4th NATIONAL SCHOOLS TEAM UNDER-12 & UNDER-18 CHESS CHAMPIONSHIPS – 2026

AICF Event Code UNDER-18 499113/AP/2026
UNDER-12 499114/AP/2026

Date: 01st to 03rd November, 2026

Organized by

ANDHRA Chess Association
On Behalf of

All India Chess Federation

Venue:

KAKATIYA CONVENTION HALL, MADDILAPALEM
VISAKHAPATNAM DISTRICT, ANDHRA PRADESH

1. Tournament Schedule:

Day 1		Arrival	09:00 Hrs.
Day 1	01 November 26	Technical meeting	09:30 Hrs.
Day 1	01 November 26	Inauguration	10:00 Hrs.
Day 1	01 November 26	Round - 1	11:00 Hrs.
Day 1	01 November 26	Round - 2	14:00 Hrs.
Day 1	01 November 26	Round - 3	17:00 Hrs.
Day 2	02 November 26	Round - 4	09:30 Hrs.
Day 2	02 November 26	Round - 5	12:30 Hrs.
Day 2	02 November 26	Round - 6	15:30 Hrs.
Day 3	03 November 26	Round - 7	09:30 Hrs.
Day 3	03 November 26	Round - 8	12:30 Hrs.
Day 3	03 November 26	Round - 9	15:30 Hrs.
Day 3	03 November 26	Closing Ceremony	18:00 Hrs.

2. Age Limit: Players should be born on or after 1.1.2014 for Under-12 Category and 1.1.2008 for Under-18 Category.

3. Age Proof: Each participant must produce a valid certificate to prove his/her age. **Certificates from School will not be accepted**. Certificates should be from the Panchayat, Municipality or Corporation obtained soon after birth. Players without date of birth certificates will not be allowed to participate.

The date of birth certificates registered within one year of the birth of the player alone will be recognized and allowed to participate. No school shall recommend any player who doesn't come under the above criteria.

If any doubt arises about the claimed age of a player, the Tournament Committee has the right to refer the player during the championship for a due evaluation of age by competent medical experts. A player if declared over-age by such experts shall not continue in the championship and the matter shall be reported to AICF. Protest about the age of players may be made to the Chief Arbiter in writing along with a fee of Rs.5000/- per player. This will not be refunded. No protest about over age of a player will be entertained after second round of the championship.

Only the Coach or Manager deputed by the participating school can lodge such protests. The Tournament Committee has the right to decide the day, time and place for such medical evaluation of age. AICF/Organizers will have the right to refer any player to the medical evaluation of age at any time during the Championship. Players refusing to take the test as decided by the Tournament Committee shall be deemed to have failed the test and shall be disqualified from the Championship.

4. Bonafide Certificate: All the players of a team must be bonafide students of the same school for the academic year 2026-27 and the same must be certified by Principal/Headmaster of the school with signature and stamp.

5. Prizes:

Team Rank	Under-12	Players		Under-18	Players
1st	Trophy	Gold Medals		Trophy	Gold Medals
2nd	Trophy	Silver Medals		Trophy	Silver Medals
3rd	Trophy	Bronze Medals		Trophy	Bronze Medals
Gold, Silver & Bronze medals will be awarded to top three board prize winners in all five boards. **Merit Certificate will be issued to all the medal winners.**					

6. Eligibility: Subject to age limit, following players can participate:

Players born on or after 1st January 2014 are eligible to participate in Under-12 category.

Players born on or after 1st January 2008 are eligible to participate in Under-18 category.

(a) All the players of a team must be bona fide students of the same school for the academic year 2026-27 and the same must be certified by Principal/Headmaster of the school with signature and stamp.

(b) Each school can enroll any number of teams with suffixing the letters "A", "B" and "C" with their school's name.

(c) No restriction for team composition (only boys or only girls or mixed). Each team shall consist of four players and one reserve player and a non-playing captain.

(d) Only Indian nationals are eligible to participate in the championships.

(e) No teams will be allowed to play in Club/Academy names.

7. Dress Code: As per AICF regulations on dress code for players participating in National School Team championships, the players must wear the school uniform. This will be strictly enforced.

8. Entries/Entry Fee: All entries to be forwarded by respective schools directly to All India Chess Federation (aicfnationalentries@gmail.com) along with entry form (in excel format only Click Here for Excel format), copy of Date of Birth Certificates, bona fide certificate signed by the Principal/Headmaster with stamp and details of entry fee paid.

9. Entry Fee Structure:

Entry Fee: Rs.4000/- per team (Rupees four thousand only)per team.

There will be a 50% concession in the entry fee for participating schools from North Eastern states and Andaman & Nicobar islands.

Entry fee will be accepted strictly online through: https://prs.aicf.in/pay.
For clarification and guidance regarding submission of entries, please contact: aicfnationalentries@gmail.com

10. Late fee: Please note that the entry fee structure is valid till 18th October 2026 Thereafter, a late fee of Rs.1000/- per team will be levied. No entry will be entertained after 25th October 2026 (up to 17:00 hrs.).

11. System of Play: The Championship will be played under FIDE's Laws of Chess and the Swiss system. A total of nine rounds shall be played. Pairing and standings will be based on match points.

