

Invitation

We would like to invite you to the beautiful surroundings of Nové Hradý
for the **7th International Chess Festival**



OPEN NOVÉ HRADY 2026

which will be held in **Nové Hradý** from **August 15 to August 21, 2026**

under the auspices of the Mayor of Nové Hradý, **Mgr. Vladimír Hokr**

and the Rector of VŠTE, **Prof. Ing. Marek Vochozka, MBA, Ph.D.**

Venue:	Hotel Máj, Nové Hradý
Organiser:	Chess Academy VŠTE and the Town of Nové Hradý
Tournament Director:	Mgr. Vladimír Hokr (e-mail: mitanek13@atlas.cz)
Tournament Administrator:	Ing. Rudolf Černík (e-mail: cernikr@volny.cz)
Chief Arbiters:	Mgr. Bohumil Garabík, Ing. Ján Gdovin

Rules: Games will be played according to the Competition Regulations of the Chess Federation of the Czech Republic, valid as of September 1, 2018. Matters concerning the rules of the game fall under the jurisdiction of the Chief Arbiters, whose decisions during the tournament are final.

Ranking criteria: For all tournaments, the ranking will be determined according to the Competition Regulations of the Chess Federation of the Czech Republic (1. Head-to-head result, 2. Buchholz Cut 1 (reduced by the lowest opponent's score), 3. Buchholz, 4. Sonneborn–Berger, 5. Greater number of games played with Black, 6. Drawing of lots).

Tournaments:

A) August 16 to August 21, 2026: Open Nové Hradky and South Bohemian Regional Championship for Men, Women and Boys' and Girls' U18 and U20 categories

- FIDE-rated tournament
- Open to registered players of all ages and skill levels
- Swiss system, 7 rounds, 2x 90 min + 30 s/move
- Separate evaluation for the South Bohemian Regional Championship for Men, Women, and Boys' and Girls' U18 and U20 categories

Financial Prizes:

Open Nové Hradky: 10 000 – 8 000 – 6 000 – 4 000 – 2 000 – 1 000 CZK

Prizes in kind in the FIDE rating categories ≤ 1600 and 1601–1900

Entry fee:

Open – 800 CZK

Players born in 2010 or later, or in 1960 or earlier: 500 CZK

Additional discounts (cumulative):

- 100 CZK – members of ŠA VŠTE, ŠO Hraničář H. Stropnice, Šachy Štěpán
- 100 CZK – participants of Open Nové Hradky 2025

Any rating fees charged under the economic regulations of the Czech Chess Federation will be paid by the organiser.

Registration deadline: August 10, 2026, 20:00, Late registration: + 100 CZK

B) August 19, 2026: Open – 34th František Černík Memorial & South Bohemian Regional Blitz Championship in all categories, including youth categories

- FIDE blitz-rated tournament
- Open to players of all ages and skill levels
- Swiss system, 13 rounds, 2 x 3 min + 2 s/move
- Separate evaluation for the South Bohemian Regional Championship

Financial Prizes:

F. Černík Memorial: 4 000 – 3 000 – 2 000 – 1 000 CZK

Entry fee: 200 CZK, Players from South Bohemia: 150 CZK, ŠA VŠTE members: 100 CZK.

Any rating fees charged under the economic regulations of the Czech Chess Federation will be paid by the organiser.

Registration deadline: August 16, 2026, 20:00, Late registration (on-site): + 50 CZK

C) August 17 to August 19, 2026: Youth Open

- Open to beginners or unregistered players of all ages with Rtg < 1300 N-ELO
- Swiss system, 7 rounds, 2 x 40 min + 30 s/move
- The tournament will be submitted for Czech national rating (N-ELO)

Entry fee: 100 CZK

Prizes in kind: Subject to availability

Registration deadline: August 16, 2026, 20:00, Late registration (on-site): + 30 CZK

D) August 15, 2026: Open Rapid Tournament

- Swiss system, the number of rounds is based on the number of participants
- Time control: 2 x 15 min + 5 s/move
- The tournament may be submitted for Czech national rapid rating (N-R ELO)
- **Category D1:** Players with Rtg $\geq$ 1250 N-R ELO
- **Category D2:** Players with Rtg < 1250 N-R ELO, beginners or unregistered players of all ages
- In case of low participation, rating limits may be adjusted or categories merged

Entry fee:

D1: 200 CZK, ŠA VŠTE members: 100 CZK,

D2: 150 CZK, ŠA VŠTE members: 100 CZK.

Prizes in kind: Subject to availability

Registration deadline: August 14, 2026, 20:00, Late registration (on-site): + 50 CZK



Timetable:

Tournament A (Open Nové Hradý):

Sunday, August 16, 2026	14:00 – 15:30	Player registration
	16:00	1 st round
Monday, August 17, 2026	10:00	2 nd round
	16:00	3 rd round
Tuesday, August 18, 2026	16:00	4 th round
Wednesday, August 19, 2026	10:00	5 th round
Thursday, August 20, 2026	16:00	6 th round
Friday, August 21, 2026	09:30	7 th round
Closing ceremony (30 min after the last game).		

Tournament B (Open Blitz):

Wednesday, August 19, 2026	13:30 – 14:45	Player registration
	15:00	Blitz Tournament

Tournament C (Youth Open):

Monday, August 17, 2026	12:30 – 13:30	Player registration
	14:00	1 st round
	16:00	2 nd round
Tuesday, August 18, 2026	09:00	3 rd round
	12:00	4 th round
	15:00	5 th round
Wednesday, August 19, 2026	09:00	6 th round
	12:00	7 th round
Closing ceremony (30 min after the last game).		

Tournament D (Open Rapid):

Saturday, August 15, 2026	08:30 – 09:00	Player registration
	09:15	Start of the tournament

The schedule may be subject to change for valid reasons.

Entry fee discounts for clubs: For every five players in a given tournament, a 10% discount applies.

The starting times of individual rounds have been scheduled with public transport connections to and from České Budějovice in mind.

Accommodation: Participants and accompanying persons are responsible for arranging their own accommodation. A variety of options (apartments, guesthouses, hotels, and private accommodations) are available. A full list of accommodation options is available on the Nové Hradky Cultural and Information Centre website. Prices range from 300 to 600 CZK per person per night. For assistance, contact tournament director Vladimír Hokr at 00420 777 137 613.

Meals: Hotel Máj and restaurants in the surrounding area (arranged by the participants individually).

Others: By registering for the tournament, players agree to the use of audiovisual recordings from the event for the organiser's promotional purposes.

Up-to-date information and tournament entries:

Vladimír Hokr, phone: 00420 777 137 613, e-mail: mitanek13@atlas.cz

The chess festival is supported by:

