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2023 African Online Amateurs Individual Chess Championship

02nd to 03rd December 2023

President: Tshepiso Lopang (+267 71 641 666)



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Dear Chess Friends,

1. INVITATION

Under the auspices of the African Chess Confederation (ACC), we invite all African Chess Federations to participate in the 2023 African Online Amateurs Individual Chess Championship.

2. PARTICIPATION

- 1) There will be separate championships for categories Under-2300, Under-2000 and Under-1700. In each rating section, a separate championship for Women shall be organized only if there are at least 10 women entries otherwise the women"s event will be merged with Men (Open).
- 2) The Championships are open tournaments for players registered by their Federations
- 3) For the Under-2300 section, a player must not have a published FIDE rating of 2300 or greater for at least one year prior to the registration deadline of the event.
- 4) For the Under-2000 section, a player must not have a published FIDE rating of 2000 or greater for at least one year prior to the start of the championship.
- 5) For the Under-1700 section, a player must not have a published FIDE rating of 1700 or greater for at least one year prior to the start of the championship.
- 6) In case a player exceeds the rating of 1700 or 2000 after the registration deadline, he/she will play the upper rating category.
- 7) All players must not hold any title above CM (or WCM for women) in the sections Under-1700 and Under-2000. All players must not hold any title above FM (or WFM for women) in the section Under-2300.

The Tournament is Open for All eligible Players as long as they register through their National Federations and pay the requisite Fees on time. Federations can register any number of players they so wish in any section.

2. REGISTRATION TOURNAMENT FEES

The Officials will be required to pay a Registration Fee of US \$ 50 per person which must be paid by the registration deadline of 27th November 2023 by Bank Transfer or Debit or Credit Card to the ACC account or via PayPal.





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Account Name: Federação Angolana de Xadrez

Account Number: 2860941015002

Bank Name: Banco Angolano de Investimentos, S.A.

Branch Name: Agencia Sede

Branch Sort Code: Centro de Atendimento Empresas - CAE Sede 0562

SWIFT Code: BAIPAOLU

IBAN: AO06004000002860941015223

Currency: EUR

Bank Address: Complexo Garden Towers, Torre BAI Travessa Ho Chi Minh, Maianga, Luanda-

Angola

PayPal address:

omerdeab10@gmail.com

Omer Abdalla Omer Deab - Deputy President (ACC)

*Please note that when paying by bank transfer, the amount received into the account of the African Chess Confederation must be the full entry fee.

3. APPLICATION AND REGISTRATION

- 1) Entry Forms must be completed by the federation officials and sent by mail to the ACC not later than 27th November 2023
- 2) The completed registration form must include the surnames, first names, FIDE titles, FIDE ID number, FIDE rating, total number of players and their Tornelo usernames.
- 3) The completed form must also include the names, telephone numbers and e- mail address of the Official/Cpatain person in charge of the federation.
- 4) All players must pay a Registration Fee of US \$ 50 to the ACC for the registration process.

Providing the players" list, each federation ensures that all players are aware of these Regulations and acknowledge Fair-Play rules (see Chapter 6).

4. TOURNAMENT SYSTEM

- 1) The Championships will be held ONLINE with SUPERVISION.
- 2) Time control: 15 minutes + 5 seconds increment per move, starting from move 1.
- 3) The tournament will be held in a Swiss System format of 9 rounds





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5. TOURNAMENT SCHEDULE

Technical meeting: December 1st, 2023 at 14:00 GMT Training Tournament: December 1st, 2023 at 15:00 GMT

Day 1 (round 1-4): December 2nd, 2023

Round 1: 14:00 GMT Round 2: 15:00 GMT Round 3: 16:00 GMT Round 4: 17:00 GMT

Day 2 (round 5-9): December 3rd, 2023

Round 5: 14:00 GMT Round 6: 15:00 GMT Round 7: 16:00 GMT Round 8: 17:00 GMT Round 9: 18: 00 GMT

6. TITLES AND PRIZES

1. Titles

The winners of the annual Open championship receive the relevant title "African Amateur Chess Champion Under 1700, Under 2000 & Under 2300."

