



NIGERIA CHESS FEDERATION

ECOBANK NATIONAL SCHOOL TEAMS CHESS CHAMPIONSHIP 2025

REGULATIONS FOR TERTIARY
INSTITUTIONS

NSTCC 2025

ECOBANK NATIONAL SCHOOL TEAM TOURNAMENT RULES AND REGULATIONS

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 and proudly sponsored by Ecobank.

Teams of all Tertiary Institutions such as Universities, Polytechnics, Colleges of Educations, College of Medicine etc. are eligible to play in this event.

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 Tertiary Institutions in Nigeria to participate in the National School Teams Chess Championships 2025. This tournament is opened to all players who have a valid matric number which is not limited to Post Graduate Students and Masters Students in an accredited Tertiary Institution within Nigeria.

3. Playing Venue

The championship will be held at the Ecobank Building, Ozumba Mbadiwe, Victoria Island, Lagos Nigeria on 28th June 2025.

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4. Tournament Schedule

ITEM	DATE & TIME
TECHNICAL MEETING, OPENING CEREMONY AND PRESS CONFERENCE	11:00AM (25th JUNE 2025)
Arrival of Participants	9:00AM (28 TH June 2025)
RAPIDS 28TH 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.
3. Players representing each school must be bonafide students of the school they are representing. The tournament will be a 1 day rapid event.
4. The team would comprise of 6 players (i.e. 4 players, 1 reserve player and 1 non playing captain or coach) the 5 playing players must include at least one female player. The female would be on a permanent board as assigned by the organizers and chief arbiter.
5. 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. The coach or non-playing captain will be responsible for signing and submitting the score sheet for his/her team.
6. Board composition for each round shall be submitted not later than 10 minutes before each round. A team captain who fails to submit their board composition in a round will be deemed to have chosen the permanent board order. The boards would be alternated for each team per round (this means if the player on board 1 is playing white, the player on board 2 would be playing black etc).
7. The time control for the rapid will be 10 minutes, plus 3 seconds increment per move starting from move one.
8. There would be no default time

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9. 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 of 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.
10. 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.
11. 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.”
12. “Standard Level” Anti-Cheating Protection Measures will apply.
13. All FIDE (APPENDIX A & APPENDIX B) rules would be applied: Kindly note the following:
 - i. *Only one illegal move is allowed in rapid event. The second illegal move completed is an outright loss except the position suggests otherwise.*
 - ii. *For the first illegal move completed, the player would be warned and 2minutes would be added to his opponent’s clock in rapid,*
 - iii. *Using two hands to make a move (two hands to castle, two hands to capture) will be treated as an illegal move.*
 - iv. *Pressing the clock without making a move would be treated as an illegal move.*
 - v. *Capturing a King would be treated as an illegal move*
14. 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

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15. The individual rankings for each board will be determined by:

- i. Game point Percentage (forfeit wins and forfeit losses count)
- ii. Number of Games Played (forfeit wins count, forfeit losses do not count)
- iii. Number of Games Won (forfeit wins count)
- iv. Buchholz (rounds where a player is not named to play are ignored; forfeit wins and forfeit losses count as if they were played games)
- v. Higher team ranking
60% games would be eligible for main boards (i.e. board 1-3) while 40% games would be the eligibility for reserve. The permanent female board will require 100% for prize eligibility.

16. **Conditions of victory.** A team with the highest number of match points in the relevant final standings shall be declared Champion after every other tie break measures are met.

6. Team Prizes in Naira

Position	Prize Money
Gold Medalist	₦ 2,000,000.00
Silver Medalist	₦ 1,000,000.00
Third Medalist	₦ 650,000.00
4th Position	₦ 500,000.00
5th Position	₦ 250,000.00
6th Position	₦ 150,000.00
7th Position	₦ 150,000.00
8th Position	₦ 100,000.00
9th Position	₦ 100,000.00
10th Position	₦ 100,000.00

7. BOARD PRIZES (Board 1-5) 400,000 naira per Board

Board 1 – Board 5

1st - 200,000 GOLD
2nd - 125,000 SILVER
3rd - 75,000 BRONZE

In case of tie, the prize money shall be shared equally amongst the tied players.