



European Senior Chess Championships

Categories 50+ and 65+

5 April – 15 April 2019

Olympic Palace (***)-Rhodes- Greece**

1. Invitation

This is the official invitation to all European Chess Federations affiliated to FIDE and ECU to participate in the European Senior Individual Chess Championships for Men and Women (Fide zones 1.1 to 1.10)

2. Venue

The European Senior Chess Championship will be held in Rhodes, Greece from April 5 (day of arrival) until April 15 (day of departure) 2019. The tournament will be held in the conference center of Olympic Palace Hotel (*****), 10 km east of Rhodes international airport (RHO). Olympic Palace is an excellent holiday destination, in front of a wonderful sandy beach on the crystal-clear waters of the Aegean Sea.

3. Tournament Schedule

Arrivals / Technical meeting:	Friday	5 April	19:00
Round 1:	Saturday	6 April	15:00
Round 2:	Sunday	7 April	15:00
Round 3:	Monday	8 April	15:00
Round 4:	Tuesday	9 April	15:00
Round 5:	Wednesday	10 April	15:00
Round 6:	Thursday	11 April	15:00
Round 7:	Friday	12 April	15:00
Round 8:	Saturday	13 April	15:00
Round 9:	Sunday	14 April	10:30
Prize Awards:	Sunday	14 April	17:00
Departures:	Monday	15 April	By 12:00

After consultation with ECU and the organizers, the Chief Arbiter can make changes in the above tournament schedule. Such changes will be announced in due time.

4. Participation

4.1 The European Senior Chess Championship is open to all players representing ECU Chess Federations which comprise European Chess Union (FIDE zones 1.1 to 1.10) who have been born in the year 1969 or earlier, regardless of their title or rating. There is also no limit in the number of participants per federation. Applications have to be sent by the National federations or to be approved by the National federations.

4.2 In accordance with the ECU tournament rule the Championship will be played in two categories: one for those who shall have reached the age of 50 (category SENIOR 50+), and one for those who shall have reached the age of 65 (category SENIOR 65+).

4.3 Players who have reached the age of 65 by the 31st December 2018 are allowed to participate in the category SENIOR 50+ if they request it. In each age category an Open and a Women's competition is organized. There is also no limit of participants per federation.

5. System and rate of play

5.1 The championship is based on Swiss system in accordance with the ECU Tournament Rules and FIDE Rules of Chess. The playing time 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.

5.2 Women tournament will be played separately. If in total the women participants are less than nine they will play in the Open tournaments with separate prizes.

5.3 In case of tiebreak ECU tournament regulations are valid

5.4 Default time at the start of all rounds will be 15minutes.

5.5 A player may **once** take a half point bye in any of the first seven rounds of the tournament; provided adequate notice has been given and is agreed to by the arbiter.

6. Ranking & 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. In the case of unplayed games, for the calculation of tiebreak criteria the current FIDE Competition Rules shall be applied.

7. Appeals

Protests, including protests against decisions of the Chief Arbiter or his assistants, or the Tournament Director, must be submitted in written form to the Chairman of the appeals committee within one hour after completion of the respective game. The protest must be accompanied with the sum of 200 € or the equivalent in local currency, 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 refused, the deposit is forfeited to the European Chess Union. The decisions of the Appeals Committee are final.

8. Prizes

8.1 The winner of the European Senior Chess Championship+50 receives the title “European Senior Chess Champion 2018 +50”.

8.2 The winner of the European Senior Chess Championship+65 receives the title “European Senior Chess Champion 2018 +65”.

8.3 The winner of the European Senior Women Chess Championship+50 receives the title “European Senior Women Chess Champion 2018 +50”.

8.4 The winner of the European Senior Women Chess Championship+65 receives the title “European Senior Women Chess Champion 2018 +65”.

8.5 Money prizes

RankESCC – Open Senior 50+ ESCC – Open Senior 65+ ESCC Women Senior 50+ ESCC Women Senior 65+

1	1000 €	1000 €	650 €	650 €
2	750 €	750 €	450 €	450 €
3	600 €	600 €	300 €	300 €
4	450 €	450 €		
5	350 €	350 €		
6	250 €	250 €		
7	200 €	200 €		

Total Prize fund: 10.000 EUR

A player can get one prize only. According to the ECU Tournament Rules and regulations, the money prizes will be equally shared among the players with the same score. If one of the prize winners is absent during the closing ceremony, then: his/her money prize will be reduced by 20 % with a minimum of 100 €. Any other prize (medal, trophy ...) will not be awarded as long as a penalty of 100€ has not been paid. The money will be forfeited to ECU.

8.6 The first 3 places will be awarded with cups and medals.

9. Qualifications to World Senior Championships

According to FIDE Handbook D.03.7, the top 3 players from each category of the European Senior Championship 2019 are qualified with personal rights (free board and lodging) to the World Senior Championship 2020. The Organizer does not guarantee this, and if the regulations are changed at a later time, does not bear any financial or other responsibilities for this.

10. Accommodation packages in the Olympic Palace Hotel (***) (official hotel)**

All packages includes accommodation for 10 nights per person in the 5-star Olympic Palace, registration fee (40 euros), ECU entry fee (20 euros), daily full board with breakfast, lunch and dinner, transportation from the airport both ways, free WiFi internet access and free use of hotel pools for the following prices:

- 685 euros total per person in a double room for 10 nights
- 925 euros total per person in a single room for 10 nights

Additional nights are possible upon request and in proportional discount.

11. Rhodes Chess Festival 2019

European Senior Chess Championship 2019 is part of the “**Rhodes Chess Festival 2019**”. Immediately after the end of the ESCC 2019, from 15 April to 25 April 2019, in the same hotel Olympic Palace (*****) will be held the World Team Senior Chess Championship 2019 with a total prizes of 10000 euros. For participants of EACC 2019 who will decide to stay further in Olympic Palace and participate in **WSTC 2019**, the organizers will apply a **cash reward of 100 euros** in total to each participant and a **city tour in Rhodes** on 15 April, **free of charge**. A unique opportunity for senior chess players to combine two chess events in the beautiful island of Rhodes with only one air ticket!

12. Registration deadline

Entries must be sent by **15 February 2019** by email to: chess.at.holidays@gmail.com

All entries shall be confirmed by the Tournament Director and rooms will be booked after a deposit payment of €200 euros per person, free of bank charges, paid to the event's travel agency bank account (AT Holidays Ltd) within a week after the deadline of 15th February 2019. The receipt of the deposit payment must also be sent via email to the Organising Committee. The remaining balance shall be paid upon arrival and no later than the start of the 2nd round.

13. Flights / Transportation

The nearest airport is Rhodes International Airport (IATA code: RHO), 10 km east of Olympic Palace Hotel. Upon request, the organizers can provide bus transportation from Rhodes airport to Olympic Palace Hotel with return included, for the dates 5 April (arrival) and 15 April (departure). Costs are included in the accommodation packages. Such request must be submitted together with the team registration of each participant. Organizers can provide private transportation with taxi in any other date, with an additional cost.

14. Side Events / Excursions Program (on request)

- Excursion – city tour to Rhodes
- Half day tour to Lindos

15. More information / Organisers Contacts

* Nikos Kalesis

FIDE International Organiser

Tel. (+30) 6938326161

* Christina Ioannidou

Tournament Secretariat

Email: chess.at.holidays@gmail.com



