

NIGERIA CHESS FEDERATION



ECOBANK NATIONAL SCHOOL TEAMS CHESS CHAMPIONSHIP 2025 EDITION

REGULATIONS

ECOBANK NATIONAL SCHOOL TEAM TOURNAMENT RULES AND REGULATIONS 2025

1. General

The National Schools Team Chess Championships is the flagship Nigeria Chess Federation (NCF) competition among the teams of general educational institutions (hereinafter referred to as “NSTCC”). The event shall be governed by the General Regulations for FIDE Competitions.

NSTCC is organized under the aegis of the Nigeria Chess Federation.

Teams of chess academies, chess clubs, chess departments of junior physical training clubs, specialized sports schools, Olympic reserve schools, or those that combine players from more than one general educational institution are not allowed to participate.

2. Event Overview

The National School Team Chess Championship is an annual event that brings together students from schools across all thirty-six (36) states and the FCT to compete in a team based chess tournament. Organized by the Nigeria Chess Federation with support from the International Chess Federation (FIDE), this championship serves as a platform for nurturing young chess talent, promoting teamwork, fostering a spirit of sportsmanship among participants and providing international recognition.

This will serve as the official invitation to all Primary Schools in Nigeria to participate in the Ecobank National School Teams Chess Championships 2025. This tournament is opened to all primary schools (players both boys and girls who are below 12years of age in Nigeria).

3. Playing Venue

The championship will be held at the Ecobank Building, Ozumba Mbadiwe, Victoria Island, Lagos Nigeria on the 26th June 2025.

ECOBANK NATIONAL SCHOOL TEAM TOURNAMENT RULES AND REGULATIONS 2025

4. Tournament Schedule

ITEM	DATE & TIME
TECHNICAL MEETING, OPENING CEREMONY AND PRESS CONFERENCE	11:00AM (25th JUNE 2025)
Arrival of Participants	9:00AM (26 TH June 2025)
RAPIDS 26TH JUNE 2025	
ROUND 1	10:00AM – 11:00AM
ROUND 2	11:00PM – 12:00PM
ROUND 3	12:00PM – 1:00PM
BREAK	1:00PM – 2:00PM
ROUND 4	2:00PM – 3:00PM
ROUND 5	3:00PM – 4:00PM
ROUND 6	4:00PM – 5:00PM
CLOSING CEREMONY	6:00PM – 7:00PM

5. Technical Regulations

1. FIDE Team Rapid Swiss system will be used with 6 rounds for the Rapid Event.
2. The Championships shall be governed by the General Regulations for FIDE Competitions.
 - i. Primary School Category Under 12: Players born on or after 1st January 2014.
3. Players representing each school must be bonafide students of the school they are representing. The tournament will be a 1 day event.
 - i. A team comprise of 5players. There would be no reserve as all players would be playing at their permanent fixed board.
 - ii. It shall be a 6 round team Swiss rapid tournament.
4. The coach or captain will provide permanent board order which will be in a fixed board order not later than the end of technical meeting. This order will be fixed for the duration of the tournament. On no account should any of the players switch the board they are fixed on. It would result in a complete loss for the player.

NOTE: Coaches should not in any way bring more than the 5players registered for the event. Any coach who brings more than the required number would lead to the expulsion of their school from the tournament.
5. The time control for the rapid will be 10 minutes, plus 3 seconds increment per move starting from moves one. In a case the clock provided doesn't have the bonus added time feature, a 15mins flat time control will be set for the players on that board.
6. There would be no default time

ECOBANK NATIONAL SCHOOL TEAM TOURNAMENT RULES AND REGULATIONS 2025

7. Appeals Committee (AC) Procedural Rules; The appeal fee shall be ₦20,000,00.
 - i. Appeals must be submitted to the AC Chairman in writing within 10 Minutes of the particular infringement.
 - ii. The Appeals Committee (AC) may receive an appeal from any the Team Captain or Coach.
 - iii. The appeal must be written in English.
 - iv. The appeal fee must also be paid within the timeframes specified in Article 9.i.
 - v. If the appeal is upheld, then the fee will be returned. If the appeal is rejected, then fee will not be returned.
 - vi. 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:
 - a) The arbiter incorrectly applying the FIDE Laws of Chess
 - b) The arbiter incorrectly applying the Tournament Regulations
 - c) The behavior of a player
8. Team Rankings would be sorted using players Rapid ratings. Players without a FIDE rapid rating will instead use their FIDE standard rating. Players with neither of these ratings shall be considered as having a rating of 1400.
9. Unpaired Teams (Article 10); Article 10.2 shall be “Any paired team that has less than three players for two rounds, consecutive or otherwise, will not be paired for the rest of the tournament.”
10. “Standard Level” Anti-Cheating Protection Measures will apply.
11. All FIDE (APPENDIX A & APPENDIX B) rules would be applied: Kindly note the following:
 - i. *Only one illegal move is allowed with gets a warning penalty by increasing the opponent's time by two minutes. The second illegal move completed is an outright loss except the position suggests otherwise.*
 - ii. *Using two hands to make a make a move (two hands to castle, two hands to capture) will be treated as an illegal move.*
 - iii. *Pressing the clock without making a move would be treated as an illegal move.*
 - iv. *Capturing a King would be treated as an illegal move*
12. The team rankings will be determined by:
 - i. Match points (2 for a match win, 1 for a match draw, 0 for a match loss)
 - ii. Game points
 - iii. Sum of Adjusted Opponents Match points
 - iv. Sonneborn-Berger Tie-Break

ECOBANK NATIONAL SCHOOL TEAM TOURNAMENT RULES AND REGULATIONS 2025

13. The individual rankings for each board will be determined by:
- Game point
 - Buchholz (rounds where a player is not named to play are ignored; forfeit wins and forfeit losses count as if they were played games)
 - SB
 - Higher team ranking
14. The winning team shall receive a Cup. Every member of the winning team (players and captain) shall receive a gold medal. Similarly, the team finishing second shall receive silver medals and the team in third place shall receive bronze medals. All team medals shall be provided by the Organiser. Prizes in Naira
15. There would be individual Board Prizes for Boards 1 to 5.

Prizes in Naira

Team Prize	Prize (₦)	Individual Board Prizes Board 1-5
Gold Medalist	2,000,000.00	Gold - 100,000
Silver Medalist	1,500,000.00	Silver - 50,000
Third Medalist	1,000,000.00	Bronze - 30,000
4th Position	750,000.00	
5th Position	500,000.00	
6th Position	300,000.00	
7th Position	100,000.00	
8th Position	100,000.00	
9th Position	100,000.00	
10th Position	100,000.00	