

**Information and Regulations
of the International Chess Open Festival "AEROFLOT OPEN 2016"
and the Blitz Tournament.**

General information of the festival:

The International Chess Festival "Aeroflot Open 2015" will be held in Moscow from 29 February (the date of arrival) to 11 March 2016 (the date of departure).

The Aeroflot Open Chess Festival, which is popular throughout the world, will be held in March 2016 for the 13th time. This major event is open to chess players of most varied qualification: from unrated to having a very high rating. As before, the festival is held "under the wings" of our leading air company – "Aeroflot – Russian airlines". The festival will be held in the hotel "Cosmos", which is one of the largest in Moscow (over 1700 rooms). The hotel is located in one of the most beautiful and environmentally pure Moscow districts within 20-minutes travelling from Red Square and only 200-m walking from the nearest subway station (VDNKh). This time the festival has the guaranteed prize fund amounting to EUR 140 000 (taking into account the prizes for the Blitz Tournament).

Three Open Tournaments (A, B and C) are made up according to the rating of the participants, and are 9-round Swiss – tournaments. Naturally, the greatest interest is aroused by A tournament, requiring from a participant a rating above 2550 and in which usually take part a number of extra class players.

In addition to the Open Tournaments, a Blitz Tournament will be held within the festival.

The official accommodation for the participants and also the venue of the Tournament will be at the "Cosmos" hotel.

The Organizers of the Festival are the "Aeroflot-Russian Airlines", the Russian Chess Federation and the Association of Chess Federations.

Type of Chess Festival:

The festival consists of three open tournaments, each of which is a nine round Swiss event.

The Tournaments and Prize Fund:

The total prize fund of the three tournaments is EUR 120 000.

**Tournament A:
for chessplayers with a FIDE rating higher than 2549.
Total prize fund Group A: EUR 65 000**

1st Prize	18000	6th - 10th Prizes	1700x5=8500
2nd Prize	10000	11th - 15th Prizes	1200x5=6000
3rd Prize	7000	16th -20th Prizes	700x5=3500
4th Prize	4000	21st - 30th Prizes	500x10=5000
5th Prize	3000		

The winner of the A tournament will be entitled to participate in the round-robin Super Tournament in Dortmund (9 – 17 July, 2016).

**Tournament B:
for chessplayers with a FIDE rating less than 2550, but higher than 2299.
Total prize fund Group B: EUR 35 000**

1st Prize	8000	6th - 10th Prize	850x5=4250
2nd Prize	5500	11th -15th Prize	550x5=2750
3rd Prize	3500	16th - 25th Prize	450x10=4500
4th Prize	2000	26th- 35th Prize	300x10=3000
5th Prize	1500		

Tournament C:
for chessplayers with a FIDE rating lower than 2300 or without rating.
Total prize fund Group C: EUR 17500

1st Prize	3000	6th - 10th Prizes	500x5=2500
2nd Prize	2300	11th -15th Prizes	400x5=2000
3rd Prize	1500	16th - 25th Prizes	250x10=2500
4th Prize	1000	26th- 35th Prizes	200x10=2000
5th Prize	700		

Placing of players into tournaments (A,B,C) will be according to their respective FIDE ratings as of 1 March 2016.

In exceptional cases the Organising Committee has the right to permit a chessplayer to play in a higher rated tournament than his/her FIDE rating indicates.

In case of a tie of 2 or more participants, the prizes are divided according to the Hort system.

The number of prizes in each tournament does not exceed that indicated above in the tables.

Tiebreak systems:

For tournament A and B:

1. The number of games played with Black pieces. Byes and forfeited games will be considered as games played with White.

2. The average of the opponents ratings minus the highest and the lowest rating.

For Tournament C:

1. The Buchholz score

Explication of the Hort System for the prize distribution.

In cases of a tie of two or more participants prizes will be divided according to the Hort system. The following example will explain this system.

Suppose 4 players share the same place. The four prizes are as follows: 1st EUR 10,000, 2nd EUR 8,000, 3rd EUR 6,000, 4th EUR 4,000.

We have to split the amount of EUR 28,000. We split it into two equal parts of EUR 14,000 each.

The first part will be split equally. Each of the players receives EUR 3,500.

The second part will be split according to the ranking after tiebreak.

#1 receives $3,500 + 5,000 = 8,500$

#2 receives $3,500 + 4,000 = 7,500$

#3 receives $3,500 + 3,000 = 6,500$

#4 receives $3,500 + 2,000 = 5,500$

Special Prizes:

There will also be special prizes for the best performance among seniors, women and juniors in all tournaments amounting to EUR 2500 in total.

There will also be a prize for the best result shown by an unrated player in section C.

For the purposes of prize distribution, girls who were born after 31.12.1997, are considered to be adult players.

Only one prize can be awarded to a player (the highest one).

The exact distribution of the special prizes will be announced after the second round of the tournament, when the numbers of seniors, women and juniors and the ratings of these players are known.

Attention is called to the fact that for such prizes to be awarded there should be at least 3 players in each of the above categories.

Seniors, Juniors and Women:

A player will be considered a Senior when he was born before 01-01-1956.

A player will be considered a Junior when he was born after 31-12-1997.

Time control:

Tournament A: 100 minutes for the first 40 moves, then 50 minutes for the next 20 moves and 15 minutes for the rest of the game with an increment of 30 seconds per move, starting from the first.

Tournament B: 90 minutes for the first 40 moves and 30 minutes for the rest of the game with an increment of 30

seconds per move, starting from the first.

