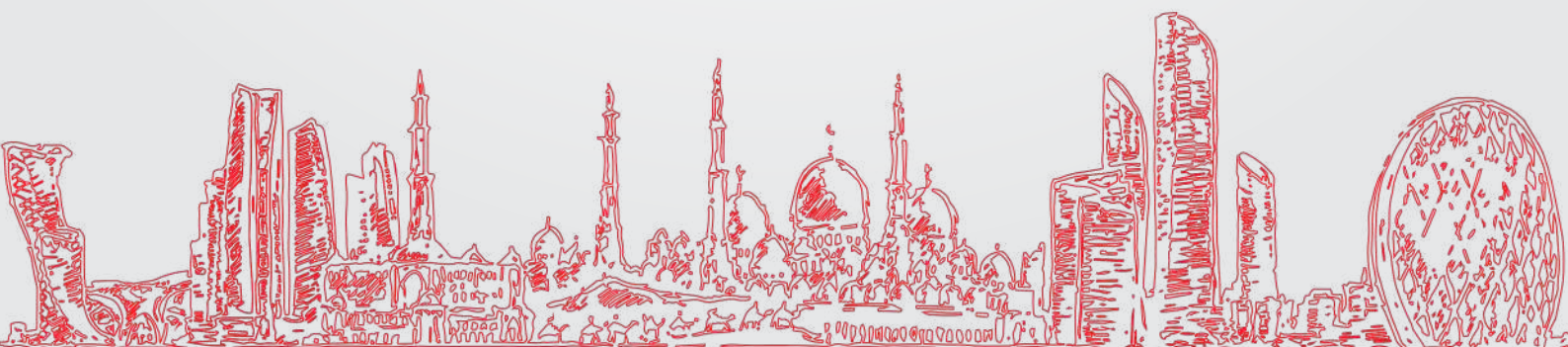


ABU DHABI

INTERNATIONAL CHESS FESTIVAL

Under the **Patronage of H.H Sheikh Nahyan bin Zayed Al Nahyan**, Chairman of Abu Dhabi Sports Council, the Organizing Committee has the honor of inviting you to take part in the **31st Abu Dhabi International Chess Festival**, an annual event that will be held in **Abu Dhabi**, from **15th until 24th August 2025**



"Masters" Tournament



ABU DHABI
INTERNATIONAL CHESS FESTIVAL



- Open to all **FIDE-rated players** with a **Standard published rating of 2300 ELO and above** "Except Abu Dhabi Chess Club players" (as of 1st of August 2025).
- The tournament will be a **9-round Swiss System** with a time control of **90 minutes** for each player and a **30-second increment** after each move, starting with move 1 (15 min tolerance).
- The organizing committee shall provide **free accommodation in a five-star hotel** for players rated 2600+, and women with a Standard Elo of 2400+ (prior approval from the committee is needed to guarantee the accommodation, only for limited players, in order of registration).
- The organizing committee reserves the right to offer up to 15 wild cards for players rated below 2300 (prior approval required).
- **Entry Fee:** 150\$. *Exempted: GM/WGM/IM 2400+/WIM 2300+*

Prize Fund: 55,500 USD

Prizes in US\$	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11th to 15th
Masters	15000	10000	6000	4000	3500	3000	2500	2000	1750	1250	1000
Best 2400 - 2499		500	Best 2300 - 2399		500	Best Female		500			

- The prizes in the **Masters Tournament (2nd to 15th)** will be awarded based on **Hort-System**.
- The **first prize will not be shared** and will be awarded based on the tiebreak.
- Tie break System: 1. Direct Encounter; 2. Bucholtz (Cut 1) 3. Bucholtz (Cut 2) 4. Sonneborn-Berger; 5. ARCO (Cut 1)
- Prize winners are obliged to follow the dress code of business casual/elegant casual or smart casual. No shorts, hats, caps, sneakers or slippers allowed.

