



76th TAMIL NADU STATE OPEN FIDE RATED CHESS CHAMPIONSHIP-2026

(AICF Event Code :476110/TN(S)/2026) (TNSCA Event No. SO-14/CUD/26-27)

Organized by:

CUDDALORE DISTRICT CHESS ASSOCIATION

On behalf of

TAMILNADU STATE CHESS ASSOCIATION

Date : 22-07-2026 to 26-07-2026

Venue: RANGROOP MAHAL

Muthaiya Nagar, Thirupapuliur, Cuddalore, Tamil Nadu 607002

Total cash prize : Rs.2,00,000/-

1	Rs.50000/- + TROPHY	6	Rs.10000/-	11	Rs.4000/-	16	Rs.1500/-	21	Rs.1500/-
2	Rs.30000/-	7	Rs.10000/-	12	Rs.3000/-	17	Rs.1500/-	22	Rs.1500/-
3	Rs.25000/-	8	Rs.10000/-	13	Rs.3000/-	18	Rs.1500/-	23	Rs.1500/-
4	Rs.15000/-	9	Rs.5000/-	14	Rs.2500/-	19	Rs.1500/-	24	Rs.1500/-
5	Rs.10000/-	10	Rs.5000/-	15	Rs.2500/-	20	Rs.1500/-	25	Rs.1500/-

CATEGORY PRICES

CATEGORY	BOYS	GIRLS
UNDER 7	5 TROPHIES	5 TROPHIES
UNDER 9	5 TROPHIES	5 TROPHIES
UNDER 11	5 TROPHIES	5 TROPHIES
UNDER 13	5 TROPHIES	5 TROPHIES
UNDER 15	5 TROPHIES	5 TROPHIES

CATEGORY PRICES FOR CUDDALORE DISTRICT PLAYERS

CATEGORY	BOYS	GIRLS
UNDER 7	5 TROPHIES	5 TROPHIES
UNDER 9	5 TROPHIES	5 TROPHIES
UNDER 11	5 TROPHIES	5 TROPHIES
UNDER 13	5 TROPHIES	5 TROPHIES
UNDER 15	5 TROPHIES	5 TROPHIES

SPECIAL CATEGORY PRICES

DIFFERENTLY ABLED PERSONS	5 TROPHIES
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Normal (District Selected) Entry Fee: Rs.1000/-

Special Entry Fee: Rs.2000/-

Entries can be paid through : <https://registration.tamilchess.com/online-entry/>

****Please note that only the players who take part in this State Championship will be permitted to represent Tamil Nadu as selected/special entries in the forthcoming National Chess Championship. Hence participation in this State Championship is COMPULSORY****

Note to District Chess Associations: Advise all your district players to take part in this State Championship.

All entries, be it regular or special, should be routed through the respective district chess association on or before 16.07.2026. No entry will be entertained after 16.07.2026.

Entries / Entry fee : All entries (normal or special) should be paid only through online portal (<https://registration.tamilchess.com/online-entry/>) along with the copy of date of birth certificate for verification. Payments made through other modes will not be accepted. Player's participation will be accepted only after obtaining the recommendations from their concern district chess association. The entry fee, once paid, shall not be refunded if the withdrawal from the championship is done after the publication of the first-round pairings.

Tournament Schedule					
Arrival: 22.07.2026 at 08.00 AM			Managers Meeting and Inauguration: 22.07.2026 at 9.30 AM		
1st Round	22-07-2026	11.00 AM	6th Round	24-07-2026	03.00 PM
2nd Round	22-07-2026	04.00 PM	7th Round	25-07-2026	09.30 AM
3rd Round	23-07-2026	09.30 AM	8th Round	25-07-2026	03.00 PM
4th Round	23-07-2026	03.00 PM	9th Round	26-07-2026	09.30 PM
5th Round	24-07-2026	09.30 AM	P D	26-07-2026	03.00 PM

