



MSG 2025-2026 - Middle & Secondary Schools

Rules & Regulations

Chess U15 Open

The competition is open for all schools and colleges in Malta for U15 students born 2011-2014 (Year 7 – Year 10).

Each school/college can participate with one team of 4 players and up to 2 (optional) reserve players.

The tournament shall be held over 6 rounds in a Swiss System format. Each school will play all 6 rounds provided there are an even number of teams. If not, one school will have a bye (default win) in every round.

The time limit will be of 6 mins + 3 secs increment. Should there be a lack of time, the time limit for future rounds can change accordingly to be able to hold all 6 rounds within the allowed time frame.

Each game will consist of 4 students from a school playing against 4 students from another school. Two of the students will play with the white pieces while the other two will play with the black pieces.

The result of a match will be considered as a team and not individually. Thus, a score can be any of 4-0, 3.5-0.5, 3-1, 2.5-1.5, 2-2 and so on.

The top 6 schools will qualify for the Finals that shall be held between 4th-8th May. The Finals will be held as a round-robin (all play all) tournament where each team will play each other.

We understand that some schools have many players and can participate with more than one team. We encourage these schools to hold tournaments within the school to be able to select their best players for the squad.

In the unlikely event that a few schools participate, we reserve the right to accept 2 teams per school. This shall be communicated once the number of participating schools are known.