



## AVOINE CHESS OPEN 2025

### REGULATIONS – English



#### **Article 1 : Preamble**

Governing body of the Avoine 39th International Chess Open is the Avoine Chess Club.

Chief organizer : Jean-Louis SALVAING.

The tournament takes place in Avoine (France), from 19 July to 27 July 2025 :

Venue : Espace Culturel d'Avoine, rue de l'Ardoise, 37420 Avoine

In case of emergency : +339 61220 795 (Organizers) / +332 47584 084 (waiting room)

The Governing body will take any decision it deems necessary for the tournament

#### **Article 2 : Right to the image**

Throughout the tournament, during chess games or other activities, photos and videos will be taken and published on the Avoine Chess Club website and/or in the press. People not wanting to have their picture taken must let the organizers know before the start of the first round, in accordance with French law.

#### **Article 3 : Official recognition and pairings**

The tournament will be taken into account for the FIDE August 2025 rating calculation.

The game rules are the FIDE laws of chess effective from Jan. 1 2023.

The pairings will be done according to FIDE Swiss Dutch rules, using a progressive acceleration system :

Virtual points will be given according to ELO rating and tournament results in order to balance pairings.

Those point will disappear after the end of round 7.

The pairings manager will be the latest available version of the programme recommended by the French Chess Federation (FFE).

#### **Article 4 : Registration**

Each person registering shall :

- behave according to the Chess Player Charter
- give the Organizers the following personal information :
  - first and last name,
  - Home Federation and FFE or FIDE ID,
  - ELO rating (FIDE or national for FRA members).
- Pay registration fees :
  - For people 20 years old and older (on 1 January 2025) : €60
  - For people 19 years old and younger (on 1 January 2025) : €30
    - *Fees are waived for (W)GM and (W)IM, titleholders, as well as ICCF GM titleholders who are also members of FFE, provided they have notified the Organizers up to 48 hours in advance.*
- People having FRA FIDE code must hold an FFE level A licence.
  - *The governing body shall ask unlicensed French players to pay on site the fees required to obtain a level A licence with the Avoine Chess Club.*

Only people who paid registration fees will be paired during the first round.

People who registered and paid upfront on the internet need not check in.

- They must notify organizers of their absence for the first few rounds or the entire tournament 1 hour before the start of the first round at the latest, or their registration fee will not be refunded.
- The starting list is official on Saturday, 19 July 2025 at 2 p.m (14:00) ; however, latecomers registering

after this point may be paired among themselves up to available spots

#### **Article 5 : Arbiters**

Chief Arbiter: FA Paul Adrien SALLY (Parings Officer).

Arbiters: NA Julie COLIN.  
NA Noël DAL PRA.  
FA Sammy PLAT.

The Chief Arbiter may give another person the role of Arbiter temporarily.

#### **Article 6 : Timing:**

Reception and information	Saturday	19/07/2025	From 09:00 to 14:00
Closure of the initial registration list	Saturday	19/07/2025	14:00
Round 1	Saturday	19/07/2025	15:00
Round 2	Sunday	20/07/2025	14:00
Round 3	Monday	21/07/2025	14:00
Round 4	Tuesday	22/07/2025	14:00
Round 5	Wednesday	23/07/2025	14:00
Round 6	Thursday	24/07/2025	14:00
Round 7	Friday	25/07/2025	14:00
Round 8	Saturday	26/07/2025	14:00
Round 9	Sunday	27/07/2025	09:00
Awards ceremony	Sunday	29/07/2025	16:30 (Cultural Centre auditorium)

#### **In case of heatwave**

In case of a heatwave (afternoon temperature  $\geq 35^{\circ}\text{C}$ ), the governing body shall change the time of round start from 2 pm to 9 am.

Such a decision shall be announced at the start of the previous round at the latest.

#### **Article 7 : Pairings display**

A list of provisional pairings will be published as soon as possible after the end of the last game of the previous round on the FFE and Avoine Chess Club websites, for information purposes only.

The pairings list is considered final at 12:01 p.m. (00:01) the day following the end of the previous round.

After this time, the Chief Arbiter decides if it is necessary to change the pairings, and shall publish the corrected list as soon as possible.

