

**Regulations
for the
Menchik
Memorial
Tournament**

Menchik Memorial 2026 – Tournament Regulations

Tournament Overview

The English Chess Federation is pleased to host the 11th Menchik Memorial Tournament, which will take place from Monday 24th to Sunday 30th August 2026 at the ILEC Conference Centre. This prestigious event is a ten-player round-robin for women, providing participants the opportunity to achieve international title norms.

Venue

ILEC Conference Centre, 47 Lillie Road, LONDON. SW6 1UD.

Tournament Format

Format	Round Robin
Number of Rounds	9
Time Control	90 minutes for the entire game with a 30-second increment per move
Default Time	30 minutes
Laws of Chess	In accordance with the FIDE Laws of Chess.
Starting Position	Standard

Drawing of Lots

Player numbers will be randomly assigned for pairing purposes, using the “random” option for pairing round robin tournaments in Swiss Manager. This will take place on Tuesday 11 August 2026, at 20:00 (BST). A short video clip will be published for the sake of transparency.

Draw Agreement

Sofia Rules are in effect. Therefore:

- Players are not permitted to agree to a draw before Black’s 30th move.
- A draw claim before Black’s 30th move can only be made through an Arbiter.

Withdrawals

Players may not withdraw from the tournament once they have accepted the invitation.

Appeals

Appeals must be submitted in writing to the tournament organiser within 30 minutes after the game. An appeal fee of £50 applies, which will be refunded if the appeal is successful. The Appeals Committee will consist of one Chairman and two members, all appointed by the organiser. The decisions made by the Appeals Committee are final and binding.

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Schedule

Round	Day	Date	Time (BST)
Round 1	Monday	24th August	15:00
Round 2	Tuesday	25th August	10:00
Round 3	Tuesday	25th August	15:00
Round 4	Wednesday	26th August	15:00
Round 5	Thursday	27th August	10:00
Round 6	Thursday	27th August	15:00
Round 7	Friday	28th August	15:00
Round 8	Saturday	29th August	15:00
Round 9	Sunday	30th August	10:00

Note: Players will be given at least a 30-minute break between the rounds, in the event of a previous round over-running.

Ranking and Tie-Breaks

The winner is the player that scores the most points. If the points are equal, tie-breaks for ranking purpose are (in the order of application):

1. Direct encounter
2. Greater number of victories
3. Most games played with Black
4. Sonneborn-Berger score
5. Koya System

Prize

The winner of the tournament will receive a trophy.

Dress Code

Players are expected to dress smartly.

Rating and GDPR Compliance

The tournament will be submitted for rating to both FIDE and the English Chess Federation (ECF). By entering the tournament, players consent to their data being shared with the ECF and FIDE for rating and norm calculations.

The August 2026 FIDE Rating List will be used for the purpose of determining norms, and the publication of any eventual norm certificates.

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Anti-Cheating Measures

Players should not bring mobile phones, watches or electronic devices to the Venue. If nevertheless brought or worn to the Venue, they must be completely switched off and placed at the Arbiters' table. The organiser will provide a clock in the playing hall.

Players may be electronically scanned before or after games to demonstrate that they are or were not carrying any electronic device on their person. Players may request to be scanned by a person of the same gender.

Games will be analysed by Professor Ken Regan for anti-cheating screening.

There will be 15 minutes delay on the Live broadcast.

Spectators and Media Access

Spectators are not permitted in the Playing Area unless authorized by the Organiser and the Chief Arbiter.

Official press officers may be accredited by the Organizer and may take photographs and video footage with conditions set by the Organizer and the Chief Arbiter.

Liability

The organisers are not responsible for any loss, theft, or accident during the event, including personal belongings left in the venue.

Contact Details

Organiser: IA Agnieszka Milewska
Email: director.womenschess@englishchess.org.uk
Phone: +44 – (0)7871 400372

Colophon

DOCUMENT VERSION

Version	Date	Author	Note
1.0	07/08/2026	PM	Initial version based on last year's regulations.
1.1	09/08/20226	PM	After review with AM.

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