

HERMANUS

CHESS CLUB OPEN 2026

RAPID 15/15 + 5

R50 000+
PRIZE FUND

Curro Hermanus
09:00 - 16:30
18 April 2026

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HERMANUS



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BLITZ EVENT

Blitz Details

Date	Friday 17 April 2026
Time	18h00 – 20h30
Venue	Curro Hermanus
Tournament Director	Martin Brink (chairman@hermanuschessclub.co.za)
Chief Arbiter	Ethan Higham (info@hermanuschessclub.co.za)
Registration Link	https://chessworks.co.za/tournament/hermanus-chess-club-open-2026-blitz

Blitz Format

Format	Individual Swiss
Rounds	9 Rounds
Time Control	3/3 + 2sipm
Playing Schedule	Round 1 @ 18h00

Blitz Sections

Section	Criteria	Rated	Entry Fee
Open	-	Chess SA / FIDE	R100

Blitz Prize Breakdown

1 st	2 nd	3 rd	Best Female	Best Junior	Best Senior
R1 000	R750	R600	R450	R450	R450
Trophy for 1 st Place Medals for Top 3, Best Female, Junior (U14) and Senior (50+)					



RAPID EVENT

Rapid Details

Date	Saturday 18 April 2026
Time	09h00 - 16h30
Venue	Curro Hermanus
Tournament Director	Martin Brink (chairman@hermanuschessclub.co.za)
Chief Arbiter	Ricardo Minnaar (ricardo.minnaar@gmail.com)
Registration Link	https://chessworks.co.za/tournament/hermanus-chess-club-open-2026

Rapid Format

Format	Individual Swiss
Rounds	7 Rounds
Time Control	15/15 + 5sipm
Playing Schedule	Round 1 @ 09h00

Rapid Sections

Section	Criteria	Rated	Entry Fee
Championship	Rating \geq 1700	Chess SA / FIDE	R300
Advanced	Rating < 1700	Chess SA / FIDE	R250
Intermediate	Rating < 1450	Chess SA / FIDE	R200
U14	Born 2013 or later	Chess SA / FIDE	R150
U12	Born 2015 or later	Chess SA / FIDE	
U10	Born 2017 or later	Chess SA / FIDE	

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Hermanus Chess Club Open

2026



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Rapid Prize Breakdown

Section	1 st	2 nd	3 rd	4 th	5 th	Best Female	Best Junior	Best Senior
Championship	R10 000	R5 000	R3 000	R2 000	R1 500	R1 000	R1 000	R1 000
Advanced	R5 000	R3 000	R2 000	R1 500	R1 000	R 750	R750	R 750
Intermediate	R3 000	R2 000	R1 500	R1 000	R 500	R 500	R500	R 500
U14	Trophies and Medals						-	
U12								
U10								
Trophy for 1 st Place in all sections Medals for Top 5, Best Female, Best Junior (U14) and Best Senior (50+)								

Rapid Playing Schedule

Round	Time
Round 1	09h00
Prize Giving	16h30
<i>Rounds will be accelerated.</i>	



Playing Venue



Curro Hermanus (Hennie Mentz Hall) – 1 Curro Road, Sandbaai, Hermanus, 7200

<https://maps.app.goo.gl/aiYn1s4aDCLKyaGeA>

Food and Beverage vendors will be operating on the day of the event.


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Tournament Regulations

1. CONSENT

- 1.1 The player/parent/guardian gives consent for the player's name, surname, gender, date of birth, Chess SA ID and or FIDE ID to be submitted to the rating agencies (Chess SA and/or FIDE) for the purposes of rating the tournament and the rating agencies displaying it on their respective websites.
- 1.2 The player/parent/guardian gives consent for the publication of the player's details name, surname, gender, date of birth, Chess SA ID and/ or FIDE ID on the website chess-results.com for the purpose of tournament pairings and administration.
- 1.3 The above processing of information is required for the running of this event. Should consent for either of the above be refused, the player will not be able to participate in this event.
- 1.4 The player/parent/guardian gives consent for photo's and/or videos to be taken of the players during the tournament and to be published on social media pages and/or the internet. Should consent not be given, please notify the organisers before the tournament so that the event photographers can be notified.

