



Tournament Pack



Oceania Youth Zonal 2027

Host Club: Hobsons Bay Chess Club (HBCC)

In partnership with

Oceania Chess Confederation (OCC)

FIDE – International Chess Federation

Venue: Bacchus Marsh Grammar Woodlea Branch



1. Executive summary

Hobsons Bay Chess Club will be the host for Oceania youth championship 2027 in Melbourne.

The Oceania Youth Zonal Championship represents the premier youth chess competition in the Oceania region. It brings together the strongest junior players from national federations including:

1. Australia
2. New Zealand
3. Fiji
4. Papua New Guinea
5. Solomon Islands
6. Palau
7. Guam
8. Nauru
9. New Caledonia
10. Tonga
11. Vanuatu
12. Kiribati
13. Marshall Islands

A five-day international youth chess championship will feature a classical tournament alongside rapid and blitz competitions.

The event will follow FIDE regulations and provide a professional environment supporting competitive excellence, youth development, and international collaboration.

Key strengths of this event include:

- Proven experience delivering large-scale chess tournaments
- A modern venue capable of hosting 400+ players
- An experienced organising team including FIDE International Arbiters
- Digital tournament operations and live broadcast capabilities
- Strong community and institutional support within Melbourne



HBCC is committed to delivering a well-organised, inclusive, and memorable event for the Oceania chess community.

2. About Host Organisation

Hobsons Bay Chess Club is one of the fastest-growing chess clubs in Australia and has established a strong reputation for delivering professionally organised tournaments.

The club hosts regular weekly tournaments and has organised several FIDE Rated major events, including:

- Best in the West Open Tournaments
- Junior Rapid Championships
- ANZAC Day Inter-Club Hybrid Tournaments
- Victorian Junior Championships 2025
- Victorian Junior Rapid and Blitz Championship 2026
- Victorian Women's Championship 2026
- Multiple FIDE-rated rapid and blitz tournaments

HBCC regularly hosts events involving 100–150 players weekly, with strong participation from juniors across Melbourne and regional Victoria.

The club operates with a structured volunteer committee supported by members with professional backgrounds in technology, governance, and project management.



3. Detailed Venue Information

Bacchus Marsh Grammar – Woodlea Campus (111 Frontier Ave, Aintree VIC 3336)

The proposed venue for the championship is Bacchus Marsh Grammar – Woodlea Campus, located in Melbourne’s western growth corridor.

How to get there

By Car

- The school is located just off the Western Highway (M8) in Aintree (near Rockbank). From Melbourne CBD: Take the West Gate Freeway (M1) and merge onto the Western Ring Road (M80), then exit onto the Western Highway (M8) heading towards Ballarat. Take the exit for Leakes Road in Rockbank, and follow the signs into the Woodlea estate onto Frontier Avenue. [\[1\]](#)
- From the West (Ballarat/Bacchus Marsh): Travel east along the Western Highway (M8), take the Rockbank exit, and proceed to Frontier Avenue

By Train

- Take the V/Line Ballarat Line train to Rockbank Station.
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5. Tournament Structure

The championship will include Open and Girls divisions across multiple age groups.

Age Categories

- Under 8
- Under 10
- Under 12
- Under 14
- Under 16



- Under 18
- Under 20

Each category will include Open and Girls sections, resulting in up to 14 sections.

Classical Championship

- 9-round Swiss tournament
- Time control: 90 minutes + 30 seconds increment
- Rated for FIDE Classical Rating

Rapid Championship

- 7 rounds Swiss
- Time control: 10 minutes + 2 seconds increment
- Rated for FIDE Rapid Rating

Blitz Championship

- 9 rounds Swiss
- Time control: 3 minutes + 2 seconds increment
- Rated for FIDE Blitz Rating

6. Registration Schedule

How to register: <https://portal.hobsonsbaychess.com/public/schedule/events/87244-oceania-youth-championship-2027>



Planning Your Entries

Oceania Youth Chess Championship 2027 Schedule



7. Indicative Tournament Schedule

- **Arrival Date:** Tuesday, 28 September 2027 (for overseas and inter-state players)
- **Tournament Dates:** Wednesday, 29 September – Sunday, 3 October 2027
- **Departure Date:** Monday, 4 October 2027 (for overseas and inter-state players)

Day	Date	Time	Activity
Arrival Day	28 September 2027 (Tue)	Throughout the Day	Arrival of Players & Delegations
		Throughout the Day	Airport Transfers & Hotel Check-in
Day 1 – Opening Day	29 September 2027 (Wed)	08:30 – 09:30	Player Registration
		09:30 – 09:50	Opening Ceremony
		10:00 – 14:00	Round 1 – Classical



