



**WORLD SCHOOLS TEAM CHAMPIONSHIP
AKTAU (KAZAKHSTAN)
3 – 8 AUGUST 2023**

INVITATION

FIDE and the Kazakhstan Chess Federation invite all FIDE member federations and eligible players to participate in the World Schools Team Championship 2023. The championship will be held in Aktau (Caspian Sea-Side). Playing venue is Halyk Arena, 17 micro districts, <https://go.2gis.com/37wig>. The dates are 3 of August (arrivals) to 8 of August (departures) 2023.

WELCOME



Caspian Sea-Side

The central square

1. SCOPE

- 1.1. The World Schools Team Championship is the flagship FIDE competition among the teams of general educational institutions (hereinafter referred to as “WSTC”) shall be governed by the General Regulations for FIDE Competitions, except where these Regulations override them.
- 1.2. WSTC is organized under the aegis of the Events Commission (hereinafter referred to as “EVE”).
- 1.3. Teams of chess academies, chess clubs, chess departments of junior physical training clubs, specialized sports schools, Olympic reserve schools, or those that combine players from more than one general educational institution are not allowed to participate.
- 1.4. The competition shall be organized in two categories:
 - 1.4.1. Players who shall not have reached the age of 12 before January 1st of 2023.
 - 1.4.2. Players who shall not have reached the age of 18 before January 1st of 2023.

2. SCHEDULE

WEEKDAY	DATE	TIME	EVENT
Thursday	3 August	10:00 - 19:00	Arrival, Accreditation
Thursday	3 rd August	21:30	Technical Meeting Captains Halyk Arena
Friday	4 th August	11:00 - 12:00	Opening Ceremony
Friday	4 th August	15:00 - 17:00	Round 1
Friday	4 th August	18:00 - 20:00	Round 2
Saturday	5 th August	15:00 - 17:00	Round 3
Saturday	5 th August	18:00 - 20:00	Round 4
Sunday	6 th August	15:00 – 17:00	Round 5
Sunday	6 th August	18:00 - 20:00	Round 6
Monday	7 th August	10:00 - 12:00	Round 7
Monday	7 th August	14:00 - 16:00	Round 8
Monday	7 th August	19:30	Closing Ceremony
Tuesday	8 th August		Departure

3. PARTICIPATION

- 3.1. National Federations may allocate a maximum of three qualifying places to the two categories in total. For the avoidance of doubt, this does not mean a total of six qualifying places; i.e. three qualifying places for each tournament.
- 3.2. Each team shall consist of four main players, one reserve, and one non-playing captain. All members of the team must have a FIDE ID.
- 3.3. National Federations should have conducted eligibility checks (see Article 1.3) that the children are educated at the school that is entering the tournament. A team that is found to have an ineligible player will be subject to the following sanctions:
 - The team and its individual players will be disqualified from the competition and forfeit all prizes they have won (see Article Prizes).
 - The school will be banned from participation in the next edition of the competition. This ban may be extended by the FIDE Council.
 - The National Federation will be banned from entering teams into the next edition of the competition. This ban may be extended by the FIDE Council.
 - The FIDE Council may report any of the parties involved to the FIDE Ethics & Disciplinary Commission for further investigation, which may lead to further sanctions.
- 3.4. The participating teams shall be responsible for their own travel expenses, insurance. The National Federation is allowed to assume this responsibility from the participating teams.
- 3.5. The first 50 National Federations to enter are entitled to nominate one of their teams to have “invited team” status, which will entitle that team to:
 - Free accommodation – two twin rooms and one single room for the children, and one single room for the captain.
 - A travel grant – Schools situated in member Federations affiliated to Asia and Europe are entitled to a travel grant up to \$5,000. Schools situated in member Federations affiliated to Africa and the Americas are entitled to a travel grant up to \$10,000. This will cover the cost of:
 - Economy class flights from the member Federation to the host city.
 - Any domestic internal travel expenses from the city in which the school is situated to the airport (e.g. standard class rail fare, internal flights). The organizers reserve the

right not to award this grant if the expenses are not approved by them in advance.

