



West Coast Open 2026

Hosted by



and



9 - 11 October 2026

Laerskool Swartland - Malmesbury

Register Here:

<https://chessworks.co.za/tournament/west-coast-open-2026>

<https://chessworks.co.za/tournament/west-coast-open-2026-rapid>

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In partnership with



POPI App



IMPORTANT LINKS

Registration

<https://chessworks.co.za/tournament/west-coast-open-2026>

<https://chessworks.co.za/tournament/west-coast-open-2026-rapid>

WhatsApp

Prestige & Advanced Standard Time Control

[JOIN HERE](#)

Development & Intermediate Standard Time Control

[JOIN HERE](#)

Rapid Time Control

[JOIN HERE](#)

Venue

[Google Maps Link](#)

Laerskool Swartland, Malmesbury

General playing venue video livestream

(not individual game boards)

<https://westcoastopen2026.swartlandtech.co.za>

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SECTIONS & TIME CONTROL

SECTION	ENTRY CRITERIA	ENTRY FEE	TIME CONTROL	ROUNDS		
Standard <i>FIDE & Chess SA Rated</i>						
PRESTIGE	Standard Rating 1550 +	R325	60 + 10sipm	6 Rounds Swiss		
ADVANCED	Standard Rating < 1550	R275				
INTERMEDIATE	Standard Rating < 1300	R225	55 + 5sipm	5 Round Swiss		
DEVELOPMENT U16 U14 U12 U10 U8	Born 2011 - 2012 Born 2013 - 2014 Born 2015 - 2016 Born 2017 - 2018 Born 2019 and later	R175				
Rapid <i>FIDE & Chess SA Rated</i>						
OPEN	All ratings	R225			20 + 5sipm	6 Rounds Swiss
DEVELOPMENT U16 U14 U12 U10 U8	Born 2011 - 2012 Born 2013 - 2014 Born 2015 - 2016 Born 2017 - 2018 Born 2019 and later	R175				
10% Early Bird Discount on entries before 11 Sept 2026. <i>Use code EARLYBIRD10 on checkout.</i>						
10% Discount on groups of 10+ entries. EFT refund after registration deadline. <i>Discounts can stack if all criteria is met.</i>						

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LOC CONTACT DETAILS

TOURNAMENT DIRECTOR	REGISTRATION OFFICER	CHIEF ARBITER
Elke Fuhri 083 353 1220	Ethan Higham ethan@chessworks.co.za	Johannes Erasmus 072 421 3851

TOURNAMENT SCHEDULE

DATE	<u>Standard</u> PRESTIGE ADVANCED		<u>Standard</u> INTERMEDIATE DEVELOPMENT U8 - U16		<u>Rapid</u> ALL SECTIONS			
Friday 9 October	18h45 19h00	Players seated Round 1						
Saturday 10 October	08h00	Players seated for official opening						
	08h30	Round 2	08h30	Round 1				
	12h00	Round 3	10h40	Round 2				
	15h30	Round 4	12h50	Round 3				
			15h00	Round 4				
			17h10	Round 5				
			19h30	Prizegiving				
Sunday 11 October	08h45 09h00 12h30 16h00	Players seated Round 5 Round 6 Prizegiving			08h30 08h45 09h00 10h10 11h20 12h30 13h40 14h50 16h00	Players seated Announcements Round 1 Round 2 Round 3 Round 4 Round 5 Round 6 Prizegiving		
	No acceleration of rounds or prizegiving				All rounds and prizegiving will be accelerated per section where possible			