Chief Arbiter: Mr. Umamaheswaran P, International Arbiter Deputy Chief Arbiter: Mr. Manikandan C, FIDE Arbiter			
Tournament Coordinators		Venue Coordinators	
Mr. Roobavel B, Secretary, CUD DCA	Mr. Vinodh R, Treasurer, CUD DCA	Mr. Baskar P, Joint Secretary, CUD DCA	Mr. Prem Kumar S Treasurer, CUD DCA

Eligibility: Subject to Age Stipulation

1	Only Indian nationals are eligible to participate
2	Every affiliated District Chess Association / Special Unit of TNSCA is entitled to field four entries. ONLY TAMIL NADU PLAYERS ARE ELIGIBLE TO PARTICIPATE.
3	The TNSCA General Secretary can nominate one entry.
4	The top four rankers from Tamil Nadu State Open Chess Championship 2025 held at Virudhunagar.
5	The championship of Tamil Nadu State Under – 19 Open Chess Championship 2025 held at Tirupattur.
6	The host Cuddalore DCA (Cuddalore District Chess Association) is entitled to field one additional entry.
7	Any players who pay the prescribed entry fee: Rs.2000/- may be considered for participation with recommendation of the respective District Chess Association.
8	In the event of odd entry, the host Cuddalore DCA is entitled add one more entry to make total number as even in each category.
9	Those who have qualified to represent the country in official FIDE events.
10	Any Current National Champion in any category is to be seeded to All State Championships subject to age stipulation.
11	In addition to above the following Districts can field additional entries by virtue of three medal winners (Gold, Silver and Bronze) secured by their players in the last 75 th Tamil Nadu State Open Chess Championship 2025 held at Virudhunagar. Open: Gold (3) – Chengalpattu, Silver (2) – Virudhunagar & Bronze (1) – Chennai
12	All GMs, WGMs, IMs and WIMs are eligible to play as seeded players in the eligible category

RULES AND REGULATIONS

Age Eligibility	Only Tamil Nadu players can participate in this championship. Other country passport holders shall not be allowed to participate in the State Chess Championship.
Boarding and Lodging	Lodging will be provided to seeded/selected players and one manager per team at college hostel campus as first preference. For special entry players rooms are subject to availability. Only one accompanying person is allowed. (with common rest room). Players are requested to bring their own beddings. Seeded/Selected players are requested to confirm the accommodation while sending entry. Male & female will be provided a separate accommodation irrespective of age. Canteen facilities are available on payment basis at the college premises itself.
AICF Player Registration	AICF player registration is compulsory for all players. AICF Player Registration fee is Rs.300/- for the year 2026 - 2027. AICF player registrations will be accepted only through online. Players / Arbiters registration should be done