Tournament C: 90 minutes for the whole game with an increment of 30 seconds per move from the first. The participants must keep the record of moves till the end of the game.

The Festival Schedule:

	Tournaments A, B	Tournament C
Arrival and Registration of the Players	Feb.29	Feb.29
Opening Ceremony	Feb.29: 21.00	Feb.29: 21.00
Round 1	Mar. 1: 15.00	Mar. 1: 9.30
Round 2	Mar. 2: 15.00	Mar. 2: 9.30
Round 3	Mar. 3: 15.00	Mar. 3: 9.30
Round 4	Mar. 4: 15.00	Mar. 4: 9.30
Round 5	Mar. 5: 15.00	Mar. 5: 9.30
Round 6	Mar. 6: 15.00	Mar. 6: 9.30
Round 7	Mar. 7: 15.00	Mar. 7: 9.30
Round 8	Mar. 8: 15.00	Mar. 8: 9.30
Round 9	Mar. 9: 15.00	Mar. 9: 9.30
Closing Ceremony	Mar.10: 18.00	
Prizes	Mar.10: Time will be announced	
Blitz Tournament	Mar.10: 10.00	
Departure	Mar.10 - 11	Mar.10 - 11

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:

Appeals Committee

There will be an Appeals Committee of 3 members and two reserve members.

An appeal must be delivered to the non-voting Chairman of the Appeals Committee, Mr. A.Bach, within one hour after the round involved.

Appeals against pairings are not accepted, unless the following rules of the Swiss system are violated:

1. Two players shall not meet more than once.
2. A player can receive only one bye.

A player who appeals has to pay a deposit of EUR 200, which will be returned if the Appeals Committee decides to satisfy the appeal.

Swiss system

The Swiss pairings program used in all the tournaments and in the Blitz tournament is Swiss - Manager based on ratings.

10 March 2016 a double nine-round Swiss Blitz Tournament will be held in the same venue (Hotel “Cosmos”).The time control is 3 minutes with an increment of 2 seconds per move till the end of the game. The prize fund of the Blitz Tournament constitutes EUR 20,000 to be distributed as follows:

1st	5000	5th	1000
2nd	3000	6-10th	700x5=3500
3rd	2000	11-15th	500x5=2500
4th	1500	16-20th	300x5=1500

The Organizing committee reserved the right to pay the prizes in the same currency in which the package were paid for.

The participants of tournaments A and B are admitted without a fee. The other players will be admitted upon the following terms:

- **admission fee: EUR 300**
- **2 nights at the hotel (single room:EUR 90; double room: EUR 150 for two persons)**
- **airfare (depending on the zone): See the table**

Determination of the winner

- 1. If two players tie for the first place, then two blitz games with the same control as in the tournament will be played to determine the winner. If the outcome is still undecided, then a sudden-death game with a time control of 5 min. vs 4 min. will be played.**
- 2. If more than two players tie for the first place, then the first two are determined as follows:**
 - **Buchholz score**
 - **number of wins**
 - **result of personal encounter**

Whereupon an additional match is played between the first two players, as per paragraph 1.

Attention of all potential participants!

All participants and accompanying persons who enjoy, within this project, the services of the air company Aeroflot – Russian airlines and who have paid for their respective packages, will get their fully paid for air tickets by e-mail.

The earlier you pay for the tournament package the smaller the amount will be.

The minimal fees are accepted until 30 November 2015. All prices are given in EUR.

Visa, tickets and payment

From the tables given below one can see the financial conditions of participation. The price of the package (airfare, transfer, accommodation and entry fee) is given at a discount. A participant who does not need air ticket and accommodation should only pay the entrance fee, which is the same for all participants. The earlier the payment is made the smaller its amount. Buffet breakfast is included in a package.

We again call the attention of all foreigners who wish to participate in the festival “Aeroflot Open 2016” that in order to get their visas and air tickets in time they should pay for the package no later than February 15, 2016.

After the payment is made please send to our e-mail or fax addresses the registration form, including the name and surname, Elo rating, birth date, home address, number and expiry date of your passport, **as well as a (scanned) copy of it,**

your itinerary (with arrival and departure dates). Please name the city in which you want to get your entry visa. The further course of action is this – the Association of Chess Federations receives a confirmation of payment and sends an invitation to start arranging for a visa. Electronic tickets will be sent to the e-mail address you indicate.

Accommodation at the hotel room from February 29 to March 11, 2016 is paid for by the package. Those who wish to come earlier and/or depart at a later date should book and additionally pay for their rooms in advance (not later than February 15, 2016). The room prices in the periods from February 26 to 29 and from March 11 to 14, 2016 are:

- single room (standard) – EUR 55
- single room (superior) – EUR 65
- double room (standard) – EUR 80
- double room (superior) – EUR 90

One person may stay in a double room only if he has paid the whole price (EUR 90).

Attention is called to the fact that full packages that have already been paid for are not refundable.

Additional information will be published on the site www.ruchess.ru

Payments in US dollars is accepted at the rate EUR 1=USD 1.2

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Attention of foreign participants

All foreigners who wish to participate in the festival “Aeroflot Open 2016” should pay the entry fee not later than 15.02.2016 in order to be able to get a visa and airticket in time.

Bank details

We kindly request the participants to transfer the payment in EUR or USD for the package to the following double-currency (EUR, USD) account:

Beneficiary:	Interchess Ltd.	
Account	IBAN LV36RTMB0000639806488	
Rietumu Banka	Vesetas 7, Riga, LATVIA	SWIFT: RTMBLV2X