Day	Date	Time	Activity
		14:00 – 15:30	Lunch Break
		15:30 – 19:30	Round 2 – Classical
Day 2	30 September 2027 (Thu)	09:30 – 13:30	Round 3 – Classical
		13:30 – 15:00	Lunch Break
		15:00 – 19:00	Round 4 – Classical
Day 3	1 October 2027 (Fri)	09:30 – 13:30	Round 5 – Classical
		13:30 – 15:00	Lunch Break
		15:00 – 19:00	Round 6 – Classical
Day 4	2 October 2027 (Sat)	09:30 – 13:30	Round 7 – Classical
		13:30 – 15:00	Lunch Break
		15:00 – 19:00	Round 8 – Classical
Day 5 – Final & Festival Day	3 October 2027 (Sun)	09:00 – 13:00	Round 9 – Classical
		13:00 – 13:45	Lunch Break
		13:45 – 14:30	Classical Prize-Giving Ceremony
		15:00 – 18:09	Rapid Championship (7 Rounds, 10+2)
		18:09 – 19:00	Dinner Break



Day	Date	Time	Activity
		19:00 – 20:48	Blitz Championship (9 Rounds, 3+2)
		20:55 – 21:25	Rapid & Blitz Prize-Giving Ceremony
Departure Day	4 October 2027 (Mon)	Throughout the Day	Hotel Check-out & Airport Transfers

The Chief Organiser and/or Chief Arbiter reserve the right to amend the schedule in the event of unforeseen circumstances.

8. Organising Team

Event Director

- IA Casey Goh major_tournaments@hobsonsbaychess.com
 - FIDE International Arbiter (IA)/ Associate Organiser Candidate
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9. Arbiter Team

Chief Arbiter

- IA Dr Peter Tsai FIDE International Arbiter and senior arbiter within Australia (subject to approval from OCC/ Asian Chess Federation)
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10. FIDE Titles and Qualification Pathway

Under the FIDE Handbook, continental youth championships may provide titles in accordance with the 2026 FIDE Title Regulations B/01".

11. Projected Participation

Estimated participation: 250- 300 players

Delegations expected from:

1. Australia
 2. New Zealand
 3. Fiji
 4. Papua New Guinea
 5. New Caledonia
 6. Guam
 7. Solomon Islands
 8. Tonga
 9. Vanuatu
 10. Kiribati
 11. Marshall Islands
 12. Nauru
 13. Palau
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12. Federation Support Programme

To encourage broad participation from across the Oceania region, Hobsons Bay Chess Club (HBCC) is committed to supporting participating national federations, particularly developing Pacific Island federations.



The programme is designed to reduce participation barriers, encourage international representation, and strengthen chess development throughout Oceania.

Support initiatives are subject to available funding, sponsorship and organiser capacity.

12.1 Official Federation Delegation

Participating federations may nominate an official delegation comprising:

- Up to **one (1) Official Player in each age category**
- **One (1) Head of Delegation**

Official players will participate as recognised representatives of their respective national federations.

The Organising Committee reserves the right to determine the final number of supported officials based on available resources.

12.2 Accommodation Support

HBCC intends to provide complimentary accommodation for official federation delegations comprising:

- One (1) Official Player per age category
- One (1) Head of Delegation per federation

Accommodation will generally be provided on a twin-share basis for the official duration of the championship.

This initiative aims to significantly reduce travel costs for participating federations and encourage wider regional participation.



12.3 Pacific Island Federation Participation Assistance Scheme

To encourage participation from developing Oceania federations and assist with regional travel costs, HBCC will establish a **Pacific Island Federation Participation Assistance Scheme**.

Under this scheme:

- The **first three (3) eligible federations** will each receive a **\$1,000 travel assistance grant**.
- A maximum of **three grants** will be awarded.

Eligibility

To qualify, a federation must:

- Be a member federation of the Oceania Chess Confederation (OCC).
- Be located outside Australia and New Zealand.
- Register a delegation of at least **five (5) players**.
- Submit the names of all participating players to the Organising Committee by **1 March 2027**.
- Be among the first three federations meeting all eligibility requirements.

Payment Conditions

The travel assistance grant will:

- Be paid only after the federation has completed in-person registration at the championship venue.
- Be paid to an authorised federation representative or by another method approved by the Organising Committee.
- Be forfeited if the federation withdraws, fails to attend, or no longer satisfies the eligibility requirements.



