



39TH NATIONAL UNDER-9 OPEN & GIRLS CHESS CHAMPIONSHIPS–2026

**AICF Event Code: Open: 478114/JH/2026
Girls: 478115/JH/2026**

Date: 6th to 12th July, 2026

Organised by

ALL JHARKHAND CHESS ASSOCIATION

in association with

RANCHI DISTRICT CHESS ASSOCIATION

Under the aegis of

ALL INDIA CHESS FEDERATION

Supported by

Ministry of Youth Affairs & Sports, Government of India

Venue Partner

Sarala Birla University, Ranchi

Total Prize Fund: Rs. 5,00,000/-

1. Tournament Schedule:

Particulars	Date	Time
Arrival	5 th July 2026	10:00 hrs.
Inauguration	6 th July 2026	14:00 hrs.
Technical Meeting	6 th July 2026	15:00 hrs.
Round – 1	6 th July 2026	15:30 hrs.
Round – 2	7 th July 2026	09:30 hrs.
Round – 3	7 th July 2026	15:30 hrs.
Round – 4	8 th July 2026	09:30 hrs.
Round – 5	8 th July 2026	15:30 hrs.
Round – 6	9 th July 2026	09:30 hrs.
Round – 7	10 th July 2026	09:30 hrs.
Round – 8	10 th July 2026	15:30 hrs.
Round – 9	11 th July 2026	09:30 hrs.
Round – 10	11 th July 2026	15:30 hrs.
Round – 11	12 th July 2026	09:30 hrs.
Prize Distribution	12 th July 2026	15:00 hrs.
Departure	12 th July 2026	17:00 hrs.

2. Age Limit: Players should be born on or after 1.1.2017

3. Age Proof: Each participant must produce a valid certificate to prove his /her age. **Certificates from School will not be accepted.** Certificates should preferably be from the Panchayat, Municipality or Corporation obtained soon after birth. Players without date of birth certificates will not be allowed to participate.

The date of birth certificates registered within one year from the date of birth of the player alone will be recognized and allowed to participate. No state association shall recommend any player who doesn't come under the above criteria.

If any doubt arises about the claimed age of a player, the Tournament Committee has the right to refer the player during the championship for a due evaluation of age by competent medical experts. A player if declared over-age by such experts shall not continue in the championship and the matter shall be reported to AICF. Protest about the age of players may be made to the Chief Arbiter in writing along with a fee of Rs.5000/- per player. This will not be refunded. No protest about over age of a player will be entertained after second round of the championship.

Only the Coach or Manager deputed by the participating State Chess Association can lodge such protests. The Tournament Committee has the right to decide the day, time and place for such medical evaluation of age. AICF / Organizers will have the right to refer any player to the medical evaluation of age at any time during the Championship. Players refusing to take the test as decided by the Tournament Committee shall be deemed to have failed the test and shall be disqualified from the Championship.

4. Prizes:

The cash prizes will be awarded to 20 players in each category amounting to Rs.5,00,000/- as given below:

Prizes	Open	Girls
1	50,000	50,000
2	36,000	36,000
3	30,000	30,000
4	24,000	24,000
5	20,000	20,000
6	14,000	14,000
7	12,000	12,000
8	10,000	10,000
9	8,000	8,000
10	6,000	6,000
11 to 20	4,000	4,000

5. Eligibility: Subject to age limit following players can participate:

- Two players in each category from every affiliated State Association of AICF. If any Association fails to send its quota, the vacancies so caused will not be filled.
- The top four players from 2025 National Under-9 Open & Girls Chess Championships are eligible to participate as seeded players in their respective categories subject to age stipulation.
- The top two players from 2025 National U-7 Open and Girls Championships are eligible to participate as seeded players in their respective categories.
- World Champion in any over the board category for the year 2025 subject to age stipulation.
- World No.2 & 3 Under-8 and Under-10 categories for the year 2025 subject to age stipulation.
- Top three rankers in the Asian Under-10 Championships-2025, subject to age stipulation.
- Asian Under-8 Champion in 2025.
- Current National over the board Champion in any higher category subject to age stipulation.
- Any other player who remits the prescribed special entry fee of Rs.6,250/-. Such entries should come through the respective affiliated State Association.
- Host All Jharkhand Chess Association is entitled to fill two additional players in each category.
- The AICF Secretary has a discretionary seat in each category in this Championship.
- Two players in each category approved by AICF will be permitted from areas where no State Association exists.