Schedule Masters

Fri 15 Aug	Sat 16 Aug	Sun 17 Aug	Mon 18 Aug	Tue 19 Aug	Wed 20 Aug	Thu 21 Aug	Fri 22 Aug	Sat 23 Aug	Sun 24 Aug
Round 1	Round 2	Round 3	Round 4	Round 5	Round 6	Round 7	Blitz	Round 8	Round 9
5:00 PM	5:00 PM	5:00 PM	5:00 PM	5:00 PM	5:00 PM	5:00 PM	Blitz	5:00 PM	11:00 AM



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"Open A" Tournament



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- Open to all players with a **Standard published rating of 2299 ELO and below (as of 1st August 2025)**. *FIDE ID is mandatory.*
- The tournament will be a **9-round Swiss System** with a time control of **90 minutes** for each player and a **30-second increment** after each move, starting with move 1 (15 min tolerance).
- **Entry Fee: 100\$**. *Exempted: All GM/WGM/IM/WIM*

"Open B" Tournament

- Open to all players with a **Standard published rating of 1999 ELO and below (as of 1st August 2025)**. *FIDE ID is mandatory.*
- The tournament will be a **9-round Swiss System** with a time control of **90 minutes** for each player and a **30-second increment** after each move, starting with move 1 (15 min tolerance).
- **Entry Fee: 75\$**. *Exempted: All GM/WGM/IM/WIM*

Prize Fund: 19,700 USD

Prizes US\$	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11-15	Best Female
Open A	3000	2000	1500	1000	900	700	500	400	300	250	200	200
Open B	2000	1500	1000	700	600	500	400	300	200	150	100	100

- The prizes will be awarded based on the tie-break and will **not be shared**.
- Tie break System: 1. Direct Encounter; 2. Bucholtz (Cut 1) 3. Bucholtz (Cut 2) 4. Sonneborn-Berger; 5. ARCO (Cut 1).
- Prize winners are obliged to follow the dress code of business casual/elegant casual or smart casual. No shorts, hats, caps, sneakers or slippers allowed.

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Schedule Open A & B

Fri 15 Aug	Sat 16 Aug	Sun 17 Aug	Mon 18 Aug	Tue 19 Aug	Wed 20 Aug	Thu 21 Aug	Fri 22 Aug	Sat 23 Aug	Sun 24 Aug
Round 1	Round 2	Round 3	Round 4	Round 5	Round 6	Round 7	Blitz	Round 8	Round 9
5:00 PM	5:00 PM	5:00 PM	5:00 PM	5:00 PM	5:00 PM	5:00 PM	Blitz	5:00 PM	11:00 AM



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"Juniors U16" Tournament



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- Open to all **juniors under 16** (born in 2009 and later) with a **Standard published rating of 1999 ELO and below (as of 1st August 2025)**. *FIDE ID is mandatory.*
- The **Juniors** can play at the same time in the **Open tournament**.
- The tournament will be a **9-round Swiss System** with a time control of **60 minutes + 30 seconds increment** for each player (15 min tolerance).
- The official hotel and playing venue will be announced later. It will be one of Abu Dhabi's luxurious 5* hotels with similar room rates to last year.
- **Entry Fee:** 50\$. *Exempted: All GM/WGM/IM/WIM*

Prize Fund: 9,500 USD

Prizes in US\$	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
Juniors	2,000	1,500	1,000	500	400	300	200	150
Under 14	500	300	150					
Under 12	500	300	150					
Under 10	500	300	150					
Under 8	300	200	100					

- The prizes will be awarded based on the tie-break and will **not be shared**.
- Tie break System: 1. Direct Encounter; 2. Bucholtz (Cut 1) 3. Bucholtz (Cut 2) 4. Sonneborn-Berger; 5. ARCO (Cut 1).
- A player cannot be awarded more than one prize in a tournament, and he will be awarded the highest prize (monetary) only.
- Prize winners are obliged to follow the dress code of business casual/elegant casual or smart casual. No shorts, hats, caps, sneakers or slippers allowed.

Schedule "Juniors U16"

Sat 16 Aug	Sun 17 Aug	Mon 18 Aug	Mon 18 Aug	Tue 19 Aug	Tue 19 Aug	Wed 20 Aug	Wed 20 Aug	Thu 21 Aug
Round 1	Round 2	Round 3	Round 4	Round 5	Round 6	Round 7	Round 8	Round 9
10:00 AM	10:00 AM	10:00 AM	1:30 PM	10:00 AM	1:30 PM	10:00 AM	1:30 PM	10:00 AM



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Blitz - Open



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- **FIDE Rated Blitz tournament**, open for all ages and nationalities
- **FIDE ID** is mandatory for registration.
- The tournament will be an **11-round Swiss System** with a time control of **3 minutes** for each player and a **2-second increment** after each move, starting with move 1.
- **Playing venue:** *To be announced soon.*
- **Entry fee:** 50\$. *Exempted: GM/WGM/IM 2400+/WIM 2300+*