The winners of the annual championship for Women receive the relevant title "African Women Amateur Chess Champion Under 1700, Under 2000 & Under 2300."

The winners from each African Amateur Championship rating section are qualified with personal rights (as long as they don"t reach or exceed 2300 rating by the registration deadline) to next edition of 2024 FIDE World Amateur Chess Championship, and their places cannot be substituted.

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VP: Nadezhda Marochkina (+221 254 17 11) **VP:** Sidi Tajedine (+222 4643 94 00) **Secretary:** Tito Martins (+244 923 372 721) **Deputy:** Omer Diab (+249 91 230 54 55)





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2. Prizes

African Amateur Chess Champion Under 1700

	Open Section (US \$)	Women's Section (US \$)
1 st Prize	250	250
2 nd Prize	175	175
3 rd Prize	100	100
4 th Prize	75	75
5 th Prize	50	50

African Amateur Chess Champion Under 2000

	Open Section (US \$)	Women's Section (US
.gt		\$)
1 st Prize	300	300
2 nd Prize	200	200
3 rd Prize	125	125
4 th Prize	75	75
5 th Prize	50	50

African Amateur Chess Champion Under 2300

	Open Section (US \$)	Women's Section (US
a4		\$)
1 st Prize	350	350
2 nd Prize	250	250
3 rd Prize	150	150
4 th Prize	100	100
5 th Prize	50	50

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7. TOURNAMENT REGULATIONS

1) GENERAL PROVISIONS The platform to be used for the competition will be Tornelo (https://tornelo.com/)

- 2) The "playing venue" is defined as the "playing area", and toilets or restrooms. The playing area is defined as the room where the player plays his/her moves
- 3) No one except the player is allowed to be in the playing area without the permission of the Arbiter.
- 4) The time control will be $15 \min + 5 \sec per move$
- 5) The default losing time is 10 min

2. Tie-Breaks

In case of tie, the following tie-breaks will be applied in the same order as below:

- a) Buchholz Cut 1 (The sum of the scores of each of the opponents of a player reduced by the lowest score of the opponent)
- b) Buchholz (The sum of the scores of each of the opponents of a player)
- c) Direct encounter (If all the tied players have met each other, the sum of points from these encounters is used)
- d) Sonneborn-Berger (The sum of the scores of the opponents a player has defeated and half the scores of the players with whom he has drawn)
- e) The greater number of wins including forfeits
- f) The greater number of wins with Black pieces (Unplayed games shall be counted as played with White)

3. TECHNICAL ISSUES

- a. ACC shall nominate all the arbiters.
- b. The technical Meetings shall be held one day before the beginning of each division via Zoom video conferences.
- c. Each federation should nominate a captain who is obliged to attend the relevant Technical Meeting.
- d. The technical notice describing the mode of communication between the players, the Chief Arbiter and Tornelo technical support as well as other technical issues may be developed by Tornelo in consultation with ACC and amended to these Regulations as Annex III if necessary.
- e. In order to organize a professional video streaming (including TV broadcast), any team is encouraged to have all the players together in the Zoom video conference
- f. Commentators" team shall be connected to broadcasting streaming.

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Deputy: Omer Diab (+249 91 230 54 55)

Treasurer: Wilfried Ntamatungiro (+257 79 81 97 09)