	<p>well before the start of event (Championship). For renewing AICF registration of existing players, please click http://aicf.in/players/ and click extend membership. For (New) Fresh AICF registration please click http://aicf.in/online-player-registration/</p> <p>For fresh AICF registration, players are requested to keep their scanned passport size photograph and birth certificate and a valid email address(unique) not used by any other person/ player for AICF, ready before the registration process.</p> <p>Note: Only passport size (less than 1 MB) photographs in jpeg format should be uploaded.</p>
TNSCA Player registration	<p>TNSCA player registration is compulsory for all Tamil Nadu players. TNSCA Player Registration fee is Rs.150/- for the year 2026 - 2027. Players / Arbiters registration should be done well before the start of event (Tournament). New entrants to the field of chess are informed that TNSCA players registration is mandatory and it should be done well before participating in any tournament. For renewing TNSCA player registration of existing players, please click https://registration.tamilchess.com/</p> <p>For fresh TNSCA registration please click https://registration.tamilchess.com/new-register/</p> <p>For fresh TNSCA registration, players are requested to keep their scanned passport size photograph and birth certificate and a valid email address ready before the registration process.</p> <p>Note : Only passport size (less than 1 MB) photographs in jpeg format should be uploaded.</p>
Cuddalore DCA player registration	Cuddalore District Chess Association Player's Registration is compulsory for Cuddalore District players only. The fee for the year 2026 - 2027 is Rs. 75/- only.
Rules	FIDE rules in force shall apply.
System of Play	The Tournament shall be conducted on a Nine rounds Swiss System.
Time Control	Digital Clock 90 minutes each plus 30 seconds increment per move from number one.
Default Time	Default time is 15 minutes. Players have to be at the boards within 15 minutes from the start of the round.
Tie-break	Buchholz Cut 1, Buchholz, Sonneborn Berger, Direct Encounter, number of wins (forfeit included) and greater number of wins by black tie-break rules will be applied. In case of tie, prizes will not be shared.
Appeals Committee	An Appeals Committee comprising of five members - three main members plus two reserves will be formed at the managers meeting. All the members and reserves shall be from different districts. No member of committee can vote on dispute in which a player from his own district is involved and in such case(s), the reserve member takes his place. The decision of the appeals committee is final and binding on all players concerned.
Tournament Committee	The tournament committee consisting of the General Secretary, TNSCA or his representative, the host Virudhunagar DCA Secretary or his representative and representative from another district to be nominated by the TNSCA shall decide on all emergency matters.
Protest	Protest, if any against the decision of the Chief arbiter shall be made in writing

	with a protest fee of Rs.1000/- within 15 minutes of the completion of the game. The decisions of the appeals committee shall be final and binding on all concerned. The protest fee is refundable one if the protest is upheld.
Withdrawals	A player may withdraw from the tournament at any stage after informing the Chief Arbiter in writing.
Arrears	The players belonging to Districts which are in arrears to TNSCA will not be allowed to take part.
Rights of Admission	The AICF/TNSCA/organizer Cuddalore DCA reserve the rights of admission to the venue and lodging place.
Wrist watches of players	As per AICF regulations the wrist watches are restricted while playing in FIDE Rated events. Players are instructed not to wear wrist watches while playing.
Silence in the Tournament Hall	Strict silence must be observed in the Tournament Hall. Players who have finished their games shall not remain in the tournament hall. Players shall not analyse the game in the tournament hall.
E-Certificate	TNSCA only will issue participation certificate for the above championship.

Instruction to the District Chess Associations:	While sending the entries, District Chess Associations should certify that the players have been duly selected from the selection/District Chess Championship giving details of venue and date. If such a certificate is not sent, all their entries will be treated as special entries.
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THE PREVIOUS WINNERS LIST

PREVIOUS WINNERS							
1	1952	Madras	G.S.Dikshit	38	1989	Madras	T.S.Ravi
2	1953	Madras	D.Venkayya	39	1990	Sivakasi	G.B.Prakash
3	1954	Madras	S.Venkatraman	40	1991	Sivakasi	R.Balasubramanian
4	1955	Madras (Jan1956)	P.S.Vaidyanathan, Manuel Aaron (Joint Winners)	41	1992	Madras	R.RaviSekhar
5	1956	Madras	T.R.Jayaram	42	1993	Madras	K.V.Shantharam
6	1957	Madras	Manuel Aaron	43	1994	Madurai	R.B.Ramesh
7	1958	Madras	Manuel Aaron	44	1995	Madurai	S.MariArul
8	1959	Madras	Manuel Aaron	45	1996	Salem	R.Karthik
9	1960	Madras	Augustine Aaron	46	1997	Madurai	V. Saravanan
10	1961	Madras	Manuel Aaron	47	1998	Devakkotai	P. Mageshchandran
11	1962	Madras	P.S. Vaidyanathan	48	1999	Chennai-CDCA	T.S. Ravi
12	1963	Madras	T.R. Rajaram	49	2000	Mannarkudi	M.R. Venkatesh
13	1964	Madras	Manuel Aaron	50	2001	Karur	Ram S. Krishnan
14	1965	Madras	Manuel Aaron	51	2002	Pollachi	K. Gunasekaran
15	1966	Madras	K. Ramarathnam	52	2003	Pollachi	K. Gunasekaran
16	1967	Madras	Manuel Aaron	53	2004	Chennai-	T.S. Ravi
17	1968	Madras	Manuel Aaron	54	2005	Sivakasi	Deepan Chakravarthy J

