

42nd CHESS OLYMPIAD
BAKU2016

INVITATION
42nd Chess Olympiad
87th FIDE Congress
Baku 2016

Baku Chess Olympiad Operating Committee

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87th FIDE Congress

Baku 2016

Dear Friends and Chess Lovers,

The Azerbaijani Chess Federation and the Baku Chess Olympiad Operating Committee under the auspices of the Ministry of Youth and Sport of the Republic of Azerbaijan have the great honor to invite all member federations of FIDE to the 42nd Chess Olympiad and the 87th FIDE Congress taking place in Baku between September 1st-14th.

The venue for the Olympiad is the Crystal Hall, and the Congress will be held in the Baku Fairmont Hotel.

The 42nd Olympiad is the biggest chess event in Azerbaijan's history, and we hope that it will be an exceptional event for all of us, with many strong chess moments.

We are looking for your presence to share this Olympiad all together.

Head of the Baku Chess Olympiad Operating Committee
Mahir Mammedov



Chief Arbiter of the Olympiad
Faik Gasanov



Summary

Information about Baku	3
Climate	4
Getting here	4
Visas	5
The venue of the Olympiad	6
Participation.....	7
Tournament Regulations.....	7
Pairings and Results	7
Olympiad Schedule	8
Travel Fund	8
Registration.....	9
Accreditation	10
Accommodation	10
Transportation	12
Payments to BCOOC	12
Opening and Closing Ceremonies	13
Official Website and Informative Bulletin.....	13
Olympiad Hot Line	13
The 87 th FIDE Congress	14
Congress Schedule	15
Baku Chess Olympiad Operating Committee.....	16

Information about Baku



Baku Flame Towers and the Old City



Government House



Baku at night

Baku is the capital city of the Republic of Azerbaijan located on the Absheron Peninsula, on the coast of the Caspian Sea. It is the largest city of Azerbaijan, with a population of almost 4 million inhabitants. The city is a fascinating combination of both Oriental and European influences, with a distinctive touch of modernity. Baku is one of the fastest-growing cities in Eurasia thanks to the natural resources of the country and its development policy: you will be able to see its permanent development while walking in the city. Among the “must see” places in the city we can name the Fountains Square and Nizami Street, pleasant pedestrianized areas to stroll. The 16km long Baku Boulevard is a favorite place for locals, expats and visitors to walk, entertain, rest and chat throughout the day and evening. The old city of Baku (Icheri Sheher) is another area of the city worth your attention and time. Baku offers to its guests many cultural and historic places to visit, as well as a rich nightlife with numerous restaurants, cafés and bars. Shopping in Baku is very interesting as well, many international brands are represented in the city and discounts are common.

The city is perfectly safe, so the organizers invite the participants to enjoy themselves during their free time and after the games.

Climate

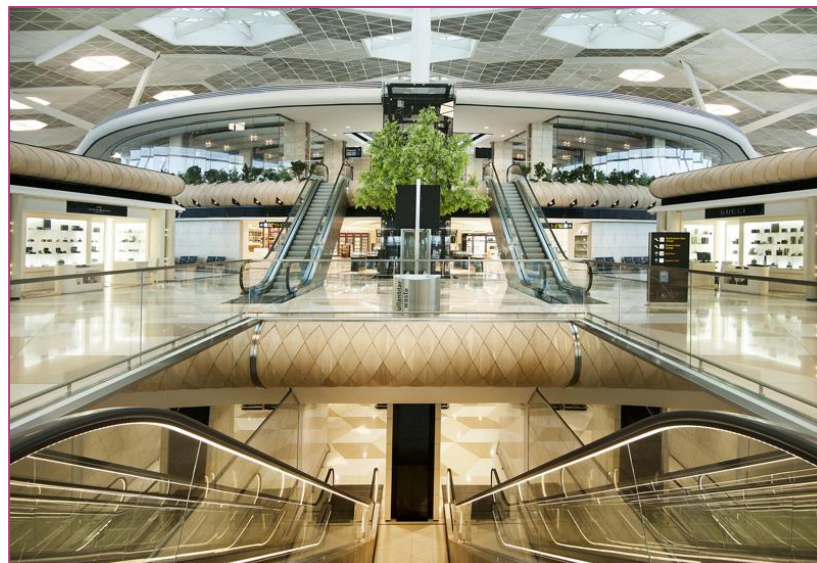
Baku has a very mild climate; in September, the average temperature is around 25 degrees Celsius. The temperature is constant, with no major differences between the day and the night. There is usually no rain or heavy wind, making autumn in Baku the very best season to visit the city. Local people benefit from this time of the year to enjoy evening walks along the Baku Boulevard.

