

24th EUROPEAN YOUTH RAPID & BLITZ CHAMPIONSHIP

U - 8, 10, 12, 14, 16, 18

Thessaloniki, Greece, 04 – 8 August 2025



INVITATION & REGULATIONS

1. Invitation:

The European Chess Union (ECU) invites all National Chess Federations of ECU to participate in the European Youth Rapid and Blitz Chess Championship 2025 under 8, 10, 12, 14, 16 and 18 years, organised from 4 August (arrivals) to 4 August (departures). The event will be held in the Conference Hall of the 5-star Porto Palace Hotel in Thessaloniki, Greece.

2. Participation:

2.1. Entitled to participate are chess players from European National Chess Federations, according to their age category:

- Tournaments Under 08 (Open & Girls), player's date of birth: 1 January 2017 and after
- Tournaments Under 10 (Open & Girls), player's date of birth: 1 January 2015 and after
- Tournaments Under 12 (Open & Girls), player's date of birth: 1 January 2013 and after
- Tournaments Under 14 (Open & Girls), player's date of birth: 1 January 2011 and after
- Tournaments Under 16 (Open & Girls), player's date of birth: 1 January 2009 and after
- Tournaments Under 18 (Open & Girls), player's date of birth: 1 January 2007 and after

2.2 Each National Federation can register any number of players that meet the age requirements of each section

2.3 According to ECU regulations, the participants are accommodated by the Organizer in the official hotel. Access to playing areas and venues will be allowed only to persons accredited by the Organizer.

3. Championships / Titles:

(A) 24th EUROPEAN YOUTH RAPID CHAMPIONSHIP

- 9 rounds according to the Swiss system (one game per round),
rate of play: 15 min. + 10 sec. per player
- Categories (12 in total): open and girls up to 8, 10, 12, 14, 16 and 18 years.
- Prizes: the best 3 (three) players, in each category, will receive trophies, medals, and gift prizes.

(B) 24th EUROPEAN YOUTH BLITZ CHAMPIONSHIP

- 9 rounds according to the Swiss system (two games per round),
rate of play: 3 min. + 2 sec. per player
- Categories (12): open and girls up to 8, 10, 12, 14, 16 and 18 years.
- Prizes: the best 3 (three) players, in each category, will receive trophies, medals, and gift prizes.

All participants will receive an ECU certificate from the organizers.

The winner in the respective championships will receive the following title:

- European Youth Rapid Champion -8, -10, -12, -14, -16 and -18
- European Youth Girls Rapid Champion -8, -10, -12, -14, -16 and -18
- European Youth Blitz Champion -8, -10, -12, -14, -16 and -18
- European Youth Girls Blitz Champion -8, -10, -12, -14, -16 and -18

ECU Tiebreak criteria will apply if two or more players are tied for the same rank, as well as in all other cases where is necessary.

4. Schedule:

Monday 4 August	All day	Participants Arrival
Monday 4 August	Technical Meeting	21:00
Tuesday 5 August	10:30	Opening Ceremony
Tuesday 5 August	11:00 – 13:00	Individual Rapid (Rounds 1-2)
Tuesday 5 August	17:00 – 20:00	Individual Rapid (Rounds 3-5)
Wednesday 6 August	10:00 – 12:00	Chess Solving Competition
Wednesday 6 August	17:00 – 21:00	Individual Rapid (Rounds 6-9)
Thursday 7 August	10:00 – 13:00	Blitz (Rounds 1-5)
Thursday 7 August	17:00 – 20:00	Blitz (Rounds 6-9)
Thursday 7 August	21.00	Awarding Ceremony
Friday 8 August		Participants Departure (hotel check out by 11.00)

5. Registration and Travel details

5.1. Entry forms must be filled and sent to the Tournament office no later than **June 20th, 2025**. If the registration form is not completed by the federation itself, a copy must be sent to the national federation for approval.

