55TH NATIONAL JUNIOR OPEN (UNDER-19) CHESS CHAMPIONSHIP–2026

&

40TH NATIONAL JUNIOR GIRLS (UNDER-19) CHESS CHAMPIONSHIP–2026

Event Codes:

(Open) 494716/WB/2026 & (Girls) 494717/WB/2026

DATE: 11TH TO 19TH DECEMBER, 2026

Organised by

SARA BANGLA DABA SANGHTHA

Under the aegis of

ALL INDIA CHESS FEDERATION

युवा कार्यक्रम एवं खेल मंत्रालय
MINISTRY OF YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS
सत्यमेव जयते

Supported by

Ministry of Youth Affairs & Sports, Government of India

Venue:

EASTERN RAILWAY SPORTS ACADEMY COMPLEX, MAJERHAT

1, Goragacha Road, Alipore Mint Colony, Alipore, Kolkata, West Bengal 700 053

Total Prize Fund: Rs. 10,00,000/-

1. Tournament Schedule

DAYS	PARTICULARS	DATE	DAY	TIME
Day-1	Arrival	10th December 2026	Thursday	12:00 PM onwards
Day-2	Technical Meeting	11th December 2026	Friday	01:30 PM
	Inauguration			02:00 PM
	Round – 1			03:00 PM
Day-3	Round – 2	12th December 2026	Saturday	10:00 AM
	Round – 3			03:00 PM
Day-4	Round – 4	13th December 2026	Sunday	03:00 PM
Day-5	Round – 5	14th December 2026	Monday	10:00 AM
	Round – 6			03:00 PM
Day-6	Round – 7	15th December 2026	Tuesday	03:00 PM
Day-7	Round – 8	16th December 2026	Wednesday	03:00 PM
Day-8	Round – 9	17th December 2026	Thursday	03:00 PM
Day-9	Round – 10	18th December 2026	Friday	03:00 PM
Day-10	Round – 11	19th December 2026	Saturday	10:00 AM
Day-10	Prize Distribution	19th December 2026	Saturday	04:00 PM
Day-10	Departure	19th December 2026	Saturday	05:00 PM

2. Age Limit

Players should be born on or after 1.1.2007

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 of the 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

Cash prizes amounting to **₹10,00,000/-** will be awarded to the **Top 20 players in each category**, as detailed below:

Rank	Open – Cash Prize	Girls – Cash Prize
1st	₹1,00,000/-	₹1,00,000/-
2nd	₹72,000/-	₹72,000/-
3rd	₹60,000/-	₹60,000/-
4th	₹48,000/-	₹48,000/-
5th	₹40,000/-	₹40,000/-
6th	₹28,000/-	₹28,000/-
7th	₹24,000/-	₹24,000/-
8th	₹20,000/-	₹20,000/-
9th	₹16,000/-	₹16,000/-
10th	₹12,000/-	₹12,000/-
11th to 20th	₹8,000/- each	₹8,000/- each

5. Eligibility

(a) Four 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.

(b) Top four players from 2025 National Junior (Under-19) Open & Girls Chess Championships are eligible to participate as seeded players in their respective categories subject to age stipulation.

(c) The top two players from 2025 National U-17 Open and Girls Championships are eligible to participate as seeded players in their respective categories.

(d) The Champions from 2025 National Under-15 Open & Girls Chess Championships are eligible to participate as seeded player in their respective category.

(e) World Champion in any over the board category from the year 2025 subject to age stipulation.

(f) 2025 World No.2 & 3 Under-18 and Under-20 categories subject to age stipulation.

(g) 2025 Asian U-20 top three rankers subject to age stipulation.

(h) 2025 Asian Under-18 Champion.

(i) The winner and runner up of 2025 National U-19 Girls Championship are eligible to play in open section subject to age stipulation.

(j) The winner of 2025 National Under-17 Girls Championship is eligible to play in open section.

(k) Current National Over the Board Champion in any higher category subject to age stipulation.

(l) All GMs / IMs are seeded in Open Section and all WGMs / WIMs are seeded in Girls Section subject to age stipulation.

(m) Any other player who remits the prescribed special entry Fee of ₹7,500/-. Such entries should come through the respective affiliated State Association.

