



CENTRAL AMERICAN AND CARIBBEAN U-20 OPEN AND WOMEN'S CHAMPIONSHIP, SAN JOSÉ 2026

COMPETITION REGULATIONS

I. INVITATION

The Confederation of Chess for the Americas (**CCA**) and the Costa Rican Chess Federation (**FCA**) have the pleasure to invite all Central American and Caribbean federations to participate in the **Central American and Caribbean U-20 Open and Women's Championship 2026**, which will take place in San José, Costa Rica, **from March 27 to April 3, 2026**.

II. GENERAL CONDITIONS

The event will be conducted in accordance with the FIDE Laws of Chess (see [FIDE Handbook](#)), the [General Tournament Regulations of the CCA](#), the [CCA Regulations for Regional U-20 Championships](#), the [CCA Financial Regulations for Events](#), and the specific regulations of the "Central American and Caribbean U-20 Open and Women's Championship 2026".

The organization of the event will be the responsibility of the Costa Rican Chess Federation (FCA), with the support of the Confederation of Chess for the Americas (CCA).

The official email address for matters related to this event is:
CAC_U20_2026@fcacostarica.com

The official WhatsApp group for general information is:
<https://chat.whatsapp.com/JLcCTjxBRU5AHsRONHtvbX>

III. PARTICIPANTS

Each Central American and Caribbean federation may register one (1) official player per category (Open and Women's).

Each federation may also register an unlimited number of extra (non-official) players, who must fully cover their own costs for registration, transportation, accommodation, and meals. Accompanying persons must also cover all their expenses, including transportation, accommodation, meals, and accreditation.



The registration of players and accompanying persons must be carried out through their respective federations.

All participants must present official authorization from their federation. No player may be registered without the approval of their federation or if they do not belong to a Central American or Caribbean federation.

Any exceptional situations related to participation will be resolved by the CCA, in accordance with the applicable regulations.

IV. CATEGORIES

The championship will be played in two categories (Open and Women's):

U-20 Open Category: Players born on or after **January 1st, 2006**

U-20 Women's Category: Players born on or after **January 1st, 2006**

If a category does not have a sufficient number of participants, the organizers may merge both categories for pairing purposes.

V. VENUE

Costa Rica Tennis Club, San José, Costa Rica

VI. ELIGIBILITY

All players affiliated with Central American and Caribbean federations, duly authorized by their federation, may participate.

VII. REGISTRATION CONDITIONS

Official Players: Official players must cover 40% of the accommodation and meal costs during the event.

Extra (Non-Official) Players: ALL extra players without exception must cover 100% of their accommodation, meals, registration fees, and all other applicable costs, according to CCA financial regulations.

Accompanying Persons: Delegates, coaches, and accompanying persons must fully cover their accommodation and meal costs without exception.

VIII. REGISTRATION, ACCREDITATION, AND TRANSPORT FEES



The **general registration fee** per player is **one hundred seventy-five dollars (USD \$175.00)**, broken down as follows:

- CCA fee: **seventy-five dollars (USD \$75.00)**
- Organizing Committee fee: **one hundred dollars (USD \$100.00)**, which includes accreditation.

The accreditation fee for **accompanying persons, delegates, and coaches** is **twenty dollars (USD \$20.00)**.

The organization will offer, on an optional basis, to all participants whether players or accompanying persons **the transportation service** to and from Juan Santamaría International Airport for **a fee of fifty dollars (USD \$50.00)**.

National players (Costa Rica) will pay a special fee of **one hundred dollars (USD \$100.00)**, and **no penalty** will apply if they do not stay at the official hotel.

The registration fee for the Blitz and Rapid tournaments will be **twenty-five dollars (USD \$25.00) each**; in the case of participants who register for both tournaments, the combined fee will be forty dollars (**USD \$40.00**).

IX. REGISTRATION AND PAYMENT DEADLINES

REGISTRATION

Unofficial players and delegates may register until March 16 by depositing the corresponding amount for registration, hotel, accreditation, and transportation, and by completing the following form. After this date, the organization does not guarantee accommodation at the official hotel.

<https://forms.gle/CpSs6uhzf2D59Hhu5>.

The registration of **official players** must be completed by a representative of each federation before March 8, using the following form:

<https://forms.gle/hZaJ46u7z6CxYDTq7>

PAYMENT

Payments may be made to the following FCA accounts:

Bank account transfer (Dollars)

Account number: 925556045

Account name: Federación Costarricense de Ajedrez (FCA)



IBAN: CR83010200009255560451

ID number: 3002291916

Email: tesoreria@fcacostarica.com

Address: Office S1036, National Stadium of Costa Rica, Mata Redonda, San José.

X. SPECIFIC COMPETITION REGULATIONS

1) PLAYING SYSTEM AND TIME CONTROL

The tournament will be played using the **Swiss System with nine (9)** rounds and will be managed using the Swiss Manager software. All games must be played with electronic clocks that allow time increments.

The time control for both categories will be **ninety (90) minutes per player, with an increment of thirty (30) seconds** per move from the start.