- (m) The winner and runner up of 2025 National Under-9 Girls Championship are eligible to play in Open section, subject to age stipulation.
- (n) The winner of 2025 National Under-7 Girls Championship is eligible to play in Open section.
- (o) If the number of participants at the start of the championship is an odd number in a category, the host association can add one entry to make it even.
- (p) Only Indian Nationals are eligible to participate in the championships.
- (s) In addition to the above, three additional entries from the state which won the Gold, two entries from the State which won the Silver and one additional entry from the State which won the Bronze in the National Under-9 Open & Girls Chess Championships 2025 shall be accepted.

Open: Odisha (Gold) 3, Karnataka (Silver) 2 & Telangana (Bronze) 1.

Girls: Maharashtra (Gold) & (Bronze) 4 and Karnataka (Silver) 2.

And these entries from the State Associations shall be given only from the rank list of their respective State Championships with proof and not to anybody else.

- 6. Dress Code:** As per AICF regulations on dress code for players participating in all the National championships, all State Associations should send their players including special / donor entry players with proper uniform (As regards special /donor entry players, the respective state chess associations may collect the cost of the uniform from the players). Players should at least wear uniform T Shirts / formal shirts (same color and brand with the name of the State printed prominently at the back and the state chess emblem in the front left side). The name / logo of the sponsors can be permitted. Girls / Women have also to be given appropriate uniform. The above rule will also be applicable to Special units. Players without proper uniform will not be permitted to take part in the championship. This will be strictly enforced.
- 7. Entries/Entry Fee:** All entries including special entries should come through the concerned State Association. The entry form should be sent together with attested copy of original date of birth certificate (Birth Certificates from Panchayat / Municipality / Corporation only accepted)

Entry Fee Structure:

Ordinary entry: Rs.1250/- (Rupees one thousand two hundred and fifty only)

Special Entry: Rs. 6250/- (Rupees six thousand two hundred and fifty only)

There will be a 50% concession in entry fee for participants from North Eastern states and Andaman & Nicobar Islands.

Entry fee will be accepted strictly online through: <https://prs.aicf.in/entry>.

For clarification and guidance regarding submission of entries, please contact:
aicfnationalentries@gmail.com

- 8. Late fee:** Pleasenote that the entry fee structureis valid till 22nd June 2026. Thereafter a late fee of Rs.250/- per player will be levied. No entry will be entertained after 29th June 2026 (up to 17:00 hrs).

- 9. System of Play:** The Championship will be played under FIDE's Laws of Chess and the Swiss system. Totally, eleven rounds shall be played.

Players from the same state shall not be paired against each other in the last round. However, they may be paired if there is no compatible opponent with the same point group or score group with a maximum difference of 1 point. It is applicable only for the top 50% score of the penultimate round.

- 10. Default Time:** Default time for arriving to the chessboard is 15 minutes.
- 11. Time Control:** The rate of play shall be 90 minutes with an increment of 30 seconds per move from move number one.
- 12. Tie Break:** Following is the order of tie-breaks:
- (a) Buchholz Cut1
 - (b) Buchholz
 - (c) Sonneborn Berger
 - (d) Direct encounter
 - (e) The greater number of wins (forfeit included)
 - (f) The greater number of wins by black

In case of tie, cash prizes will not be shared.

- 13. Draw Agreement:** Players shall not agree for a draw without the consent of the arbiter, before each player makes 30 moves.
- 14. Protest:** Protest, if any, against the decision of the Chief Arbiter shall be made in writing with a protest fee of Rs.3000/- within 30 minutes of the completion of the concerned game. The protest fee will be refunded if the appeal is up held.
- 15. Appeals Committee:** Before the commencement of the tournament, a five member appeals committee shall be formed by the AICF/organizers. All the members and reserves shall be from different states. No member of the Committee can vote on a dispute in which a player from his own State is involved and, in such case(s), the reserve member(s) shall take his place in the committee.
- 16. Tournament Committee:** The organizers will form a tournament committee for the smooth conduct of the National Championship.
- 17. Interpretation:** For interpretation of the rule(s) and deciding any point not covered by the above rules of the tournament, the decision of the Tournament Committee shall be final and binding on all. The Tournament Committee has every right to make any addition or amendment to these rules, without notice. However, such changes/ or inclusion will be subject to AICF clearance. Such changes will, however, be displayed in the tournament hall.
- 18. Withdrawal:** The entry fee once paid will not be refunded if the withdrawal is done after the publication of 1st round pairing. If any player withdraws from the last two rounds in any National Championship on medical grounds, he/she should undergo treatment by a doctor recommended and supervised by the tournament committee.

