

ZONE 4.2

(WEST AFRICA CHESS CHAMPIONSHIPS)

LAGOS, 2025

UNDER THE AUSPICES OF FIDE ZONE 4.2 AND ACC





MARCH 31 - APRIL 09, 2025

Citiheight Luxury Hotel Ikeja, Lagos.





1. Welcome/Invitation

1.1 Dear Friends,

The Nigeria Chess Federation (NCF), under the auspices of the African Chess Confederation (ACC) and in collaboration with the National Sports Commission of Nigeria, has the honor of inviting all federations within the Zone 4.2 region that are affiliated to the World Chess Federation (FIDE) to participate in the 2025 Zone 4.2 Individual Chess Championships.

1.2 The event will comprise an Open Section and a Women's section.

1.3 The Championships will be held from March 31, 2025 (arrival) to April 9, 2025 (departure) at the Citi-height Luxury Hotel, Ikeja, Lagos.

2. Participants

2.1 In accordance with FIDE regulations, the Zone 4.2 Individual Chess Championships are open to all players from federations within the Zone 4.2 region which are affiliated to FIDE.

2.2 Federations will be allowed to enter a maximum of five (5) players in each category.

2.3 The host federation reserves the right to field up to seven (7) players in each category and also hold a player in reserve; that can be registered if there are an odd number of participants.

2.4 Subject to agreement with the organizers, the Zone 4.2 President and ACC President may allow additional participants for the tournament.



3. Tournament Regulations

- 3.1 It is intended that the Championships will be played in accordance with FIDE regulations as a 9 Round Swiss System tournament.
- 3.2 Time control will be 90 minutes for the first 40 moves, followed by 30 minutes for the rest of the game, with an increment of 30 seconds per move starting from move one (1).
- 3.3 The games will be played using Digital Boards, Digital Clocks; and pairings will be published on www.chess-results.com
- 3.4 Draw offers are not allowed before Black's 30th move.
- 3.5 The default time will be 30 minutes for all rounds.

4. Tie-Break

- 4.1 In case of a tie for the overall winner or other places, the tie will be broken as follows:
 - 4.1.1 Results between the players involved in the tie
 - 4.1.2 Buchholz (Cut 1)
 - 4.1.3 Highest number of wins by black
 - 4.1.4 The player with the highest Tournament Performance Rating (TPR) wins



5. Prizes and Qualification

5.1 General prizes will be provided for the Open and Women sections based on the below spread.

5.2 Table of prizes for Open and Women sections:

CASH PRIZES		
FINAL RANKING	OPEN	WOMEN
FIRST	\$1,000	\$800
SECOND	\$750	\$500
THIRD	\$550	\$200
FOURTH	\$450	\$100
FIFTH	\$350	
SIXTH	\$200	
SEVENTH	\$150	
EIGHTH	\$100	

5.3 Special cash prizes will also be available to promote home-grown talents and to encourage competition in rating bands.

5.4 Note: Prizes will be increased based on actualization of commitments from sponsors.

5.5 The Championship will act as a Qualifying Event to the Super Zonals Individual Chess Championships which will offer FIDE Titles as per FIDE Title Regulations 2024 published, including qualification to the FIDE World Cup 2025 and FIDE Grand Swiss Chess Championship 2025. **Below are the links for FIDE Title Regulations;**

Direct Titles will be awarded according to FIDE handbook and the link to the table <https://handbook.fide.com/chapter/B01DirectTitles2024> FIDE Title Regulations effective from 1st January 2024 is as below; <https://handbook.fide.com/chapter/B012024>



6. Tournament Schedule

- 6.1 The tournament schedule is as follows but subject to some changes if need be. However, any changes to the schedule will be communicated during the Technical Meeting before the start of the first round.

EVENT SCHEDULE MARCH 31 – APRIL 09, 2025		
DATE	TIME (GMT+0)	ACTIVITIES
MONDAY, MARCH 31, 2025	ALL DAY	ARRIVAL
TUESDAY, APRIL 01, 2025	12:00	TECHNICAL MEETING
	16:00	ROUND 1
WEDNESDAY, APRIL 02, 2025	10:00	ROUND 2
THURSDAY, APRIL 03, 2025	10:00	ROUND 3
	16:00	ROUND 4
FRIDAY, APRIL 04, 2025	10:00	ROUND 5
SATURDAY, APRIL 05, 2025	REST DAY	ALL DAY
SUNDAY, APRIL 06, 2025	10:00	ROUND 6
	16:00	ROUND 7
MONDAY, APRIL 07, 2025	10:00	ROUND 8
TUESDAY, APRIL 08, 2025	10:00	ROUND 9
	18:00	CLOSING CEREMONY
WEDNESDAY, APRIL 09, 2025	ALL DAY	DEPARTURE