#### **Article 8 : Time control**

Games are played using a Fischer increment time control

During a game, each player is given 90 minutes for 40 moves, then 30 minutes for the rest of the game, with a 30 seconds increment starting from move one (1).

#### **Article 9 : Half-point bye and Zero-point byes**

A player may decide to not play a round, in which case they must tell the arbiter as soon as possible. Once the arbiter is advised, that player cannot cancel this absence, except if the arbiter decides otherwise. If a player does not advise the arbiter of an absence, the player will not be paired for the rest of the tournament, except if the Chief Arbiter is given a satisfactory reason. A failure to advise the arbiter will result in an investigation, which may result in disciplinary action from the French Chess Federation and the player's own federation (if different).

- For the whole tournament, any player may take a zero-point bye: they will not be paired and will not receive a point that round.
- During rounds 1 through 6 (inclusive), the first zero-point bye will automatically become a half-point bye,

except if the player asks otherwise.

- No further half-point bye will be given, and **no half-point will be given to players with conditions after round 1.**
- Players may only take up to three (3) total byes: any player with at least four (4) byes will be excluded from the competition, except if the arbiter decides otherwise.

The organizer may field a player to avoid pairing an odd number of players, this player may have more than three (3) zero-point byes if necessary.

#### **Article 10 : Player behaviour**

To allow the smooth running of the tournament, please :

- Stay inside the playing venue (the playing zones, lavatories, refreshment area and the area adjacent to those for smokers) while your game is in progress
- Do not walk far away from your board without an arbiter's permission when it's your turn to play.
- Avoid talking or reading about any chess game while your game is not over.
- Do not analyse or play on the chess boards of the game rooms, even on vacant boards : an analysis tent is available to people whose game ended.
- Do not commentate or intervene on a game that is not yours, or you may be excluded from the game zone (for first offenders), or even the tournament (for repeat offenders).
- Electronic devices, especially those capable of suggesting moves, are undesirable in the game zone (including, but not limited to, phones and watches of any kind).
  - They are tolerated if they are completely off, inaccessible during the game, and do not move from the table (for instance: kept in a vest or backpack that will not be transported or moved during the game; they must not be left on the table, even without battery). They may also be stored in a designated spot.
- If a player provably has such a device on themselves, they will receive a sanction ranging from a warning to an exclusion for possibly multiple rounds.
- Spectators may carry such devices on them in the playing area, but must not have it in their hands, or they will be excluded from the playing area.
- If one such device emits a sound, the person it belongs to will :
  - lose their game and their opponent will win (if both players played zero or one move each, the game will not be rated, and the players may play again later),
  - be asked to leave the playing zone, if they do not have a game in progress.
- In case of force majeure or for medical reasons, the Chief Arbiter may allow the use of such a device.
- In accordance with French law, indoor rooms are non-smoking. The smoking area, where cigarette butt bins are located, is the outside space adjacent to the refreshment area.
- A player not present for a round without notifying the Chief Arbiter and the Pairing Officer beforehand will not be paired in the next rounds and will be assumed to have abandoned the tournament.
- A player abandoning the tournament without notifying the Chief Arbiter will be sent a letter of enquiry. If they do not respond in a way the Chief Arbiter deems satisfactory within 15 days, a report will be sent to the National Arbiter Board, who may refer the matter to FFE disciplinary authorities.
- Only service animals are allowed in the playing venue.

#### **Article 11 : Authorized delay period**

A player who is not present at the board 45 minutes after the effective start of the round will lose their game by forfeit.

This forfeit, notated by 1-F or F-1 in result grids, is not taken into account for ELO rating computations of both opponents. The player whose opponent forfeited keeps the benefit of a point for pairings and final rankings.

If neither of the players are present, the double forfeit is notated F-F and no point will be awarded.

## Article 12 : Draw by mutual agreement

There is no restriction for draw by mutual agreement.

Opponents may, however, be penalized for breaches of sporting ethics if they manifestly infringe the Chess Players' Charter.

« The sharing of the point by mutual agreement must not be the result of considerations whose ins and outs are outside the sporting context and can only take place when there is a real confrontation on the chessboard. »

## Article 13 : Illegal moves

The second (2<sup>nd</sup>) completed illegal move of a player will end the game with their loss and the win of their opponent (however, the game will be drawn if the opponent cannot checkmate the player with legal moves)

An illegal move must be signalled to an arbiter, or observed by the arbiter themselves ;

- Reminder on the laws of chess :
  - 7.5.3 : If the player presses the clock without making a move, it shall be considered and penalized as if an illegal move.
  - 7.5.4 : If a player uses two hands to make a single move (for example in case of castling, capturing or promotion) and pressed the clock, it shall be considered and penalized as if an illegal move.

After the arbiter observed the illegal move, the position, and clock will be adjusted according to article 7.5.5 of the laws of chess.

## Article 14 : End of game formalities

At the end of each game, both players :

- Ensure that the result of the game is written down clearly, unambiguously and coherently on both scoresheets,
- Sign their scoresheet and counter-sign their opponent's,
- Put the board back to the starting position,
- Give the arbiters, or their assistant, both the original (white) scoresheets, and both nameplates, and record their result using the Sharly Chess software.
- Leave their table clean for the next round : rubbish bins are located at the entrances of the rooms.

## Article 15 : Final rankings and tie-breaks

The final ranking is established as follows :

- First, according to acquired game points;  
*Each round gives: 1 point for a victory, 0.5 points for a draw, and 0 points for a loss*
- Second by the Buchholz cut 2 system;  
*The sum of the opponents' adjusted scores (equal to score if a player played all 9 games), minus the 2 worst adjusted scores*  
*NOTE: according to article C07-16.6, unplayed game management uses the FIDE recommendations prior to April 2024.*
- Third by Tournament Performance Rating.  
*Average rating of opponents, with the addition of a "performance value" depending on the player's score.*

## Article 16 : Awards

The awards list will be published in the opening bulletin and will be displayed at the start of the Open.

**Every award of that list will be awarded in order of the final ranking**, without sharing (for either general prizes or special prizes).

Special prizes only apply to players in the relevant category, and not to anyone else.

In case a player earns multiple prizes, only the highest one will be awarded to them, ELO category prizes have priority over age category prizes.

*A prize that is not awarded in that way will be redistributed to the next available players in the category until no prize is left in the pool.*

If a person is to receive an award but cannot be present at the ceremony, they can tell the organizer that a proxy will receive the award in their place.

*A prize that was not received directly or through a proxy will not be sent via the post office, and will stay the property of the governing body.*

*No such proxy will be allowed for both the first three general prizes, and the first three women prizes: they must be present for their prizes to be distributed.*

#### **Article 17 : Appeals' Committee**

An Appeals Committee will be created during the first round and immediately displayed in the tournament rooms.

It will be composed of :

- Two members of the Governing board (+ 1 substitute)
- Three players (+ 1 substitute)
- If the number of members becomes even, an arbiter who is not linked to the contested decision.

This committee may be called upon to contest any arbiter's decision.

- If the decision is contested during the game, play shall continue according to the arbiter's ruling.
- The contesting player must file an appeal with the Chief Arbiter within one (1) hour after the end of their game.
- Both the player and the arbiter whose decision was contested must write a short report on the decision and its context.
- The Appeals' committee shall rule on the application of the Laws of Chess, Fair-Play rules and those current regulations
- The committee may decide to change the result of the game if necessary, and may recommend disciplinary action to the governing body, strictly in the tournament's best interest.
- Any decision by the Appeals' committee is final for the duration of the tournament, but it may be appealed later to the FFE Appeals Commission (Commission des Appels Sportifs) within ten (10) days following the written decision.

A member must not decide on matters concerning themselves, nor a player they are related to or coach, nor a player belonging to their own league (for FRA players) or to their federation (for non-FRA players).

#### **Article 19 :**

At any time, any situation not covered in these regulations shall be judged according to FFE and FIDE regulations.

#### **Article 20 : Health rules**

##### **Common sense reminders :**

By participating, you agree to respect the health rules that health authorities may impose during the tournament.

Regular hand disinfection is recommended.

Wearing a face mask is recommended.

At the start and end of a game, players may or may not shake hands, each according to their preference.

For the arbiters,  
FA Paul-Adrien SALLY

For the Governing body,  
Jean-Louis SALVAING

