

After the fantastic premiere in 2025:
Play a World Championship qualifying tournament together with Magnus Carlsen and
Vincent Keymer at the

grenke Freestyle Chess Open in Karlsruhe

The winner of the A-Open qualifies for the **FIDE Freestyle Chess World Championship 2027**, and the three highest-placed female players in the A-Open qualify for the **FIDE Freestyle Chess Women's World Championship 2026**.

Date:	2nd – 6th April 2026 (Easter)
Venue:	Congress Center Karlsruhe, Schwarzwaldhalle, Festplatz 5, 76137 Karlsruhe
Schedule:	Opening and Round 1: Thursday, 2nd April 2026 approx. 18:30 Round 2: Friday, 3rd April 2026 at 10:00 Round 3: Friday, 3rd April 2026, at 16:00 Round 4: Saturday, 4th April 2026 at 10:00 Round 5: Saturday, 4th April 2026 at 16:00 Round 6: Sunday, 5th April 2026 at 10:00 Round 7: Sunday, 5th April 2026 at 16:00 Round 8: Monday, 6th April 2026 at 10:00 Round 9: Monday, 6th April 2026 at 16:00 Awards Ceremony following the final round
Registration Deadline:	All participants must confirm their participation on 2nd April by 17:00 on-site or through online check-in (even if pre-registered)! The playing venue opens at 15:00
Format:	9 Rounds Swiss System , computer pairing with Swiss Chess Time Control: 90 minutes for the game + 30 seconds per move A one-time transfer from the grenke Chess Open to the grenke Freestyle Chess Open is permitted up to Round 5. The transfer must be registered before the pairing of the respective round. Points earned in the grenke Chess Open will be carried over. Players who transfer to the Freestyle A-Open are not eligible for prizes there . The drawing of the starting position for each round will take place immediately before the game begins. The use of electronic devices, any notes, sources of information or advice after the starting position has been displayed is not permitted. All players must be at their board when the starting position is revealed (default time is zero).
Rating:	All games will be rated for Freestyle ELO.
Total Prize Fund: EUR 215,000	

A-Open (for players with DWZ, FIDE-ELO or Freestyle-ELO greater than 1950)		
Prize Fund:	EUR 205,250	
Prizes:	1. EUR 60,000 + Trophy 2. EUR 40,000 3. EUR 30,000 4. EUR 20,000 5. EUR 10,000 6. EUR 8,000 7. EUR 7,000 8. EUR 6,000 9. EUR 5,000 10. EUR 3,000 11. EUR 2,000 12. EUR 1,000 13. EUR 500 14. EUR 300 15. EUR 200	
Qualification for FIDE Freestyle Chess World Championships :	<p>The winner of the grenke Freestyle Chess Open (A) qualifies for the FIDE Freestyle Chess World Championship 2027. If the winner is already qualified, the qualification place shall be awarded to the highest-placed player in the grenke Freestyle Chess Open who is not yet qualified.</p> <p>The three highest-placed female players in the A-Open qualify for the FIDE Women's Freestyle Chess World Championship 2026. Qualification is conditional upon full participation in the grenke Freestyle Chess Open (no tournament transfer).</p>	
Special Prizes:	Team (4 players from the same club): EUR 400, EUR 200, EUR 100 Best Woman: EUR 5,000, EUR 3,000, EUR 2,000 Best Senior (born in 1966 or earlier): EUR 750 TWZ 2350-2251: EUR 200 TWZ 2250-2151: EUR 200 TWZ 2150-2051: EUR 200 TWZ 2050-1951: EUR 200	
B-Open (for players with DWZ and FIDE-ELO less than 2000)		
Prize Fund:	EUR 7,750	
Prizes:	1. EUR 2,000 + Trophy 2. EUR 1,500 3. EUR 1,000 4. EUR 750 5. EUR 500 6. EUR 300 7. EUR 200 8. EUR 100 9. EUR 50	
Special Prizes:	Team (4 players from the same club): EUR 200, EUR 150, EUR 100 Best Woman: EUR 300 Best Pupil (born in 2012 or later): EUR 150 Best Senior (born in 1966 or earlier): EUR 150 TWZ 1800-1701: EUR 150 TWZ 1700-1: EUR 150	

