



UNDER THE AEGIS OF FIDE, AICF & DCA
AICF EVENT CODE: 467438/DL(R)/2026



Powered By
Joyous Chess



MARY CHERIAN MEMORIAL INTERNATIONAL FIDE RATED OPEN CHESS TOURNAMENT



DATE

2-3rd May



TIME CONTROL

25+10



VENUE & KNOWLEDGE PARTNER

**Shri Ram College of
Commerce, SRCC, Delhi**

₹7,00,000 PRIZE FUND

**80+ Cash Prizes
100+ Trophies**



THIS IS A FIDE RATED RAPID TOURNAMENT



ABOUT THE

MARY CHERIAN MEMORIAL

INTERNATIONAL FIDE RATED OPEN

CHESS TOURNAMENT

The Mary Cherian Memorial International FIDE Rated Open Chess Tournament is more than a competition – it is a tribute.

This tournament is dedicated to the founder's grandmother, whose unwavering belief, sacrifice, and encouragement laid the foundation for a journey that progressed from school level competitions to becoming a School Games National Champion, an internationally rated player, and now a World Chess Federation (FIDE) Certified Instructor. Her influence shaped not only a chess career, but also the vision behind building Joyous Chess Academy.

Today, Joyous Chess Academy stands among India's leading chess institutions, training thousands of students across India and internationally. This tournament marks the Academy's international debut event and the beginning of a long term commitment to elevating the standards of FIDE rated competitions in Delhi NCR.

THIS IS MORE THAN AN EVENT.

It is gratitude in action.
It is vision taking form.
It is the beginning of something enduring.

RAISING THE STANDARD OF INTERNATIONAL CHESS IN DELHI NCR

Our mission is clear:

- Create professionally managed FIDE rated tournaments
- Provide structured exposure to young players
- Offer international level playing conditions locally
- Build a sustainable ecosystem for competitive excellence

THIS TOURNAMENT IS THE FIRST IN A PLANNED SERIES OF INTERNATIONAL EVENTS DESIGNED TO GIVE PLAYERS GREATER OPPORTUNITIES WITHOUT HAVING TO TRAVEL FAR FOR HIGH QUALITY COMPETITION.

AND THIS IS ONLY THE BEGINNING.

TOURNAMENT VENUE

The Mary Cherian Memorial International FIDE Rated Open Chess tournament will be hosted at one of India's most prestigious academic institutions **Shri Ram College of Commerce**.

- An institution known for excellence.
- A sports complex built for scale.
- A setting worthy of international competition.



**THE VENUE OF CHAMPIONS:
SHRI RAM COLLEGE OF COMMERCE , DELHI**

AN EXPERIENCE BEYOND COMPETITION

FOR PLAYERS

Compete in a hall built for performance. Every move counts.

FOR PARENTS

An academically prestigious, secure, and professionally managed environment.



WHY 25 + 10 TIME CONTROL?

We have consciously chosen a 25 minutes + 10 seconds increment format.

THIS FORMAT:

- Reduces extreme time pressure
- Allows young players to think, calculate, and apply concepts
- Enables proper recording of games
- Supports meaningful post game analysis

AT JOYOUS CHESS ACADEMY, WE BELIEVE:

What is not measured cannot be improved.

- When children record their games, mistakes can be studied.
- When mistakes are studied, improvement becomes structured.
- When improvement is structured, confidence grows.
- This tournament format aligns with our coaching philosophy thoughtful play, disciplined recording, and measurable growth.

A TOURNAMENT BUILT ON GRATITUDE, VISION & STANDARDS

**The Mary Cherian Memorial is a tribute to legacy.
It is also a statement of intent.**

- A commitment to professionalism.
- A commitment to player development.
- A commitment to raising the benchmark of international chess events in Delhi NCR.

AND THIS IS ONLY THE BEGINNING.



