



Asian Chess Journal

Asian Chess Federation Magazine * April 2025

Record Participation in Asian Individual Chess Championship



Asian Chess Federation president Sheikh Sultan bin Khalifah Al Nahyan (center) announces the Asian Individual Chess Championship at a press conference at the Sheraton Hotel in Abu Dhabi together with (from left) Omar Al Waswasi, Board Member of Al Ain Chess and Mind Games Club, ACF General Secretary Hisham Al Taher, Suhail bin Abdullah Al Arifi, Executive Director of the Abu Dhabi Sports Council and Abdulrahim Mahdi representing the UAE Chess Federation.

A record 250 players from 33 countries are participating in the Asian Individual Chess Championship scheduled 6-16 May 2025 in Al Ain, United Arab Emirates

This was announced by Asian Chess Federation president Sheikh Sultan bin Khalifah Al Nahyan, concurrent president of the organizing Al Ain Chess and Mind Games Club.

An awesome 53 Grandmasters, 19 Woman Grandmasters, 69 IMs and

19 WIMs, 20 FMs and 19 WFM are competing in separate divisions. The top ten shall qualify into the FIDE World Cup. The top two women shall qualify into the FIDE Women's World Cup. A total of \$80,000 in cash prizes are at stake for the standard and blitz championship.

Twenty who qualified from the Zonals are joining again. Should they finish in the top ten men or top two women, the next in line shall qualify. Visit asianchess.com

CONTENTS



- 1 Asian Individual Championship**
- 3 Ju Wenjun Wins Women's WCCM**
- 4 Asians Shine in World Cadets**
- 5 Zone 3.1 Men's & Women's Zonals**
- 7 Zone 3.2 Men's & Women's Zonals**
- 9 Zone 3.3 Men's & Women's Zonals**
- 11 Zone 3.4 Men's & Women's Zonals**
- 13 Zone 3.5 Men's & Women's Zonals**
- 15 Western Asia Youth Chess Ch.**
- 17 Koneru Wins Pune Women's GP**
- 18 18th Tashkent Open**
- 19 Vientiane Open Rating Tmnt**
- 20 Mongolian Corporate Chess Ch.**



Ju Wenjun Retains Title of Women's World Champion

			1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	Total
Ju Wenjun	CHN	2561	½	0	1	½	1	1	1	1	½	6½
Tan Zhongyi	CHN	2555	½	1	0	½	0	0	0	0	½	2½



In the final game of the FIDE Women's World Championship Match, tension could be felt in the playing hall.

Draws have been a rarity throughout the match, with six out of the eight previous games producing decisive results.

Though the score may suggest a dominant performance from Ju Wenjun, the reality is far more nuanced. Tan Zhongyi fought hard throughout the match, often holding promising positions, and never allowing Ju an easy ride. Despite being down, she entered the final game hoping to create imbalance and generate winning chances. But Ju, calm and focused, played with clarity and precision, guiding the game to the draw she needed.

Despite the absence of fireworks in the final game, the match as a whole was anything but dull. The final score might mislead the casual observer into thinking Ju Wenjun steamrolled her way to victory, but the reality was more complex. Every game was filled with tension, and no outcome was certain until the final moments.

The Women's World Championship Match has shown us an admirable display of not only skill – but immense fighting spirit from both sides. And fighting spirit is, after all, a key ingredient for any great chess player. With this draw, Ju Wenjun secures her place in history. She is now a five-time Women's World Champion—a new record among Chinese players.

Visit asianchess.com

Asians Shine in FIDE World Cadets & Youth Rapid & Blitz Championship



The final moves have been made, bringing the FIDE World Cadets & Youth Rapid & Blitz Chess Championship 2025 in Rhodes, Greece, to a close. More than 430 boys and girls from 48 countries competed across Open and Girls categories in the U18, U16, U14, U12, U10, and U8 age groups, in both rapid and blitz formats.