18	1969	Madras	R.Vijayaraghavan	55	2006	Chennai-Tvlr	B.T. MuraliKrishnan
19	1970	Madras	Manuel Aaron	56	2007	Kodaikanal	S.P. Sethuraman
20	1971	Trichy	S. Kailasanathan	57	2008	Chennai.	B.T. MuraliKrishnan
21	1972	Coimbatore	J. DelliBabu	58	2009	Karaikudi	Shyam Nikhil P
22	1973	Madurai	S.V. Natarajan	59	2010	Tiruvarur	Kunal M
23	1974	Palayamkotai	S. Ramachandran	60	2011	Chennai	Ram S Krishnan
24	1975	Rajapalayam	R. RaviSekhar	61	2012	Vellore(KCA)	Navin kannatu
25	1976	Chennai	R. RaviSekhar	62	2013	Nagapattinam	Navalgund Niranjan
26	1977	Palani	T.N. Parameswaran	63	2014	Tiruvallur	Saravana Krishnan P
27	1978	Coimbatore	R. RaviSekhar	64	2015	Trichy	Sai Vishwesh C
28	1979	Pudukkottai	S.V. Natarajan	65	2016	Coimbatore	M Kunal
29	1980	Rajapalayam	ManuelAaron	66	2017	Erode	Akash PC Iyer
30	1981	Erode	P. Mithrakanth	67	2018	Dharmapuri	Ram S Krishnan
31	1982	Cuddalore	Manuel Aaron	68	2019	Coimbatore	Pranav V
32	1983	Dharmapuri	R. RaviSekhar	69	2020	Covid-19	Not held
33	1984	Mettur	K. Murugan	70	2021	Tirunelveli	Pranav V
34	1985	Madurai	K. Murugan	71	2022	Tirunelveli	Pranav V
35	1986	No Championship held		72	2022	Pudukkottai	Surendran N
36	1987	Neyveli	K. Murugan	73	2023	Salem	Anup Sankar
37	1988	Madras	K.Sriram	74	2024	Coimbatore	Aakash G
				75	2025	Virudhunagar	Vignesh B
				76	2026	Cuddalore	It may be you

TOURNAMENT DIRECTORS:

<p>Mr. RAMESH MANGAL CHAND</p> <p>PRESIDENT,</p> <p>CUD DCA</p>	<p>Mr. ARUNACHALAM R</p> <p>VICE PRESIDENT,</p> <p>CUD DCA</p>
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OUR SINCERE THANKS TO
TAMILNADU STATE CHESS ASSOCIATION

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OUR HONOURARY ADVISOR

Mr. SENTHIL KUMARAN PALANIVELU
JOINT SECRETARY – TNSCA
DISTRICT IN-CHARGE & OBSERVER

ORGANISING COORDINATORS

Tournament Coordinators		Venue Coordinators	
Mr. Roobavel B, Secretary, CUD DCA	Mr. Vinodh R, Treasurer, CUD DCA	Mr. Baskar P, Joint Secretary, CUD DCA	Mr. Prem Kumar S Treasurer, CUD DCA
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Mr. Prem Kumar S
Joint Secretary,
CUD DCA

CUDDALORE DISTRICT CHESS ASSOCIATION

OFFICE BEARERS

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CUD DCA

SECRETARY,
CUD DCA

TREASURER,
CUD DCA

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Mr. Prem Kumar

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