

# Sparkassen Chess Trophy 2026

## 53rd International Dortmund Chess Days

Prize fund 20.000 €

Date	1 <sup>st</sup> of August – 9 <sup>th</sup> of August 2026
Venue	Kulturzentrum „Alte Schmiede“, Hülshof 32, 44369 Dortmund (Gewerbepark Hansa)
Schedule	<p><b><u>Fri. 31.07.2026</u></b> <b>16.30 - 18.00: Registration with the tournament management Open A and B</b> (also applies to pre-registered players)</p> <p><b><u>Sat. 01.08.2026</u></b> <b>08.30 - 09.45: Registration with the tournament management Open A and B</b> (also applies to pre-registered players) <b>13.30 – 14.15: Registration with the tournament management Open A</b> (also applies to pre-registered players) <b>10.30 Round 1 (B-Open)</b> <b>15.00 Round 1 (A-Open)</b></p> <p><b><u>Sun. 02.08.2026</u></b> <b>10.30: Round 2 (B-Open)</b> <b>15.00: Round 2 (A-Open)</b></p> <p><b><u>Mon. 03.08.2026</u></b> <b>10.30: Round 3 (B-Open)</b> <b>15.00: Round 3 (A-Open)</b></p> <p><b><u>Tue. 04.08.2026</u></b> <b>10.30: Round 4 (B-Open)</b> <b>15.00: Round 4 (A-Open)</b></p> <p><b><u>Wed. 05.08.2026</u></b> <b>10.30: Round 5 (B-Open)</b> <b>15.00: Round 5 (A-Open)</b></p> <p><b><u>Thu. 06.08.2026</u></b> <b>10.30: Round 6 (B-Open)</b> <b>15.00: Round 6 (A-Open)</b></p> <p><b><u>Fri. 07.08.2026</u></b> <b>10.30 Round 7 (B-Open)</b> <b>15.00 Round 7 (A-Open)</b></p> <p><b><u>Sat. 08.08.2026</u></b> <b>10.30: Round 8 (B-Open)</b> <b>15.00: Round 8 (A-Open)</b> <b>15.15: Award ceremony B-Open</b></p> <p><b><u>Sun. 09.08.2026</u></b> <b>10.30: Round 9 (A-Open)</b> <b>17.00: Award ceremony</b></p>
Mode	A-Open: 9 Rounds CH-System, B-Open: 8 Rounds CH-System; computer draw

