



16thAFRICAN YOUTH CHESS CHAMPIONSHIP ZIMBABWE 2025

Hosted by Zimbabwe Chess Federation

Under the auspices of the African Chess Confederation

6 – 14 December 2025

Cresta Lodge Hotel, Harare

<https://bit.ly/3JGScTv>

REGISTRATION LINK: <https://aycc2025.zcf.org.zw>

1. Invitation	3
2. Participation	3
2.1 Age Group Categories	3
2.2 Criteria	3
2.3 Official Players	3
2.4 Additional Players	3
3. Registration and ACC Tournament Fees	4
4. Tournament Regulations	5
4.1 Format & Time Control	5
4.2 Draw by mutual agreement	5
4.3 Tie-Breaks	5
4.4 Default Time	5
5. Awards	5
6. Qualification	5
7. Titles	6
8. Tournament Schedule	7
9. Arbiters	7
10. Appeals Committee	7
11. Board & Lodging	8
12. ACC Tournament Fees	9
13. Registration Fees	9
14. Accreditation	10
15. Bank Details	10
16. Currency IN USE IN ZIMBABWE	10
17. Travel Arrangements & HEALTH PRECAUTION & WEATHER	10
18. Visas	10
19. Dress Code	11
20. Deadline Date	11
21. Organisers Contact Details	11
22. WhatsApp Communication	12
23. Countries Affiliated To The African Chess Confederation	12

1. INVITATION

1.1 Under the auspices of the African Chess Confederation (ACC), The Zimbabwe Chess Federation has the honour of inviting all African Federations affiliated to the World Chess Federation (FIDE) to participate in the 2025 African Youth Chess Championships. The Championships will be held at the **CRESTA Lodge Hotel**, from the **6th of December 2025** to the **14th of December 2025**.

2. PARTICIPATION

2.1 Age Group Categories

In accordance with FIDE regulations, the following age groups are invited in the **Open and Girls** section.

Section	Criteria
Under 8	Players born on or after January 1, 2017
Under 10	Players born on or after January 1, 2015
Under 12	Players born on or after January 1, 2013
Under 14	Players born on or after January 1, 2011
Under 16	Players born on or after January 1, 2009
Under 18	Players born on or after January 1, 2007

2.2 Criteria

In accordance with FIDE regulations, the 2025 African Youth Chess Championships are open to **all players from Federations within the African Continent which are affiliated to the World Chess Federation (FIDE)**.

2.3 Official Players

The official player status shall be granted to the **highest rated under 18 in each ZONE (1 boy and 1 girl)** making it a total of 10 invited players. Fide rating as at 1 September 2025 will be used to determine such players. The official player status shall also be given to the IM, WIM, GM and WGM titleholders of each Federation. **Registered invited official player status falls away should he/she not have registered by 1 November 2025.**

2.4 Additional Players

2.4.1 Federations may enter an unlimited number of players in each age group provided the Federation will be responsible for covering their board and lodging expenses, along with the prescribed Registration Fees and ACC Tournament Fees. All CMs, WCMs, FMs and WFM are invited to participate at their own cost.

2.4.2 The Continental President may allow further additional players, subject to payment of their board and lodging as well as other prescribed fees, such as Registration Fees and ACC Tournament Fees. The organising federation reserves the right to invite additional players to make up an even number of participants in each age group, subject to payment of their board and lodging as well as the prescribed Registration Fees and ACC Tournament Fees.

3. REGISTRATION AND ACC TOURNAMENT FEES

- 3.1 Registration must be completed by no later than 5pm on **1 November 2025**. A copy of passport and a clear ID photo (in JPG/JPEG format) for all participating players and officials must also be sent to the Organisers by the indicated deadline date.
- 3.2 An ACC Tournament Fee of **US\$50.00** is required to be paid for each player.
- 3.3 A Registration Fee of **US\$60.00** each must be paid by all players (official and additional), every accompanying person, all officials, and all other members of delegations, including the Head of Delegation.
- 3.4 The Registration Fee is to be utilised to provide, amongst other things, an accreditation badge and transportation from/to the airport (**Robert Mugabe International Airport**) from/to the official accommodation venue on the official arrival date of 6th of December 2025, as well as on the official departure date of 14th of December 2025. Transfers outside this date will be at the Federation cost. (unless prior approval for other dates is provided in writing)
- 3.5 All registrations will be done through Federations only. Individuals should not attempt to bypass their Federations for registrations