Blitz - Under 16

- **FIDE Rated Blitz tournament**, open for juniors Under 16, born in 2009 and later.
- **FIDE ID** is mandatory for registration.
- The tournament will be an **11-round Swiss System** with a time control of **3 minutes** for each player and a **2-second increment** after each move, starting with move 1.
- **Playing venue:** *To be announced soon.*
- **Entry fee:** 15\$. *Exempted: All GM/WGM/IM/WIM*

Blitz - Ladies

- **FIDE Rated Blitz tournament**, open for girls only
- **FIDE ID** is mandatory for registration.
- The tournament will be a **9-round Swiss System** with a time control of **3 minutes** for each player and a **2-second increment** after each move, starting with move 1.
- **Playing venue:** *To be announced soon.*
- **Entry fee:** 15\$. *Exempted: All GM/WGM/IM/WIM*

Prize Fund: 6,950 USD

Prizes in US\$	1	2	3	4	5
Blitz	2,000	1,000	500	300	200
Blitz U16	700	400	300	200	100
Ladies	500	300	200	150	100

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Fri 22 Aug	Fri 22 Aug	Fri 22 Aug	Fri 22 Aug	Fri 22 Aug	Fri 22 Aug	Fri 22 Aug	Fri 22 Aug	Fri 22 Aug	Fri 22 Aug	Fri 22 Aug
Round 1	Round 2	Round 3	Round 4	Round 5	Round 6	Round 7	Round 8	Round 9	Round 10	Round 11
5:00 PM	5:20 PM	5:40 PM	6:00 PM	6:20 PM	6:40 PM	7:00 PM	7:20 PM	7:40 PM	8:00 PM	8:30 PM



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- **Blitz tournament**, open for **juniors Under 18** (born 2007 and later).
- The tournament is open for **Abu Dhabi Chess Club members only** (approval required).
- **FIDE ID** is not mandatory for registration.
- The tournament will be a **9-round Swiss System** with a time control of **5 minutes** for each player and a **2-second increment** after each move, starting with move 1.
- **Playing venue:** *To be announced soon.*
- **Entry fee:** *Free.*

Prize Fund: 2,100 USD

Prizes in US\$	1	2	3	4	5
General Standings	350	300	250	200	100
Under 14	150	100	50		
Under 10	150	100	50		
Under 8	150	100	50		

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- The prizes will be awarded based on the tie-break and will **not be shared**.
- Tie break System: 1. Direct Encounter; 2. Bucholtz (Cut 1) 3. Bucholtz (Cut 2) 4. Sonneborn-Berger; 5. ARCO (Cut 1).
- A player cannot be awarded more than one prize in a tournament, and he will be awarded the highest prize (monetary) only.
- Prize winners are obliged to follow the dress code of business casual/elegant casual or smart casual. No shorts, hats, caps, sneakers or slippers allowed.

Schedule "Academy Blitz"

Fri 22 Aug	Fri 22 Aug	Fri 22 Aug	Fri 22 Aug	Fri 22 Aug	Fri 22 Aug	Fri 22 Aug	Fri 22 Aug	Fri 22 Aug
Round 1	Round 2	Round 3	Round 4	Round 5	Round 6	Round 7	Round 8	Round 9
10:00 AM	10:30 AM	11:00 AM	11:30 AM	12:00 PM	12:30 PM	1:00 PM	1:30 PM	2:00 PM