Purpose

The scheme aims to:

- Reduce travel costs for developing Oceania federations.
 - Encourage broader international participation.
 - Provide greater competitive opportunities for young players from Pacific Island nations.
 - Strengthen chess development and regional cooperation throughout Oceania.
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12.4 Visa, Travel and Logistics Support for Official Players

HBCC will provide practical assistance to participating federations where possible, including:

- Official invitation letters for visa applications.
- General visa guidance and supporting documentation.
- Early issue of invitation letters to assist with visa processing.
- General travel and logistics advice.
- Accommodation coordination assistance.
- Information on local transport options.
- Airport transfer and hotel-to-venue shuttle services for official delegations (subject to availability and funding).
- General guidance on applying for available FIDE and Oceania development grants.

Visa invitation letters will only be provided to both official and unofficial players and accompanying persons (e.g. parents) once the entry and registration fee has been paid. If you are unable to obtain a visa, your entry/registration fee will be refunded.



12.5 Special Prize for Pacific Island Federation Players

To encourage greater participation and recognise talented young players from across the Pacific, the Oceania Youth Chess Championship 2026 will offer Special Prizes for Pacific Island Federation Players.

These prizes are open to eligible players representing Oceania chess federations other than Australia and New Zealand.

The prizes will recognise the best-performing eligible Pacific Island Federation players participating in the Championship and are separate from the main Championship titles and other age-group prizes.

Eligibility and final prize allocation will be determined by the tournament organisers.

12.6 General Conditions

All federation support initiatives:

- Are subject to available funding, sponsorship and organiser capacity.
- May be amended or withdrawn if circumstances require.
- Do not constitute an automatic entitlement unless confirmed in writing by the Organising Committee.
- May be prioritised for developing Oceania federations where funding is limited.



13. Entry Fees

Championship Entry Package

One championship entry provides participation in **all three events**:

- **Classical Championship**
- **Rapid Championship**
- **Blitz Championship**

There are **no additional entry fees** for the Rapid or Blitz Championships. Once registered, players are automatically eligible to compete in all three events.

Entry Fee Structure

Category	Registration Fees	Entry Fees	Total
Early Bird Entry (entries must be received before 1st August 2027)	AUD 130	AUD 130	AUD 260
General Price Entry	AUD 170	AUD 130	AUD 300
Official Player Early Bird Entry (entries must be received before 1st August 2027)	AUD 130	Waived	AUD 130
Official Player General Price Entry	AUD 170	Waived	AUD 170



What the Registration Fee Covers

The Championship Registration Fee contributes towards the overall delivery of the championship, including:

- Player accreditation and registration
 - Tournament administration
 - Venue hire and event operations
 - Tournament equipment and technical support
 - Pairing software and live results
 - Event staffing and volunteer support
 - Opening and Closing Ceremonies
 - Championship branding and participant services
 - General event management
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What the Entry Fee Covers

The Championship Entry Fee provides entry into:

- **9-Round Classical Championship**
- **7-Round Rapid Championship**
- **9-Round Blitz Championship**

The entry fee also includes:

- FIDE rating submission (where applicable)
- Eligibility for championship titles
- Eligibility for trophies and medals



- Official participation certificate
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Official Players

Each Oceania Chess Confederation member federation may nominate Official Players in accordance with the Championship Regulations.

Official Players receive:

- Waiver of the Championship Registration Fee
- Accommodation Support

Official Players therefore pay **AUD 130** only (early bird- before 1st August 2027)

Entry Fees will be refunded to official players after they have been identified by Federations.

Early Bird Registration

Players who complete their registration and payment **on or before 1 August 2027** receive the Early Bird rate of **AUD 260**, representing a **AUD 40 saving** compared with the Standard Entry fee.

First 300 Entry Registration Lucky Draw

First 300 players who complete their registration are eligible for below lucky draw

1. 5 x Chess Clocks
 2. 1x ChessNut Go board
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Payment Methods

Accepted payment methods will include:



- Credit/Debit Card
- Online payment via the official registration portal

All fees are payable in **Australian Dollars (AUD)**.

Refund & Cancellation Policy

- Registration fees are transferable only with the approval of the Organising Committee.
 - Refund requests received before the published withdrawal deadline (15th September 2027) may be considered, subject to an administrative fee.
 - No refunds will normally be issued after the final registration closing date, except where required under applicable Australian consumer law or at the discretion of the Organising Committee in exceptional circumstances.
 - Any bank charges or payment processing fees incurred in processing refunds may be deducted from the refunded amount.
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