The list of participants and pairings will be published on Chess-results.com.

Pairings will be published after the technical meeting.

If a category has **ten (10) or fewer players, the playing system will be Round Robin**, and if necessary, **categories may be merged**.

2) TIEBREAK SYSTEM

For the Swiss System, in case of a tie in points, the following criteria will be applied in strict order:

1. Buchholz Cut 1
2. Buchholz
3. Average rating of opponents
4. Direct encounter
5. Greater number of wins (including wins by forfeit)

For the Round Robin System, in case of a tie in points, the following criteria will be applied in strict order:

1. Direct encounter
2. Greater number of wins (including wins by forfeit)
3. Sonneborn-Berger
4. Koya System
5. Extended Koya System.



3) TOLERANCE PERIOD

The allowed waiting time will be **thirty (30) minutes** from the official start of the round. After this time, the player must be present at their board; otherwise, they will lose the game by forfeit.

A player who loses a game by forfeit will be withdrawn from the tournament unless a justification is presented to the category arbiter **before the pairing of the next round**.

4) FAIR PLAY

Fair Play measures will be applied in accordance with the **FIDE [Anti-Cheating Guidelines](#)**. With the sole exception of the move-recording equipment, during a game players and captains are prohibited from having any electronic communication device in the playing venue unless specifically approved by the arbiter. Accompanying persons or spectators are prohibited from using electronic devices in the playing venue, except for taking photographs when explicitly authorized by the arbiter.

XI. IMAGE RIGHTS

By registering, every player, parent, guardian, or legal representative grants consent and authorization to the FCA and CCA to use the player's image in any type of publication or media.

XII. PRIZES

The winner of each category of the "Central American and Caribbean U-20 Open and Women's Chess Championship 2026" will receive the title of Champion and the corresponding awards listed below.

The first five (5) places in each category (open and women's) will be awarded as follows:

- **First Place:** Trophy
- **Second Place:** Trophy
- **Third Place:** Trophy
- **4th and 5th Place:** Medal

XIII. TITLES AND NORMS

Provided that FIDE requirements are met, the event grants the following titles in each category:



- **First Place Open Category:** IM title and GM norm
- **Second Place Open Category:** FM title and IM norm
- **Third Place Open Category:** FM title and IM norm
- **First Place Women's Category:** WIM title and WGM norm
- **Second Place Women's Category:** WFM title and WIM norm
- **Third Place Women's Category:** WFM title and WIM norm

It is important to note that the awarding of titles will be in accordance with the corresponding regulations issued by the International Chess Federation (FIDE).

XIV. SCHEDULE

Arrival and accreditation: March 27, 2026, Hotel Irazú, San José, Costa Rica.

Activity	Date	Time
Arrival	27/03/26	3:00 PM
Technical Meeting	27/03/26	7:00 PM
Round 1	28/03/26	9:00 AM
Round 2	28/03/26	3:00 PM
Round 3	29/03/26	9:00 AM
Rapid	29/03/26	3:00 PM
Round 4	30/03/26	9:00 AM
Round 5	30/03/26	3:00 PM
Round 6	31/03/26	9:00 AM
Blitz	31/03/26	5:00 PM
Round 7	1/04/26	9:00 AM
Round 8	1/04/26	3:00 PM
Round 9	2/04/26	9:00 AM
Closing Ceremony	2/04/26	2:00 PM
Departure	3/04/26	12:00 PM

XV. APPEALS

Decisions made by the Chief Arbiter may be appealed to an Appeals Committee composed of three main members and two alternates from different countries. The president of the committee will be appointed by the CCA before the Technical Meeting, and the remaining members will be selected during the meeting. To submit an appeal, a cash deposit of one hundred US dollars (USD \$100.00) must be made, which will be



refunded only if the appeal is upheld. Appeals must be submitted in writing (with relevant evidence and signed by the respective captain) no later than one hour after the end of the round in question and must be resolved before the start of the next round. Decisions of the Appeals Committee are final.

XVI. ACCOMMODATION

All players, coaches, and accompanying persons must make their hotel reservations through the tournament organization. Direct reservations with the hotel will not be accepted at the official hotel, and a penalty will apply.

These prices are per person and for seven (7) nights with full board included, starting with dinner on March 27 and ending with breakfast on April 3:

ROOM TYPE	FULL BOARD
Single	\$ 1.100 USD
Double	\$ 800 USD
Triple	\$ 750 USD
Quadruple	\$ 700 USD

PENALTY: Players, coaches, and accompanying persons who do not wish to stay at the official hotel must pay an additional **USD \$200.00** per person and notify the organization before **March 15 at the email: CAC_U20_2026@fcacostarica.com**

XVII. TOURNAMENT AUTHORITIES – HONOR COMMITTEE

President of the Confederation of Chess for the Americas: **José Carillo Pujol**

President of the Costa Rican Chess Federation: **Luis Quirós Rojas**

XVIII. ORGANIZING COMMITTEE

Vivian Viquez Miranda

Director

Sergio Ramos Torres

Deputy Director