Note: EVE will keep in reserve enough “invited team” places during this allocation process such that one team per FIDE continent can benefit from the status.

4. REGISTRATION

- 4.1. The deadline for the registration is **July 3rd 2023**.
- 4.2. In order to ensure proper tournament standards, FIDE member federations must fully complete the official online registration, accommodation & travel form before the registration deadline July 3rd, 2023. Incomplete registrations will not be accepted. Individual applications will not be accepted also.
- 4.3. The registration form is available via link: <https://wstcc2023.fide.com/registration/>
FIDE member federations will be able to add data or modify the registration using Edit link before the registration deadline; Edit link will be delivered on an official email provided during the registration. Photos for accreditation and passport data for visa issues need to be prepared beforehand.
- 4.4. After the registration deadline, only FIDE member federations who will have national championships later than July 3rd and have informed the Organizers in advance will receive the links individually.

5. VISA INFORMATION

- 5.1. Information on visa can be found here: <https://www.gov.kz/memleket/entities/mfa/press/article/details/6764?lang=en>
Note: the total duration of stay in Kazakhstan from January 2023 should be less than a specified time.
- 5.2. For visa consultation contact via email a.newday@mail.ru and WhatsApp number +7 (708) 775-55-81.
- 5.3. Those who need visas must submit their data the latest on 3rd of July 2023.
- 5.4. Information on obtaining an electronic visa can be found here: <https://egov.kz/cms/en/articles/rk visa obtaining>.

6. TRAVEL FROM AIRPORTS TO THE HOTELS

- 6.1. The organizer will provide transport services of all participants on August 3rd as well as the departure transfer on August 8th. If any delegation arrives one or two days before the competition or leaves later the same service will be provided.
- 6.2. Players who make private transport arrangements and clearly indicate this in the registration form will be fully responsible for any problems they experience during arrival or departure.

7. ACCOMMODATION

- 7.1. The reservation will be done on the “First Come, First Served” basis.
- 7.2. Hotel reservation deadline is **July 3rd 2023**.
- 7.3. For Security and organizational reasons and in accordance with FIDE tournament regulations all national delegations are obliged to use the official hotels designated by the Organizing Committee. Bookings must be done only through the organizer of the World Schools Team Championship.
- 7.4. Members of “additional teams” or accompanying people may stay one of the next hotels based on FB (Breakfast, lunch and dinner) for per person per day:

Renaissance Aktau ***** (5 km from the playing venue)	Caspian Riviera ***** (6 km from the playing venue)	Holiday Inn Aktau **** (2 km from the playing venue)
Double – 69 USD	Double – 94 USD	Double – 77 USD
Single – 98 USD	Single – 119 USD	Single – 100 USD

The tourist fee (bed tax) for foreigners in the amount of 5% of the cost of stay per day will be additionally added to the hotel rates

8. PAYMENTS

- 8.1. The Accommodation payment deadline is July 15th, 2023.
- 8.2. All payments for accommodation shall be done directly to the Official hotels after receiving an invoice.

9. TECHNICAL REGULATIONS

- 9.1. The Championships will be held according to FIDE tournament Rules and Laws of Chess.