4. TOURNAMENT REGULATIONS

4.1 Format & Time Control

- 4.1.1 All sections in the event will be played in accordance with the latest FIDE Laws of Chess (January 2023).
- 4.1.2 The format of the event will be a nine (9) round Individual Swiss.
- 4.1.3 The Time Control will be 90 minutes per player with an increment of 30 seconds increment per move starting from move one (90/90 + 30s/m).

4.2 Draw by mutual agreement

- 4.2.1 Players cannot draw a game by mutual agreement before black's 30th move. A claim for a draw before black's 30th move is permitted only in case of threefold repetition (see Article 9.2 of the FIDE Laws of Chess) or stalemate.

4.3 Tie-Breaks

- 4.3.1 In the event there is a tie for any position (including first place), the tie-break between the players with the same game points will be broken in the following order:
 - 4.3.1.1 Direct Encounter
 - 4.3.1.2 Buchholz Cut-1
 - 4.3.1.3 Buchholz
 - 4.3.1.4 Sonneborn-Berger
 - 4.3.1.5 Average rating of opponents

4.4 Default Time

- 4.4.1 There will be a default time of thirty (30) minutes for all rounds.

5. AWARDS

- 5.1.1 The players taking the first three places in each age group category will be awarded Trophy + Gold medal, silver, and bronze medals, respectively.

6. QUALIFICATION

- 6.1.1 The winners of each age group category in both the Open and Girls Sections will be awarded personal rights to participate in the 2026 World Youth Chess Championships and the 2026 World Cadets Chess Championships.

7. TITLES

7.1 Direct titles will be awarded according to the FIDE handbook. This can be found at <https://handbook.fide.com/chapter/B01DirectTitles2024>. For ease of reference, this is summarised in the table below. Where there is a discrepancy, the FIDE handbook will take precedence. Titles awarded after a minimum rating has been achieved.

7.2 The winners in each age group category will also be awarded conditional FIDE titles as follows (in the event of combined age groups, the titles will still be awarded to the winners of the age groups provided that the player scores at least 50% and there are at least five players from 3 different federations per age group):

Section	Position	Title
U18 Open & Girls	Gold	IM/WIM Title
	Silver & Bronze	FM/WFM Title
<i>If Silver and/or Bronze also share first place, both will be awarded IM/WIM norms in addition to the FM/WFM title(s).</i>		
U16 Open & Girls	Gold	FM/WFM Title and IM/WIM Norm
	Silver & Bronze	CM/WCM Title
<i>If Silver and/or Bronze also share first place, both will be awarded the FM/WFM title(s). However, the IM/WIM norm is only awarded to Gold</i>		
U14 + U12 Open & Girls	Gold	FM/WFM Title
	Silver & Bronze	CM/WCM Title
U10 + U8 Open & Girls	Gold, Silver & Bronze	CM/WCM Title

7.3 NB! In the event of Gold, Silver or Bronze already having the above titles, the titles will fall away (they do not shift down to lower places). Thus, only Gold, Silver and Bronze may and will qualify for Titles and/or Norms.

7.4 The order of the players in the ranking is determined according to the number of points obtained. If at the end of the tournament two or more players are tied for the first place or other places, then a tie break will come into effect.

8. TOURNAMENT SCHEDULE

- 8.1 The tournament schedule is as indicated below. The schedule may however be changed should need arise. Any changes to the schedule will be communicated during the Technical Meeting before the start of the first round.
- 8.2 On the rest day there will be a 9 round Swiss blitz tournament in the morning open to all players. The blitz tournament registration will be **US\$10** per person and registration will be open until 5pm on 9 December 2025. The winners in both Open and Girls section in position 1-3 will be awarded as follows: the champion will receive a shield together with a gold medal, while the runners-up will receive silver and bronze medals, respectively. In addition to these overall prizes, the same awards will also be presented for each age category winners in position 1-3.
- 8.3 On the rest day tour options will be provide at an additional cost in the afternoon for all accredited members to experience hospitality of Zimbabwe.