After five intense days and a total of 22 rounds—11 each in rapid and blitz—the winners emerged in all 24 tournaments. The closing ceremony, held at the Palace Hotel Rhodes, was attended by distinguished guests including Akis Delaportas, Vice Governor of the South Aegean Region; Ozgur Solakoglu, FIDE Technical Delegate; Maria-Anna Stefanini, member of the Greek Chess Federation; and Stamos Karabas, President of the Ippotis Chess Club, along with over 400 participants and their parents. Visit asianchess.com for all winners. Here are blitz cadets medalists:

Under 8 Open:

1. Netrebka, Myron (UKR)
2. Yunker, German (FIDE)
3. Jevglevski, Lev (EST)

Under 8 Girls (photo above):

1. Bissaliyeva, Alisha (KAZ)
2. Trzcinska, Wiktoria (POL)
3. Volkova, Varvara (FID)

Under 10 Open:

1. Anetov, Amirzhan (KAZ)
2. Hoang, Tan Vinh (VIE)
3. Nguyen, Xuan Phuong (VIE)

Under 10 Girls:

1. Tran, Hoang Bao An (VIE)
2. WCM Divi, Bijesh (IND)
3. Kiyanna, Parihaar (IND)

Under 12 Open:

1. CM Guo, Ethan (USA)
2. Sason, Noam (ISR)
3. Nurakyn, Suleiman (KAZ)

Under 12 Girls:

1. WCM Yunker, Alisa Genrietta (FID)
2. Gruszecka, Alicja (POL)
3. WCM Sholpanbek, Zhansaya (KAZ)

Pouya Idani and Anahita Zahedifar Top Zone 3.1 Men's & Women's Zonals

GM Pouya Idani (at right) and WFM Anahita Zahedifar, both representing Iran, emerged as the winners of the Zone 3.1 Men's and Women's Zonals held from April 8–15, 2025, in Erbil, Iraq.

The open event, a 9-round Swiss tournament featuring 46 players from 10 federations, turned into a close race between Pouya Idani and Bardiyar Daneshvar. The two Iranian Grandmasters, who entered as the top two seeds, lived up to expectations by tying for first place with 8.5 points each. Idani clinched the title thanks to superior tiebreaks based on the average rating of his opponents. Both players qualified for the FIDE World Cup 2025



Iraqi Chess Federation president Dhafer Abdul Ameer Madhloom awards the champion's trophy to Idani

Asian Zonal Chess Champion 2025 Zonal 3.1 Men							
Final Ranking after 9 Rounds							
Rk.	SNo		Name	FED	Rtg	Pts.	TB1
1	1	GM	Idani, Pouya	IRI	2618	8.5	2310
2	2	GM	Daneshvar, Bardiyar	IRI	2616	8.5	2272
3	4	IM	Poormosavi, Seyed Kian	IRI	2367	7	2275
4	7	IM	Loay, Sameer	JOR	2230	6	2239
5	19		Samimi, Armin	IRI	2046	6	2208
6	3	IM	Atakhan, Abtin	IRI	2418	5.5	2259
7	5	IM	Aziz, Husain	QAT	2315	5.5	2197
8	15	IM	Ahmed, Jaza Jamal	IRQ	2087	5.5	2185
9	14	CM	Aryan, Ali Ehsan	IRQ	2091	5.5	2181
10	10	FM	Salih, Akar Ali Salih	IRQ	2218	5.5	2136



Officials in the Zone 3.1 Men's and Women's Zonals led by Iraqi Chess Federation president Dhafer Abdul Ameer Madhloom (seated center) and, next, Chief Arbiter Mehrdad Pahlevanzadeh of Iran



Asian Chess Federation General Secretary Hisham Al Taher making ceremonial opening moves in the Zone 3.1 Zonal in Erbil, Iraq assisted by Iraq Chess Federation president Dhafer Abdul Ameer Madhloom and Abdolsalam Khalaf, Vice president of Iraq Olympic Committee.

The women's section saw twenty participants from six countries: Bahrain, Iran, Iraq, Lebanon, Palestine, and host nation Iraq. Anahita Zahedifar (pictured at right) secured victory with a strong 7.5/9 score, finishing half a point ahead of fellow Iranians Tannaz Azali and Anousha Mahdian, who shared second place. With this result, Zahedifar qualifies for the FIDE Women's World Cup 2025.