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PRIZES

<u>Standard</u>				
PLACE	PRESTIGE	ADVANCED	INTERMEDIATE	DEVELOPMENT U8 - U16
1st	Floating Trophy Medal R3000	Floating Trophy Medal R2000	Floating Trophy Medal R1500	Winners Trophies Medals for Top 5 per section West Coast King & Queen Medals <i>No cash prizes</i>
2nd	Medal R2000	Medal R1500	Medal R1000	
3rd	Medal R1500	Medal R1000	Medal R500	
<u>Rapid</u>				
PLACE	OPEN			DEVELOPMENT U8 - U16
1st	Medal R1500			Winners Trophies Medals for Top 5 per section West Coast King & Queen Medals <i>No cash prizes</i>
2nd	Medal R1000			
3rd	Medal R500			

ABOUT THE VENUE

**Food & beverage vendors will be operating on Saturday and Sunday.
A chess memorabilia table will also be present during the event.**



Laerskool Swartland - St Thomas Str, Malmesbury, 7300

[Google Maps Link](#)



Accommodation available at Huis Landman (school hostel)

Contact Mr Uys (082 671 1671)

[Google Maps Link](#)

TOURNAMENT REGULATIONS

1. RULES

- 1.1. The latest FIDE Laws of Chess will apply for the event.

2. REGISTRATION

- 2.1. All registrations for the tournament needs to be done online at
 - 2.1.1. <https://chessworks.co.za/tournament/west-coast-open-2026>
 - 2.1.2. <https://chessworks.co.za/tournament/west-coast-open-2026-rapid>
- 2.2. The following registration deadlines will apply:
 - 2.2.1. Early bird entries deadline is **Friday 11 September 22h00.**
 - 2.2.2. Registration deadline is **Friday 2 October 22h00.**
 - 2.2.3. Late entries at additional R100 per entry with a final registration deadline on Wednesday 7 **October 22h00.**

3. COMMUNICATION

- 3.1. All official communication will be published on the relevant Whatsapp Groups below. Pairings will be published to Chess-Results as well as the WhatsApp group on the day of the tournament.
 - 3.1.1. [JOIN HERE](#) Prestige & Advanced Standard Time Control
 - 3.1.2. [JOIN HERE](#) Development & Intermediate Standard Time Control
 - 3.1.3. [JOIN HERE](#) Rapid Time Control

4. DISCOUNTS AND REFUNDS

- 4.1. A 10% discount will automatically be applied on the registration website for all purchases using the discount code (EARLYBIRD10) before the early bird registration cutoff.
- 4.2. A 10% discount will be applied to all group bookings of 10 or more entries through the registration website. The discount will be calculated and refunded via EFT after the final registration deadline. This discount will stack on top of any early bird entries. The group booking does not have to be done in one batch, as long as the same group name is used.
- 4.3. Players who withdraw after the closing date for registration will forfeit their entry fee.
- 4.4. Qualifying refund requests will incur a R100 admin fee.

5. SECTIONS AND CRITERIA

- 5.1. Sections and criteria are set above in the brochure.
- 5.2. All sections will be Chess SA and FIDE rated.
 - 5.2.1. Standard games where at least one opponent is rated higher than 1800 will NOT be FIDE rated.
- 5.3. Players may "play up" into a higher age or rating group.
- 5.4. Players may be moved to another section at the discretion of the LOC.
- 5.5. Players that are not yet rated by Chess SA will be deemed to have a rating of 1200 for tie-break and other calculation purposes.
- 5.6. Eligibility for the rated sections are based on the player's Chess SA rating for that time control.

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6. TIE-BREAKS

- 6.1. In the event there is a tie for any position, the tiebreak between the players with the same number of points will be broken in the following order:
 - 6.1.1. Direct Encounter
 - 6.1.2. Buchholz
 - 6.1.3. Sonneborn-Berger
 - 6.1.4. Buchholz Cut-1
 - 6.1.5. Average rating of opponents

7. ELECTRONIC DEVICES

- 7.1. All electronic devices (smartphones, smart watches, smart rings etc., but excluding those used specifically for the running of the event) 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 (loss of game).
- 7.2. **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 LOC.

