

REGULATIONS

International Chess Tournament

“Vugar Gashimov Open - 2026”

1. Objectives

- 1.1. Promotion and development of chess in Azerbaijan;
- 1.2. Increasing the playing experience and international rating of chess players, fulfilling international norms;

2. Organizers

- 2.1. Vugar Gashimov Chess Foundation
- 2.2. Azerbaijan Chess Federation

3. Playing venue, date

- 3.1. Tournament will be held in Baku.
- 3.2. Tournament will be held on 24 July (visiting the Grandmaster’s monument) - 30 July (last round and closing) 2026.

4. Tournament rules

- 4.1. The tournaments are held according to the FIDE rules of the game.
- 4.2. Only chess players with FIDE IDs can participate in the tournament.
- 4.3. The standard and blitz tournaments are held in 9 rounds, the rapid tournament is held in 7 rounds according to the Swiss system.
- 4.4. The game control time in the standard tournament is 45 minutes until the end of the game, with 30 seconds added to each move from the first move (45 minutes + 30 seconds / each move).
- 4.5. The game control time in the rapid tournament is 10 minutes until the end of the game, with 3 seconds added to each move from the first move (10 minutes + 3 seconds / each move).
- 4.6. The game control time in the blitz tournament is 3 minutes until the end of the game, with 2 seconds added to each move from the first move (3 minutes + 2 seconds / each move).
- 4.7. The delay time for the round in the tournament is 15 minutes.
- 4.8. In case of equal points, the winning odds are determined in the following order:

Tie-breaks	
1.	Direct encounter (the results of the players in the same point group)
2.	Buchholts (cut 1)
3.	Buchholts
4.	Number of victories

- 4.9. The pairings of the tournaments will be done using the “Swiss-Manager” program. The results and pairings will be published daily on the competition website (gashimovopen.chess.az) and www.chess-results.com.
- 4.10. The schedule of tournament is as follows:

Date	Event	Time
24 July 2026	Visiting the Grandmaster’s monument	11:00
25 July 2026	Opening ceremony	10:00
	1st round	10:30
	Rapid	15:30
26 July 2026	2nd round	10:30
	Blitz	15:30
27 July 2026	3rd round	10:30
	4th round	15:30
28 July 2026	5th round	10:30
	6th round	15:30
29 July 2026	7th round	10:30
	8th round	15:30
30 July 2026	9th round	10:30
	Closing ceremony	15:30

5. Registration and entry fee

- 5.1. Entry fee **from the date of the competition announcement until 18 July is 100 AZN, from 19 July to 23 July is 150 AZN.**
- 5.2. Entry fee for Rapid tournament is 25 AZN.
- 5.3. Entry fee for Blitz tournament is 25 AZN.
- 5.4. Registration is done only online: gashimovopen.chess.az
- 5.5. The following are free entry fees in standard tournament:
- Grandmasters (men and women)
 - International Masters (men and women)
 - Women players, whose rating is above 2200
 - Men players, whose rating is above 2400

6. Prizes

- 6.1. The total prize fund is **30.000** AZN.
- 6.2. The amount of the prize fund is exempt from all types of taxes applied in the Republic of Azerbaijan.
- 6.3. If a participant takes several places eligible for a prize, he can only receive 1 prize (the highest one).
- 6.4. If two or more chess places score the same number of points, the prize is not divided, and the additional prize is awarded to the participant with the higher score.
- 6.5. Prizes are determined according to the following tables:

Place		Open tournament	
1	5.000 AZN	Unrated	I – 300 AZN
2	4.000 AZN		II – 200 AZN
3	3.000 AZN		III – 100 AZN
4	2.000 AZN		
5	1.500 AZN	ELO 1401-1500	I – 300 AZN
6	1.200 AZN		II – 200 AZN
7	1.000 AZN		III – 100 AZN
8	800 AZN		
9	700 AZN	ELO 1501-1600	I – 300 AZN
10	600 AZN		II – 200 AZN
11	500 AZN		III – 100 AZN
12	400 AZN		
13	300 AZN	ELO 1601-1700	I – 300 AZN
14	200 AZN		II – 200 AZN
15	200 AZN		III – 100 AZN
		ELO 1701-1800	I – 300 AZN
			II – 200 AZN
			III – 100 AZN
		ELO 1801-1900	I – 300 AZN
			II – 200 AZN
			III – 100 AZN
		ELO 1901-2000	I – 300 AZN
			II – 200 AZN
			III – 100 AZN
		Women	I – 700 AZN
			II – 500 AZN
			III – 300 AZN

Rapid	Blitz
I place – 300 AZN	I place – 300 AZN
II place – 200 AZN	II place – 200 AZN
III place – 150 AZN	III place – 150 AZN
IV place – 100 AZN	IV place – 100 AZN
V place – 100 AZN	V place – 100 AZN
ELO 1401-1600 – 100 AZN	ELO 1401-1600 – 100 AZN
ELO 1601-1800 – 100 AZN	ELO 1601-1800 – 100 AZN
ELO 1801-2000 – 100 AZN	ELO 1801-2000 – 100 AZN
Women: I place – 150 AZN II place – 100 AZN III place – 50 AZN	Women: I place – 150 AZN II place – 100 AZN III place – 50 AZN

7. Appeal

- 7.1. Objections against the decisions of the Chief Arbiter may be submitted to the Appeals Commission. The members of the Appeals Commission are selected and appointed by the Organizing Committee.
- 7.2. Protests can be submitted only in writing and upon payment of the appropriate fee - 200 (two hundred) AZN within 1 (one) hour after the end of the game.

8. Media

- 8.1. Only accredited media representatives are allowed to take photographs during the festival.
- 8.2. Photography using flash is only allowed during the first 5 (five) minutes after the start of the rounds.

9. Viza

- 9.1. E-visas can be easily obtained on the following link: <https://evisa.gov.az/az/>
- 9.2. List on eligibale e-visa countries is on <https://evisa.gov.az/az/countries>
- 9.3. Non-eligibale countries should contact Azerbaijan Embassy in the respective country.
- 9.4. In case of need the Organizing Committee provides invitation letter in obtaining an entry visa.

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