(n) Host The Sara Bangla Daba Sangstha is entitled to fill two additional players in each category.

(o) The AICF Secretary has a discretionary seat in each category in this Championship.

(p) Two players in each category approved by AICF will be permitted from areas where no State Association exists.

(q) 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.

(r) Only Indian nationals are eligible to participate in the championships.

(s) In addition to the above, three additional entries from the state which won gold, two entries from the state which won the silver and one additional entry from the state which won the bronze in the National Junior Chess Championships 2025 shall be accepted. Open: Goa (Gold) 3, Assam (Silver) 2 and Telangana (Bronze) 1 Girls: West Bengal (Gold) 3, Tamil Nadu (Silver) 2 & Karnataka (Bronze) 1. 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 colour 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 and 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: ₹2,000/- (Rupees two thousand only)
Special Entry: ₹7,500/- (Rupees seven thousand five hundred 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. Last Date of Entry/Late Entry fee

Please note that the entry fee structure is valid till 27th November 2026. Thereafter a late fee of ₹250/- per player will be levied. No entry will be entertained after 4th December 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. Chess Clocks

Each participating State Chess Association must provide at least one clock in working order for every two players entered into the Championship.

13. 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.

14. Draw Agreement

Players shall not agree for a draw without the consent of the arbiter, before each player makes 30 moves.

15. Protest

Protest, if any, against the decision of the Chief Arbiter shall be made in writing with a protest fee of ₹3000/- within 30 minutes of the completion of the game and any Fair Play violation complaint need to be lodged within 3 hours with a complaint fee of ₹5000. The protest fee will be refunded if the appeal is up held.

16. 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.

17. Tournament Committee

The organizers will form a tournament committee for the smooth conduct of the National Championship.

18. 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.

19. Withdrawal

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. The entry fee once paid shall not be refunded if the withdrawal from Championship is done after the publication of first round pairings.

20. 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.

21. 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

22. 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.

23. Electronic Devices

All electronic items including wrist watches (all type of watches) are not allowed in the tournament hall. Players possessing such devices (exception in special cases with permission of the chief arbiter) will be declared lost.

24. Accommodation

Double/Triple-sharing accommodation will be provided to all **selected and seeded players** and **one official (Manager) from each State/UT**. Requests must reach the organizers by **5th December 2026**.

Special-entry players and accompanying persons shall make their own arrangements or may contact the organizers for accommodation, **subject to availability and applicable charges**.

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 Associations' seeded and selected players who play this championship under normal entry fee.

For Seeded/Selected Players: Book your accommodation by filling out the form at the link below:

ACCOMMODATION BOOKING – SELECTED/SEEDED PLAYERS Link

26. How to Reach Venue

VENUE – EASTERN RAILWAY SPORTS ACADEMY COMPLEX, MAJERHAT

ADDRESS – 1, Goragacha Road, Alipore Mint Colony, Alipore, Kolkata, West Bengal 700 053

Google Map – Sports Academy Complex, Majerhat, Eastern Railway

Approximate Distances from Major Transport Hubs:

- Howrah Railway Station: Approximately 14 km
- Sealdah Railway Station: Approximately 12 km
- Kolkata Railway Station: Approximately 20 km
- Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose International Airport: 27 km

27. CLIMATE

Since the event is scheduled in December, it will be held during the winter season. Kolkata's weather is expected to be cool, with a maximum temperature of around **27°C** and a minimum temperature of around **13°C**.

FOR ASSISTANCE, PLEASE CONTACT

Sl. No.	Contact Persons	Phone Number	Purpose
1	IA Debasish Barua	82403 59285	Technical Query
2	IA Asit Baran Choudhury	94330 73506	Technical Query
3	Tuhin Kanti Das	99030 65633	Secretary, SBDS
4	Subrata Chattopadhyay	94340 19493	Treasurer, SBDS
5	Tapas Sarkar	79809 32912	Vice President, SBDS
6	FT Rajendra Singh	98305 58459	General Query
7	IA Suravi Dutta	98304 24293	General Query
8	Dilip Chakraborty	89295 88150	Accommodation
9	Swapan Adhikari	98310 92280	Accommodation
10	Rabi Shankar Routh	82408 49675	Accommodation
11	Partha Pratim Manna	87777 92712	Accommodation

