

“Together We Can”



# The 2022 IBCA World Team Chess Championship for the Blind and Visually Impaired



Ohrid, North Macedonia

June 27 – July 08, 2022

## INVITATION

The International Braille Chess Association (IBCA) and the National Sport Federation of the Blind of North Macedonia (the Organizer) cordially invite you to the IX IBCA World Team Chess Championship for the Blind and Visually Impaired 2022.

1. Dates, location, and venue.

The 2022 IBCA World Team Chess Championship for the Blind and Visually Impaired will be held in Ohrid, North Macedonia from June 27 (Arrival Day) through July 08 (Departure Day). The tournament will take place in the Metropol Hotel, 4 stars, in Ohrid.

2. Eligibility to participate; delegations.

The right to participate in the 2022 IBCA World Team Chess Championship was earned by the top sixteen (16) teams from the 2021 IBCA Chess Olympiad held in Rhodes, Greece. These are Russia, Poland, Serbia, Germany, Romania, Ukraine, Spain, India, Hungary, Bulgaria, North Macedonia, Sweden, Italy, Slovenia, France, and Lithuania. Collectively, they are called Invited Teams.

Other teams that took part in the 2021 IBCA Chess Olympiad are ordered according to their final placement and are called Reserve Teams. They are Israel, Croatia, Finland, Kosovo, Greece, and Canada – Quebec.

The Invited Teams shall confirm their participation by a confirmation deadline of March 15, 2022 (see Art. 8). Whenever an Invited Team declines to participate, its slot shall go to the team at the top of the list of Reserve Teams. If such a team declines an invitation, it shall be struck from the list of Reserve Team and the next team at the top of the list shall receive the slot. If there is a slot available and none of the remaining Reserve Teams wishes to take it, the IBCA may, in its own discretion, offer this slot to a team that wasn't able to take part in the 2021 IBCA Olympiad.

Every team shall include four (4) players and up to two (2) reserves. Each team shall have a captain, who may also be one of the players or a reserve. The national Braille chess federations assume full

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responsibility for the conduct of their players. Each federation may designate a Head of Delegation; it may either appoint a person exclusively to this office, or entrust the team captain, or one of the players or reserves, with this function.

### 3. Event program.

- Arrival on June 27, 2022 – Departure on July 08, 2022.
- Travel details: Skopje International Airport (IATA: SKP)
- Pick-up from and drop-off to the International airport will be provided to all the participants who confirm the travel plans before May 01, 2022.
- On a rest day, a free excursion is planned.

### 4. Technical information and schedule.

The tournament will be held under the official IBCA and FIDE rules. Please see the Tournament Regulations for the 2022 IBCA World Team Chess Championship for the Blind and Visually Impaired that form an integral part of this Invitation.

### 5. Chess equipment.

All games in the tournament will be played only on Braille chess sets.

As a condition of its participation, every team (four players and up to two reserves) shall bring four (4) Braille chess sets, two (2) Braille clocks, and sufficient writing (recording) equipment.

### 6. Accommodation packages.

Prices per person with full board (3 meals per day)

Room type	Price	Hotel
Triple room per person per day	60 €	Tourist
Double room per person per day	70 €	Metropol, Bellevue
Single room per person per day	90 €	Metropol, Bellevue

The Metropol Hotel (4 stars), the Bellevue Hotel (4 stars), and the Tourist Hotel (3 stars) are all part of the Metropol Lake Resort. They are placed next to each other.

<https://metropol-ohrid.com.mk/>

For security reasons, all members of the delegation, including players, captains, coaches and accompanying persons of the delegations, shall stay in the official hotels (Metropol, Bellevue, and Tourist). The Organizing Committee will not accept any person to be a participant who doesn't book in one of the official hotels.

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All delegations must pay a deposit equal to 30% of the total cost for hotel accommodation before May 01, 2022 to the following bank account:

Bank Name: Komercijalnabanka AD Skopje

Bank Address: Str. Orce Nikolov No.3, 1000 Skopje, North Macedonia

Holder Name: Nacionalna sportska federacija na slepi na Severna Makedonija

Holder's Address: Str. 29 Noemvri No.46, 1000 Skopje, North Macedonia

BIC/SWIFT code: KOBSMK2X

Account number (IBAN): MK07300701002990186

7. Transportation from and to the airport.

Organizers will provide transportation for all participants from / to both the Skopje International Airport (SKP) and the Ohrid Airport.