Getting here

The International Airport of Baku (Heydar Aliyev Airport, International code GYD) is located 20 km away from the city center, and the journey from the airport to the city center takes around 25 minutes by highway. The airport complies with all international standards, provides quick and high-quality service to its passengers, and its architecture is a first contact with Baku's emblematic *tradition embracing modernity*.

The airport serves around three million passengers per year, and became a regional hub due to the number of connections available and airlines deservng the airport. You will be able to get to Baku easily either by a direct or a connection flight. Many airlines serve the capital city of Azerbaijan, you can consult the flights or the air carriers list on the official website of the Heydar Aliyev Airport: <http://www.airportbaku.com/>

The Operating Committee of the Baku Chess Olympiad will inform the participants about the promotional codes and any other special offers regarding air tickets through the official website of the Olympiad: www.bakuchessolympiad.com



Baku Airport

Visas



Center Heydar Aliyev

The citizens of nine countries (Belarus, Georgia, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Moldova, Russia, Tajikistan, Ukraine, Uzbekistan) don't need a visa or to make any specific procedures to get to Azerbaijan if they stay less than 90 days.

The citizens of all other countries, even those who have a facilitated visa regime with Azerbaijan (Qatar, Oman, Saudi Arabia, Bahrain, Kuwait, Japan, China, South Korea, Malaysia, Singapore, the United Arab Emirates, the Republic of Turkey and Israel) need visas to enter the Azerbaijani Republic.

The participants to the Olympiad will be granted their visas at the Heydar Aliyev International Airport in Baku upon arrival at the organizers cost. This measure was made possible due to a Presidential Decree.

The participants should address first the visas service of the airport, and then go to the Olympiad branded passport control points.

The Olympiad participants should have with them three documents:

- the visa blank, correctly filled (downloaded from the Registration system)
- the accreditation proof sent to them by the Operating Committee
- the Invitation to the Olympiad sent to the participants by the Baku Chess Olympiad Operating Committee

These documents will be demanded upon arrival to Baku in order to deliver the visas to the participants, but also they will be demanded at the registration desk before the boarding to the flight to Baku from the departure country. Without the presentation of those documents, the participants will be refused to the flight.



The participants who have been in **Karabakh or other occupied territories of Azerbaijan** are asked to inform the organizers about this fact so as to allow them to take specific measures.

The venue of the Olympiad

The Olympiad venue, Crystal Hall, situated on the Baku Boulevard, was built in 2012 to host the Eurovision song contest in Azerbaijan, and became since then one of the emblematic buildings of the city.

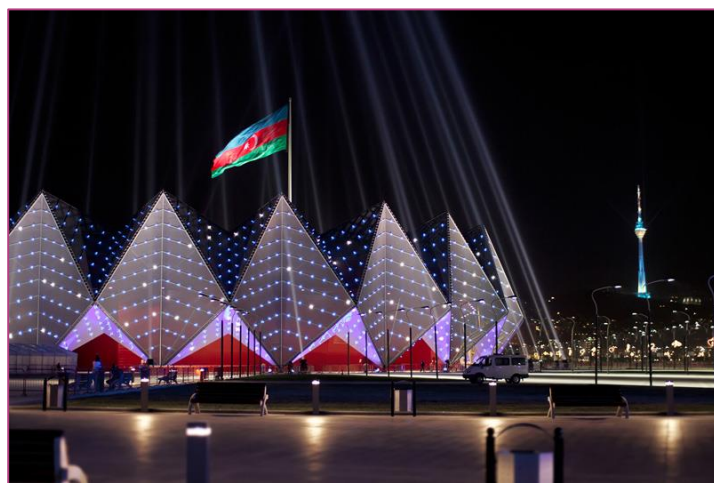
Crystal Hall is a very spacious modern complex, with a stunning view on the seaside and the city. You can enjoy its surroundings (Baku Boulevard) after your game.

Most of the hotels aren't situated within a walking distance from the Crystal Hall, but transportation to and from the Crystal Hall will be provided by the organizers. To check the departure time from your hotel to the Crystal Hall, please consult the table available at the hotels, in the Info Bulletin and on the official website. The players are requested to be at the venue **at least 30 minutes** before the start of the round to proceed to the security checks. The participants should also leave all non-authorized devices (electronic devices, watches, pens) in theirs.

