

RKCT

RKCT 2025

AICF EVENT CODE: 423953/MH(R)/2025



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**“LATE RAMESH VINAYAKRAO KOTWAL MEMORIAL”
ALL INDIA OPEN FIDE RATING RAPID CHESS TOURNAMENT 2025**

AICF EVENT CODE: 423953/MH(R)/2025

TOTAL PRIZE MONEY WORTH ₹50,000/-

SPECIAL PRIZES FOR UNDER 13 PLAYERS AND WOMAN PLAYERS



ORGANISED BY: GONDIA DISTRICT CHESS ASSOCIATION UNDER THE AEGIS OF
ALL INDIA CHESS FEDERATION, MCA MAHARASHTRA

12TH & 13TH JULY 2025

[VINAYAKRAO KOTWAL MEMORIAL HALL](#)

[Bhavbhuti Ranga Mandir, Kanhar Toli, Laxmi Nagar, Gondia, Maharashtra 441614, India](#)

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We are eternally thankful to

VIDARBHA SAHITYA SANGHA, GONDIA

**GONDIA DISTRICT CHESS ASSOCIATION (GDCA) for joining hands for this
endeavour.**



SHRI. RAMESH VINAYAKRAO KOTWAL

Shri Ramesh Vinayakrao Kotwal was born on 17th March, 1932, in an affluent family at Gondia. Shri Ramesh Vinayakrao Kotwal was a son of a renowned lawyer father and learned, dynamic teacher mother. After his graduation he was in the teaching profession for a few years, and then he started an independent business of Nabhovani Radio and Services.

During this tenure of entrepreneurship, he was also actively involved in Social Service. He had immense knowledge about law. Countless needy people would approach him for prudent legal advice. He was righteous and intolerant to injustice. Being the vice president of Jana sangha for the Gondia District, he was arrested during Emergency in 1977 and was sent to the political prison for a period of 14 months. It was during this sentence that he was transferred to Nashik and subsequently to Nagpur where he was first introduced to chess and developed a liking for it.

On Returning back he actively started teaching Chess to his family, resulting in a Chess driven atmosphere at home. His daughters Vidula and Archana developed a special interest in the game and went on to participate and win laurels at District level, state level and national level Chess competitions.

One of his daughters, Archana was selected for the prestigious World Under 16 Chess Tournament held at France in 1984 and took pride in representing our country. In 1991, Archana was also awarded the most prestigious award for sports by Maharashtra Government “Shri. Shiv Chhatrapati Award” with various other eminent sportsmen like Sachin Tendulkar. It is due to his Sacrifice and encouragement his daughter could achieve such great strides of success. He provided all-round support to his daughters in spite of financial difficulties involved while pursuing the game.

He had developed a true affection towards chess and he strove hard to ensure that Chess should be played by common man as well. He not only encouraged his daughters but also motivated the children in his locality to play chess. He used to sponsor the children and always tried to have maximum participation. He strove hard to spread the awareness and the development of chess in the new district of Gondia. It was his deep desire that maximum number of chess participants should emerge from a small and less known town of Gondia and play at state and national level so that Gondia makes its mark on national and global level.

On 25th December, 2012 he breathed his last and left for his heavenly abode.

Considering his love and affection for chess during his life time, in 2015 Dr. Nitin Chandrashekhar Kotwal has taken initiative and started in his memorial an All-India Open FIDE rating Chess tournament.

A WORD FROM HIS DAUGHTERS

VIDULA TAMHANE

During the period when emergency was declared in India, baba was sent to jail as a political prisoner. When he returned, he brought back with him the game of chess and that is how it all started. I don't remember how we learned it all but we used to watch him play and picked up bits and pieces along the way. Baba & Aai used to play 1 game every day and we began interjecting our own



ideas as we learned. The first tournament Archana played, she must be no older than 12 or 13, back then I preferred playing at home and had not started competing in tournaments. The year Archana entered her 12th grade, she decided that she would not be participating in tournaments to focus on her studies. Coincidentally, the National B women's tournament was taking place in Nagpur that year. There were to 2 spots for entries from the Vidarbha region and so they encouraged me to compete. I secured first rank in that tournament and got my first opportunity to play at a national level! After that victory I participated in all upcoming tournaments with Archana but I would often find the preparation from chess quite tiring and hence could not progress much. However, chess gave me an opportunity to travel, to make countless friends and help me build my concentration that in turn helped my studies. Everything that I achieved in chess was only possible because of baba's support and encouragement. Which is why I believe he holds the biggest part of all my success. He always stood firmly by us and time and again gave us important lessons on life that guide us even today.

RKCT is our humble tribute to him.



A WORD FROM HIS DAUGHTERS

ARCHANA BENDRE

Shri. Ramesh Kotwal was not just my father but also my first chess coach who introduced me to the world of chess. From the young age, he instilled in me a love for the game and imparted valuable lessons both on and off the chessboard. His passion for chess was contagious, and under his guidance, I not only honed my skills but also developed a deep appreciation for strategy, perseverance, and sportsmanship. Beyond the game, my father was an integral pillar in my life, providing unwavering support and encouragement in all my endeavours. His belief in me, even during the most challenging times, gave me the strength to pursue my dreams and achieve success. I am forever grateful to him for nurturing my talent and helping me reach the pinnacle of success in chess. His guidance paved the way for me to represent our country at the international level, including competing in tournaments such as the World Under 16 Chess Tournament in Paris. Additionally, his unwavering support played a crucial role in my receiving the prestigious Shri Shiv Chhatrapati Award from the Maharashtra Government—an honour I proudly share with other eminent sports personalities like Sachin Tendulkar. Shri. Ramesh Kotwal's legacy extends far beyond the chessboard; he was a source of inspiration, guidance, and unconditional love, shaping me into the person I am today. His memory continues to fuel my passion for chess and serves as a constant reminder of the values he instilled in me.