8. DEFAULT TIME AND WITHDRAWALS

- 8.1. Players who are defaulted in any round will be removed from the subsequent pairings unless they communicate with the Chief Arbiter.
- 8.2. Any player who arrives after the default time has elapsed will forfeit the game unless the Chief Arbiter decides otherwise.
- 8.3. Default times will be according to the table below:

Rapid Time Control	All rounds	10 minute
Standard Time Control	All rounds	20 minutes

- 8.4. Should a player withdraw at any point after the final registration deadline without informing the LOC, rating penalties will be applied as per Chess SA Rating Regulations if no valid and acceptable reason(s) are provided by the player.

9. PRIZES

- 9.1. Prizes will not be split amongst participants. The final rankings according to the tie-breaks will determine prize allocations.
- 9.2. Monetary prizes will be paid in by Electronic Fund Transfer (EFT) within 72 hours after the conclusion of the event.
- 9.3. No player may win more than one individual prize. A player will receive the prize with the highest value.

10. DRESS CODE

- 10.1. Players may wear casual clothes (school uniform not required), but always be neat and presentable.
- 10.2. Players must always wear shoes or sandals whilst inside the playing area.
- 10.3. Players are encouraged to wear club attire or regional, provincial or national colours.

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11. APPEALS

- 11.1. The Appeals Committee (AC) shall be appointed by the LOC and shall consist of:
 - 11.1.1. The Chief Arbiter (Chairman)
 - 11.1.2. two members of the LOC
 - 11.1.3. Where the Chief Arbiter is involved in the dispute, the Deputy Chief Arbiter shall be appointed in their place.
- 11.2. If a player is under 18, then the appeal must be submitted by the player's parent/ guardian/teacher or coach.
- 11.3. If the appellant is unable to write their appeal for medical reasons, or because of a disability, then the appeal may be written by an assistant.
- 11.4. An appeal must be made by a party directly impacted by the situation in which the dispute occurred.
- 11.5. Appeals must be submitted to the AC Chairman in writing within the following time frames, either after the round or the particular infringement:
 - 11.5.1. Rapid: 10 minutes, Standard 20 minutes.
- 11.6. The appeal must be written in English.
- 11.7. The appeal fee of R300 must also be paid within the same appeal time frames specified.
- 11.8. If the appeal is upheld, then the fee will be returned. If the appeal is rejected, then AC may decide to reimburse the fee.
- 11.9. An appeal may only be made to AC once the appellant has received a decision from the Chief Arbiter. The topics of the appeal may include, but are not limited to:
 - 11.9.1. The arbiter incorrectly applying the FIDE Laws of Chess
 - 11.9.2. The arbiter incorrectly applying the Tournament Regulations
 - 11.9.3. The behaviour of a player
 - 11.9.4. Upon receipt of an appeal, the AC Chairman is empowered to ask for written statements within a specific time frame from other people, including but not limited to:
 - 11.9.4.1. The opponent
 - 11.9.4.2. The Chief Arbiter
 - 11.9.4.3. The arbiter who made the original decision
- 11.10. The Appeals Committee endeavours to communicate its decision in writing as soon as possible after receipt of the appeal. If the appeal procedure causes a delay to the tournament schedule, the next round shall be played as originally planned if 3/4 of the total number of rounds or fewer have been played. The pairings for the next round shall be done with the result of the disputed game being the result as decided by the Chief Arbiter. If more than 3/4 of the total number of rounds have been played, the Chief Arbiter shall decide whether or not the next round shall be delayed until the decision of the Appeals Committee has been made.
- 11.11. The written verdict will be communicated by e-mail or WhatsApp to the appellant and any parties involved in the dispute.

12. CONSENT

- 12.1. 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.
- 12.2. 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.
- 12.3. 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.
- 12.4. 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

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consent not be given, please notify the organisers before the tournament so that the event photographers can be notified.

13. DISCLAIMER

- 13.1. The organisers reserve 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/or to the email addresses provided by players upon registration.