Date	Activity	Time
Saturday – 6 December	Arrival Technical Meeting	19:00
Sunday – 7 December	Opening Ceremony	14:00
	Round 1	15:00
Monday – 8 December	Round 2	09:00
	Round 3	15:00
Tuesday – 9 December	Round 4	09:00
	Round 5	15:00
Wednesday – 10 December	REST & BLITZ	09:00
Thursday – 11 December	Round 6	09:00
	Round 7	15:00
Friday – 12 December	Round 8	15:00
Saturday – 13 December	Round 9	09:00
	Closing Ceremony	15:00
Sunday – 14 December	Departure	

9. ARBITERS

- 9.1 The Chief Arbiter will be appointed by the African Chess Confederation President.
- 9.2 Other members of the Arbitration Team will be appointed by African Chess Confederation President in consultation with the Local Organising Committee.

10. APPEALS COMMITTEE

- 10.1 The Appeals Committee will consist of 3 members and 2 reserves.

- 10.2 The Chairman of the Appeals Committee will be appointed by the African Chess Confederation President whilst the other 2 members and 2 reserves will be selected from amongst the participating Federation officials.
- 10.3 Any protest regarding a decision taken by the Chief Arbiter or any of his assistants must be submitted in writing to the Chairman of the Appeals Committee within 30 minutes after the completion of the respective game.
- 10.4 A written protest must be accompanied with the sum of **US \$100** as a deposit from the signatory. The deposit must be handed to the Chairman of the Appeals Committee. Should the appeal be successful, the deposit shall be returned immediately. However, should the appeal be found to be baseless by the Appeals Committee, the deposit will be forfeited to the Zimbabwe Chess Federation.

11. BOARD & LODGING

- 11.1 All participants are obliged to lodge at the official accommodation (except for those who are members of the **Zimbabwe Chess Federation** as at date of invitation distribution). There is more than one official accommodation property.
- 11.2 Free board and lodging shall be provided for the official players. **See clause 2.3**
- 11.3 Additional players, officials, and accompanying persons from participating federations will be accommodated at the rates per person outlined in the table below. The rates are inclusive of Zimbabwe Taxes and meals (breakfast, lunch, and dinner). Please note that the number of single rooms is limited.

Hotel Name	Suites four sharing (USD)	Triple sharing rooms (USD)	Double Rooms (USD)	Single rooms (USD)
Cresta Jameson	90	95	110	140
Cresta Oasis	90	95	110	140
Cresta Lodge	-	-	110	140

- 11.4 All payments related to board and lodging must be settled by the **15th of November 2025**, deadline date. A proof of payment must be sent by 5pm on the 15th of November 2025.
- 11.5 Players, officials and accompanying persons who arrive before **6th of December 2025** or depart after **14th of December 2025** must inform the organiser timeously. All costs related to prior check in date and after check out date will be at the bearer/Federation cost.
- 11.6 The first meal to be served will be Dinner on the 6th of December 2025 and the last meal will be breakfast on the 14th of December 2025.
- 11.7 All payments must be made to the account of the **Zimbabwean Chess Federation** as indicated in **Clause 14. Banking Details** which is in the currency of United States dollars.

11.8 If payments are not received before the mentioned deadline, players will not be allowed to participate in the tournament. Hotel accommodation preferences will be assigned on a first come basis, based on the order of payments credited to the Zimbabwe Chess Federation account. **All damages to the hotel and tournament property will be billed to the member Federation of the official that would have caused the damage.**

12. ACC TOURNAMENT FEES

12.1 In compliance with ACC Regulations, both official players and additional players shall be required to pay ACC Tournament Fees of **US \$50**

12.2 .ACC Tournament Fees must be paid into the account of the Zimbabwean Chess Confederation, as indicated hereunder, by **15th of November 2025. Proof of payment to be provided.**

13. REGISTRATION FEES

13.1 Bank: Stanbic Bank Zimbabwe

13.2 Bank Account Name: Zimbabwe Chess Federation

13.3 Account No: 9140001314415

13.4 Branch Code: 003104

13.5 SWIFT Code: SBICZWHX

13.6 IBAN: SBICZWHXXXX

13.7 The Registration Fee for each participating player is **USD \$60**. This must be paid into the account of the Zimbabwean Chess Federation before **15 November 2025**.