Asian Zonal Chess Champion 2025 Zonal 3.1 Women

Final Ranking after 9 Rounds

Rk.	SNo		Name	sex	FED	Rtg	Pts.	TB1
1	2	WFM	Zahedifar, Anahita	w	IRI	2117	7.5	1983
2	3	WFM	Azali, Tannaz	w	IRI	2102	7	1961
3	4	WFM	Mahdian, Anousha	w	IRI	2099	7	1951
4	1	WFM	Davari, Sara	w	IRI	2235	6.5	1968
5	5	WFM	Karimi, Setayesh	w	IRI	2083	6.5	1951
6	8	WFM	Albarbari, Kareen Kamal Jalaladin	w	IRQ	1805	5	1865
7	15	ACM	Ali Khan, Amani	w	LBN	1594	5	1707
8	6	WIM	Dipak, Ismael Ibrahim	w	IRQ	1889	4.5	1921
9	10	WCM	Al-Fayyadh, Yamama Asif Abdula	w	IRQ	1781	4.5	1915
10	7	AFM	Sara, Masood Abdullah	w	IRQ	1871	4.5	1854



Iraqi Chess Federation president Dhafer Abdul Ameer Madhloom awards the woman champion's trophy to Zahedifar.

IM Reja Neer Manon and WFM Ahmed Wadifa Top Zone 3.2 Zonals in Sri Lanka



Asian Chess Federation deputy president Bharat Singh making ceremonial opening moves assisted by Chess Federation of Sri Lanka president Luxman Wijesuriya (right).

IM Reja Neer Manon and WFM Ahmed Wadifa, both of Bangladesh, won the Zone 3.2 Men's and Women's Zonals, respectively, held 11 to 18 March 2025 at Ramada by Wyndham in Colombo, Sri Lanka.

Manon finished alone with 7 points in the 9-round Swiss and qualifies into the FIDE World Cup.

Wadifa finished in a tie with Devindya Oshini Gunawardhana of Sri Lanka at 7 points each. The Bangladeshi prevailed in the tie break to win and qualify into the FIDE Women's World Cup. Two other Sri Lankans followed with 6.5 points

Visit asianchess.com





Asian Chess Federation Deputy President Bharat Singh (center) and Sri Lanka Chess Federation president Luxman Wijesuriya (right) award the Zone 3.2 Men's Zonal champion's trophy to IM Reja Neer Manon of Bangladesh.



Senior Prof. HD Karunaratne, Vice Chancellor of the University of Colombo, assisted by Sri Lanka Chess Federation president Luxman Wijesuriya (right) award the Zone 3.2 Women's Zonal champion's trophy to WFM Ahmed Wadifa.

Tin Jingyao of Singapore, Shafira Devi Herfesa of Indonesia Top Zone 3.3

GM Tin Jingyao of Singapore and IM Uurtsaikh Agibileg of Mongolia drew their last round game to finish 1st and 2nd respectively with equal 7 points and clinch the two slots into the FIDE World Cup.

Also tied with 7 points but with a lower tie break was IM Sugar Gan-Erdene of Mongolia who finished third. In the women's division, Shafira Devi Herfesa of Indonesia tied with Enkh-Amgalan Enkhrii of Mongolia at 7 points each but Herfesa had a better tie break to earn the slot to the FIDE Women's World Cup.

Fifty four men from seven countries and 55 women from five countries competed in the Zonal. A total of \$15,000 in cash prizes was at stake with \$9,000 for men and \$6,000 for women.

Congratulations to the Mongolian Chess Federation for a well organized event.



Mongolian Chess Federation president Gombojav Zandanshatar and Zone 3.3 president Senator GM Utut Adianto of Indonesia make the ceremonial moves opening the Zone 3.3 Zonal Chess Championship in Ulaanbaatar, Mongolia.



A record number of 109 players from seven countries participated in the Zone 3.3 Zonals. Above, Mongolian Chess Federation officials pose with children at the parade of flags.