Teams from same school shall not be paired against each other in the last round. However, they may be paired if there is no compatible opponent with the same point group or score group with a maximum difference of 2 match points. It is applicable only for the top 50% score of the penultimate round.

12. Starting Rank of the team: The seeding of the teams will be done on the basis of the average rating of the best 4 players. While sending entries, the names of all the players with their FIDE ID and their respective FIDE ratings, if any, should be given to enable the arbiters to arrive at the teams' average rating for seeding purposes. These names and ratings should be reconfirmed in person at the Technical Meeting. The Fixed Board Order should be decided by the respective team Captain/Manager before/at the technical meeting.

13. Default Time: Default time for arriving to the chessboard is 15 minutes.

14. Time Control: The rate of play shall be 45 minutes with an increment of 10 second per move from move number one (rapid format).

15. Tie Break: In case of tie, the following is the order of tie-break:

(a) Match Points (b) Direct Encounter based on Match Points (c) Game Points
(d) Sonneborn Berger e) Scores and Scheduled Strength Combination (SSSC).

16. Protest: Protest, if any, against the decision of the Chief Arbiter shall be made in writing with a protest fee of Rs.3000/- (Rupees three thousand only) within 15 minutes of the completion of the concerned game. The protest fee will be refunded if the appeal is up held.

17. Appeals Committee: Before the commencement of the tournament, a five-member appeals committee shall be formed by the AICF/organizers. All the members and reserves shall be from different states. No member of the Committee can vote on a dispute in which a player from his own State is involved and, in such case(s), the reserve member(s) shall take his place in the committee.

18. Tournament Committee: The organizers will form a tournament committee for the smooth conduct of the National Championship.

19. Interpretation: For interpretation of the rule(s) and deciding any point not covered by the above rules of the tournament, the decision of the Tournament Committee shall be final and binding on all. The Tournament Committee has every right to make any addition or amendment to these rules, without notice. However, such changes/ or inclusion will be subject to AICF clearance. Such changes will, however, be displayed in the tournament hall.

20. Withdrawal: Any withdrawal from the tournament must be notified to the Chief Arbiter with acceptable reasons. The entry fee once paid shall not be refunded if the withdrawal from the championship is done after the publication of first-round pairings.

21. Disqualification: No participant will leave the venue before the Prize Distribution function without the permission of the Chief Arbiter.

22. Registration of Player with AICF: All participants in the National Championship shall be registered with AICF for the year 2026-2027 before forwarding the entries for the event. Online AICF Registration can be done at the website www.prs.aicf.in/players

23. Electronic Devices: All electronic items including wrist watches (all type of watches) are not allowed in the tournament hall. **Those who are having mobile phones or wearing watches during their play will be declared lost.**

24. Rapid rules of the FIDE Laws of Chess will be followed.

25. Accommodation: All teams have to make their own arrangement for stay.

For assistance, please contact:

Accommodation Assistance

For updates on accommodation, including unfurnished options, visit the official website:
www.apchess.org , nstchess2026@gmail.com

For paid bookings, contact:

Ms Neelima CEO, ACA Ph : 9908121112

Ms Spandana PRO, Ph: 7569977567

Organizing Committee

Sri Kauru Jagadish, Secretary ACA (Tournament Director)

Sri Kali Jagannadha, Treasurer ACA

Sri G.V.KUMAR, IA

Sri N.M. Phani Kumar, IA Organizing Secretary ACA

Sri R.Babu Rao, President AVCA

Tournament Coordinators

Sri Mr. K.Aditya kumar, President KDCDA

Sri Mr K.Janakiram, Secretary KDCDA

Sri S.MANIKANTA RAO, Secretary AVCA

Venue Coordinators

Mr. KIRAN KUMAR : 9492542247

Mr. NAYAK : 8790443030

Key Officials

Sri Adusumilli Suresh, President ACA

Sri Kauru Jagadish, Secretary ACA

Arbiter's List

Chief Arbiter: Sri. Deepak Kumar Narendra, IA

Deputy Chief Arbiter: Sri. N. Phani Kumar, IA

Contact Details

For Details & Updates

Visit: www.apchess.org

For Queries

Email: nstchess2026@gmail.com (or) chessandhra@gmail.com

Any Emergency & Technical Assistance

Call: 9912855666 / 9908121112 (WhatsApp Only)

Mail (Registration): aicfnationalentries@gmail.com

ENTRY FORM : 4th NATIONAL SCHOOL TEAM CHESS CHAMPIONSHIP-2026

01st to 03rd November 2026, Visakhapatnam, Andhra Pradesh

REGISTRATION FORM : CATEGORY UNDER-18 / UNDER-12

(strike out the not applicable category)

Name of School with address :	
Team Name (In case enrolling multiple teams) :	

Sl No	Name of Player	DOB	Gender	Class Studying	FIDE ID (if any)	AICF ID	Email ID	Mobile Number
1								
2								
3								
4								
5								
Non-Playing Captain (if any)								
1								
Manager (if any)								
1								

It is certified that all the mentioned players are bonafide students of the school for the academic year 2026-27 and all the above facts are true to the best of my knowledge and belief as per the school records.

Signature of Principal/Headmaster
With stamp & date

Note : Please mail this entry form duly filled in excel format to **aicfnationalentries@gmail.com cc to Indianchessfed@gmail.com** along with copies DOB certificates of all players and proof of entry fee payment.