Crystal Hall will be the venue for the games, but also for some parallel activities, such as the Chess Exhibition, Parallel Tournaments, etc. You can consult the precise schedule of the Parallel Activities in the Informative Bulletin given to the Olympiad's participants upon their arrival to Baku.



Baku Crystal Hall



Participation

The Chess Olympiad is open to all National Federations affiliated to FIDE, each of which can nominate one team for the open section and one for the women's section. Each team consists of four players, one reserve and one captain. The captain may be, but not necessarily, one of the players or the reserve.

FIDE regulations apply for the Olympiad like for the other FIDE Chess events.

Tournament Regulations

The Tournament regulations are in accordance with FIDE Handbook D, Regulations for specific competitions.

D. 2. Chess Olympiad:

1. Regulations for the Chess Olympiad
2. Olympiad Pairing rules

1. https://www.fide.com/FIDE/handbook/chess_olympiad_regulations.pdf
2. <https://www.fide.com/fide/handbook.html?id=95&view=article>

Pairings and Results

The pairings and results will be available on the official website: www.bakuchessolympiad.com; on the venues of the Olympiad and the Congress, as well as in all the hotels accommodating the players, at the Information desk.

The teams captains are requested to announce to the Organizers their team composition for the next round after the end of the previous one, or in the morning of the round to begin, until 11 AM. They can address the “Pairings and Results” desk at the venue or send their team composition from the official Federation e-mail or the e-mail address used for the registration system to the organizers at the address pairingsandresults@bakuchess.com with “team composition” as e-mail subject. Please note that you should receive a confirmation from the organizers that your e-mail has been received.

In case of non-performing this procedure, the first four players will be automatically registered for the round.



The captains of the teams will be given green cards for the players who will play in the current round, which should be returned to the Match Arbiters after the game. The players are asked to carry their green player cards with their accreditation badges. Players who don't participate in the round are asked to enter the venue from the visitors' entrance if they wish to follow the game.

Olympiad Schedule

Schedule of the 42 nd Chess Olympiad				
Date	Time	Olympiad	Ceremonies	Venue
Sept. 1	All day	Arrival day		
	Exact time to be confirmed		Opening Ceremony	Venue to be confirmed
	22:00	Captains meeting		Venue to be confirmed
Sept. 2	10:00	Arbiters meeting		Crystal Hall
	15:00	Round 1		Crystal Hall
Sept. 3	15:00	Round 2		Crystal Hall
Sept. 4	15:00	Round 3		Crystal Hall
Sept. 5	15:00	Round 4		Crystal Hall
Sept. 6	15:00	Round 5		Crystal Hall
	22:00		Bermuda Party	Event Hall on Baku Boulevard
Sept. 7		Day off		
Sept. 8	15:00	Round 6		Crystal Hall
Sept. 9	15:00	Round 7		Crystal Hall
Sept. 10	15:00	Round 8		Crystal Hall
Sept. 11	15:00	Round 9		Crystal Hall
Sept. 12	15:00	Round 10		Crystal Hall
Sept. 13	11:00	Round 11		Crystal Hall
	20:00		Closing Ceremony	Venue to be confirmed
Sept. 14	All day	Departure day		

The travel fund

The information about the travel fund will be available on the Olympiad's official website:
www.bakuchessolympiad.com



Registration

All participants to the Olympiad and the Congress have to be registered. The registration is open from the 15th April to the 30th June.

Teams registration:

The teams registration to the Olympiad is open from the 15th April to the 30th June. Please note that after this date and until the 31st of July, the registration of the federations will be at the organizer's discretion and subject to a penalty fee of 100 EUR per person (late registration penalty). The changes made in the teams composition or new registrations made between April 15th-June 30th will be accepted without any penalty. After July 31st, no new registrations or changes in the teams composition implying registrations of new participants will be accepted.

The organizers have elaborated a special on-line system for the participants of the Olympiad and the Congress: <https://registration.bakuchessolympiad.com/>

The link to the registration system is available also on the official website of the Olympiad www.bakuchessolympiad.com and in the section "Registration".

The explanations on how to register the Federations to the system are given in a letter attached to this Invitation, other explanations on the following steps of the Registration will follow.

The Federations are asked to follow carefully the registration steps of the Registration and to fill all the fields required by the system as all the demanded information is necessary to the Organizers.

