



EUROPEAN CHESS CHAMPIONSHIPS 2025 FOR AMATEUR CATEGORIES u1700, u2000, u2300



Mellieha, MALTA

25 November - 5 December 2025

INVITATION & TOURNAMENT REGULATIONS

1. INVITATION

This is the official invitation to all National Chess Federations who are members of the European Chess Union (ECU) and for all its players with a FIDE rating below 2300, in accordance with article 4 of the present regulations.

2. DATES AND VENUE

The European Amateur Chess Championships 2025 will be held from 25 November (arrivals) to 5 December (departures) in the Conference Hall of the 4-star “Riviera Spa Resort” Hotel in Mellieha, Malta. The island of Malta is a famous Mediterranean destination, combining warm winters with Megalithic temples, Michelin-starred restaurants in 17th century palazzos and hidden amazing coves in nearby Gozo. The temperature in Malta remains comfortably warm in November, between 15° and 21° C.

3. TOURNAMENT SCHEDULE

Tuesday	25.11.2025		Arrival of delegations
Tuesday	25.11.2025	21:00	Confirmation of participants
Wednesday	26.11.2025	11:00	Technical Meeting
Wednesday	26.11.2025	14:45	Opening Ceremony
Wednesday	26.11.2025	15:00	1 st round
Thursday	27.11.2025	15:00	2 nd round
Friday	28.11.2025	15:00	3 rd round
Saturday	29.11.2025	15:00	4 th round
Sunday	30.11.2025	15:00	5 th round
Monday	01.12.2025	15:00	6 th round
Tuesday	02.12.2025	15:00	7 th round
Wednesday	03.12.2025	15:00	8 th round
Thursday	04.12.2025	15:00	9 th round
Thursday	04.12.2025	21:00	Closing Ceremony
Friday	05.12.2025		Departure of delegations

4. PARTICIPATION

- 4.1 The Championships are open tournaments for players registered or approved by their federation. ECU member federations shall have the right to send as many players as they wish.
- 4.2 All players must not hold any title above CM (or WCM for women) in the sections Under-1700 and Under-2000. All players must not hold any title above FM (or WFM for women) in the section Under-2300.
- 4.3 A player must not have a published FIDE standard rating of 2300 or greater for at least one year prior to the registration deadline of the event.
- 4.4 For the Under-2000 section, a player must not have a published FIDE standard rating of 2000 or greater for at least one year prior to the start of the championship.
- 4.5 For the Under-1700 section, a player must not have a published FIDE standard rating of 1700 or greater for at least one year prior to the start of the championship.
- 4.6 In case a player exceeds the FIDE standard rating of 1700 or 2000 after the Registration deadline, he/she will play the upper rating category.

5. SYSTEM AND RATE OF PLAY

- 5.1 There will be separate championships for categories Under-2300, Under-2000 and Under- 1700.
- 5.2 In each rating section, a separate championship for women shall be organized only if there are at least 10 entries in a women's section, otherwise that women's event will be merged with men (open).
- 5.3 The championships are organised in a 9-round Swiss system, in accordance with FIDE Laws of Chess and the ECU Tournament Rules.
- 5.4 The rate of play will be 90 minutes for 40 moves plus 30 minutes for the rest of the game, with an increment of 30 seconds per move, starting from move one.

6. TIE-BREAK SYSTEM

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.

7. REGISTRATION COSTS AND DEADLINE

OFFICIAL HOTEL: 4-star RIVIERA SPA RESORT (**)**

Registration - Accommodation package includes (per person):

- Accommodation for 10 nights.
- 3 meals daily: breakfast, lunch and dinner.
- Potable water and soft drinks during meals in restaurant.
- Shuttle bus transfer from/to Malta airport on 25 November and 5 December.
- Registration and ECU fees.
- All taxes (including Malta Tourism Tax).

Price in double occupancy room

890 euros (€) per person

Price in single occupancy room

1,180 euros (€) per person

EARLY OFFER: National federations who book with 4 players or more, registered before the deadline of **10 October**, receive a credit of 60 € per person towards their registration/accommodation packages of article 7.