- 9.2. The tournament will be an 8-round Swiss, played with two games per day over 4 days. In case of not sufficient number of teams in any age category The Organizers are intitle to change the system of the tournament.
- 9.3. The captain will provide their four main players and reserve in a fixed board order not later than the end of the technical meeting. This order will be fixed for the duration of the tournament. There is no requirement to assign board numbers in rating order.
- 9.4. The team composition for each round shall be submitted not later than 30 minutes before each round. A team captain who fails to submit their team composition in a round will be deemed to have chosen the four main players in their team.
- 9.5. The first-named team in a pairing shall have the white pieces on the odd-numbered boards, the black pieces on the even-numbered boards.
- 9.6. *The time control will be 45 minutes, plus 10 seconds increment per move starting from move one.*
- 9.7. The default time is 10 minutes.
- 9.8. The following FIDE regulations apply in full (see Annex 1):
 - 9.8.1. Captains and Heads of Delegation
 - 9.8.2. Appeals Committee Procedural Rules.
- 9.9. Articles 3-11 of the Olympiad Pairing Rules (see Annex 1) will apply, except that:
 - 9.9.1. Odd Number of Participating Teams (Article 2); this does not apply, and is replaced with, "If there is an odd number of participating teams in a section, the organizing federation has the right to enter another team into that section. If this team is paired and plays round 1, it shall remain in the tournament to the conclusion even if teams joining or withdrawing during the tournament results in there being an odd number of teams."
 - 9.9.2. Ranking of Teams for Pairing Purposes (Article 3); for the purpose of this Article, players without a FIDE rapid rating will instead use their FIDE standard rating. Players with neither of these ratings shall be considered as having a rating of 1000.
 - 9.9.3. Unpaired Teams (Article 10); Article 10.2 shall be "Any paired team that has less than three players for two rounds, consecutive or otherwise, will not be paired for the rest of the tournament."
 - 9.9.4. Miscellaneous (Article 11); references to the "Global Strategy Commission" shall be to the "Events Commission".
- 9.10. "Standard Level" Anti-Cheating Protection Measures will apply (see Annex 1).

10. Upon arrival or any time during the event, captains or players may be required to present passports for verification of players age eligibility.
11. The team rankings will be determined by:
 - 11.1. Matchpoints (2 for a match win, 1 for a match draw, 0 for a match loss)
 - 11.2. Olympiad Sonneborn-Berger Tie-Break (Chennai)
 - 11.3. Gamepoints
 - 11.4. Sum of Adjusted Opponents Matchpoints (Chennai)
12. The individual rankings for each board will be determined by:
 - 12.1. Gamepoint Percentage (forfeit wins and forfeit losses count)
 - 12.2. Number of Games Played (forfeit wins count, forfeit losses do not count)
 - 12.3. Number of Games Won (forfeit wins count)
 - 12.4. Buchholz (rounds where a player is not named to play are ignored; forfeit wins and forfeit losses count as if they were played games)
 - 12.5. Higher team ranking (see Article 10)

13. APPEALS PROCEDURE

A protest against the decisions of the Chief Arbiter must be submitted in written form to the Chairmen of the Appeals Committee within 15 minutes after the competition of the respective game. The protest must be accompanied with the sum of 200 Euros, as a deposit. If the appeal is granted, the sum shall be returned immediately. If the appeal is refused, the deposit is forfeited to FIDE. The appeal has to be lodged by the player. The decisions of the AC are final.

14. PRIZES

The following prizes will be presented:

- Participation certificates to all players, reserves and captains.
- All players, the reserve and captain of the first, second and third-placed teams determined by Article 11 will receive cups, and gold, silver and bronze medals respectively, and other memorable gifts.
- The first, second and third-placed players on each board determined by Article 12 will receive cups, and gold, silver and bronze medals respectively. Players must play a minimum of 6 games to be eligible for a board prize. The definition of a played game in 12.2 applies.

15. ELECTRICITY

In Kazakhstan the power plug sockets are of type C and F. The standard voltage is 220 V and the frequency is 50 Hz.

16. WEATHER CONDITIONS

The average air temperature is 28°C (82°F).

The average water temperature is 24°C (75°F).

<https://www.lada.kz/t/>

17. CONTACT INFORMATION

Email – wstcc@fide.com

Annex 1 – FIDE Regulations

Relevant FIDE Regulations can be found here:

FIDE Laws of Chess: <https://handbook.fide.com/chapter/E012023>

Olympiad Pairing Rules: <https://handbook.fide.com/chapter/OlympiadPairingRules2022>

Captains and Heads of Delegation:

<https://handbook.fide.com/chapter/CaptainsHeadsDelegation>

Appeals Committee Procedural Rules:

<https://handbook.fide.com/chapter/AppealsCommitteeProceduralRules>

Anti-Cheating Protection Measures:

<https://handbook.fide.com/files/handbook/ACCProtectionMeasures.pdf>