Zone 3.3 Qualifiers to the World Cup



GM Tin Jingyao (SGP)



IM Uurtsaikh Agibileg (MGL)



Shafira Devi Herfesa (INA)

Asian Zone 3.3 Chess Championship 2025 - Open						
Final Ranking after 9 Rounds						
Rk.		Name	FED	RtgI	Pts.	TB1
1	SGP	GM Tin, Jingyao	SGP	2597	7	2394
2	MGL	IM Agibileg, Uurtsaikh	MGL	2366	7	2329
3	MGL	IM Gan-Erdene, Sugar	MGL	2459	7	2277
4	VIE	IM Dau, Khuong Duy	VIE	2423	6.5	2414
5	PHL	IM Bersamina, Paulo	PHL	2411	6.5	2309
6	MGL	FM Sodbilegt, Naranbold	MGL	2177	6.5	2305
7	MGL	IM Itgelt, Khuyagtsoqt	MGL	2416	6	2398
8	MGL	FM Ulziikhishig, Khishigbat	MGL	2196	6	2259
9	VIE	GM Nguyen, Duc Hoa	VIE	2372	5.5	2343
10	VIE	GM Tran, Tuan Minh	VIE	2418	5.5	2324
11	MGL	FM Anand, Batsukh	MGL	2295	5.5	2281
12	INA	IM Taher, Yoseph Theolifus	INA	2464	5.5	2272
13	PHL	GM Quizon, Daniel	PHL	2461	5.5	2260

Asian Zone 3.3 Chess Championship 2025 - Women						
Final Ranking after 9 Rounds						
Rk.		Name	FED	RtgI	Pts.	TB1
1	INA	Herfesa, Shafira Devi	INA	1983	7	2218
2	MGL	WFM Enkhrii, Enkh-Amgalan	MGL	2142	7	2208
3	MGL	WCM Bayasgalan, Khishigbaatar	MGL	2265	6.5	2099
4	MGL	WGM Munkhzul, Turmunkh	MGL	2301	6.5	2098
5	PHL	WGM Frayna, Janelle Mae	PHL	2311	6.5	2092
6	MGL	WCM Mungunzul, Bat-Erdene	MGL	2302	6.5	2085
7	INA	WIM Latifah, Laysa	INA	2262	6.5	2052
8	MGL	IM Nomin-Erdene, Davaademberel	MGL	2327	6	2081
9	VIE	Luong, Hoang Tu Linh	VIE	1939	6	2056
10	MGL	WFM Enkhbolor, Nyamdavaa	MGL	1974	6	1945
11	MGL	WIM Bayarmaa, Bayarjargal	MGL	2091	6	1933
12	MGL	WIM Myagmar, Tselmeg	MGL	1758	5.5	2043
13	VIE	WIM Nguyen, Thanh Thuy Tien	VIE	1989	5.5	1941



Zone 3.4 Men's and Women's Zonals Concluded in Kazakhstan



The Asian Regional Championship (Zone 3.4) serving as FIDE World Cup and Women's World Cup qualifying competition has concluded in Almaty, Kazakhstan. Bringing together the leading chess players from Central Asian countries, this tournament marked an important milestone for Kazakh and Central Asian chess on the road to global stage.

After nine intense rounds, the winners emerged in both open and women's sections: Women's section:

1. Afruza Khamdamova (UZB)

2. Elnaz Kaliahmet (KAZ)

3. Meruert Kamalidenova (KAZ)

Open section:

1. Aldiyar Ansat (KAZ)

2. Satbek Akhmedinov (KAZ)

3. Alisher Suleimenov (KAZ)

4. Mukhammadzokhid Suyarov (UZB)

By the start of the final round, much had already been decided in the women's tournament. At the top board, the leaders, 16-year-old Afruza



Khamdamova (pictured above) and 14-year-old Elnaz Kaliahmet quickly agreed to a draw, punching their tickets to the Women's World Cup.

The battle for the last remaining spot was a tense showdown between Meruert Kamalidenova and Alua Nurman. Their game on the second board saw constant shifts in momentum, making it a nerve-wracking contest. Ultimately, Kamalidenova prevailed, clinching third place.



The open tournament was a much closer contest. Going into the final round, at least seven participants had a chance to qualify for the World Cup. One of the biggest surprises was the performance by the 19-year-old Satbek Akhmedinov of Kazakhstan. The 27-seed, 19-year-old scored a spectacular victory over Mukhiddin Madaminov in just 23 moves, securing second place in the final standings, one of four coveted spots.