- 19. Disqualification:** No participant will leave the venue before the Prize Distribution function without the permission of the Chief Arbiter. The participants disregarding this rule will be suspended for one year.
- 20. Registration of Players with AICF:** All participants in the National Championship shall be registered with AICF for the year 2026-2027 before the registration on AICF Online portal for national entries. Online AICF registration can be done at the website **www.aicf.in/players**
- 21. Arrears:** All arrears of affiliation fee/tournament fee including those of current year must be cleared by the affiliated Association at the time of submitting the entries; otherwise, the entries are liable to be rejected.
- 22. Fair Play Regulations:** All FIDE and AICF Fair Play Regulations are applicable.
- 23. Electronic Devices:** All electronic items including wrist watches (all type of watches) are not allowed in the tournament hall. Players in possession of such items during the game will be declared lost.
- 24. Accommodation:** Free dormitory accommodation will be provided to all the selected and seeded players and one Manager nominated from each state. All state selected players & manager have to inform regarding free accommodation to the organizer till 30th June 2026 through their state association. No request will be entertained after 30th June 2026.
- All state associations are requested to send the list of official players with manager to nrbranchi@gmail.com for free accommodation.
- For special entries and accompanying persons, they will have to make their own arrangement for stay.
- However, organiser is providing lodging / boarding / pick & drop facility on payment as per given below.**
- 25. Boarding:** A lump sum of Rs.1500/- (Rupees one thousand five hundred only) will be paid by the organizers towards the boarding expenses, only to the affiliated State Association's seeded and selected players who play this championship under normal entry fee.

26. Additional Facilities Charges:

(A) Lodging Charges (for Special Entry player/ accompanying person):

TO BE DECIDED

(B) Boarding Charges (Breakfast, Lunch, Snacks & Dinner) (for player/ manger/ accompanying person):

TO BE DECIDED

(C) Pick & drop facility: Pick & drop facilities from railway station/ airport will be available for all @500/- per person.

All Charges (lodging / boarding / pick & drop) will be accepted strictly online through:
<https://www.jharkhandchess.in/nrb>

For clarification and guidance regarding submission of entries, please contact:
nrbranchi@gmail.com

Under the leadership and Guidance from:

Dr. Pradip Kumar Varma

Hon'ble MP (Rajya Sabha)

President, AJCA & RDCA

Mrs. Richa Sanchita

Executive President, AJCA

ORGANISING COMMITTEE:

- | | | |
|---|---|--|
| • Mr. Manish Kumar (Secretary, AJCA) | - | jharkhandchess@gmail.com |
| • Mr. Navjot Alang (Org. Secretary) | - | 9431386237 |
| • IA Deepak Kumar (Technical) | - | 9934465516 |
| • FA Prabhat Ranan Kumar (Technical) | - | 9431187725 |
| • Mr. Rahul Ranjan (Accommodation) | - | 7707004286 |
| • Mr. Manoj Kumar Singh (Accommodation) | - | 7004569425 |
| • Mr. Subhendu Chakraborty (Food) | - | 9609731191 |
| • Mr. Vikash Mishra (Food) | - | 7004815899 |
| • Mr. Prakash Kumar Jamuar (Transport) | - | 6299521453 |
| • Mr. Mahesh Yadav (Transport) | - | 8825204141 |
| • Mr. Pappu (Transport) | - | 9570155755 |

FOR ASSISTANCE PLEASE CONTACT:

jharkhandchess@gmail.com

NOTE: Accommodation to all selected & seeded players would be provided at Sarala Birla University, Mahilong, Ranchi Jharkhand.

Email (Registration): aicfnationalentries@gmail.com