For any Quary please Email to: sbds.national@gmail.com

Email (Registration): aicfnationalentries@gmail.com

Nearby Hotels:

Morvee Hotels, Alipore – 21B, Alipore Rd, Chetla, Kolkata, Contact Number: +91 81008 75424

Hotel Saini Inn Kolkata – 8/1E, Diamond Harbour Rd, Alipore, Kolkata, Contact Number: +91 98310 44763

Hotel Sea Castle – 318, Parnasree Palli, Behala, Kolkata

New Alipore Transit House 372, Block G, New Alipore, Kolkata – 700053 Contact Number: +91 70446 85564

The Elegance196–197, Block J, Bankim Mukherjee Sarani, Sahapur, New Alipore, Kolkata – 700053,



Contact Number: 033 4060 8109

Places to Visit in Nearby Kolkata

Victoria Memorial Hall is one of the most visited museums in the country

Victoria Memorial Hall is one of the most magnificent monuments of not only the city of Kolkata but of our country. Representing the resplendent and majestic Italian Renaissance style of architecture, beautifully blended with Indian influences, Victoria Memorial Hall stands today, as a veritable icon of the city of Kolkata.



Howrah Bridge – Famous landmark over the Hooghly River and a symbol of Kolkata.



Birla Planetarium – Popular attraction featuring astronomy and space shows.

The M. P. Birla Planetarium in Kolkata, West Bengal, India, is an iconic structure whose architecture is based on the famous Buddhist Stupa at Sanchi, India. Situated at 96, Jawaharlal Nehru Road, close to the Victoria Memorial Hall, it is a landmark in the city of Kolkata. The Planetarium opened its door for the public on September 29, 1962 and was formally inaugurated on July 02, 1963 by Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru, the then Prime Minister of India.



Indian Museum – Historic museum with collections of art, archaeology and natural history.

History of the Museum

Founded in 1814 at the cradle of the Asiatic Society of Bengal (at the present building of the Asiatic Society, 1 Park Street, Kolkata), Indian Museum is the earliest and the largest multipurpose Museum not only in the Indian subcontinent but also in the Asia-Pacific region of the world. With the foundation of Indian Museum in 1814, the Museum movement started rolling in India and through the year…



Birla Industrial & Technological Museum – A popular science museum with interactive exhibits, galleries and demonstrations, ideal for students and families.



Kalighat Temple – One of Kolkata's most important and historic Hindu temples.

Dakshineswar Kali Temple – Famous temple dedicated to Goddess Kali on the Hooghly River.



Sri Sri Jagadiswari
Kalimata Thakurani

Carved from black stone, Sri Sri Jagadiswari Kalimata Thakurani stands upon the reclining Lord Shiva, adorned in a resplendent Benarasi sari and shimmering gold ornaments. Before this sacred idol, Paramhansa Dev Sri Ramakrishna realised the living presence of the Divine Mother, sanctifying Dakshineswar Kali Temple as an eternal pilgrimage of faith, devotion, and spiritual illumination.



St. Paul's Cathedral – Beautiful Gothic-style cathedral near Victoria Memorial.

St. Paul's Cathedral is a Church of North India (CNI) cathedral of Anglican background in Kolkata, West Bengal, India, noted for its Gothic architecture and dedicated to Paul the Apostle. It is the seat of the Diocese of Calcutta (CNI). The cornerstone was laid in 1839; the building was completed in 1847. It is said to be the largest church in Kolkata and the first Anglican cathedral in Asia. It was also the first newly-built cathedral in the overseas territory of the British Empire. The edifice stands on Cathedral Road on the "island of attractions," the site chosen to provide more space for the growing population of the European community in Calcutta in the 1800s.



Belur Math – Peaceful spiritual centre and headquarters of the Ramakrishna Math and Mission.



Eden Gardens – Historic cricket stadium, especially popular with cricket enthusiasts.



Prinsep Ghat – Scenic riverside spot, ideal for an evening walk and views of the Hooghly.