Other Kazakhstan's players also rose

to the occasion in the final round. Sixteen-year-old Aldiyar Ansat outmaneuvered Saidakbar Saidaliyev, while 24-year-old Alisher Suleimenov delivered a hard-fought win over Abdimalik Abdisalimov. Ansat finished in clear first place with 7.5/11, while Abdisalimov claimed third place. The last (fourth) qualifying spot in the open's section went to Uzbekistan's IM Mukhammadzokhid Suyarov. Visit asianchess.com



Zone 3.5 Men's and Women's Zonals Concluded in China



The Chinese (Zone 3.5) Men's and Women's Zonal Chess Championships were held March 21 to 30, 2025 in Ji'an, Jiangxi Province, China. The venue was the Jiuyuan Ancient Village in Jizhou District and many rooms were provided for parents and accompanying persons to rest and check the results which were posted in real time. There was live transmission of the games played on all 38 DGT boards showcasing the highest national level of a chess superpower. The tournaments were held in two groups, men's and women's, with a 9-

round Swiss point system. Time control was 90 minutes for each player to complete 40 moves, second time control was 30 minutes for each player to finish the game, with 30 seconds increment for each move starting from the first move. It was a strong group of 46 men including eight GMs and four IMs, and 31 women including three WGMs, one IM and four WIMs. Visit chess-results.com for round by round results and standings and to download games. Visit asianchess.com





Zonal 3.5 Chess Championship 2025 Men

Final Ranking after 9 Rounds

Rk.	SNo	Name	FED	Rtg	Pts.	TB1	TB2	TB3	TB4
1	2	GM Bai, Jinshi	CHN	2569	6	44	49	0	3
2	6	GM Peng, Xiongjian	CHN	2515	6	44	48	0	3
3	11	IM Wang, Shixu B	CHN	2452	6	43	47	0	4
4	4	GM Dai, Changren	CHN	2527	6	43	46	0	3
5	12	Kong, Xiangrui	CHN	2452	6	42	46	0	3
6	8	GM Xu, Yi	CHN	2480	6	40	44	0	4
7	1	GM Wang, Yue	CHN	2640	5.5	43	48	0	3
8	3	GM Liu, Yan	CHN	2542	5.5	42	47	0	2
9	21	IM Nie, Xinyang	CHN	2373	5.5	42	44	0	4
10	5	GM Xu, Yinglun	CHN	2522	5.5	42	46	0	2
11	16	Meng, Yihan	CHN	2412	5.5	42	45	0	2
12	7	GM Xiao, Tong(Qd)	CHN	2491	5.5	40	43	0	2
13	13	CM Xie, Kaifan	CHN	2419	5	44	48	0	2
14	10	IM Lou, Yiping	CHN	2464	5	44	48	0	3
15	19	Zhang, Di	CHN	2406	5	41	45	0	4
16	9	Jiang, Haochen	CHN	2470	5	40	43	0	3
17	17	Gong, Sunle	CHN	2407	5	38	42	0	4
18	27	Xi, Qi	CHN	2257	5	37	40	0	3
19	23	Jin, Hongtao	CHN	2343	5	36	39	0	3
20	14	Chen, Hongsen	CHN	2419	4.5	41	43	0	1
21	29	Hou, Yifan B	CHN	2238	4.5	40	43	0	2
22	25	Zhou, Runyi	CHN	2321	4.5	39	42	0	3
23	26	Chen, Yuan	CHN	2286	4.5	39	41	0	2
24	28	Dong, Hongfu	CHN	2238	4.5	38	40	0	1
25	24	Yan, Zilong	CHN	2337	4.5	37	39	0	3