	<p>Waiting time is 30 minutes (for the first round the waiting time is determined differently at the opening).</p> <p>A-Open: 90 minutes/40 moves + 30 minutes until the end of the game and 30 seconds increment from move 1.</p> <p>B-Open: 91 minutes until the end of the game and 10 seconds increment from move 1.</p> <p>In rounds 1-6 a bye can be taken once. This must be announced to the tournament management by the end of the previous round at the latest. The round is stated as a draw. A bye in the 1<sup>st</sup> round must be requested by 31<sup>st</sup> of July 18.00 by mailto <a href="mailto:chesstrophy_2026@initiative-pro-schach.de">chesstrophy_2026@initiative-pro-schach.de</a> and is only valid after written confirmation.</p>
Ratings and norms	The tournaments are evaluated according to DWZ and ELO. In the A-Open it is possible to obtain GM and IM norms.
Player without Rating	Player of a foreign chess federation without DWZ/ELO need a written certificate from their chess federation about their playing strength. For German players without a club and without a rating number, the tournament management decides on participation in the A- or B-Open.
Award ceremony	<p>The prize fund of € 20.000 is guaranteed. No double prizes. In case of a tie, the prizes will be awarded according to Buchholz scoring (prizes will not be split). The special prizes are paid out if there are 5 participants per category. Prize money will only be paid out to participants who attend the award ceremony.</p> <p>Prize money for persons who are taxed outside Germany will be paid out reduced by 15% income tax and 5.5% solidarity surcharge in accordance with Section 50a of the German Income Tax Act.</p> <p>The prize money will be paid out by the organizer within 12 working days after the end of the tournament by bank transfer to a current account to be named by the winner.</p>
Advance Registration	<p>Please transfer the entry fee to the account of the Initiative Pro Schach e.V. at the Sparkasse Dortmund IBAN DE51 4405 0199 0111 1181 40 and BIC DORTDE33XXX as soon as possible. In the reason for transfer please state name and year of birth.</p> <p>The registration is only valid when the online <a href="#">registration form</a> is filled out and the entry fee is received. Early registration secures a starting place.</p> <p>A FIDE ID is required to register. Please check with your national chess association how to apply.</p> <p>In case of withdrawal from the tournament up to 3 days before the start of the event, the organizer will refund the paid entry fee. A processing fee of 10 € will be retained.</p>
Information	<p>Tournament director Patrick Zelbel  Mail: <a href="mailto:chesstrophy_2026@initiative-pro-schach.de">chesstrophy_2026@initiative-pro-schach.de</a></p>
Organizer	<p>Initiative Pro Schach e.V., Erich-Lauf-Str. 12, 44536 Lünen</p> <p>In the event of disputes, a committee consisting of tournament director Patrick Zelbel, Andreas Jagodzinsky and IPS chairman Christian Jochmann will make the final decision.</p> <p><a href="http://www.Sparkassen-Chess-Trophy.de">www.Sparkassen-Chess-Trophy.de</a></p>

DWZ/ELO classification: the ELO rating is decisive for all classifications – if a player is without an ELO rating, then the DWZ rating applies.

### **A-Open**

For players with ELO 1951 or higher (players between 1951 and 2050 can chose between A- and B-Open)

Prize fund	16.000 €
Prices	4.000, 2.400, 1.600, 1.200, 1.000, 800, 640, 480, 320, 160
Special prices	ELO/DWZ 2101 - 2300: 140, 70 ELO/DWZ 1951-2100: 140, 70 Women: 700, 500, 300 Seniors, born before 01.01.1966: 400, 250, 100 Youth players U14 (born 2012 and younger): 150, 125 Youth players U18 (born 2011-2008): 175, 130, 100
Entry fee	Adults: 80 € - U18 (born 2011-2008): 65 € - U14 (born 2012 and younger): 55 € (W)GMs an (W)IMs will receive their entry fee back if the tournament is completed properly.

### **B-Open**

For players under ELO 2051 (players between 1951 und 2050 can choose between A- und B-Open)

Prize fund	4.000 €
Prices	850, 540, 300, 200, 100, 80, 60, 40, 40, 40
Special prices	ELO/DWZ 1751 - 1850: 120, 70, 40 ELO/DWZ 1601 - 1750: 120, 70, 40 ELO/DWZ 1 - 1600: 120, 70, 40 Women: 160, 80, 40 Seniors born before 01.01.1966: 160, 60, 40 Youth players U14 (born 2012 and younger): 120, 80, 60 Youth players U18 (born 2011-2008): 120, 80, 60
Entry fee	Adults: 70 € - U18 (born 2011-2008): 60 € - U14 (born 2012 and younger): 50 €

### **Breakfast with the grandmasters – exclusive hotel offer for participants in Dortmund**

\* This year it is possible to stay overnight in the grandmasters' hotel, the Intercity Hotel Dortmund, which opened in 2022. The single room with breakfast and WiFi access costs €95 per night, the double room costs €114. In addition, an accommodation tax of 7.5% per room and night must be paid, which is passed on to the city of Dortmund via the hotel bill.

The “Alte Schmiede” gaming venue can be reached within 20 minutes via subway 47 (Dortmund main station to Huckarde Bushof). A local transport ticket (Free City Ticket) is included in the hotel price. Enter the password "IPS".

Booked rooms can be cancelled free of charge until 25 July 2026.

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