



FIDE Social Chess Storytelling Challenge: Every Move Counts

Rules and Regulations

1. General Information

The **FIDE Social Chess Storytelling Challenge** aims to promote and inspire through powerful storytelling about the social impact of chess. This competition is open to individuals, national federations, and social chess promoters worldwide. We encourage participation from both professionals and amateurs, to ensure a diverse range of creative perspectives.

2. Theme: "Every Move Counts"

Chess is more than a game—it is a powerful tool for **social change and individual growth**. This competition seeks short films/videos that tell compelling stories of how chess positively impacts individuals and communities. Submissions should highlight chess's role in:

- **Personal Development** – How chess fosters confidence, sharpens critical thinking, and enhances problem-solving skills, empowering individuals to overcome life's challenges.
- **Social Transformation** – The role of chess in bringing diverse groups together, fostering inclusion, and supporting education and rehabilitation programs.
- **Opportunities & Livelihoods** – How chess creates opportunities for vulnerable individuals and communities, offering pathways for personal and professional growth.

3. Eligibility

- Open to all individuals, regardless of nationality or FIDE membership.
- No age restrictions, but any legally significant actions performed by minors/persons with limited legal capacity must be agreed upon by their legal representatives.
- Participants may submit multiple entries.
- Films may be in any language. However, to ensure accessibility for a global audience, English subtitles must be embedded. English-language films are encouraged but not required.

4. Film Categories & Requirements

To make the challenge accessible while maintaining quality

- **Professional Category** – High-quality films with polished cinematography and sound. If a film exceeds 5 minutes, an additional 30 to 60-second trailer must be included for each delivered film.
- **Grassroots Category** – Creative, amateur-style films (including phone-shot videos) showcasing real social chess initiatives. If a film exceeds 5 minutes, an additional 30 to 60-second trailer must be included for each delivered film.

General Requirements:

- **Format:** MP4 or MOV, minimum solution of Full HD (1920x1080). Lower resolutions (minimum 720p) are accepted for grassroots submissions.
- **Language:** Any language, but English subtitles are mandatory.
- **Content Guidelines:** Must align with FIDE's values of inclusivity and respect ("GENS UNA SUMUS" – We Are One Family). No offensive, political, or discriminatory content allowed. Any form of adult content is strictly prohibited and will result in immediate disqualification.
- **Usage Rights:** Participants retain full ownership but grant FIDE non-exclusive transferable rights to share and screen all submitted material (without any modifications) across various social media channels and FIDE social event screenings. Such demonstration would only be motivated by a purely non-commercial goal to promote social chess initiatives and would not bear any commercial character to FIDE.
- FIDE will make a clear reference to authors of the material to provide due publicity to them.

5. Submission Process

- **Submission Opens:** 22nd April, 2025
- **Deadline:** 25th October, 2025
- **Submission Methods:** Via FIDE Website (<https://www.fide.com/social2025-storytelling-challenge/>)
- **Application Form Includes:**
 - Name, contact details, country, city
 - Information about the social chess project
 - Information about the filmmaker
 - Link to the downloadable film
 - Information about equipment and post production software / app
 - Copyright declaration and media release agreement

6. Judging Criteria

To ensure fairness, the jury will include four **independent experts** in filmmaking, social impact, and chess. The selection panel will be announced prior to the competition deadline.

- Originality & Creativity (50%)
- Storytelling & Narrative Impact (25%)
- Relevance to Theme & Social Impact (25%)

7. Prizes & Recognition

- **Prize:**
 - A special FIDE Trophy would be awarded to the winners of each category.
 - An invitation to FIDE Olympiad 2026 Opening Ceremony and 2 nights stay for max 2 members of the applicant's team in each of the three categories.
 - Documentary and/or its short presentation of three best films shall be published during the Social Chess Conference 2025, promoted via FIDE's social media channels and presented during FIDE Social events to promote the respective social initiatives and the authors of the movie.
- **Award Categories:**
 - Best Short Film (Professional)
 - Best Grassroots Film (Amateur)
 - FIDE Social Commission Choice Award

8. Media & Usage Rights

By participating in the **FIDE Social Chess Storytelling Challenge** (hereinafter, "Competition"), participants agree to the following media and usage rights:

1. **Non-Exclusive Screening & Distribution Rights**
 - Participants retain full ownership of their submitted films.
 - By submitting an entry, participants grant FIDE and its partners the **non-exclusive, royalty-free** rights to screen, distribute, and promote their film for chess-related initiatives for a period of **1 (one) year from the submission deadline** unless otherwise agreed or stated in these Rules and Regulations.
 - Films may be used in **FIDE's official events, websites, social media platforms, educational initiatives, and social project related promotional materials** to advance social chess awareness without payment of any royalty to films' copyright holders for the whole duration of non-exclusive rights. Such publications **shall not bear commercial character** and will provide a **clear reference to the authors of the material**.
 - FIDE **will not modify or alter** submitted films without explicit permission from the filmmaker (Email agreement shall be sufficient).
2. **Consent for Photography, Filming & Recording**
 - Participants agree to be **photographed, filmed, and/or recorded** at any FIDE event related to the Competition.

- Participants grant FIDE the **non-exclusive** right to use their name, voice, image, and likeness in promotional materials, including but not limited to **websites, social media, press releases, and public screenings to properly credit them as the authors of the submitted material.**

3. Waiver of Claims & Approvals

Any participant who sends work as part of this competition certifies and guarantees that the participant is the exclusive and sole author and does not directly and/or indirectly violate any rights of third parties (original music, images and film excerpts...), or that the participant holds all the rights above, or that the participant has obtained the necessary authorizations for the use of the works (in case the participant is not the author of the relevant work).

- Participants waive any right to inspect or approve the use of their submitted materials or recorded media.
- Participants release FIDE from any claims, including but not limited to **privacy violations, right of publicity, defamation, and copyright infringement**, arising from the use of their film or recorded media as long as the publication is done according to the said Regulations

9. Contact & Inquiries

For any questions regarding the competition, please contact:

FIDE Social Commission Secretary: sc.secretary@fide.com

10. Cancellation and applicable law

The organizer reserves the right to modify, extend, or cancel the competition if unforeseen circumstances arise. FIDE will not be held liable for any cancellations or modifications beyond its control.

The applicable law is Swiss law.

This document serves as the **official Rules and Regulations** for the FIDE Social Chess Storytelling Challenge. By submitting an entry, participants agree to all terms outlined above.