Zonal 3.5 Chess Championship 2025 Woman

Final Ranking after 9 Rounds

Rk.	SNo	Name	sex	FED	Rtg	Pts.	TB1	TB2	TB3	TB4
1	5	Gao, Muziyan	w	CHN	2228	7	44	48	0	6
2	10	Zhang, Lanlin	w	CHN	2194	6.5	46	51	0	5
3	1	WGM Zhai, Mo	w	CHN	2366	6.5	46	50	0	4
4	6	WIM Wang, Chuqiao	w	CHN	2227	6	45	47	0	3
5	11	Wang, Qinxuanyi	w	CHN	2165	6	38	42	0	5
6	2	WGM Ni, Shiqun	w	CHN	2360	5.5	46	50	0	3
7	9	IM Wang, Yu A.	w	CHN	2197	5.5	41	45	0	3
8	3	WIM Yan, Tianqi	w	CHN	2344	5.5	41	44	0	2
9	7	WIM Zhang, Xiao	w	CHN	2223	5	46	50	0	4
10	8	FM Chen, Yining	w	CHN	2204	5	43	47	0	4
11	4	WGM Li, Xueyi	w	CHN	2236	5	42	46	0	4
12	16	Bai, Xue	w	CHN	2064	5	41	42	0	4
13	15	Hu, Yu A.	w	CHN	2101	5	39	42	0	4
14	21	WFM Mu, Wangxueyao	w	CHN	1979	5	39	42	0	3
15	13	WIM Zhao, Yunqing	w	CHN	2145	5	35	39	0	4
16	14	Jiang, Tianyu	w	CHN	2102	4.5	41	44	0	3
17	25	Liang, Hanzhe	w	CHN	1808	4.5	35	36	0	4
18	23	Xue, Shixuan	w	CHN	1873	4.5	34	37	0	2
19	12	Ha, Yihan	w	CHN	2155	4	41	45	0	2
20	22	WCM Wu, Shuang(Hlj)	w	CHN	1885	4	41	45	0	2
21	20	Wang, Shanshan	w	CHN	2004	4	39	40	0	3
22	28	Shi, Yige	w	CHN	1764	4	37	41	0	2
23	17	Zhou, Shumeng	w	CHN	2048	4	36	39	0	2
24	24	Guo, Weibao	w	CHN	1859	4	36	39	0	1
25	26	Wang, Yi(Bj)	w	CHN	1791	4	34	35	0	3



Kazakhstan Dominates Western Asia Youth Standard, Rapid and Blitz

A record number of 391 children from 13 countries participated in the Western Asia Youth Chess Championship held 20-29 April 2025 in Dushanbe, Tajikistan. The tournament was organized by the Tajikistan Chess Federation under the auspices of the Asian Chess Federation and FIDE. Participating were Afghanistan, India, Iran, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Kuwait, Maldives, Pakistan, Sri Lanka, Turkmenistan, Uzbekistan, host Tajikistan and players under neutral FIDE flag.

The tournament had three phases of Rapid, Blitz and Standard chess.

Kazakhstan children gave an outstanding performance in Rapid chess, winning seven gold medals. Uzbekistan and FID players were a distant second with two gold medals each and then India with one gold.

Midway through the standard chess event, the Blitz championship was held and again Kazakhstan children showed the way, winning five gold medals followed by Uzbekistan with three and Iran with two golds.



His Excellency Zulfiqor Gulahmadzoda (second from left), Sport Minister of Tajikistan and Vice President of the National Olympic Committee, Chief Arbiter IA Husan Turdialiev (left) and Jamshed Mirza of the Tajikistan Chess Federation (right) award prizes for Best Federation.

Final Ranking after 9 Rounds

Rk.	FED	gold	silver	bronze	Total
1	KAZ	4	3	9	16
2	FID	3	2	0	5
3	UZB	2	2	2	6
4	IRI	2	1	0	3
5	IND	1	3	1	5
6	TJK	0	1	0	1



Asian Chess Federation General Secretary Hisham Al Taher of the UAE (left) and H.E. Zulfiqor Gulahmadzoda, Sport Minister of Tajikistan and Vice President of the National Olympic Committee, award prizes to winners of the Western Asia Youth Blitz Chess Championship Girls Under 8 in Dushanbe, Tajikistan.



Asian Chess Federation Deputy President Bharat Singh of India (left) and Deputy Sport Minister of Tajikstan Shaker Zadeh Mohammad Taleb (right) award medals to Boys under 8.



Team medals were granted separately for Rapid, Blitz and Standard events considering total results of the best three players from a delegation/federation who should have had at least two players to claim a team medal.

