



**35th OPEN CHESS
TOURNAMENT OF KAVALA
“VASILIS THEODORIDIS”
27 July - 4 August 2026**

Total Prizes: 12.000€

Registration is open until 20th of July

FREE participation fee (Rating \geq 2400)

Limit of entries is 500 players in total 4 group

Tournament Schedule

27 July	1st Round - 17:00
2nd Round - 10:00 3rd Round - 17:30	28 July
29 July	4th Round - 17:00
FREE Day Beach Night Party	30 July
31 July	5th Round - 17:00 Team Blitz Tournament
6th Round - 17:00	01 August
02 August	7th Round - 17:00
8th Round - 17:00	03 August
04 August	9th Round - 09:30 Closing Ceremony - 15:30

REGISTER
TODAY



Tournament Details

Rate of Play

90 min' for 40 moves + 15 min' until the end of the game + 30 sec per move from 1st move.

Entry Level

Group A: ≥ 2100 rating

Group B: 1600 - 2099 rating

Group C: 0 - 1599 rating

Group D: U10 (born after 1-1-2016)

Entry Fees

Group A: ≥ 2400 FREE, 2100-2399 80€, 2000-2099 120€

Winner of Group B last year and the champions of the Greek National Championship 2026 for both U14 and U16 age, are cordially invited to participate in Group A irrespective of the current rating.

Group B: 2000-2100 FREE, 1600-1999 60€, 1500-1599 100€

Group C: 40€

Group D: 30€

CANCELATION POLICY: Entry fees are fully refundable (minus any transaction fees) only before **8th July**. Players with a rating above 2400 are not required to pay an entry fee. Participants can prepay fees: until July 8th. From July 9th onwards, an increase of 10€ in the participation fee. Register by 1st March 2026 to secure your place and enjoy an exclusive 10% discount on your tournament fees.



Regulations

- 1.** The 35th International Open Tournament of Kavala “Vasilis Theodoridis” shall be played according to the FIDE Laws of Chess (E.I.01A), and from this point on will be referred to as the tournament.
- 2.** The tournament will be held in Kavala, Greece, from July 27 to August 4, 2026. The tournament will take place in Megali Leschi, Kyprou 12.
- 3.** The tournament's playing system is a FIDE Swiss tournament of 9 rounds.
- 4.** The duration of the game is 90 minutes for the first 40 moves, and 15 minutes until the end of the game, plus a 30-second increment from the 1st move.
- 5.** The Tournament Director is Mr.Christoforos Apostolakakis, and the Chief Arbiter is Ms. Kleopatra Halvatzoglou IA.
- 6.** Tie Breaks: 1) Direct Encounter, 2) Buchholz (cut-1), 3) Sonneborn- Berger, 4) Buchholz
- 7.** The pairings will be made through the computer program “Swiss Manager”.
- 8.** All players with a valid FIDE ID can participate.
- 9.** The tournament will be played in four Groups, according to the FIDE ratings as of 1st July 2026.
- 10.** Any athletes who wish to request an exemption for a particular round must inform the draw official immediately after the end of the previous round (maximum two exemptions per player).
- 11.** Payment method only with a debit or credit card.

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Prizes

The tournament has a total prize fund of **€12,000**, including **€1,570** allocated to women's prizes and **€650** designated for veteran players.

GROUP A					
1st	2500€	7th	300€	1st 50+	200€
2nd	1500€	8th	250€	1st 65+	200€
3rd	1000€	9th	200€	1st Woman	500€
4th	600€	10th	150€	2nd Woman	300€
5th	500€	1st <2200	150€	3rd Woman	200€
6th	400€	1st <2100	150€		
	6.500€		1.200€		1.400€

GROUP B			
1st	500€	7th	150€
2nd	300€	8th	120€
3rd	250€	1st Woman	200€
4th	200€	2nd Woman	130€
5th	180€	3rd Woman	100€
6th	170€	1st 50+	100€
		1st 65+	100€
	1.600€		900€

GROUP C	
1st	150€
2nd	100€
3rd	80€
1st Woman	70€
	400€

Between tied players, up to the 6th place in Group A and the 3rd place in Group B, and in Group C and the Women's categories, monetary prizes are divided equally. If a player qualifies for two or more prizes, he/she is awarded the higher one. Cups will be given to the top six in the final ranking, to the top three women, to the top three in the other groups, and to the first in the special categories. Prizes will be awarded in each category only if at least three players participate. BY NOT attending the Closing Ceremony, the right to prizes is forfeited.