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4. FAIR-PLAY MEASURES

- a. The fair-play measures are based on resources of Tornelo.com and follow FIDE"s fair-play guidelines.ACC in consultation with Tornelo establishes a fair-play panel (hereinafter referred to as FPP). The FPP consists of the Chief Arbiter and the following fair- play experts: FIDE Fair-Play Commission members, the fair-play experts of Tornelo, computer scientists & statisticians, chess grandmasters.
- b. FPP works to ensure fair results for each game. FPP may apply any measures that it considers necessary and sufficient in order to ensure fair-play conditions during the tournament.
- c. Based upon the results of the anti-cheating algorithm and/or other evidence deemed sufficient by the FPP to establish a cheating incident, FPP has the right to disqualify any player for a suspected fair-play violation during the course or after conclusion of the tournament.
- d. FPP may additionally take one or several of the following decisions towards the disqualified player:
- The disqualified player may be declared lost in one or several games he/she played in the current or/and previous rounds.
 - e. Neither FIDE, nor Tornelo claims that the determination of a suspected fairplay violation is proof of actual cheating or an admission of guilt of by the disqualified player. Such a determination shall not affect the ordinary status of the player for over-the-board competitions within the jurisdiction of FIDE or its members, unless the FPP decides in the case of a clear or gross violation, or repeated violations, to refer the matter to the FIDE Ethics and Disciplinary Commission which may exclude the player from all official chess participation for a period up to 15 years.
 - f. By entering into the tournament each player accepts the above-mentioned Fair-Play measures as a condition of entry in a voluntary sports event and agrees that his/her participation takes place subject to these Fair-Play measures.

5. CONNECTION ISSUES

- 1) It is the player"s responsibility to be connected to the playing zone. This includes providing a stable internet connection and a working playing device.
- 2) The player may maintain his/her connection via a mobile device, only with the prior permission of the Arbiter.

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The player shall follow the instructions given by the arbiter or

- 3) The player shall follow the instructions given by the arbiter concerning his/her presence in the playing zone.
- 4) A player who loses his internet connection 3 times in the same game shall lose the game, unless the arbiter decides otherwise. During a game, if a player disconnects from the playing zone, his/her clock shall continue running.
- 5) If the player can reconnect to the game before 2 min elapses, he/she shall continue playing with the thinking time remaining on his/her clock. The arbiter shall decide whether further sanctions are appropriate.
- 6) If the player cannot reconnect to the game before 2 min, then that player shall lose the game.
- 7) During a disconnection both players must not leave their places without the permission of the Arbiter.
- 8) if the connection issue comes from Tornelo server, the Chief Arbiter, in consultation with the FPP experts appointed by ACC, is entitled to take any decision including but not limited to:
 - to resume the game from the position immediately before the disconnection;
 - to restart the game from the initial position with the same time limit;
 - to restart the game from the initial position with a shortened time control;
 - to restart the game from the initial position with only two possible results, e.g., white wins or draw (Black wins = draw).

6. PLAYERS' CONDUCT

- 1) The players shall take no action that will bring the game of chess into disrepute including the way that a player behaves in front of the cameras.
- 2) Each player shall connect to the playing zone with an authorized device, to access their games.
- 3) Each player shall use his/her personal account when playing competition games on the playing zone.
- 4) Players must wear appropriate clothing when visible on camera and follow the dress code of the competition, if any.
- 5) During a game a player may leave the playing area or the playing venue only with the permission of the arbiter.
- 6) During play the players are forbidden from using any electronic device, notes, sources of information or advice, or to analyze any game on another chessboard.
- 7) Players are not allowed to have headphones in or over their ears during play.
- 8) During a game, a player is forbidden from having in the playing venue any electronic device which is not specifically approved by the arbiter.
- 9) If it becomes evident that a player has a forbidden device in the playing venue, the player shall lose the game. The opponent shall win.
- 10) The arbiter may require the player to show his/her clothes, bags, contents of **President:** Tshepiso Lopang (+267 71 641 666)

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drawers/cupboards, or other items. A player so body, including ears, may also be inspected. These inspections will be by camera. Where the player body is searched, other than just the ears, then it must be done in private by a person of the same gender. This search must not be recorded.