Visit asianchess.com



ACF General Secretary Hisham Al Taher (left) and H.E. Sport Minister Zulfiqor Gulahmadzoda award prizes to winners of the Blitz Chess Team Championship Girls Under 8

Koneru Humpy Wins Pune Women's Grand Prix

After a very stressful afternoon for everyone, Indian number one Humpy Koneru claimed victory in the Pune Women's Grand Prix, edging out Chinese prodigy Zhu Jiner in the tiebreak. Both of them won their final games, totalling seven points apiece. Third place goes to Divya Deshmukh, who drew with Alina Kashlinskaya in their last-round game.

Humpy recognized that luck had played a big part in her victory: "I haven't been doing very well lately in classical chess, but here I have recovered my rating points and with the exception of yesterday's game against Kashlinskaya, I think I have played quite well"

With these results, Alexandra Goryachkina leads the WGP with 308.34 points (three events played), followed by Humpy Koneru with 279.17 points (three events played) and Zhu Jiner with 235 points (two events played). Anna Muzychuk is just behind with 189.17 points and has also only played two events.



GM Koneru Humpy (center) of India won the FIDE Women's Grand Prix held 13-24 April 2025 in Pune, India. GM Zhu Jiner of China (left) placed second while WGM Divya Deshmukh of India placed third.



The ceremonial first moves were performed on top board. Dr. Parinay Fuke, Member of the Maharashtra Legislative Council as well as President of the Maharashtra Chess Association opened the game for Humpy, while Mr. Aravind Shah, an Indian Businessman and chess enthusiast played Salimova's first move.

GM Nihal Sarin Wins 18th Tashkent Open, GM Abhimanyu Puranik third



by Shahid Ahmed – 30/03/2025
GM Nihal Sarin drew against GM Shamsiddin Vokhidov (UZB) to win 18th Tashkent Open, Agzamov Memorial 2025 Open A (≥ 1800). He finished a half point ahead of the rest as both GM Abhimanyu Puranik and GM Sanan Sjugirov (HUN) drew their games against GM Aleksandar Indjic (SRB) and GM S L Narayanan respectively. Sanan secured second place and Abhimanyu third according to tie-breaks.

The total prize fund of the tournament was US\$ 75000. The top three prizes were US\$ 20000, 10000 and 7000 along with a trophy each. A total of 153 players including 20 GMs, 32 IMs, a WIM took part from 15 countries across the world in Open A (≥ 1800). The ten day ten-round Swiss league rating tournament was organized by Uzbekistan Chess Federation at International Chess Academy in Tashkent, Uzbekistan from 20 to 29 March. Visit asianchess.com



Mohamad Sacar Wins 1st Vientiane Open FIDE Rating Tournament



Mohamad Sacar of the Philippines swept his assignments and scored 5.0 points to rule the 1st Vientiane Open FIDE Rated Standard Chess Tournament held March 29-30, 2025 at the National Olympic Committee headquarters in Vientiane, Laos. In photo, Sacar (center) receives his trophy from Laos Chess Federation president John Vilavane Inthava (left) and FIDE National Arbiter Roberto Suelo Jr., The Bangkok, Thailand based chess instructor Sacar opened his campaign with a win over Alanda Kittikhoun of Laos, then followed it up with victories over Xiang Fan of China, Yupan Fan of China , Candidate Master Yang Chi of Laos and and Khonsavanh Senglek of Laos. Visit asianchess.com



National Electricity Transmission wins Mongolian Corporate Chess Championship



The Mongolian Chess Federation (MCF), in collaboration with the Mongolian National Chamber of Commerce and Industry (MNCCI), successfully organized the inaugural National Corporate Chess Championship, which concluded on March 29, 2025, in Ulaanbaatar. The event aimed to promote chess within the corporate community, foster strategic thinking, and strengthen professional relationships among Mongolian businesses.

Inspired by the FIDE World Corporate Chess Championship, the competition was spearheaded by Zandanshatar Gombojav, President of the Mongolian Chess Federation and



Head of the Presidential Office of Mongolia.

The championship featured 24 teams from Mongolia's Top 100 enterprises, including Khan Bank, Shunkhlai LLC, APU, Digital Concept LLC (GS25 chain), Sod Mongol Group, Golomt Bank, Tavan Bogd Foods, Monos Pharm, and others.

