



25th EUROPEAN YOUTH RAPID & BLITZ CHAMPIONSHIP

Rzeszów, Poland, 6 – 10 July 2026

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 2026 under 8, 10, 12, 14, 16 and 18 years, organised from 6 July (arrivals) to 10 July (departures).

The event will be held in the Podpromie Playing Hall in Rzeszów, Poland.

2. Participation:

2.1 The European Youth Rapid and Blitz Chess Championship 2026 is open to all players representing European National Chess Federations, in accordance with the following age categories:

- **Under 08 (Open & Girls)** – players born on or after **1 January 2018**
- **Under 10 (Open & Girls)** – players born on or after **1 January 2016**
- **Under 12 (Open & Girls)** – players born on or after **1 January 2014**
- **Under 14 (Open & Girls)** – players born on or after **1 January 2012**
- **Under 16 (Open & Girls)** – players born on or after **1 January 2010**
- **Under 18 (Open & Girls)** – players born on or after **1 January 2008**

2.2 Each National Federation has the right to register an unlimited number of players in each age category, provided that all players meet the respective eligibility criteria.

2.3 In accordance with ECU regulations, all participants and accompanying persons shall be accommodated in the official hotels designated by the Organizer.

2.4 Access to the playing hall and all official venues shall be granted exclusively to persons accredited by the Organizer.

3. COMPETITION FORMAT

3.1 European Youth Rapid Chess Championship 2026

- The Championship shall be played over **9 rounds**, according to the **Swiss system** (one game per round).
- **Rate of play:** 15 minutes + 10 seconds increment per move, starting from move one.
- **Categories (12 in total):** Open and Girls Under 8, 10, 12, 14, 16 and 18.
- **Prizes:** The top three (3) players in each category shall receive trophies, medals, and prizes in kind.

3.2 European Youth Blitz Chess Championship 2026

- The Championship shall be played over **9 rounds**, according to the **Swiss system** (two games per round).
- **Rate of play:** 3 minutes + 2 seconds increment per move, starting from move one.
- **Categories (12 in total):** Open and Girls Under 8, 10, 12, 14, 16 and 18.
- **Prizes:** The top three (3) players in each category shall receive trophies, medals, and prizes in kind.

3.3 Titles

The winners in each category shall receive the following official ECU titles:

- European Youth Rapid Champion (U8, U10, U12, U14, U16, U18)
- European Youth Girls Rapid Champion (U8, U10, U12, U14, U16, U18)
- European Youth Blitz Champion (U8, U10, U12, U14, U16, U18)
- European Youth Girls Blitz Champion (U8, U10, U12, U14, U16, U18)

3.4 Certificates

All participants shall receive an official ECU Certificate of Participation.

4. SCHEDULE

Date	Time	Event	Remarks
Monday, 6 July	All day	Participants Arrival	Official hotels
Monday, 6 July	21:00	Technical Meeting	Playing Hall
Tuesday, 7 July	10:30	Opening Ceremony	Playing Hall
Tuesday, 7 July	11:00 – 13:00	Rapid Championship (Rounds 1–2)	Playing Hall
Tuesday, 7 July	17:00 – 20:00	Rapid Championship (Rounds 3–5)	Playing Hall
Wednesday, 8 July	10:00 – 13:00	Rzeszów City Tour / Underground Route (optional)	Organized in groups

Date	Time	Event	Remarks
Wednesday, 8 July	17:00 – 21:00	Rapid Championship (Rounds 6–9)	Playing Hall
Thursday, 9 July	10:00 – 13:00	Blitz Championship (Rounds 1–5)	Playing Hall
Thursday, 9 July	17:00 – 20:00	Blitz Championship (Rounds 6–9)	Playing Hall
Thursday, 9 July	21:00	Awarding Ceremony	Official venue
Friday, 10 July	By 11:00	Participants Departure	Hotel check-out

5. REGISTRATION

5.1 Entry forms must be completed and sent to the Tournament Office no later than **6 June 2026**. If the registration form is not submitted directly by the respective National Federation, a copy must be sent to the Federation for approval.

5.2 After the registration deadline, a **late registration fee of EUR 50 per participant** shall be applied.

5.3 The complete registration form of each delegation must be submitted by the National Federation or approved by it, and must include the following details: surname(s), first name(s), FIDE ID number, FIDE rating, dates of arrival and departure, and passport number (for visa purposes only) of each player, accompanying person, and delegation member, where applicable.

It must also clearly indicate the name, telephone number, and e-mail address of the **Chief of Delegation**, who must be an adult.