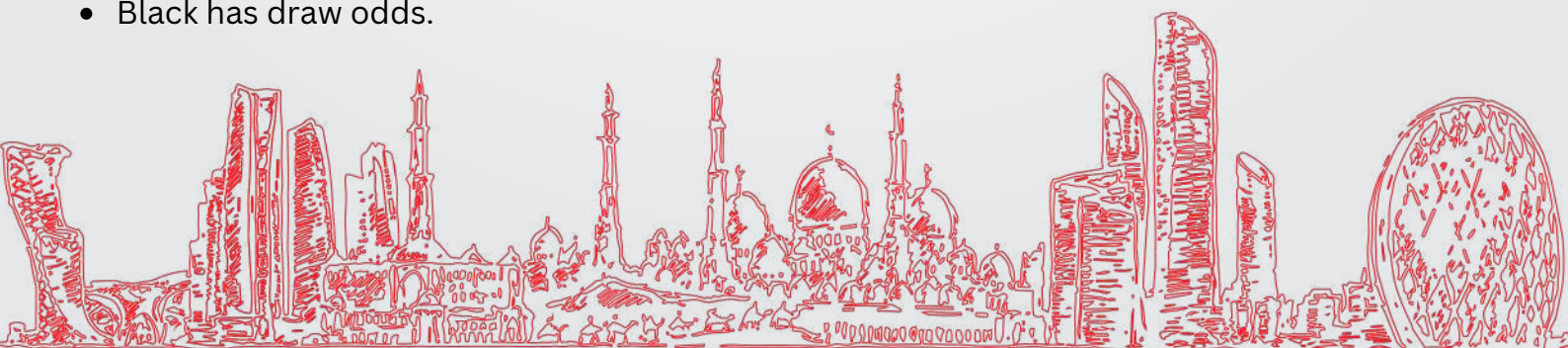
- The Abu Dhabi Chess & Mind Games announces the **Abu Dhabi Masters - Online**, on **Thursday, 22nd of August 2025**. The tournament features a prize fund of **\$10,000** and is open to all **titled players**.
- Blitz tournament, open for **titled Players Only**.
- The tournament will be an **11-round Swiss System** with a time control of **3 minutes** for each player and a **1-second increment** after each move, starting with move 1.
- The top four finishers** will advance to a four-player knockout playoff that will determine the final placements.
- Date & Time:** Thursday, **22nd of August**, starting at **9:00 PM. (UAE Time)**
- Prizes will be distributed once the chess.com fair-play report is received.

Prizes in US\$	1	2	3	4	Best Female*
Masters - Online	5,000	2250	1250	1000	500

**Prize goes to the best female player not finishing among the top three.*

Playoff Format

- The **Knockout Stage** is a **4-player** single-elimination bracket.
- Matches will consist of **two games with a 5+1 time control**.
- The player seeded higher at the beginning of the Knockout Stage will start with the White pieces. Players will alternate colors between consecutive games of a Match.
- Players will earn 1 point for a win, $\frac{1}{2}$ point for a draw, and 0 points for a loss.
- A Match ends when a player reaches 1.5 points, at which time that player has won the Match.
- If neither player reaches 1.5 points, a single game of "Armageddon" will be played, with a base time of 5 minutes.
- The Armageddon bidding process:
 - Base time: 5 minutes.
 - Players bid time (minutes/seconds) for the amount of time they are willing to play with their choice of color.
 - No increment.
 - Bid winner starts with the amount of time bid and has the choice of color.
 - Bid loser starts with 5 minutes.
 - Black has draw odds.



Schools Tournament



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- Open for all **kids under 17 (born in 2008 and after)**.
- The tournament will be a **7-round Swiss System** with a time control of **5 minutes** for each player and a **3-second increment** after each move, starting with move 1.
- **FIDE ID is not required.**
- The competition will be played in **12 different categories**: Under 7 to Under 17.
- **Playing Venue**: *To be announced soon.*
- **Entry Fee**: 15\$.

Prize Fund: 3,600 USD

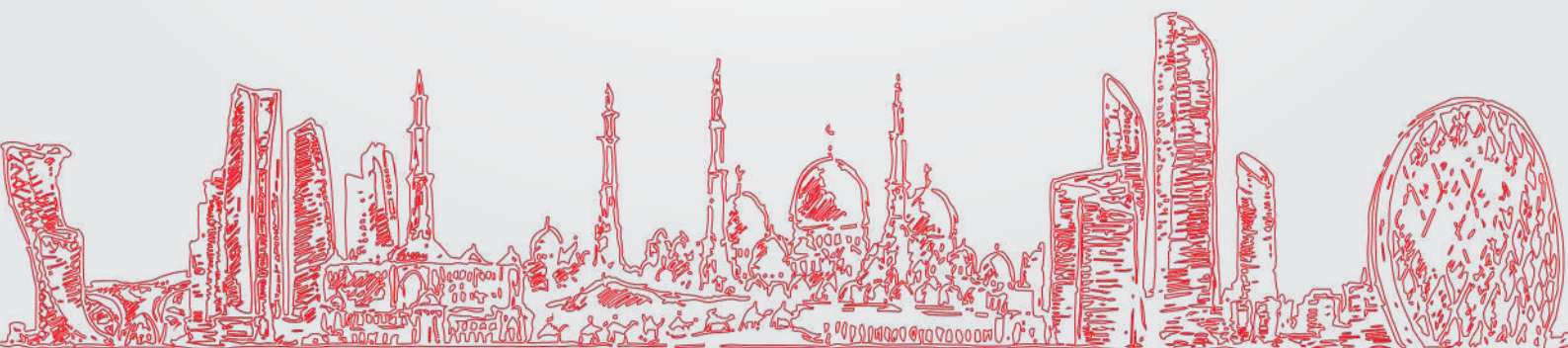
	1st Place	2nd Place	3rd Place	4th to 10th
Under 7 Boys / Girls Born 2017 and after	Trophy + Medal + 150 \$	Medal + 100 \$	Medal + 50 \$	Chess set
Under 9 Boys / Girls Born in 2015 and 2016	Trophy + Medal + 150 \$	Medal + 100 \$	Medal + 50 \$	Chess set
Under 11 Boys / Girls Born in 2013 and 2014	Trophy + Medal + 150 \$	Medal + 100 \$	Medal + 50 \$	Chess set
Under 13 Boys / Girls Born in 2011 and 2012	Trophy + Medal + 150 \$	Medal + 100 \$	Medal + 50 \$	Chess set
Under 15 Boys / Girls Born in 2009 and 2010	Trophy + Medal + 150 \$	Medal + 100 \$	Medal + 50 \$	Chess set
Under 17 Boys / Girls Born in 2007 and 2008	Trophy + Medal + 150 \$	Medal + 100 \$	Medal + 50 \$	Chess set