2. REGISTRATION

- 2.1 Right of admission is reserved
- 2.2 Players must complete their registration and payment via the ChessWorks platform using the official registration links:

Rapid Event



<https://chessworks.co.za/tournament/hermanus-chess-club-open-2026>

Blitz Event



<https://chessworks.co.za/tournament/hermanus-chess-club-open-2026-blitz>

- 2.2.1 The deadline for all registrations is **Thursday 16 April at midnight (04/16 - 00h00)**.
- 2.2.1.1 Late entries will incur an additional penalty of **R50** for all sections
- 2.2.1.2 Late entries will be allowed until **Friday 17 April at 12h00**. No further entries will be permitted beyond this deadline.



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3. SECTIONS & CRITERIA

- 3.1 The Chief Arbiter or Tournament Director reserves the right to move players to a different section based on their discretion.
- 3.2 Eligibility for a section will be determined using a player's Chess SA (Main) rating or their FIDE rating.
- 3.2.1 Players must use the **higher** of the two ratings to determine their eligibility for a specific section
- 3.2.2 If a player does not have a FIDE Rapid or Blitz rating, then their Standard FIDE rating will be used.

4. PRIZES

- 4.1 Prize money will be awarded strictly based on the final standings determined by the tie-break system. There will be no splitting of prize funds among participants.
- 4.2 Players aged 50 years and older (born 1976 or earlier) will be eligible to win the best senior prize for their relevant section.
- 4.3 Players can win more than one prize.
- 4.3.1 For example: If a top-performing female player in a section finishes 1st overall, she will also be awarded the Best Female prize.

5. TIE-BREAKS (RAPID & BLITZ)

- 5.1 In the event of a tie for any position, the final rankings will be determined by applying the following tiebreak criteria, in the order listed below:
- 5.1.1 Direct Encounter
- 5.1.2 Buchholz Cut-1
- 5.1.3 Buchholz
- 5.1.4 Sonneborn-Berger
- 5.1.5 Average rating of opponents

6. DEFAULT TIME

- 6.1 There will be no default time for all rounds. If a player is not at their board when the round starts, their clock will run until their flag falls. Players who are defaulted will be removed from the subsequent pairings unless they communicate with the Chief Arbiter.

7. ELECTRONIC DEVICES

7.1 All electronic devices (smartphones, smart watches, smart rings etc.) must be switched off when brought into the playing area. Any player who is found to have such a device in his/her possession which is not switched off will immediately be forfeited.

7.1.1 **Exceptions:** In cases where a player has a specific medical condition or any other exceptional circumstances which has been declared to and accepted by the Tournament Director and Chief Arbiter.

8. APPEALS

8.1 A player wishing to appeal against a ruling made by an arbiter, must do so immediately after the game has ended and before the pairings for the next round have been published. Appeals must be lodged with the tournament director in writing, accompanied by a R300 fee which will be refunded in the event the appeal is successful.

9. WITHDRAWALS & REFUNDS

9.1 Players wishing to withdraw must inform the Chief Arbiter before the first round's pairings are published. If a player withdraws during the event, rating penalties will be applied as per Chess SA Rating Regulations if no valid and acceptable reason(s) are provided by the player.

9.2 Players withdrawing from the event will forfeit their entry fee (no refunds).

10. COMMUNICATION

10.1 It is highly advisable that all players (and parents of junior players) join the Hermanus Chess Club Events WhatsApp group to receive updates and communication regarding the event. Pairings will be published to Chess-Results as well as the WhatsApp group on the day of the tournament

Link to WhatsApp Group



<https://chat.whatsapp.com/JVwGycP2EsNBT4hUB8fa60>



11. PLAYER CONDUCT

11.1 Any person (Arbiter, Official, Non-Official, Player or Spectator) found to be under the influence of alcohol, drugs or any other illegal substance will automatically forfeit and immediately be removed from the tournament premises

12. DISCLAIMER

12.1 The Hermanus Chess Club reserves the right to change any aspect of the tournament including but not limited to the venue, sections, format, time control, dates, number of players and prize funds. Any changes will be communicated to players through the tournament WhatsApp group and to the email addresses provided by players upon registration.

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