

26. FIDE World Team Championship Under 8-12

GENERAL REGULATIONS & RULES

1. The World Team Championship Under-8, Under-10 and Under-12 (hereinafter referred to as the “WTC”) shall be governed by the FIDE General Regulations for Competitions and shall be held annually.
2. The WTC shall be organized under the auspices of the FIDE Events Commission (hereinafter referred to as “EVE”).
3. The competition shall be held each year between 1 June and 30 November.
4. Any circumstances or unforeseen situations not covered by these Regulations shall be referred to the EVE, subject to the authorization of the FIDE President, who may approve any necessary amendments or special arrangements.

PARTICIPATION

5. There shall be three age categories: Under-8, Under-10 and Under-12.
6. All players who have not reached the age of 8, 10 or 12, respectively, before 1 January of the year in which the WTC is held shall be eligible to participate.
7. FIDE member federations shall have the right to register an unlimited number of teams, including national, regional, city, club, chess academy and private chess school teams.
8. Each team shall consist of four (4) players, including at least one (1) boy and one (1) girl.
9. The eligible organizations whose representatives finish in 1st, 2nd or 3rd place in the previous edition of the WTC shall be granted personal qualification rights (a total of nine (9) teams in all categories) and shall be entitled to participate, provided they satisfy the eligibility requirements set out in Rule 6. For the purposes of these Regulations, an eligible organization means a federation, regional association, city association, club, chess academy or private chess school.
10. For the inaugural edition, thirteen (13) teams shall receive personal qualification rights:
 - a. Eleven (11) teams shall qualify based on the results of the 2026 World Cadets Cup. Federations winning two (2) or more medals shall receive two (2) qualification places, while federations winning one (1) medal shall receive one (1) qualification place regardless of the category in which the medal(s) were won. **See Annex 1 for details.**

- b. The African Chess Confederation (ACC) and the Confederation of Chess for the Americas (CCA) shall each receive one (1) place.
- c. If any organization granted personal qualification rights declines to participate before the registration deadline, the corresponding place(s) shall be added to the Organizer's wildcard allocation.

SCHEDULE AND SYSTEM

- 11. The time control shall be 45 minutes for the entire game, with an increment of 30 seconds per move from move one. The competition shall last seven (7) days, including the arrival day.
- 12. Any player who arrives at the board more than 15 minutes after the scheduled start of the game shall lose the game by default, unless the Chief Arbiter decides otherwise in accordance with the FIDE Laws of Chess.
- 13. The tournament shall be played over:

Seven (7) rounds, if the number of participating teams is 40 or fewer, with one day consisting of two rounds; or

Nine (9) rounds, if the number of participating teams exceeds 40, with three days consisting of two rounds.

- 14. Each match shall be played on four (4) boards. Pairings, scoring and tie-breaks shall be conducted in accordance with the FIDE Chess Olympiad Pairing Rules.
- 15. The final standings shall be determined according to match points. The top three teams shall receive cups. Ties shall be broken in accordance with the FIDE Tie-Break Regulations, in the following order:

- a. Match Points (2 for a win, 1 for a draw, 0 for a loss)
- b. Extended Sonneborn-Berger for Teams Cut-1
- c. Game Points
- d. Buchholz Cut-1

All players and the captain of each of the top three teams shall receive the appropriate gold, silver or bronze medals, together with commemorative gifts.

- 16. The three best-performing players on each board shall receive gold, silver and bronze medals, together with commemorative gifts. If two or more players have the same Tournament Performance Rating (TPR), the tie shall be broken in the following order:

- a. Direct Encounter
- b. Buchholz Cut-1
- c. Buchholz
- d. Number of Games Played with Black
- e. Number of Games Won

FINANCIAL REGULATIONS

19. The Organizing Committee shall provide free accommodation and full board (in twin-share rooms) for the players of the teams qualified under Rules 9 and 10, from lunch on the arrival day until breakfast on the departure day.

Annex 1

N		FED	Gold	Silver	Bronze	Total	Spots
1		CHN	3	1	1	5	2
2		IND	1	1	2	4	2
3		KAZ	1	1	2	4	2
4		FID		2		2	2
5		FRA	1			1	1
6		TUR		1		1	1
7		UZB			1	1	1
						18	11

Annex 2 – FIDE Regulations

Relevant FIDE Regulations can be found here:

FIDE Laws of Chess:

<https://handbook.fide.com/chapter/E012023>

General Regulations for FIDE Competitions:

<https://handbook.fide.com/chapter/D0401202312>

Captains and Heads of Delegation:

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

Appeals Committee Procedural Rules:

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

Fair Play Protection Measures:

https://handbook.fide.com/files/handbook/FPL_Protection_Measures_2024.pdf