- 11) Smoking, including e-cigarettes, is not permitted when visible on camera.
- 12) It is forbidden to distract or annoy the opponent in any manner whatsoever. This includes unreasonable claims, unreasonable offers of a draw, sending inappropriate messages or the introduction of a source of noise into the playing area.
- 13) Players who have finished their games shall be considered to be spectators and must mute their microphones, switch off their cameras and stop screen sharing.
- 14) A player shall have the right to request from the arbiter an explanation of particular points in the FIDE Online Chess Regulations.
- 15) A player may appeal against the decision of the arbiter. This includes appeals against the result of a game, even if the result was set by the playing zone and approved by the arbiter.
- 16) Players may observe other games from their current competition, provided they respect instructions on allowed behavior during a game and only display the current position, time and/or result. Players are forbidden from accessing any kind of game analysis during play.

7. PLAYING DEVICE

- 1. The playing device shall be a computer equipped with a good resolution camera and an integrated microphone.
- 2. During a game the player shall play with a single screen and share it with the Arbiter, unless specified otherwise in the competition regulations.
- 3. During a playing session, the arbiter shall have access upon request to the open applications on the player"s device.
- 4. No application other than the one used to play, and a Video Conferencing System must be open on the player"s computer during the session, unless allowed by the arbiter.

8. VIDEO CONFERENCING SYSTEM

- 1. The Video conferencing to be used will be Zoom (https://zoom.us/)
- 2. Each player is required to connect to Zoom at a time specified by the arbiter and remain connected during the entire session.
- 3. If a player disconnects from Zoom, but is still connected to the playing zone, then the player is forbidden from moving a piece on the chess board, until he reconnects to the Zoom.





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9. CAMERAS AND MICROPHONES

- 1. The player shall use a webcam that shows his/her complete face during the game. The picture displayed shall not hide the surroundings of the player.
- 2. No virtual background shall be allowed.
- 3. The room lighting must be sufficient to allow broadcasting and movement of a player"s eyes to be monitored by the Arbiter and broadcasting.
- 4. A player"s microphone must always transmit any sounds audible near the player to the Arbiter.

10. APPEALS COMMITTEE

- a. ACC shall appoint the Chairman, the two other members of the Appeals Committee, first and second reserve members, all from different Federations
- b. A member of the Appeals Committee cannot sit in judgement in a dispute involving a player from his/her Federation and shall be substituted by a Reserve.
- c. Appeals committee has the right to make decisions on all disputes, except fairplay issues (Chapter 4).
- d. All appeals and protests shall be submitted in writing to the Appeals Committee not more than 15 minutes after the relevant game, or the particular infringement complained against.
- e. Each Federation issuing a protest may be charged two hundred (200) USD by ACC if the protest is rejected.
- f. The Appeal Committee shall endeavor to make a decision as quickly as possible.
- g. The written decision of the Appeals Committee arising from any dispute in respect of these Regulations shall be final.

8. QUALIFICATION

The 2023 African Online Amateur Chess Championship are a qualification event for the 2024 FIDE World Amateur Chess Championship.





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9. COUNTRIES AFFILIATED TO THE AFRICAN CHESS CONFEDERATION

Algeria, Angola, Botswana, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cameroon, Cape Verde, Central African Republic, Chad, Comoros Islands, Democratic Republic of Congo, Djibouti, Egypt, Equatorial Guinea, Ethiopia, Eritrea, Gabon, Gambia, Ghana, Ivory Coast, Kenya, Lesotho, Liberia, Libya, Madagascar, Malawi, Mali, Mauritania, Mauritius, Morocco, Mozambique, Namibia, Niger, Nigeria, Rwanda, Sao Tome and Principe, Senegal, Seychelles, Sierra Leone, Somalia, South Africa, South Sudan, Sudan, Eswatini, Tanzania, Togo, Tunisia, Uganda, Zambia and Zimbabwe.

Yours Sincerely, Tshepiso Lopang ACC President

p.p Wilfried Ntamatungiro

Tournament Director

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10. Annex I. FIDE Online Chess Regulations https://handbook.fide.com/files/handbook/OnlineChessRegulations.pdf

11. Annex II Registration Forms

Federation name	
Contact Person (Captain)	
E-mail	
Telephone	

Full Name	Section (Open or Women)	Category (U2300, U2000, U1700)	FIDE ID	Rating	Title	Tornelo Username

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