MAIN PRIZES

PRIZE FUND OF

₹7,00,000



1ST RUNNER-UP
₹ 51,000



CHAMPION
₹ 71,000



2ND RUNNER-UP
₹ 31,000



RANK 4
₹ 25,000



RANK 5
₹ 21,000



RANK 6
₹ 18,000



RANK 7
₹ 15,000



RANK 8
₹ 13,000



RANK 9
₹ 10,000



RANK 10
₹ 9,000

RANK 11-15
₹ 8,000

RANK 16-20
₹ 7,000

RANK 21-25
₹ 6,000

RANK 26-30
₹ 5,000

**TROPHIES WILL BE AWARDED TO THE TOP 10 PARTICIPANTS, AND
MEDALS WILL BE GIVEN TO THOSE RANKED 11TH TO 30TH**

RATING CATEGORY PRIZES

1400-1600 RATING



CHAMPION
₹ 14,000



1ST RUNNER-UP
₹ 11,000



2ND RUNNER-UP
₹ 9,000



RANK 4
₹ 7,000



RANK 5
₹ 3,500

1601-1800 RATING



CHAMPION
₹ 14,000



1ST RUNNER-UP
₹ 11,000



2ND RUNNER-UP
₹ 9,000



RANK 4
₹ 7,000



RANK 5
₹ 3,500

UNRATED CATEGORY PRIZES



CHAMPION
₹ 16,000



1ST RUNNER-UP
₹ 11,000



2ND RUNNER-UP
₹ 9,000



RANK 4
₹ 7,000



RANK 5
₹ 6,000

RANK 6
₹ 5,000

RANK 7
₹ 4,500

RANK 8
₹ 4,500

RANK 9
₹ 3,500

RANK 10
₹ 3,500

BEST FEMALE (15 & ABOVE)



CHAMPION
₹ 7,000



1ST RUNNER-UP
₹ 6,000



2ND RUNNER-UP
₹ 4,000



CHAMPION
₹ 7,000



1ST RUNNER-UP
₹ 6,000



2ND RUNNER-UP
₹ 4,000

BEST PHYSICALLY CHALLENGED



CHAMPION
₹ 7,000



1ST RUNNER-UP
₹ 6,000



2ND RUNNER-UP
₹ 4,000

SPECIAL AWARDS – ACADEMY & SCHOOL



BEST ACADEMY – TOP 3

Minimum 8 players must participate
Best 4 individual scores will be counted



BEST SCHOOL – TOP 3

Minimum 5 players must participate
Best 4 individual scores will be counted

AGE CATEGORY PRIZES

BOYS EDITION

UNDER 8	UNDER 10	UNDER 12	UNDER 14
 CHAMPION ₹ 4,500	 CHAMPION ₹ 4,500	 CHAMPION ₹ 4,500	 CHAMPION ₹ 4,500
 1ST RUNNER-UP ₹ 4,000	 1ST RUNNER-UP ₹ 4,000	 1ST RUNNER-UP ₹ 4,000	 1ST RUNNER-UP ₹ 4,000
 2ND RUNNER-UP ₹ 3,500	 2ND RUNNER-UP ₹ 3,500	 2ND RUNNER-UP ₹ 3,500	 2ND RUNNER-UP ₹ 3,500
 RANK 4-10	 RANK 4-10	 RANK 4-10	 RANK 4-10

MEDALS WILL BE GIVEN TO ALL AGE CATEGORY PLAYERS

AGE ELIGIBILITY & CUT-OFF DATES

UNDER-8

Born on or after 1st January 2018

UNDER-12

Born on or after 1st January 2014

UNDER-10

Born on or after 1st January 2016

UNDER-14

Born on or after 1st January 2012



AGE CATEGORY PRIZES

GIRLS EDITION

UNDER 8	UNDER 10	UNDER 12	UNDER 14
 CHAMPION ₹ 4,500	 CHAMPION ₹ 4,500	 CHAMPION ₹ 4,500	 CHAMPION ₹ 4,500
 1ST RUNNER-UP ₹ 4,000	 1ST RUNNER-UP ₹ 4,000	 1ST RUNNER-UP ₹ 4,000	 1ST RUNNER-UP ₹ 4,000
 2ND RUNNER-UP ₹ 3,500	 2ND RUNNER-UP ₹ 3,500	 2ND RUNNER-UP ₹ 3,500	 2ND RUNNER-UP ₹ 3,500
 RANK 4-10	 RANK 4-10	 RANK 4-10	 RANK 4-10

MEDALS WILL BE GIVEN TO ALL AGE CATEGORY PLAYERS

AGE ELIGIBILITY & CUT-OFF DATES

UNDER-8

Born on or after 1st January 2018

UNDER-12

Born on or after 1st January 2014

UNDER-10

Born on or after 1st January 2016

UNDER-14

Born on or after 1st January 2012






TOURNAMENT SCHEDULE

2ND MAY 2026

TIME	ACTIVITY
08:30 AM	Reporting & Verification
09:00 AM	Players' Meet & Briefing
09:15 AM	Inauguration
10:00 AM	Round 1
12:00 PM	Round 2
02:00 PM	Round 3
04:00 PM	Round 4
06:00 PM	Round 5

3RD MAY 2026

TIME	ACTIVITY
09:30 AM	Round 6
11:30 AM	Round 7
1:30 PM	Round 8
3:30 PM	Round 9
6:00 PM	Prize Distribution Ceremony

-  All rounds will be conducted strictly as per FIDE regulations and official time control norms.
-  Players are requested to report at 8:30 AM sharp on Day 1 to ensure smooth verification and timely pairing procedures.
-  Be prepared. Be punctual. Compete with discipline.