Schedule: Individual Schools Event

Sat 23 Aug	Sat 23 Aug	Sat 23 Aug	Sat 23 Aug	Sat 23 Aug	Sat 23 Aug	Sat 23 Aug
Round 1	Round 2	Round 3	Round 4	Round 5	Round 6	Round 7
10:00 AM	10:30 AM	11:00 AM	11:30 AM	12:00 PM	12:30 PM	1:00 PM



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Seniors Blitz

- **Blitz tournament**, open for **players age 50+**.
- **FIDE ID** is not mandatory for registration.
- The tournament will be a **7-round Swiss System** with a time control of **3 minutes** for each player and a **2-second increment** after each move, starting with move 1.
- **Playing venue:** *To be announced soon.*
- **Date & Time:** Sunday **17th of August**, starting at **2:00 PM**.
- **Entry fee:** *Free.*

People of Determination

- **Open for people of determination only.**
- **FIDE ID** is not mandatory for registration.
- The tournament will be a **5-round Swiss System** with a time control of **10 minutes** for each player.
- **Playing venue:** *To be announced soon.*
- **Date & Time:** Friday **22nd of August**, starting at **2:00 PM**.
- **Entry fee:** *Free.*

Prizes in US\$	1	2	3
Seniors	500	300	200
People of Determination	500	300	200



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Family Teams



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- Open for teams of 2 players (**parent on board 1 and child on board 2**).
- **FIDE ID** is not mandatory for registration.
- The tournament will be a **7-round Swiss System** with a time control of **3 minutes** for each player and a **2-second increment** after each move, starting with move 1.
- **Playing venue:** *To be announced soon.*
- **Date & Time:** Sunday **17th of August**, starting at **2:00 PM**.
- **Entry fee:** *Free.*

Community Teams

- Open for teams of **3 players** (2 playing + 1 substitute), **UAE Residents with the same nationality**. The team will represent their country (or city).
- FIDE ID is not mandatory for registration.
- The tournament will be a **7-round Swiss System** with a time control of **3 minutes** for each player and a **2-second increment** after each move, starting with move 1.
- **Playing venue:** *To be announced soon.*
- **Date & Time:** Saturday, **16th of August**, starting at **2:00 PM**.
- **Entry fee:** *Free.*

Prizes in US\$	1	2	3
Families	500	300	200
Communities	500	300	200



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Simultaneous exhibition

- Held by a renowned international GM.
- Open for Abu Dhabi Chess Club players only
- **Date & Time:** Wednesday, **20th of August**, starting at **2:00 PM**.



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- The official hotels will be **announced soon**. Will be one of Abu Dhabi's Luxurious 5* Hotels with a similar room rate as last year.

APPROXIMATE ROOM RATES (AS OF 2024 Edition) - For reference only.

5* Radisson Blu Abu Dhabi Corniche Hotel:

- Single Room:** 500 AED per night (including full board for 1 person)
- Double Room:** 575 AED per night (including full board for 2 persons)
- Triple Room (limited availability):** 660 AED/night (including full board for 3 persons)

UAE Entry Visa

- Visa rules are subject to change. Kindly confirm with your airline prior to booking.
- Players & accompanying persons who require a visa are requested to fill out the registration form and provide all requested documents.
- Entry Visas to the UAE issued for eligible participants are subject to the approval of the GENERAL DIRECTORATE OF RESIDENCY & FOREIGNER AFFAIRS – UAE and will be valid for 30 days from the date of arrival
- Visa Fees must be paid in full to Issue the Entry Permit.

