



CHESS FOR FREEDOM

INTRODUCTION: The rights and opportunities of self-realization and development for people in imprisonment are essential prerequisites in order to consciously build their future after liberation. Access to training and learning, as well as to quality ways of socializing could give strong motivation to change for better.

Chess is a game that not only allows the inmates to spend a quality time and socialize in a smart and safe way, but also can serve for decreasing such common symptoms like depression, stress, and anxiety. Developing memory and logical thinking, improving concentration skills and imagination may foster their reintegration after liberation. Chess inspires self-motivation, develops the capacity to for-see consequences and demonstrates the success is a reward of hard work.

International Chess Federation (FIDE) and Cook County (Chicago, USA) Department of Corrections under the Sheriff Thomas Dart are dedicated to popularize using chess for education, integration and empowerment of people in imprisonment.

The following events are planned for the year 2021 under the patronage of the 12th World Chess Champion Anatoly Karpov:

11 May 2021 (COMPLETED: <https://chessforfreedom.fide.com/>)

Invitational On-line Chess Demonstration Tournament for Prisoners with 4 countries participating: USA, Russia, Armenia, Spain.

The first FIDE On-line Conference “Chess for Freedom” for officials, authorities, scholars etc.

13-14 October 2021

The First Intercontinental Online Chess Championship for Prisoners 2021

**TECHNICAL REQUIREMENTS FOR PARTICIPATION AT THE FIRST INTERCONTINENTAL
ONLINE CHESS CHAMPIONSHIP FOR PRISONERS**

Access to the Internet	Internet access is needed inside correctional facilities. Can be wired or WiFi. No limitation on a specific place where the computers shall be located. Prison/jail staff is required to be present following local facilities rules and regulations.
Number of computers	4 computers for prisoners to use for matches. 1 computer for staff communication
Number of cameras	NO cameras required at the playing site. If available (only!) the cameras should not cover the faces of the players. It is encouraged (but not required) to have one camera on staff computer for during the tournament communications.
Requirements for the computer software	There will be NO software that will be required to install. www.chess.com will be a platform for the event. Each team will receive 5 accounts. 4 of them shall be used by players. One – for staff observations. ALL accounts will have security check and ALL communications besides playing the games will be turned off.
General requirements for the premises where the team will play	There are no specific regulations to the playing site. It is for each team determination. The site should be secured with local correctional facilities staff.
Internet disconnection	During a game, if player disconnects from the playing zone, the game clock shall continue running. If the player can reconnect to the game before remaining time elapsed, the game can be continued. If the player can not reconnect to the game before the time is elapsed, then the player shall lose the game, However, the game is drawn if the position is such that the opponent can not checkmate the player’s King by any possible legal moves.
Communication with the teams	All communication with the teams shall be done through one designated person located at the local correctional facility. No direct communication with players.
Team	The team consist of four (4) players with unlimited number of substitutions. The registered ranking of the team players must be followed while substitution takes.
Format	The main tournament will be a Round-robin team chess tournament, 7 rounds. All rounds shall be played in one day, October 13, 2021.

	<p>All teams will be divided into the groups of 8 teams per group. The group drawing will be made on September 28, 2021.</p> <p>There shall be no more than 8 hours' time difference between the countries in each group. The two top teams from each group will advance into the Championship Round that will occur at the second day of the event, October 14, 2021.</p>
Duration of the game	Game in 10 min + 5 sec per move starting from move 1.
REGISTRATION	<p>Each correction facility shall submit an application via an on-line registration form: https://cutt.ly/kmgAbof The registration deadline is September 21, 2021.</p>
CONTACTS	<p>Mikhail Korenman, Chess Program Coordinator at Cook County Department of Corrections, FIDE International Chess Organizer and Member of FIDE Social Commission Email Mikhail.korenman@ccsheriff.org Tel.: 1-785-906-0402</p>