

2nd Alma Mater University Chess Tournament (2025) - Rules

1. Team composition

1. 1. Teams shall be made up of four main players and up to four reserves

(however only 4 people per team will be hosted free of charge by the University of Bologna)

1. 2. Each team shall have a captain, who may also be one of the main players or reserves. Each team's fixed board order shall be confirmed by the team's captain at the time of team registration on the morning of June 14th. There is no requirement to assign board numbers on the basis of descending Elo ratings. Each player shall be assigned a board number from 1 to 4 (and the appropriate number between 5 to 8 if there are reserves). This board order will remain fixed throughout the tournament.

1. 3. Each team's composition shall be announced by the team's captain not later than thirty minutes prior to the start of each round. If a team has reserves, a team captain who fails to submit their team's composition for a round will be deemed to have chosen the players assigned to boards 1, 2, 3 and 4 for that round. A team that changes team composition without notifying the tournament director at least half an hour before the round will receive a half-point penalty.

1. 4. Each team must be represented by a delegate; it may either appoint a person exclusively for this role, or the delegate can be the team captain, one of the main players or reserves. The delegate shall be responsible for all administrative matters and liaising with the organiser's staff.

2. Tournament format, Time control, Pairings, and Scoring System

2.1. The tournament will be played over five rounds.

2.2. Pairings: Swiss system.

2.3. The time control shall be 45 minutes for the whole game with an increment of 10 seconds per move starting from move 1.

2.4. Each match will be scored as follows: a winning team is awarded 2 points; each team that draws receives 1 point; a team that loses receives no points.

2.5. If two or more teams score the same number of match points, the tie-break system shall be as follows:

a. total number of game-points obtained by the team players. If after this, there is still a tie:

b. 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.
- drawn games: the points are shared.

If the tie is still not broken, the calculation is redone minus Board 4; in the event there is still a tie, the calculation is redone minus Board 3 and so on until the tie is broken.

3 Awards

3.1 Main award: Alma Mater University Chess Cup

Teams classified first, second, and third shall be awarded with trophies.

3.2. Special Awards

Some special awards will be assigned

3.2.1 Intel award to the winner of the best game as selected by the AI agent Shashguru

3.2.2 Banca di Bologna award to the best performing Italian player