All delegations must send their flight details (date, time and flight numbers for arrival/departure) to the organizing committee before May 01, 2022.

8. Registration and deadlines.

Only a duly authorized representative of the National Braille Chess Federation that is the IBCA member in good standing can register a delegation to participate in this tournament. All players, officials, and accompanying persons from the same member country shall be registered as a single delegation by the specified deadline. The countries that are in arrears are required to pay their debt to the IBCA in full in order to proceed with the registration. The IBCA and the Organizers will not accept any registrations that attempt to circumvent National Braille Chess Federations.

When registering a delegation, every National Braille Chess Federation shall use the registration form provided by the Organizer and shall clearly designate:

- four players (last name, first name, FIDE ID for each) in the preferred board order ,
- two reserves,
- a team captain
- head of the delegation (if it wishes to appoint one according to Art.2)
- coaches (if any),
- accompanying persons (if any).

For every participant, last name, first name, FIDE ID and FIDE title (if any) shall be provided.

The following deadlines shall be respected.

To confirm participation for Invited Teams	no later than March 15, 2022.
To register all members of a delegation	no later than April 26, 2022.
To pay a deposit (see Art. 6)	no later than May 01, 2022.
To submit flight details	no later than May 01, 2022.

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9. Tournament Principals; additional Arbiters.

In compliance with the appropriate regulations and as per the mutual agreement, the IBCA will appoint Principals and the Organizer will provide the required conditions. The Organizer will appoint additional Arbiters as per FIDE guidelines for a total number of arbiters depending on the competition size.

10. Prizes.

Please see the Tournament Regulations for the 2022 IBCA World Team Chess Championship for the Blind and Visually Impaired for a complete description of the team and individual prizes. The prizes will be awarded at the official closing ceremony. All players shall receive their prizes in person.

11. Visa information.

Players and other delegation members who need a visa to enter North Macedonia are requested to contact the Organizer before March 01, 2022. The organizer will provide invitations for visas only after the necessary payments are wired, as described in Articles 6 and 8 above.

12. COVID-19 / Vaccination / Medical requirements.

All players and accompanying persons shall be vaccinated against COVID-19 to participate in the tournament. The vaccine certificate for each member of the delegation shall be submitted to the Organizer along with the completed registration form.

During the tournament, all participants shall strictly adhere to the medical protocols established by the host country. The Organizer shall inform registered participants in a timely manner about any changes to the medical requirements.

The Organizer will arrange timely access on-site in Ohrid to PCR and any other tests that may be required pre-departure in order for the participants to return to their home countries.

13. Contact information.

IBCA contact for general inquiries:

[secretary@ibca-info.org](mailto:secretary@ibca-info.org)

Organizer contact for information and registration:

[mknsfsm@gmail.com](mailto:mknsfsm@gmail.com)

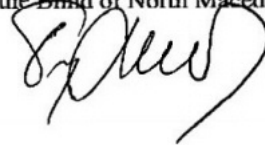
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Signed on this 14<sup>th</sup> day of February, 2022

Dr. Charudatta Jadhav  
IBCA President



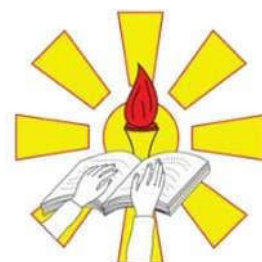
**Blagoj Mishevski**  
President, National Sport Federation  
of the [Republic of North Macedonia]



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# The 2022 IBCA World Team Chess Championship for the Blind and Visually Impaired



Ohrid, North Macedonia

June 27 – July 08, 2022

## TECHNICAL REGULATIONS

### 1. Governing regulations.

The 2022 IBCA World Team Championship for the Blind and Visually Impaired shall be played according to the FIDE Laws of Chess, the FIDE General Regulations for Competitions, and applicable IBCA Rules, and present Technical Regulations. At any time, any circumstance or unforeseen situation not covered by the above regulations shall be referred to the IBCA President for a final decision.

### 2. Number of teams; team composition; team lists.

As per the Invitation, the competition will comprise sixteen (16) teams. Every team shall include four (4) players and up to two (2) reserves. When registering a delegation, every team shall designate a team captain. A captain may be one of the players or the reserve, or another member of this team's delegation.

A captain shall submit the preferred board order ("starting list") for his team by the start of the Technical Meeting (see Art. 7 "Schedule"). If a team captain does not submit such list on time, the board order for that team is fixed in the order that the delegation used when sending its registration.