Terms and Guidelines

REGISTRATION & DEADLINES: Please fill out the registration form available on the website: chesskavala.gr/open. Entries are only confirmed after the entry fee is paid. Entries are accepted not later than 21 July.

The confirmation of Participation is MANDATORY from July 25 to July 27 before 12:00. It can be done by online check-in, which will be activated on 25 July on our website chesskavala.gr/open/ or in person at the playing Venue until 12:00 July 27, 2026. Participants confirmed after the deadline may join the tournament in Round 2.

Any player who shows up for the game more than thirty minutes late, about the scheduled start time of the round, will forfeit his/her game. If he/she does not show up for the first round, or for two consecutive or alternate rounds, he/she will be eliminated, unless the Chief Arbiter decides otherwise.

Any point not covered by these tournament rules will be resolved in accordance with the FIDE regulations for open tournaments. In the event of a complaint, it must be made within 30 minutes of the end of the round. In this case, the organization will create an appeal committee. The objection fee is set at 60€ and must be paid to the Competition Director. If the objection is upheld, the fee will be refunded.

Anti-Cheating Guidelines: The organizers have the right to implement preventive anti-cheating measures and may conduct checks on players upon entering the venue or during matches. The use of electronic devices is prohibited in the playing venue. The organizers have the right to use special equipment to make sure no such devices make it into the playing venue. Participants are strongly recommended not to carry any such devices. If participants bring electronic devices and leave them outside the playing venue, the organizers shall not be at fault if any such devices go missing.

Players and other delegation members who need a visa to enter Greece are requested to contact the organizer before July 1, 2026. The organizer will provide invitations for visas only after the necessary payments are wired.

The participants of the tournament, or their legal guardians in case of minors, authorize the publication of their personal data in the different media that the organization finds appropriate, as well as the dissemination of the event (list of results, classification, participants, games, photographs, and videos of the tournament, etc.) 19. Participation in the tournament implies full acceptance of these rules

Accommodation

We can provide a limited number of hotel rooms at special rates, available on a first-come, first-served basis. All prices are per night and include breakfast.

From July 16th onwards, hotel rates will increase by €5 per night. A 100% booking deposit is required to confirm the reservation.

Cancellations made until July 5th will receive a full refund minus any applicable transaction fees. Cancellations made after July 5th are non-refundable.

Special accommodation conditions are available for GMs, IMs, and WGMs. These hospitality arrangements are offered to a limited number of titled players, and the organizers will maintain a strict priority list.

For further information regarding accommodation and payments, please contact us at info@chesskavala.gr or visit www.chesskavala.gr/open.

Participants are, of course, free to arrange their own accommodation independently.

Oceanis Hotel



Single room: 70€
Double room: 80€
Triple room: 100€

Esperia Hotel



Single room: 70€
Double room: 80€
Triple room: 100€

Nefeli Hotel



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Double room: 75€
Triple room: 95€

Galaxy Airhotel



Single room: 105€
Double room: 120€
Triple room: 135€

Lucy Hotel



Single room: 145€
Double room: 165€
Triple room: 195€

*** The hotel prices includes all taxes.**

BOOK YOUR
ROOM TODAY



Transfers

1 Airport transfers to/from Kavala

- Taxi: 60€ (up to 4 passengers, €15 each)
- Van: 120€ (up to 8 passengers, €15 each)

2 Airport transfers to/from Thessaloniki

- Taxi: 180€ (up to 4 passengers, €45 each)
- Van: 260€ (up to 8 passengers, €35-45 each)

*** All transfers are made directly from the airport to your accommodation.**

**** Payment should be made directly to the driver.**

***** It is required that you provide us with your flight details and the total number of passengers to arrange your transfer.**

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Side Activities

1 Trip to Philippi

A guided visit to the ancient archaeological site of Philippi, exploring its rich history and landmarks.

2 Trip to Winery

A visit to Oenogenesis Winery with a tour, wine tasting, and insight into local wine production.

3 Night beach party

A relaxed evening by the sea at Batis New Age beach with music, drinks, and summer vibes.

4 Team blitz tournament

Form your team and enjoy a fast-paced blitz chess night full of action and teamwork.

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Contact

Website

chesskavala.gr/open

Email

info@chesskavala.gr



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