5.2. After the deadline, a late registration fee of 50 euros per participant is required.

5.3. The complete registration form of each delegation should be sent by the national federation, or have its approval, and must include the surname/s, first name/s, FIDE ID number, FIDE rating, dates of arrival/departure and passport number (for visa only purpose) of each player, each accompanying person and each delegation member where applicable. It must also include clearly the name, telephone and e-mail of the Chief of Delegation who must be an adult.

5.4. Registrations and bookings for the Championships are possible only through the appointed local Organizer only through the email: atchess100@gmail.com

5.5. Participants should book their flights to Thessaloniki International Airport (SKG) which is located 25 km from the venue. The bus transportation from and to Thessaloniki International Airport is included in the organization package for all participants on the arrival day (4 August) and the departure day (8 August). Transportation from the organizers in other dates are possible upon request with an extra charge.

6. Registration /Accommodation package (4 nights)

6.1 The official hotel of the event is the 5-star Porto Palace Hotel (*****)

Registration - Accommodation package includes (per person)

- Accommodation for 4 nights (4,5,6,7 August 2025)
- Breakfast, lunch, and dinner, (full board) daily
- Transportation from and to Thessaloniki airport on 4th and 8th of August
- Registration fees including ECU fees.
- All taxes (including VAT, tourist and Municipality Tax).

<u>Price in Single room (limited rooms)</u>	<u>Price in double room</u>	<u>Price in triple room (one kid U12)</u>
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650 euros per person	430 euros per person	390 euros per person
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Federations delegations shall be accommodated by priority using double and triple rooms.
In case main venue hotel is fully booked the O.C will add more hotels.

6.2 By the registration deadline of **20th June 2025**, a deposit payment of **200 euros** per person must be sent, to confirm participation and booking, after an invoice will be sent for each player and accompanying person (bank charges covered by the sender). Once the bank transfer is validated, the Organising Committee will confirm the assigned booking confirmation for all the rooms. Final payment shall be concluded before arrival.

6.4 Extra nights can be requested in advance and, upon availability, can be possible at a proportional cost:

Price per night in a triple room: 65 € per person.

Price per night in a double room: 75 € per person.

Price per night in a single room: 130 € per person.

6.5 According to ECU Rules (Article B.14.5.1), **for youth tournaments the participants are accommodated only by the Organizer in the official hotel(s)**. Hotel bookings will be made by priority. In case of larger participation than expected, the Organizer may provide an extra official hotel.

Access to playing areas and venues will be allowed only to persons accredited by the Organizer.

7. Officials

The names of the officials (Arbiters and Appeal Committee) will be announced later.

8. Anti-Cheating and ECU Fair Play Rules

The ECU anti-cheating guidelines and the ECU Fair Play Code are valid for all the European Championships and all players, arbiters, organisers & participants shall follow these regulations. During the competition, random AC inspections are possible

9. Scoring and tie-breaking system

9.1. The score in each game is 1 for a win, 1/2 for a draw and 0 for a lost game.

9.2. Tie-breaking:

The order of players that finish with the same number of points shall be determined by application of the following tie-breaking procedures in sequence, proceeding from (a) to (b) to (c) to (d) to (e) the extent required:

- (a) Results of direct encounters between the tied players (applies only if all tied players have played each other), (b) Buchholz Cut 1,
- (c) Buchholz,
- (d) The greater number of games played with black,
- (e) The Greater number of wins.

10. Visa information

10.1 Any federation members, players and accompanying persons who need a visa to enter Greece, are requested to contact the Organizer before the registration deadline of **20 June 2025**.

10.2 The organizer will provide invitations for visas only after the necessary payments are wired, as described in articles 6.1 and 6.2 above. Schengen visas are valid in Greece.

11. Tournament office / Contact Information

Tournament Office: IO Nikos Kalesis Email: atchess100@gmail.com

Official Website: ecyrb2025.europechess.org

12. Thessaloniki Festival – Thessaloniki International Chess Open

Thessaloniki International Chess Open 8-14 August 2025 – Porto Palace Hotel, European Youth Rapid & Blitz Chess Championship participants may take advantage of the Championship hotel rates and extend their booking.