Visa Fee For all players and accompanying persons

\$ 100

AED 385

Free for GM/WGM

Special requests such as: "Okay to board"

\$ 15

AED 55

Free for GM/WGM



Registration & Fees



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- Registration is accepted online only.
- **The last day of registration is 15th July 2025.** Entry fees and related payments must be paid to confirm the registration.
- All participating players and accompanying persons agree to fully comply with the regulations of the tournament and the organizer.
- The organizing committee reserves the right to accept or deny a participant's registration according to FIDE Rules and Regulations and UAE Laws.

Tournament	FEE (USD)	FEE (AED)	Exemptions
Masters	\$ 150	440	GM / WGM / IM 2400 + / WIM 2300 +
Masters (rating 2100 - 2299)	\$ 300	1105	NA
Open A	\$ 100	380	All GM / WGM / IM / WIM
Open B	\$ 75	275	All GM / WGM / IM / WIM
Juniors	\$ 50	185	All GM / WGM / IM / WIM
Blitz (Open)	\$ 50	185	GM / WGM / IM 2400 + / WIM 2300 +
Blitz Juniors	\$ 15	55	All GM / WGM / IM / WIM
Schools Tournament	\$ 15	55	All GM / WGM / IM / WIM
Ladies Blitz	\$ 15	55	All GM / WGM / IM / WIM
Late registration fees	\$ 27	100	NA



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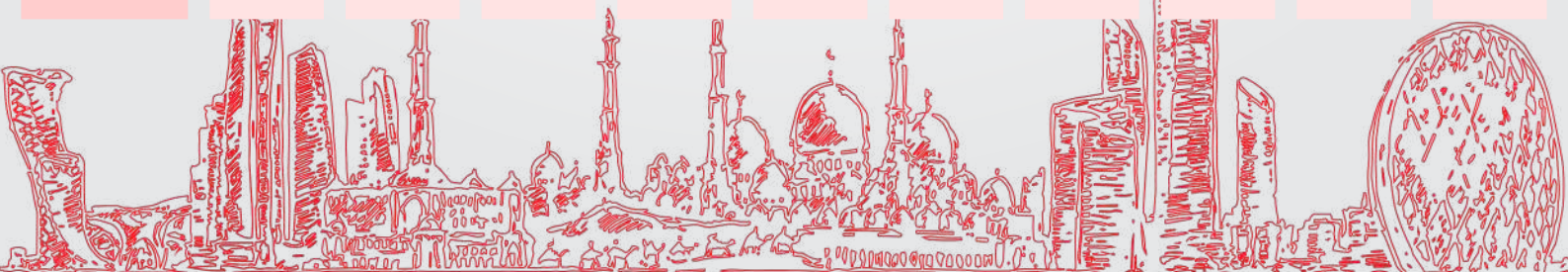
Schedule



ABU DHABI INTERNATIONAL CHESS FESTIVAL



	Fri 15 Aug	Sat 16 Aug	Sun 17 Aug	Mon 18 Aug	Tue 19 Aug	Wed 20 Aug	Thu 21 Aug	Fri 22 Aug	Sat 23 Aug	Sun 24 Aug
Masters Open A Open B	Rd 1 5:00 PM	Rd 2 5:00 PM	Rd 3 5:00 PM	Rd 4 5:00 PM	Rd 5 5:00 PM	Rd 6 5:00 PM	Rd 7 5:00 PM	Free	Rd 8 5:00 PM	Rd 9 11:00 AM
Juniors		Rd 1 10:00 AM	Rd 2 10:00 AM	Rd 3 10:00 AM Rd 4 1:30 PM	Rd 5 10:00 AM Rd 6 1:30 PM	Rd 7 10:00 AM Rd 8 1:30 PM	Rd 9 10:00 AM			
Blitz Open Blitz U16 Blitz Ladies								5:00 PM		
Online Masters							9:00 PM			
Families			2:00 PM							
Communities		2:00 PM								
Seniors			2:00 PM							
Schools									10:00 AM	
Academy								10:00 AM		
People of Determination								10:00 AM		
Govt. Dept. Tournament									2:00 PM	
Simul						2:00 PM				



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