C-Open (for players with DWZ less than 1400 and ELO less than 1600)	
Prize Fund:	EUR 2,000
Prizes:	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. EUR 500 + Trophy 2. EUR 400 3. EUR 300 4. EUR 200 5. EUR 100
Special Prize:	<p>Best Team (4 players from the same club): EUR 100 Best Woman: EUR 100 Best Pupil (born in 2012 or later): EUR 100 Best Senior (born in 1966 or earlier): EUR 100 DWZ 1100-1: EUR 100</p>
Participation:	<p>The stated rating limits are binding. The rating at the start of the event determines the group allocation. If a rating limit is exceeded after registration, the player must transfer to the corresponding higher tournament.</p> <p>For participation in the A-Open, it is sufficient that the required rating was achieved at least once during the registration period.</p>
Players without DWZ and ELO:	For players without a rating, the tournament director will decide on participation in the A-, B-, or C-Open (pre-registration required).
Prizes:	<p>All prizes are guaranteed. Each player may win only one prize (except for team prizes). In the event of a tie, Buchholz shall be used as the tiebreaker.</p> <p>For the A-Open, the main prizes are divided equally among tied players, regardless of tiebreak. If the tie extends beyond 15th place, players placed 16th or lower are not included in the prize share.</p> <p>Special prizes and rating prizes, as well as prizes in the B- and C-Opens, are not shared. Special prizes are awarded only if at least five players participate in the respective category.</p> <p>Rating prizes in the A- and B-Open are awarded based on TWZ. TWZ is the Freestyle-ELO if available, otherwise the FIDE-ELO, and if neither is available, the DWZ.</p> <p>Prize money is paid by bank transfer. Attendance at the awards ceremony is mandatory for main prize winners.</p> <p>Prize money for persons not subject to tax in Germany will be handled in accordance with the German Income Tax Act (EStG).</p>
Chess Tigers Gold Tour:	<p>The grenke Freestyle Chess Open is part of the Chess Tigers Gold Tour, a tournament series combining competitive chess with outstanding prizes. For each full point scored at an official Gold Tour event, eligible players receive one Tiger Gold ticket. All tickets are automatically entered into the end-of-year raffle with top-tier prizes.</p> <p>Players exempt from the entry fee (e.g. GMs) are not eligible to receive Tiger Gold tickets.</p> <p>More information: Chess Tigers Gold Tour</p>

Registration:	<p>Registration online at: grenkechessopen.de</p> <p>The entry fee must be transferred to the account of Schachzentrum Baden-Baden e.V. - specified in the registration confirmation - by 27th March 2026. Please make sure to include your name, date of birth, and club in the payment reference.</p> <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>Entry Fees</th><th>A-Open</th><th>B-Open</th><th>C-Open</th></tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Adults</td><td>EUR 95</td><td>EUR 80</td><td>EUR 60</td></tr> <tr> <td>Juniors (born 2006 - 2011)</td><td>EUR 70</td><td>EUR 60</td><td>EUR 50</td></tr> <tr> <td>Pupils (born 2012 or later)</td><td>EUR 55</td><td>EUR 50</td><td>EUR 45</td></tr> </tbody> </table> <p>GM/IM/WGM/WIM in A-Open: Free entry Late Registration Fee: + EUR 10 for registration or payment after 27th March 2026 In the event of non-participation, a refund will be issued less a processing fee of EUR 20.</p> <p>On-site Registration: 2nd April 2026, until 17:00</p>	Entry Fees	A-Open	B-Open	C-Open	Adults	EUR 95	EUR 80	EUR 60	Juniors (born 2006 - 2011)	EUR 70	EUR 60	EUR 50	Pupils (born 2012 or later)	EUR 55	EUR 50	EUR 45
Entry Fees	A-Open	B-Open	C-Open														
Adults	EUR 95	EUR 80	EUR 60														
Juniors (born 2006 - 2011)	EUR 70	EUR 60	EUR 50														
Pupils (born 2012 or later)	EUR 55	EUR 50	EUR 45														
Partner hotel:	<p>As part of the Chess Tigers Gold Program, hotel rooms at Motel One Karlsruhe can be booked at special rates via the online tournament registration form on grenkechessopen.de</p> <p>During the tournament days, Chess Tigers will organize an additional social program at Motel One, including live commentary and broadcasts, blitz and tandem chess with titled players, and the Chess Skybar.</p> <p>Room rates per night:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Single room without breakfast: EUR 79.90 • Single room with breakfast: EUR 89.90 • Double room without breakfast: EUR 89.90 • Double room with breakfast: EUR 99.90 <p>In addition, the City of Karlsruhe charges a city tax of EUR 4.00 per night and per person.</p>																
Information:	<p>Tournament Director: Sven Noppes Mobile: +49 172 7258738 Email: td@grenkechessopen.de Website: www.grenkechessopen.de</p>																
Organizer :	<p>Schachzentrum Baden-Baden e.V. Chairman: FM Christian Bossert</p>																