5.4 Registrations and bookings for the Championship shall be made exclusively through the appointed local Organizer via e-mail: office@kszozrzeszow.pl

6. ACCOMMODATION PACKAGES, TRANSFERS AND PAYMENTS

6.1 Official Accommodation Packages

In accordance with ECU Rules, all players and accompanying persons shall be accommodated in the official hotels designated by the Organizer.

The official package includes:

- accommodation in an official hotel for 4 nights (from 6 July 2026 to 10 July 2026),
- full board (breakfast, lunch and dinner),
- organizational costs and accreditation-related fees, including ECU fees, where applicable.

Package prices per person are as follows:

Hotel standard	Single room	2-person room	3-person room
3-star hotel	EUR 526	EUR 406	EUR 406
4-star hotel	EUR 646	EUR 486	EUR 486
4-star plus hotel	EUR 686	EUR 526	EUR 526

Accommodation is provided in single, 2-person and 3-person rooms, depending on availability and order of registration.

Extra nights may be arranged upon request and subject to availability.

For official hotels located more than 2 km from the playing hall, the Organizer shall provide free shuttle transportation between the hotel and the playing venue according to the competition schedule.

6.2 Transport

The Organizer shall arrange transfers between the official hotels and:

- **Rzeszów–Jasionka Airport (RZE)**
- **Kraków Airport (KRK)**

Transfer fees are as follows:

- **Rzeszów–Jasionka Airport (RZE): EUR 10 per person (one way)**
- **Kraków Airport (KRK): EUR 30 per person (one way)**

Transfers shall be organized upon prior request.

6.3 Payment

To confirm participation and hotel booking, a deposit of **EUR 200 per person** must be paid by the registration deadline, i.e. **6 June 2026**, based on the invoice issued by the Organizer.

After receipt of the registration form, the Organizer shall send an invoice with the payment details for the selected official package and, where applicable, transfer services.

The remaining balance must be paid **before arrival**, within the deadline indicated on the invoice.

All payments shall be made by **bank transfer**. Any bank charges shall be borne by the sender.

Hotel booking and accreditation shall be confirmed only after the required payment has been received.

In case of cancellation, the refund conditions, if applicable, shall be determined by the Organizer in accordance with the hotel policy and incurred costs.

Bank details for payments:

Beneficiary: Polish Chess Federation

Address: ul. Marszałkowska 84/92, 00-514 Warszawa

Bank name: ING Bank Śląski S.A.

IBAN (EUR): PL39 1050 1025 1000 0090 3044 5150

SWIFT/BIC: INGBPLPW

Payment reference: EYRBCC 2026 – [Federation / Surname]

6.4 Additional Information

According to ECU Rules (Article B.14.5.1), in youth events all participants must be accommodated in the official hotels designated by the Organizer. Hotel bookings will be processed on a first-come, first-served basis. In case of higher demand than expected, additional official hotels may be provided. Access to the playing hall and all official venues will be granted only to accredited persons.

7. OFFICIALS

The names of the Chief Arbiter, Arbiters and the Appeal Committee will be announced in due course.

8. ANTI-CHEATING AND ECU FAIR PLAY RULES

The ECU Anti-Cheating Guidelines and the ECU Fair Play Code shall apply to the Championship. All players, arbiters, organizers and participants are required to comply with these regulations.

During the competition, random anti-cheating inspections may be carried out.

9. SCORING AND TIE-BREAK SYSTEM

9.1 The scoring system is as follows:

- 1 point for a win
- ½ point for a draw
- 0 points for a loss

9.2 Tie-break system

In case of a tie, the final ranking shall be determined according to the following tie-break criteria, applied in order:

- a) Direct encounter
- b) Buchholz Cut 1

- c) Buchholz
- d) Greater number of games played with Black
- e) Greater number of wins

10. VISA INFORMATION

10.1 Participants and accompanying persons who require a visa to enter Poland are requested to contact the Organizer before the registration deadline (6 June 2026).

10.2 The Organizer will issue official invitation letters for visa purposes after the necessary payments have been received, in accordance with the relevant regulations.

Poland is part of the Schengen Area, and a valid Schengen visa allows entry to Poland.

11. TOURNAMENT OFFICE / CONTACT INFORMATION

Tournament Office: KSz OZ Rzeszów

E-mail: office@kszozrzeszow.pl

Official Website: eyrbcc2026.eu

12. ADDITIONAL EVENTS

Further information regarding accompanying events and side activities will be published in due course.