IMPORTANT NOTE & ELIGIBILITY

ELIGIBILITY

All Indian players (Rated & Unrated) are eligible to participate.
Foreign players must possess a valid FIDE ID under their respective federation or FIDE flag.
The Organising Committee reserves the right to accept or reject any entry without assigning any reason.

MANDATORY AICF REGISTRATION (2026-27)

Participation is subject to valid AICF registration.



NEW REGISTRATION



RENEWAL

Players must complete AICF registration/renewal prior to participation.
Failure to comply will result in ineligibility.

PRIZE REGULATIONS

Prize money will not be shared.
A player is entitled to only one higher prize.
Income Tax will be deducted as per the Indian Income Tax Act and applicable rules.
Players in Age Categories are eligible only for prizes in their respective age category and not for higher age category prizes.
Best Female Prizes will be awarded only to female participants aged 15 years and above.

Mary Cherian Memorial is a public event that will be photographed and filmed. Players and spectators images may be photographed at any time during the event. Your participation in the tournament will be accepted as your consent and acknowledgment that the organizing team has the right to broadcast your image in connection with our event and promotions related to the event, through our social media channels and any other media associated with the event.

HOW TO REGISTER FOR AICF

(FOR NEW PLAYERS)

All Indian players must have a valid AICF Registration (2025–26) to participate in this FIDE Rated Tournament.

FOLLOW THE STEPS BELOW CAREFULLY:

Step-by-Step Guide for New Registration

- 1 Visit the Official AICF Portal**
 - <https://prs.aicf.in/new-register>
- 2 Create Player Profile**
 - Enter player's full name (as per official ID)
 - Date of Birth
 - Gender
 - Select your State Association
 - Fill Parent/Guardian details (for minors)
 - Provide valid mobile number & email ID
- 3 Upload Required Documents**
 - Passport size photograph
 - Date of Birth proof (Birth Certificate / Passport / Aadhaar)
 - Identity proof
 - Upload clear and properly scanned documents.
- 4 Complete Online Payment**
 - Pay the registration fee through the official portal.
 - Registration is valid for the financial year 2025–26.
- 5 Approval & AICF ID Generation**
 - The application will be verified by the AICF.
 - Once approved, the new player (your child) will receive a unique AICF ID, which is mandatory for participating in rated tournaments in India.

IMPORTANT NOTICE

- Apply at least one week in advance before the tournament.
- Players without valid AICF registration will not be paired.
- Early registration prevents last-minute technical or approval delays.



REGISTRATION PROCESS

OFFICIAL REGISTRATION LINK

(Scan QR Code to Register)



OUR PREVIOUS EVENTS

(Scan to see our previous events)



Registration will be confirmed only after payment verification.
Apply at least one week in advance.
Limited seats. Entries may close early.

ENTRY FEE FREE FOR: GM/WGM/IM/WIM

ENTRY FEE STRUCTURE

EARLY BIRD OFFER

Valid till 7th March 2026

₹ 3,300

STANDARD REGISTRATION

8th March – 20th April 2026

₹ 3,500

LATE REGISTRATION

21st April – 1st May 2026

₹ 3,800

(Including Late Fee)

ENTRY FEE FOR DIFFERENTLY ABLED PLAYERS

₹ 1,750

(For players with minimum 50% certified disability)

VALID DISABILITY CERTIFICATE MUST BE UPLOADED DURING REGISTRATION.

IMPORTANT NOTE

Late fee of ₹300 will be applicable from 21st April 2026.
Registration will be confirmed only after successful payment verification.
Entries may close earlier if maximum capacity is reached.

DELHI'S PLAYERS MUST HAVE A VALID DCA REGISTRATION FOR THE YEAR 2026-2027

RULES & REGULATIONS

This tournament will be conducted strictly in accordance with international standards to ensure fairness, transparency, and professional conduct.

SYSTEM OF PLAY

- The event will be conducted as per the Laws of Chess laid down by FIDE.
- Format: FIDE Swiss System
- Total Rounds: 09 Rounds

TIME CONTROL

- 25 Minutes + 10 Seconds increment per move (from move 1)
- Default Time (Walkover Time): 15 minutes
- A player arriving more than 15 minutes late from the start of the round will lose the game by default.

REPORTING TIME

- 2nd May 2026 – 08:30 AM
- All players must complete reporting and verification procedures before the Players' Meet.

AICF REGISTRATION

- All Indian players must have valid AICF Registration (2025–26) before participation.
- Players without valid registration will not be paired.

TIE-BREAK REGULATIONS

- Tie-breaks will be applied as per the latest AICF guidelines.
- In case of further clarification, the latest FIDE rules shall prevail.
- Cash prizes will not be shared under any circumstances.