RKCT is our humble tribute to him.



ABOUT RKCT 2025

“Late Shri Ramesh Vinayakrao Kotwal Memorial All India Open FIDE RATING RAPID CHESS TOURNAMENT” would be hosting the 9th Edition this year. The tournament has been conducted uninterrupted for a period of 5 years from 2015 to 2019. Every year this tournament receives an overwhelming response. For the years 2020 & 2021 the Tournament could not be conducted due to COVID. However, in 2022 we conducted a state level selection meet. Again, from the year 2023 the tournament is being conducted with new zeal and we look forward to wonderful response from young dynamic players who inspire us.

DATE: 12th July (Saturday) 2024 & 13th July (Sunday) 2025

VENUE: [Vinayakrao Kotwal Memorial Hall Bhavbhuti Ranga Mandir, Kanhar Toli, Laxmi Nagar, Gondia, Maharashtra 441614, India](#)

(Click on the above Venue link for direction)

FORMAT: Rapid Chess Tournament with 9 rounds

ENTRY FEES: ₹ 250/- per entry

REGISTRATION:

- Please note that AICF registration & AICF ID + FIDE ID is mandatory for all players.
- MCA registration is mandatory for all players from Maharashtra only.
- Players under 20 years of age should keep a copy of Birth Certificate ready for upload while registration
- Registration closes one day before the event – 11th July 2025
- Please avoid “on the spot” registration as multiple pre-registrations are needed prior to the main entry submission.

[CLICK HERE TO REGISTER FOR RKCT 2025](#)

Please note: If any information filled in the registration form is found to be incorrect, the candidate is liable to be disqualified from the tournament. The Management & the Organizers hold the right to deny or accept any particular entry for the tournament.

TOURNAMENT TIMELINE

DAY 1:

12TH JULY 2025 - SATURDAY

Inauguration (11 AM onwards)

Round 1 starts after inauguration

Up to Round 4 - Round 5 (as time permits)

DAY 2:

13TH JULY 2025 - SUNDAY

Complete remaining of the 9 rounds

Prize Distribution (4 PM)

PRIZE MONEY

TOTAL PRIZE MONEY WORTH ₹50,000/-

SPECIAL PRIZES FOR UNDER 13 PLAYERS AND WOMAN PLAYERS

PRIZES }	1st	2nd	3rd	4th	5th
	21,000/-	11,000/-	5,000/-	3,000/-	1,000/-
	6th	7th	8th	9th	10th
	1,000/-	1,000/-	1,000/-	1,000/-	1,000/-

Extra Prizes -

- Best Veteran Player - 1,000/-
- Best Unrated Player - 1,000/-
- Best Women Player - 1,000/-
- Best GONDIA PLAYERS - 1,000/-
- Medal for U-7, U-9, U-11, U-13

ALL PLAYERS WILL GET CERTIFICATE OF PARTICIPATION POST THE PRIZE DISTRIBUTION CEREMONY

TOURNAMENT FORMAT

- Total 9 rounds to be played
- 15 mins for game
- 10 second increments per move from move 1

ARBITERS

CHIEF ARBITER

IA Shri. Pravin Thakre: 92263-75077

DEPUTY CHIEF ARBITER

FA Shri. Sagar Sakhare: 78757-12182

**SNA Shri. Sham Agarwal (86579 81655) , Shri Sudhanshu Gaidhani (86053 31314),
Shri. D B Chaure(80805 93446)**

LODGING PROVISION

- **FREE LODGING to limited participants (first come - first serve basis)**
at venue of Bhavbhuti Rang Mandir Hall, Opp. Sarswati Girls High School, Poona Toli, Gondia
(M.S.) from 11th July evening to 13th July evening.
- Assistance for booking an accommodation at selected venues.
- Premises to be vacated by 13th July evening
- For Lodging Contact: (first come - first serve basis)

Shri. Mukesh Barai: 94228 34766

Shri. Prabhakar Palandurkar: 86686 88114

Shri. Sudhanshu Gaidhane: 86053 31314

ORGANISING COMMITTEE

1. Chief patron Shri. Parinay Fuke – President, Maharashtra Chess Association
2. Dr. Nitin Kotwal – President, Gondia District Chess Association
3. Mrs. Shikha Piplewar – Vice President, Gondia District Chess Association
4. Shri Mukesh Barai – Secretary, Gondia District Chess Association
5. Shri. Bhushan Shriwas
6. Shri. Sunil Dhoté
7. Shri. Rajendra Ramani
8. Shri. Dilip Jain
9. Smt. Madhury Nasre
10. Shri. Dines Dadriwal
11. Shri. Pushpak Jasani
12. Shri. Santos Sharma
13. Shri. Kishor Upadhyay
14. Shri. Pankaj Agrawal
15. Shri. Prabhakar Palandurkar
16. Shri. Parth Barai
17. Shri. Ajay Paliwal
18. Prof. R D Rajput
19. Dr. Amit Jaiswal
20. Shri. Raju Limaye
21. Shri. Niyaz Sheikh

CONTACT US

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