
1st Under Elo 1750	8.000.000
1st Under Elo 1700	8.000.000
1st Under Elo 1650	8.000.000
1st Under Elo 1600	8.000.000
1st Under Elo 1550	8.000.000
1st Under Elo 1500	8.000.000
1st without Rating	8.000.000
1st Women	8.000.000
1st Seniors +50	8.000.000
1st Under 14	8.000.000
1st Under 12	8.000.000
1st Under 10	8.000.000
1st Under 8	8.000.000

8.1 All prizes are in IRR (Iranian Rial)

8.2 10% will be deducted from cash prizes.

8.3 Only one prize can be awarded to a player. (The highest prize)

8.4 If two or more players are tied, the tie-breaks systems will be used. (Prizes will not be shared)

8.5 All Winners must be participant at Closing Ceremony.

9. Appeals Committee



9.1 Protests against decisions of the Chief Arbiter or his assistants must be submitted in a written form to the Chairman of Appeals Committee within 15 minutes after the end of the game. The protest must be accompanied with the protest fee of 100 Euros. The fee must be handed to the Chairman of the Appeals Committee. If the appeal is upheld, the sum shall be returned immediately. If the appeal is refused, the fee is forfeited to organizer.

9.2 The decision of the Appeals Committee is final, binding and takes effect immediately.

10. Visa and Covid 19:

10.1 All players and accompanying persons who require a visa to enter Iran, must send a Scan of their passport (page with photo and key information) to the Organizer before **the deadline of 20th January 2025.**

10.2 According to the new guidelines issued by the National Corona Headquarters, visa applicants must meet the following conditions:

- * Having a negative corona PCR test up to 72 hours before travel (for people over 12 years old)
- * Have a vaccine card for every 2 doses
- * The vaccine approved by Iran is approved
- * The applicant is not from high-risk countries, or his next destination is not high-risk countries

11. Travel Information

11.1 All participants arriving by international flights should take plane to Imam Khomeini International Airport (IKA), Tehran, Iran.

11.2 The host federation will arrange the transportation from airport to the hotel for arrival and departure during the schedule dates.

12. Health Protocols and Covid19:

* Providing Covid 19 vaccination card (by receiving at least 2 doses of valid vaccines) for all players over 18 years old, referees and executives of the tournament and also providing Covid 19 vaccination card (by receiving 1 dose of valid vaccines) for all players below 18 years and over 12 years are required. Registration and admission of players who do not have a Covid 19 vaccination card will be canceled and their entry fee will not be refunded.



- * Masks are required for all participants, referees and executives throughout the game.
- * The organizer can ask all players to submit a negative PCR test if necessary.
- * If a player has symptoms of a cold (Covid 19), he will be quarantined by the medical team stationed at the venue and will not be able to participate in the Covid 19 test until the result is determined.
- * If it is found that a player has the symptoms of Covid 19 and has not informed the organizers, he will be expelled from the tournament and will be dealt with in accordance with the disciplinary regulations of the Chess Federation.
- * Before entering the hall, all players, arbiters, and executives will have a fever test.

13. Contact:

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