PROTESTS & APPEALS

- Any protest against the decision of the Chief Arbiter must be submitted in writing within 15 minutes of the incident.
- A protest fee of ₹2000 must accompany the appeal.
- The fee will be refunded if the appeal is upheld.
- A 5-member Appeals Committee will be formed before the commencement of the tournament.

ELECTRONIC DEVICES

- All electronic devices, including mobile phones and all types of wrist watches, are strictly prohibited inside the playing arena.
- Violation may lead to penalties as per FIDE regulations.

WITHDRAWALS

- A player wishing to withdraw must inform the Chief Arbiter.
- If a player misses a round without prior intimation, it will be treated as withdrawal and the player will be removed from subsequent pairings.

DISCIPLINE

- Players and parents are expected to maintain professional decorum.
- Any misconduct, disturbance, or violation of tournament discipline may result in exclusion from the event.

TRAVEL GUIDE

VENUE: SHRI RAM COLLEGE OF COMMERCE (SRCC), NORTH CAMPUS, DELHI

The venue is centrally located in Delhi University's North Campus with strong connectivity across all major transport hubs.

NEAREST AIRPORT

- Indira Gandhi International Airport
- Distance: 27 km
- Estimated Travel Time: 50–70 minutes (traffic dependent)

NEAREST RAILWAY STATIONS

- New Delhi Railway Station
- Distance: 8 km
- Estimated Travel Time: 25–35 minutes
- Both stations are well connected via metro, auto-rickshaw, and cab services.
- Old Delhi Railway Station
- Distance: 7 km
- Estimated Travel Time: 20–30 minutes

NEARBY METRO STATIONS

- Vishwavidyalaya Metro Station (Yellow Line)
- Distance: Approx. 1 km
- Travel Time: 5–7 minutes by auto
- Both stations are well connected via metro, auto-rickshaw, and cab services.
- GTB Nagar Metro Station
- Distance: Approx. 1.5 km
- Travel Time: 5–7 minutes by auto

NEARBY BUS TERMINAL

- ISBT Kashmere Gate
- Distance: Approx. 5 km
- Travel Time: 15–20 minutes

TRAVEL RECOMMENDATION

- Metro is the most reliable option during peak hours.
- Players are advised to plan arrival at least 30–45 minutes early, especially on Day 1.
- App-based cabs are easily accessible from all major transport points.



FOR NEW PARENTS AND PLAYERS

WHAT IS A FIDE RATING & HOW DOES YOUR CHILD GET ONE?

- When your child enters competitive chess, the most important milestone is earning an international rating.
- **FIDE (World Chess Federation)** is the global governing body of chess. It maintains the official international rating system that ranks players worldwide based on their tournament performance.
- A **FIDE Rating** is a numerical score that reflects a player's competitive strength. It is updated monthly and serves as the global benchmark for serious tournament players. This rating allows children to participate in National Tournament, International events, and higher-level competitions.

HOW DOES A CHILD GET A FIDE RATING?

Register with AICF (India's national federation)

- This is mandatory before playing any FIDE Rated Tournament in India.

Participate in a FIDE Rated Tournament

- The tournament must be officially registered, conducted under international rules, and supervised by certified arbiters.

Score Against Rated Players

- To receive an initial rating, a player must score points against rated opponents and meet the minimum performance requirements set by FIDE (currently equivalent to 1400 performance level).

Rating Publication

- Once eligibility criteria are fulfilled, the tournament results are submitted to FIDE. The player's rating is then published in the official monthly rating list.

WHAT IS A FIDE RATED TOURNAMENT?

A FIDE Rated Tournament is an officially approved event where:

- Games follow international laws of chess
- Results impact international ratings
- Players compete against rated opposition
- Professional tournament standards are maintained

A FIDE rating is more than just a number.

- It is the beginning of your child's international chess journey – a measurable step into structured, competitive excellence.

**Every champion started with their first rated tournament.
This could be that moment.**

ORGANISING COMMITTEE

MARY CHERIAN MEMORIAL INTERNATIONAL FIDE RATED OPEN CHESS TOURNAMENT

The Tournament is conducted under experienced leadership to ensure international standards, fair play, and seamless execution.

ARBITERS & TOURNAMENT AUTHORITY

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OUR PREVIOUS TOURNAMENTS

JOYOUS DELHI STATE - 2022



JOYOUS DELHI STATE - 2023



ARDEE CHESS CHAMPIONSHIP FOR INTERNATIONAL SCHOOLS, DELHI - 2023 & 2024



ARDEE CHESS CHAMPIONSHIP FOR GOAN SCHOOLS, GOA - 2023 & 2024



JOYOUS CHESS YOUTH GRAND PRIX - 2025



JOYOUS CHESS X CARATLANE - 2025



JOYOUS CHESS UNDER-8 WINTER CARNIVAL TOURNAMENT - 2025



MARY CHERIAN MEMORIAL CHESS CHAMPIONSHIP - 2025