As per the FIDE Regulations (FIDE Handbook, §C.10, Article 7.1) the captain is required to deliver at a specific time a written list naming the players in his team participating in each round, If the list is not delivered by the required time, the team list for that round shall be the first four named players in the "starting list". The times required to deliver the lists for each round will be announced at the Technical Meeting. The captain shall communicate the board order and the pairings to his players.

### 3. Format & system.

The tournament will be played in three stages: group stage, semifinals, and finals.

For a group stage, the 16 teams will be divided into two groups, Yellow and Red, of eight (8) teams each using the seeding procedure described in Art. 5 below. If for any reason the number of participating teams is less than 16, then the same seeding procedure will be used to divide the teams

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into two groups, Yellow and Red, whose size shall not differ by more than one (e.g., seven and six if there are 13 teams). Each group will play a Round Robin tournament (7 rounds for a group of 8 teams, or as appropriate if there are fewer teams in a group). Upon the completion of the group stage, the final standings will determine places 1 through 8 in each of the Yellow and Red groups.

For the semifinals, the following matches will be played, with the team listed first having White:

SF 1	Yellow 1	v.	Red 2
SF 2	Red 1	v.	Yellow 2
SF 3	Yellow 3	v.	Red 4
SF 4	Red 3	v.	Yellow 4
SF 5	Yellow 5	v.	Red 6
SF 6	Red 5	v.	Yellow 6
SF 7	Yellow 7	v.	Red 8
SF 8	Red 7	v.	Yellow 8

For the finals, the following matches will be played:

Championship match	Winner of SF 1	v.	Winner of SF 2
Bronze medal match	Loser of SF 1	v.	Loser of SF 2
Match for the 5 <sup>th</sup> place	Winner of SF 3	v.	Winner of SF 4
Match for the 7 <sup>th</sup> place	Loser of SF 3	v.	Loser of SF 4
Match for the 9 <sup>th</sup> place	Winner of SF 5	v.	Winner of SF 6
Match for the 11 <sup>th</sup> place	Loser of SF 5	v.	Loser of SF 6
Match for the 13 <sup>th</sup> place	Winner of SF 7	v.	Winner of SF 8
Match for the 15 <sup>th</sup> place	Loser of SF 7	v.	Loser of SF 8

The colours in the final match between teams A and B are assigned the following way based on the colours those teams had in the semifinals:

Semifinal	Final
A had White and B had Black	B (White) – A (Black)
A had Black and B had White	A (White) – B (Black)
A had White and B had White	Arbiters will make drawing of colours
A had Black and B had Black	Arbiters will make drawing of colours

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4. Time control; default time.

The time control shall be two (2) hours for the whole game per player.

As per the FIDE Regulations (FIDE Handbook, §C.10, Article 7.2) at the start of any round a participating team has to be present with more than 50% players. If 50% or less of the players are present at the start of any round the players present are not allowed to start their games. If a player arrives at the chessboard with a delay of more than 30 minutes from the actual start of the round, his game will be declared lost by a forfeit.

5. Seeding.

The teams are assigned seeds from S1 through S16 based on their standings in the 2021 IBCA Chess Olympiad for the Blind and Visually Impaired. The team that had the highest final standing in the Olympiad receives the S1 seed, the next one – S2 seed, and so on. If some of the participating teams did not take part in the 2021 Olympiad, they are seeded after all Olympic teams in the order of their average rating calculated for the current tournament.

Then, the groups are formed as follows:

Yellow group: S1, S4, S5, S8, S9, S12, S13, S16.  
Red group: S2, S3, S6, S7, S10, S11, S14, S15.

6. Tie-breaks.

Each match is scored by match points. A winner gets 2 points, a draw gives 1 point to each team, a loss – 0 points.

6.1. Tie-breaks at the group stage.

At the completion of the group stage, teams in each of the Yellow and Red groups are ranked by the most number of match points in the final group standings. If two (2) or more teams score the same number of match points, the tie is broken as follows:

- a) Total number of game points.
- b) Direct encounter (the results of the matches between the teams involved in the tie).
- c) Sonneborn-Berger for Team Tournaments A: the sum of the products of the match points

made by each opposing team and the match points made against that team.

- d) Berlin System:

- win on Board 1 – 4 points;
- win on Board 2 – 3 points;
- win on Board 3 – 2 points; - win on Board 4 – 1 point.