7. Arbitration & Appeals

- 7.1 The Chief Arbiter, Deputy Chief Arbiter and other members of the Arbitration Team for the 2025 Zone 4.2 Individual Chess Championships will be appointed by the Zonal President in consultation with the Local Organizing Committee (LOC).
- 7.2 The Appeals Committee will consist of 3 members and 2 reserves chosen from among the participating federations.
- 7.3 The Chairman of the Appeals Committee will be appointed by the Zonal President.
- 7.4 Any protest regarding a decision taken by the Chief Arbiter or any of his assistants must be submitted in writing to the Chairman of the Appeals Committee within THIRTY MINUTES after the completion of the respective game.
- 7.5 A written protest must be accompanied with the sum of US\$50.00 as a deposit from the signatory. The deposit must be handed to the Chairman of the appeals committee. If the appeal is granted, the sum shall be returned immediately. If the appeal is found to be baseless by the appeals committee, the deposit will be forfeited to the NCF.

8. Participation & Registration

- 8.1 All official players and additional players shall be required to pay a Zonal fee of \$50 per player.
- 8.2 The Registration Fee for each participating player and accompanying persons is \$60 and must be paid into the Nigeria Chess Federation's account before March 15, 2025.
- 8.3 Late registration attracts a penalty charge of \$20. The host federation will thereafter reserve the rights to accept or reject any player.
- 8.4 Payments may be made also upon arrival; provided a request is made to the Organizers. Players whose Fees remain unpaid at the end of the Technical Meeting will not be allowed to participate in the tournament.



- 8.5 One player in the Women Category and one in the Open category from each federation will be recognized as official players while all others will be additional players.
- 8.6 Only Federations can register players.
- 8.7 No refunds will be made for any player, official or accompanying person who fails to make it to the Tournament after paying Registration or Zonal fees.
- 8.8 Registration Forms for entries are attached herein; Federation officials must fill them in and return them to the designated Nigeria Chess Federation officials on or before MARCH 15, 2025 by email to confirm entry.
- 8.9 All registered players, officials and accompanying persons are entitled to:
- 8.10 Transportation to and from Murtala Mohammed International Airport on the arrival and departure dates.
- 8.11 For players, free bottled water, coffee or tea and snacks during time of play.

9. Boarding and Lodging

- 9.1 All additional players, officials and accompanying persons from participating federations will lodge at \$45 per person per day (sharing) or \$90 per person per day (single room). This payment (\$45 for sharing and \$90 for single room) is for full boarding, which includes 3 meals a day (breakfast, lunch and dinner).
- 9.2 All payments related to board and lodging must be made before the **DEADLINE DATE**, which is MARCH 15, 2025.
- 9.3 Players, officials and accompanying persons who arrive before the official arrival date or depart after the official departure date will be expected to arrange their own accommodation for the extra days or pay for the additional days at the tournament lodging venue.
- 9.4 Participating Federations will receive free full boarding for one Official Player in each section.



10. Total Cost of Participation

COST OF PARTICIPATION SUMMARY: REGISTRATION, BOARDING AND LODGING					
PARTICIPANTS CATEGORY		REG	DAYS	FULL BOARD/ DAY	TOTAL
A	Official Players (sharing)	\$110	9	\$0	\$110
A1	Official Players(single)	\$110	9	\$45	\$515
B	Additional Players(sharing)	\$110	9	\$45	\$515
B1	Additional Players(single)	\$110	9	\$90	\$920
C	Accompanying persons (sharing)	\$60	9	\$45	\$465
C1	Accompanying persons (single)	\$60	9	\$90	\$870

- 10.1 All payments must be made to the account of the Nigeria Chess Federation using the bank details as indicated below or upon arrival subject to a specific request to the organizers. If payments are not received before the start of the competition, players will not be allowed to participate in the tournament.

11. Accreditation

- 10.1 Each federation should send names together with Passport size photos for all their players, officials and accompanying persons by MARCH 15, 2025.



12. Bank Details

BANK TRANSFER INFORMATION (US DOLLAR ACCOUNTS)	
ACCOUNT NAME	TBA
ACCOUNT NUMBER	TBA
BANK NAME	TBA
BRANCH NAME	TBA
SWIFT CODE	TBA
BANK ADDRESS	TBA
ACCOUNT NAME	TBA
ACCOUNT NUMBER	TBA
BANK NAME	TBA
BRANCH NAME	TBA
SWIFT CODE	TBA
BANK ADDRESS	TBA

13. Local Currency

The legal tender in Nigeria is the Nigerian Naira.

14. Travel Arrangements

- 14.1 All travelling arrangements and costs to get to or depart from the Murtala Mohammed International Airport (or other points of entry at the various land borders) are to be taken care of by respective federations or respective players participating in the tournament.
- 14.2 Organizers will meet participants and accompanying persons at Murtala Mohammed International Airport or at a Bus Terminal in Lagos provided that the



full itinerary for each participant and their accompanying persons is communicated to the organizer by March 15, 2025.

