Gert Sibande Chess

Affiliate of Mpumalanga Chess

Secretariat: Ms. Naom Mpofu Contact number: 073 237 3019
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12 January 2026

2026 SCHOOLS CHESS PROGRAMME

TO: All School Principals

FROM: Gert Sibande Chess Association

DATE: 12 January 2026

SUBJECT: Registration for the 2026 Schools Chess Programme

1. The Gert Sibande Chess Association hereby informs schools of the implementation of the 2026 Schools Chess Programme in the region.

2. The programme is implemented in terms of the Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) between the Department of Sport, Culture and Recreation (DCSR) and the Department of Education (DOE), which mandates recognised sport federations to organise and administer school sport activities.

3. Schools are required to register with the Gert Sibande Chess Association in order to participate in the official school's chess programme for 2026.

4. The annual registration fee is **R500** per school, covering participation in the following components:

- **Individual Championships**
- **Teams Championships (Top Schools)**
- **Schools League**

Schools may participate in all or selected components.

5. The closing date for registration is **31 January 2026.**

6. Schools that are not registered will be permitted to enter learners into schools chess events; however, learners from non-registered schools will be required to pay a participation fee for each school event.

Learners from registered schools will participate free of charge.

7. For the 2026 season, all learners participating from sub-district level upwards will receive participation certificates.

Medals and trophies will be awarded to winners.

8. The Individual Championships will be played during the second term, starting at cluster level where feasible and progressing to sub-district, district and provincial levels, with separate sections for boys and girls. The Teams Championships (Top Schools) will be played during the third term, while the Schools League will be played mainly on Wednesdays and, where this is not feasible, on weekends.

9. Local structures organize competitions up to sub-district level, while the federation provides technical control and progression beyond this level. Local structures may request assistance from the federation at local level if they are unable to conduct their games.

10. Payment details are as follows:

Bank: First National Bank

Account Name: Gert Sibande Chess Association

Account Number: 63143560761

Branch Code: 210835

Proof of payment must be submitted to **paulinaseotsanyana@gmail.com**

11. Enquiries may be directed to:

Mrs Paulina Seotsanyana

Email: paulinaseotsanyana@gmail.com

Contact number: 076 325 3829

12. Schools are requested to note the contents of this circular and ensure compliance to facilitate the smooth implementation of the programme.

Issued by:

Gert Sibande Chess Association