

Isle of Man International MAJOR – Terms and Conditions
Venue – Villa Marina, Promenade Suite, Douglas, Isle of Man.
Organised by IOM International Chess Limited
Saturday 15 May to Friday 21 May 2027.

This is a FIDE-rated, Swiss tournament by invitation only.

Eligibility:

Official ratings will be based on the May 2027 FIDE Rating List. Entry is restricted to players rated 2200 or below.

It is anticipated that the maximum number of players in the tournament will be in the range of 18 to 26, subject to the Tournament Director's discretion.

Entry fee:

£50 by bank transfer, to be refunded if the player completes the tournament. For Non-IOM/UK players, the entry fee will be waived if evidence of travel arrangements is provided to the Tournament Director no later than 1 February 2027.

Details for bank transfer are:

Bank:	Nedbank Private Wealth Limited, Isle of Man
Account Name:	IOM International Chess Limited
Account No:	62114090
Sort Code:	16-57-41
Currency:	GBP
IBAN Code:	GB03-RFLC-1657-4162-1140-90
SWIFT BIC Code:	RFLCIMDX

Please ensure that your name or FIDE ID code is quoted as the payment reference.

Prize fund GBP 6,600:

1st £2,000; 2nd £1,200; 3rd £800; 4th £600; 5th £500; 6th £400; 7th £350; 8th £300; 9th £250; 10th £200

Prize money for tied positions shall be combined and divided equally among the tied players.

Tie-break procedures shall not be used to determine prize-money allocation.

Tie-Break:

In the event of two or more players finishing with the same score in first place, the tournament winner and recipient of the trophy shall be determined by the following tie-break criteria, applied in order:

1. Direct Encounter

2. Buchholz Cut 1
3. Buchholz
4. Number of Wins

Tie-breaks shall be calculated in accordance with the FIDE Play-Off and Tie-Break Regulations.

If the players remain tied after all four criteria have been applied, the winner shall be determined by drawing lots.

Except for determining the tournament winner, players finishing on equal scores shall be ranked equally.

Playing schedule:

Saturday 15 May to Friday 21 May 2027, 7 rounds, starting 2.30pm daily, except for round 7 which will start at 1.30pm.

Rate of play:

90 minutes for 40 moves, followed by 30 minutes for the remaining moves, with 30 seconds added per move from the start.

Byes:

No byes can be taken.

Conditions of Entry:

1. Entries will only be accepted from players invited by the Tournament Director.
2. The closing date for entries for non-IOM residents is 1 February 2027, unless the Tournament Director decides otherwise.
3. Entries for IOM residents close on 15 April 2027, or earlier if tournament capacity is reached, unless the Tournament Director decides otherwise.
4. Entries from IOM residents must be emailed to the Tournament Director and include proof of entry fee payment.
5. Participants are expected to maintain acceptable standards of dress and behaviour.
6. Tea, coffee and water will be provided but there is to be **no eating at the board** (including sweets). If players need to eat, they must step away from the board to the refreshments area without causing disruption.
7. Prize winners are expected to attend the prize giving to be held at approximately 7.30pm on Friday 21 May at the Villa Marina, Promenade Suite, unless they have good reason and give prior notice to the Tournament Director.
8. **Withdrawal of invitation:** Once accepted, an invitation to participate in the tournament will not normally be withdrawn. However, in exceptional circumstances arising or becoming known after an invitation has been issued, and where the Tournament Director reasonably considers that a player's continued participation would be likely to bring the tournament into disrepute or otherwise materially affect the proper conduct of the event, the Tournament Director reserves the right to withdraw the invitation.
9. No refunds will be given to any player who pays their entry fee and does not complete the tournament.
10. The Tournament Director's decision is final in all matters.

Acceptance of the Tournament Director's invitation to entry the Major is deemed to be acceptance of the tournament's terms and conditions.

Registration and first round pairings:

All players should register by 9.00pm, Friday 14 May with the Tournament Director to confirm their arrival on the island or to confirm their travel plans.

The intention is that pairings for the first round will be issued no later than 11.00am, Saturday 15 May.

Swiss Pairing System:

Pairings will be made according to the Dutch Swiss pairing system, using the most recent Swiss-Manager pairing program.

Default time:

Players arriving 30 minutes or more after the start of a session shall lose, unless the arbiter decides otherwise.

Anti-cheating measures

The organisers and team of arbiters take anti-cheating measures very seriously, the most visible measure being the use of hand-held metal detectors for random checks of players before every round.

Payment of prizes:

Prizes shall be paid by bank transfer no later than the 7 June 2027, if prize-winners give their relevant bank details to the Tournament Director in a timely manner.

Contact:

The tournament is organised by IOM International Chess Limited, registered in Isle of Man, company number 015704V.

Tournament Director: Brian Woodard

Email: BrianWoodard@iomchess.com

Mobile: +44 7624 499758

19 August 2026.