

Regulations

1st International Open des 400 Coups

Echiquier Club Montalbanais

I. Terms and Conditions

Article 1.1: Presentation

Within the scope of the International Chess Festival des 400 Coups, the Echiquier Club Montalbanais organizes 2 standard open tournaments to promote chess within the Montalbanaise agglomeration and the Occitania region, from July 12th to 18th 2026 at Palais des Sports Jacques Chirac, rue du Général d'Amade 82000 Montauban.

Article 1.2: Participation requirements

- Open des Boulets des 400 Coups: tournament open to all players with a standard FIDE rating above 1900.
- Open des Canons des 400 Coups: tournament open to all players with a standard FIDE rating below 2000.

In the Open des Boulets des 400 Coups, no exception will be granted except for titled players who will be able to compete in this tournament even with a standard FIDE rating below 1900. Players with a standard FIDE rating above 1900 at the time of registration who would fall below 1900 before the beginning of the tournament will still be able to compete in this tournament. Therefore, a standard FIDE rating above 1900 between January 1st, 2026 and July 1st, 2026 is needed in order to compete in the Open des Boulets des 400 Coups.

These tournaments being approved by the French Chess Federation, all players must either hold a valid A license for the 2025-2026 season before the beginning of the Open tournaments or, in the case of foreign players, have a FIDE ID.

Unlicensed French players at the beginning of the tournament will have to purchase a license in the host club according to the pricing conditions set out below:
Membership fee for an A license: Adult: 49 € / Junior (-18 years old): 20 €

The players have to pay their registration fees.

Article 1.3: Approval

The tournaments are approved by FIDE and will be taken into account for the standard FIDE ratings of August 2026.

II. THE TOURNAMENTS

Article 2.1: Laws of chess

The laws of chess are the ones adopted at the 93rd FIDE Congress in Chennai (India) and which came into effect on January 1st, 2023.

Article 2.2: Time control

The time control is 90 minutes + 30 seconds increment per move, starting from move 1.

Article 2.3: Schedule

Open des Boulets and des Canons des 400 Coups :

Participation Confirmation:	Sunday, July 12 th from 8:45 am to 9:30 am
Opening ceremony:	Sunday, July 12 th at 9:45 am
Round 1:	Sunday, July 12 th at 10:00 am
Round 2:	Monday, July 13 th at 10h00 am
Round 3:	Monday, July 13 th at 3:00 pm
Round 4:	Tuesday, July 14 th at 10:00 am
Round 5:	Wednesday, July 15 th at 10:00 am
Round 6:	Wednesday, July 15 th at 3:00 pm
Round 7:	Thursday, July 16 th at 10:00 am
Round 8:	Friday, July 17 th at 10:00 am
Round 9:	Saturday, July 18 th at 10:00 am
Awards ceremony:	Saturday, July 18 th at 3:30 pm

If needed, the organizer reserves the right to modify the schedule to ensure the proper running of the tournament.

Article 2.4: Pairings

The pairings will be made using the Swiss system (FIDE Rules C.04) with the software Sharly Chess.

Pairings from Round 1 will include all players who will have their license checked.

Article 2.5: Standings

The standings are determined based on the number of points according to the scale: Win 1 point, Draw ½ point, Loss 0 point.

If two or more players score the same points, the tie is broken by the following criteria, in order of priority: Buchholz Cut 2, Cumulative system, Performance.

The Buchholz Cut 2 is the Buchholz score reduced by the two lowest scores of the opponents.

Article 2.6: Prizes distribution

The prizes list will be displayed before the beginning of Round 5.

The Hort System will be used for the general standings.

The players who aren't present during the awards ceremony cannot be represented and therefore cannot be entitled to any prizes.

Prizes per category aren't cumulative with any other prize.

If a player can be entitled to several prizes, the most advantageous one will be chosen.

Article 2.7: Arbiters

The Chief Arbiter of the Festival is M. Pierre LAPEYRE, Federal Elite 2 Arbiter, International Arbiter (C).

He will be paired with M. Théophile BORCEUX, Federal Club Arbiter

Article 2.8: Forfeits and Bye

The forfeiting delay is fixed to 15 minutes.

A player competing in one of the Open can take two “byes” (without playing) except for the last two rounds. It is permitted only if the player specifically notified the arbiter before the end of the last game of the previous round and if this request has been accepted by the arbiter.

Any player who cannot play a round or who decides to forfeit the tournament must immediately inform the arbiter before the pairings of the next round have been made.

A player who is absent without informing the arbiter is declared forfeiting the tournament, except if this absence is justified by an acceptable reason before the next pairings have been published. Such forfeits will be reported to the Legal Director of the National Arbitration Department.

Article 2.9: Compliance with regulations

By registering, the participants commit to respect these regulations and the Chess Player Charter.

Article 2.10: Registration fees

Registration fees: 50€ (55€ from 01/07/2026)

Junior (born after 2007) and FM: 30€ (35€ from 01/07/2026)

Free for GM, IM, WGM, WIM, members of Youth Elite French Team, defending Youth French Champions and ICCF GM who are members of the FFE, subject to confirm their registration to the organizer at least 48h before the start of the tournaments.

3 tournaments Pack: Within the framework of the Festival, the Echiquier Club Montalbanaïis offers a discount for the participation in the whole set of tournaments (standard, rapid and blitz open tournaments):

Registration fee for the whole set of tournaments: 70€ (80€ from 01/07/2026)

Junior (born after 2007) and FM: 40€ (50€ from 01/07/2026)

III. Miscellaneous

Article 3.1: Participants' behaviour

At the end of the game, the result is recorded by the winner (or White if draw) at the recording table. Players check if it is correctly recorded. Sharly Chess is used for the recording. A mistake at round r has to be reported to the arbiter to be taken into account. After the delay of the publication of round $r + 2$ pairings, the correction of the result will be taken into account only after the end of the tournament, for FIDE ratings (LA art. C-04-2 D-8).

The participants' behaviour must not discredit the competition.

A correct attire and behaviour are required.

Smoking or vaping is strictly forbidden in the tournament room.

During the game, a player cannot leave the tournament place (playing area, toilets, bar, smoking area without the arbiter's permission. Likewise, a player whose turn it is cannot leave the playing area without the arbiter's permission. In the playing area, it is forbidden to any player to have any connected electronic device without the arbiter's permission unless it is completely switched off in a bag. During the game, players are forbidden to transport a bag or a jacket containing one of these devices without the arbiter's permission. If it is proved that a player transgresses these rules, the player will lose the game and the opponent will be declared the winner.

Article 3.2: Image rights

By registering, the participants authorize the organizer to publish, within the framework of its website or newspaper articles for example, articles, photos or videos on which they can appear. In the event that they would refuse any publication of their image, they have to declare it to the organizer at the latest before the first round.

Signatures:

The Festival Chief Arbiter

Monsieur Pierre LAPEYRE,

The organizer and president of Echiquier Club Montalbanais

Monsieur Félicien MARTINEZ,