In case of drawn games, the points are shared.

If after the board-count, the tie is not broken, then the points of Board 4 are cancelled and so on upward.

- e) If the tie still is not broken, then drawing of lots is done.



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### 6.2. Tie-breaks in the semifinals and finals.

If any semifinal or final match completes in a draw (2 match points to each team), the tie is broken based on the teams’ respective results at the group play stage according to the same procedure as in 6.1 above, regardless of the group (Yellow or Red) that the tied teams belonged to initially.

### 7. Schedule.

Day of the week	Date	Hour	Item
Monday	June 27		Arrival
Tuesday	June 28	11:00	Technical Meeting
Tuesday	June 28	14:30	Opening Ceremony
Tuesday	June 28	15:00	Group Stage, Round 1
Wednesday	June 29	15:00	Group Stage, Round 2
Thursday	June 30	15:00	Group Stage, Round 3
Friday	July 01	15:00	Group Stage, Round 4
Saturday	July 02	15:00	Group Stage, Round 5
Sunday	July 03	15:00	Group Stage, Round 6
Monday	July 04	15:00	Group Stage, Round 7
Tuesday	July 05		Free day. Excursion for participants.
Wednesday	July 06	10:00	Semifinal matches
Thursday	July 07	10:00	Final matches
Thursday	July 07	18:00	Closing Ceremony
Friday	July 08		Departure

### 8. Player conduct.

All participants are bound by the Laws of Chess and shall behave at all times during the tournament in accordance with the IBCA and FIDE statutes and the highest principles of sportsmanship.

The players are expected to be present at all official events approved by the IBCA and the Organizer, including the opening and the closing ceremonies.

The captains are expected to attend the Technical Meeting. If necessary, the Chief Arbiter may call other Technical Meetings.

The players are expected to co-operate with the media and be available for short interviews immediately after each game.

The players shall comply with the requirements of FIDE Regulations (FIDE Handbook, §C.01, Article 8.1) to maintain their dignified appearance at all times during the event.

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9. Fair play; electronic equipment.

Fair Play measures will be in place as per the FIDE Anti-Cheating Guidelines. With the sole exception of the move recording equipment, during a game players and captains are forbidden to have any electronic device not specifically approved by the arbiter in the playing venue. Such devices may be stored in a player’s bag, provided the device is completely switched off. This bag must be placed as agreed with the arbiter and the player is forbidden to use this bag without the arbiter’s permission. Accompanying persons or spectators are forbidden to use electronic devices at the playing venue except for photography when explicitly approved by the arbiter.

10. Appeals Committee.

The IBCA and the Organizer will nominate the Chairman and two (2) other members of the Appeals Committee, as well as two (2) reserve members, all from different National Braille Chess Federations. All names shall be announced no later than at the start of the Technical Meeting before Round 1.

None of the three (3) members of the Appeals Committee shall sit in judgment in a dispute involving a player/team from his National Braille Chess Federations. A reserve member takes his place in such a case.

A protest can be lodged only by a player or a team captain. All protests shall be submitted to the Appeals Committee in writing not more than one (1) hour after the completion of relevant game, or an alleged occurrence of an infringement complained against.

Each protest must be accompanied by a deposit fee of one hundred (100) Euros. If the protest is accepted, the fee shall be returned. If the protest is rejected, the fee shall be forfeited to the IBCA.

The Appeals Committee may decide on the following matters:

- a) an appeal against a decision by an arbiter,
- b) a protest against a player's or a captain's behavior,
- c) all other matters which the Committee considers relevant.

The written decision of the Appeals Committee arising from any dispute is final.

11. Prizes.

The team that wins the championship match in the final (see Art. 3) will be declared the 2022 IBCA World Team Champion and will be awarded a trophy. Players on the teams that won the first, second and third places will be awarded gold, silver, and bronze medals, respectively.

Players assigned to the same board number in their respective team lists shall be in competition for individual board prizes namely: gold, silver, and bronze medals. For the purposes of this award, the

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players’ performance ratings shall be compared. The highest performance rating wins. In case of a tie, it shall be broken in order of priority by:

- a) number of games played (the highest number wins);
- b) percentage score (the highest number wins);
- c) final ranking of a team (the player on the highest ranked team wins).

For Boards 1-4, only players who have played a minimum of six (6) games shall be eligible for board prizes. For Board 5, only players who have played a minimum of five (5) games shall be eligible for board prizes