15. VISA & VACCINE CARDS

- 15.1 For delegations coming from countries requiring entry visas, these can be obtained from Nigerian embassies or consulate offices in your respective countries. Most countries can also process e-visas in advance and obtain Visas on arrival at the airport or land borders.
- 15.2 We will avail an official invitation to delegations that need a copy for VISA processing.
- 15.3 It's compulsory in Nigeria for travellers to have a Valid Yellow Fever Vaccine Book and could be asked for COVID-19 Vaccination Certificate.

16. Deadline

- 10.1 Entry forms must be filled by the respective Federation and returned to the host federation not later than March 15, 2025. This date is the registration deadline.

17.1 Organizers' Contacts

17.1.1 Tournament Director

17.1.1.1 Email: adeyinkaadewole@gmail.com

| Phone: +2348158393381

17.1.2 Technical Director

17.1.2.1 Email: bodealli93@gmail.com

| Phone: +2348034359536



17.2. Zone 4.2 Countries

- 17.2.1 Burkina Faso
- 17.2.2 Cape Verde
- 17.2.3 Côte d'Ivoire
- 17.2.4 Gambia
- 17.2.5 Ghana
- 17.2.6 Liberia
- 17.2.7 Mali
- 17.2.8 Niger
- 17.2.9 Nigeria
- 17.2.10 Senegal
- 17.2.11 Sierra Leone
- 17.2.12 Togo

Yours Sincerely,

Prince Adeyinka Adewole

Chairman,

Local Organising Committee,

Zone 4.2 Individual Chess Championships



18. Registration Form

18.1. This form should be filled by zone 4.2 federations and emailed to the Nigeria Chess Federation (chessngfederation@gmail.com) before MARCH 15, 2025.



19. About Nigeria

Nigeria, often called the "Giant of Africa," is a West African country known for its vast population, rich cultural diversity, and economic potential. It is the most populous country in Africa, with well over 200 million people, and is bordered by Benin Republic, Niger, Chad, and Cameroon. The country's coastline stretches along the Gulf of Guinea, providing access to international trade and commerce.

History and Politics

Nigeria's history dates back to ancient civilizations such as the Nok, Ife, and Benin Kingdoms. The region became a British colony in the late 19th century and gained independence on October 1, 1960. Since then, Nigeria has experienced military rule, civil war (1967–1970), and transitions between democratic and autocratic governments. Today, it operates as a federal republic with 36 states and a Federal Capital Territory (Abuja).

Economy

Nigeria has Africa's largest economy, driven by oil and gas, agriculture, technology, and entertainment. The country is one of the world's top oil producers, but it also faces various challenges. The tech industry, especially in Lagos, is booming, with start-ups attracting international investments. Nollywood, Nigeria's movie industry is the second-largest film producer globally, contributing significantly to the nation's economy.

Culture and Society

With over 250 ethnic groups and 500 languages, Nigeria is a cultural powerhouse. The three largest ethnic groups are (in no particular order):

Yoruba (Southwest) – Famous for their art, literature, and business acumen

Hausa-Fulani (North) – Known for their political influence and trade

Igbo (Southeast) – Recognized for their entrepreneurial spirit and rich traditions

Nigeria is also a major force in global sports, music, and literature. Figures like Wole Soyinka, Chinua Achebe, Fela Kuti, and Burna Boy have put Nigeria on the world stage. The country's passion for football is legendary, with the Super Eagles being one of Africa's top team.





20. The Nigeria Chess Federation's Contacts

Nigeria Chess Federation

20.1. Location: Federations Office, National Stadium, Surulere, Lagos

20.2. Email: chessngfederation@gmail.com

20.3. President: DIG (Rtd) Sani Mohammed, mni.

20.4. Email: sanichess1@gmail.com

20.5. Mobile: +2348037858211

20.6. Vice President: Prince Adewole Adeyinka

20.7. Email: adeyinkaadewole@gmail.com

20.8. Mobile: +2348158393381

20.9. Secretary General: Mrs Thukson Ejiro

20.10. Email: ejirokeleghe@gmail.com

20.11. Mobile: +2348035803591



ABOUT ZONE 4.2 INDIVIDUAL CHESS CHAMPIONSHIPS

The Zone 4.2 Individual Chess Championships remains a key chess event for West African chess federations. Led by Ameku Philip of Ghana, the zone consists of countries like: Nigeria, Ghana, Cape Verde, Côte d'Ivoire, Senegal, Sierra Leone, among others, as well as the notable Fide Vice President Adeyemi Olalekan. The tournament, although no longer serving as a qualifier for the Chess World Cup, provides a crucial platform for regional talent development, as well as a Pre-Qualifier to the World Cup.

Key Players

Top active players from the zone include but are not limited to; the 2024 champion – FM Akintoye Abdulrahman Abdulraheem (Nigeria), IM Ortega Amarelle Mariano (Cape Verde), and CM Nicholas Cogan (Côte d'Ivoire).

Format and Details

The event features Open and Women's sections and uses a Swiss System pairing method, with both sections influencing the FIDE ratings of the players.