Check-in time is 14:00 and check-out time is 11:00. Extra nights can be requested in advance and, upon availability, can be possible at proportional cost.

Private car or taxi transfer from/to the airport is possible for 35 euros (one way).

The deadline for registrations and bookings is **10 October 2025**, together with a 30% deposit payment for the selected registration-accommodation package.

8. REGISTRATION PROCEDURE

All players, accompanying persons and delegation members have to register (without any objection from their national federation) before the deadline of 10 October 2025, together with a 30% deposit payment of the registration-accommodation package described in article (7) above. After the deadline, upon availability of capacity, a late registration fee of 50 euros may apply per participant.

The complete registration 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.

Registrations and bookings for the event are possible only through the appointed Organiser in the official hotel and only by email: info@malta2025.org

9. TITLES and QUALIFICATION TO FIDE WORLD AMATEUR CHAMPIONSHIP

- 9.1 The winner of each open/men's category receives the relevant title respectively: "European Amateur Chess Champion U-1700, U-2000 and U-2300."
- 9.2 The winners of gold, silver and bronze medals in the open/men's category **U-2300** are eligible to receive the FIDE title of Candidate Master (CM).
- 9.3 The winner of gold medal in the open/men's category **U-2000** is eligible to receive the FIDE title of Candidate Master (CM).
- 9.4 Women: The winner of each women's category receives the relevant title respectively: "European Women's Amateur Chess Champion U-1700, U-2000 and U-2300."
- 9.5 Women: The winners of gold, silver and bronze medals in the women's category **U-2300** are eligible to receive the FIDE title of Woman Candidate Master (WCM).
- 9.6 Women: The winner of gold medal in the women's category **U-2000** is eligible to receive the FIDE title of Woman Candidate Master (WCM).
- 9.7 As per FIDE handbook (chapter D.04.04, articles 6 and 7), the Organising Committee of next year's FIDE World Amateur Championships provides free board and lodging in double rooms for the winners of each European Amateur Championship section and the winners of each European Women's Amateur Championship section (unless they reach or exceed a FIDE standard rating of 2300 by the application deadline). In case the winner of each European championship cannot participate, his/her place cannot be substituted.

10. PRIZE FUND

- 10.1 In addition to the titles and benefits of chapter 9 above, the winners also receive the following money prizes:

Rank	Open/Men U-2300	Open/Men U-2000	Open/Men U-1700
1	1,000 €	350 €	250 €
2	600 €	200 €	150 €
3	200 €	150 €	150 €
4	100 €	100 €	100 €
Rank	Women U-2300	Women U-2000	Women U-1700
1	200 €	200 €	150 €
2	150 €	150 €	100 €
3	100 €	100 €	100 €

- 10.2 Each player can win only one money prize (the highest). For the players with the same number of points, prizes are divided equally.
- 10.3 The top 3 winners of each championship section will be awarded with cups, after applying tie-break criteria (if needed).

11. PARALLEL ACTIVITIES

During the event you can also enjoy the following excursions, among others:

- * Explore **Valletta**, the magnificent capital of Malta, built in 1566 by the Knights of Saint John as a fortress city. The Armoury of the famous **Grand Master's Palace** hosts today over 5,000 suits of 16th to 18th century original armour of the Knights.
- * Visit the authentic and pure **Gozo island**. The Ġgantija temples in Gozo are the earliest of the Megalithic Temples of Malta and are older than the pyramids of Egypt. The ferry terminal to Gozo is walking distance from the official hotel and the ferry crossing takes only 45 minutes.
- * The **Coral Lagoon**, one of Malta's natural wonders, is now a famous attraction for Instagram fans due to its stunning landscape.
- * The **Blue Lagoon** in Comino island, also one of Malta's beautiful spots with spectacular views. The boats to Comino are located right across the official hotel and the boat trip is only 20 minutes.
- * Visit **Mdina**, the old capital of Malta until 1530, which continually captivates visitors with its maze of narrow streets and historic limestone buildings. It remains today of the best-conserved walled cities in Europe.



12. TOURNAMENT OFFICE / CONTACT DESK



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