13.8 The Registration Fee for each official and each accompanying person will be **USD \$60**

13.9 Only Federations can register players. Registrations are completed online, they must include the surname/s, first name/s, FIDE ID number, FIDE rating, FIDE title (If any), and passport number of each player. Kindly refer to the registration link <https://aycc2025.zcf.org.zw>

13.10 No refunds will be made for any player, official or accompanying person who fails to make it to the Tournament after paying the Registration Fees and/or ACC Tournament Fees.

13.11 All registered players, officials and accompanying persons are entitled to Free Transfer (to and from) Robert Mugabe International Airport to the accommodation venue by protocols assigned at the airport and free transport to playing venue and hosting hotel.

13.12 All participants are requested to register early to help ease preparations.

13.13 Invoices will be issued to Federations from the Zimbabwe Chess Federation Admin officer through this email Admin@zcf.org.zw

14. ACCREDITATION

14.1 Each federation shall complete the registration link for all its Players, Officials and Accompanying persons by **1 November 2025**

15. BANK DETAILS

15.1 Registration Fees and Accommodation payments shall be paid to the account of Zimbabwe Chess Federation as listed below, and proof of payment should be emailed to:
aycc2025@zcf.org.zw

15.2 Bank:	Stanbic Bank Zimbabwe
15.3 Bank Account Name:	Zimbabwe Chess Federation
15.4 Account No:	9140001314415
15.5 Branch Code:	003104
15.6 SWIFT Code:	SBICZWHX
15.7 IBAN:	SBICZWHXXXX

PLEASE NOTE THAT THERE WILL BE NO REFUNDS FOR PLAYERS WHO DO NOT PARTICIPATE IN THE TOURNAMENT FOR ANY REASON WHATSOEVER

16. CURRENCY IN USE IN ZIMBABWE

16.1 **USD**

17. TRAVEL ARRANGEMENTS & HEALTH PRECAUTION & WEATHER

17.1 The organisers will meet participants and accompanying persons at the Robert Mugabe International Airport provided that full itinerary for each participant and their accompanying persons are communicated to the organiser in advance.

17.2 A yellow fever vaccination certificate is a medical requirement for entering Zimbabwe if you're travelling from a country with yellow fever transmission. Bottled water will be served throughout the tournament.

17.3 Zimbabwe normally experiences rainfalls in December of every year with sunny conditions.

18. VISAS

18.1 The Zimbabwean Chess Federation will avail official invitation letters to participants that need copies for the processing of their Visas upon request.

19. DRESS CODE

19.1 All players are required to be decently dressed and therefore Slippers, Sunglasses, Sports Caps and revealing attire are not permitted.

20. DEADLINE DATE

20.1 Entry forms must be completed by the respective Federations not later than **1 November 2025** this date is the registration deadline.

20.2 Late registration attracts a penalty charge of **USD\$500** per person.

20.3 All changes and late registration shall be accepted until **15 November 2025** (late registration Deadline). Thereafter the host federation will reserve the rights to either accept or reject any changes. Late registration fees will still apply if they are accepted.

21. ORGANISERS CONTACT DETAILS

CONVENER/ORGANIZER

TODD MAPINGIRE

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ACC REPRESENTATIVE

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ZCF OFFICER ADMIN

MS NOMSA GAIHAI

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22. WHATSAPP COMMUNICATION

22.1 Participants are encouraged to join the tournament WhatsApp Group by clicking on the link:
[JOIN HERE](#)

22.2 This will be used for communication before and during the event.

23. COUNTRIES AFFILIATED TO THE AFRICAN CHESS CONFEDERATION

23.1 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.

We look forward to welcoming you to Zimbabwe.

For and on behalf of Zimbabwe Chess Federation



Todd Chikafu Mapingire
PRESIDENT



CRESTA
Lodge – Harare &
Sango Conference Centre