Accompanying persons registration:

The accompanying persons of the teams may be registered by the Federations only.

Congress participants' registration:

The Congress participants registration is the same as for the teams, the Congress participants may register from April 15th until June 30th through the official registration system of the Olympiad: <https://registration.bakuchessolympiad.com/>

The questions regarding the registration to the Olympiad should be addressed to Ms. Kermen Goryaeva at kema.goryayeva@bakuchess.com

To make the contact between the organizers and the federations easier, the Operating Committee asks the Federations to nominate only one person in charge of the registration procedure, who will register all the federation's participants, their accompanying persons and Congress participants.

Important remarks:

No participants, accompanying persons, delegates will be accepted to the Olympiad without having passed the registration through the official system, no accreditation will be given to them as well.

Please note that **the Organizers won't accept any registrations after July 31st** for visas and security reasons.

The Federations will receive their Accreditation Confirmation after they have registered to the Olympiad, as well as the name of the Hotel allocated to them and their accompanying persons.



Accreditation

All participants to the Olympiad must be accredited and wear their accreditations when in the venues (Olympiad and the Congress). The federations must send to the organizers, via the registration program, an identity picture of each participant that can be used for accreditation.

Please note that without an identity picture, the accreditation is not valid.

If there is any problem with accreditation during the Olympiad, the participants should go to the accreditation center in the Crystal Hall. The Congress participants should address the Congress Accreditation Center in the Fairmont Hotel.

Accommodation

All participants of the Olympiad will be accommodated in 5 and 4 stars' hotels in Baku. The teams will be allocated in hotels according to the decision of the Baku Chess Olympiad Operating Committee, based on the teams' performance in the previous Olympiad and informed about the hotel they will be staying in after they have registered to the Olympiad, as they will receive their registration confirmation. All teams (6 persons) will get two free double rooms and two free single rooms with full board. The open and female teams from the same Federation will be accommodated in the same Hotel.

If the teams wish to upgrade their rooms (to single rooms) it will be possible with a fee paid either before the Olympiad or upon arrival to Baku. The accompanying persons of the teams will be accommodated with the teams according to the possibilities of the hotel.

If a team wishes to stay longer than the official dates of the Olympiad or arrive earlier, please note that fees for the additional days will apply.

Please notify to the organizers as soon as possible after the registration confirmation the possible changes and wishes regarding the accommodation (room upgrades etc.)

Congress participants accommodation:

The delegates to the Congress will be accommodated in the Fairmont Hotel on a full board basis, in single rooms and free of charge, or in their team hotel upon their wish (see the Congress section). Other Congress participants, if they are not part of a team, or have an other function entitling them to a free accommodation, should cover by themselves their accommodation cost.

Important note:

In each hotel there will be a Help and Information desk for the participants, where they will be able to get their accreditation badges, the Informative Bulletin (containing all the useful information, program, and schedule) and their gifts from the organizers.

The organizers ask **the team captain only** to check in and out the team and to approach the information desk at the Hotel to take the accreditation badges and the gifts for his team. If the captain of the team is missing on the arrival day, the team should select one of their members to do the check-in and take the gifts for the whole team instead of him, so as to avoid crowds in front of the help desks. The participants may address the help desk to get any information or help. To check the help desk working hours please refer to the Informative Bulletin that will be given to

you upon arrival at the hotel. A special free number will be also communicated to the participants through which they will be able to get information or help 24/7 during the Olympiad.

In all hotels, the participants will benefit from a free Wi-Fi service.

The meals will be served as a buffet, please advise the organizers if you have particular dietary requirements.

Participating Hotels list and prices

All prices include taxes, Internet access and full board

All prices are shown per room per night

Hotels	Upgrade price (from a Twin to a single room)	Double occupation rate	Single Room price: additional night or accompanying person	Twin Room price: additional night or accompanying person
<i>Boulevard Hotel Autograph collection- Marriott 5*</i>	119 Eur	60 Eur	149 Eur	179 Eur
<i>JW Marriott Absheron Baku Hotel 5*</i>	119 Eur	60 Eur	149 Eur	179 Eur
<i>Hilton Hotel 5*</i>	119 Eur	60 Eur	149 Eur	179 Eur
<i>Intourist Hotel Autograph collection- Marriott 5*</i>	119 Eur	60 Eur	149 Eur	179 Eur
<i>Holiday Inn 4*</i>	99 Eur	40 Eur	119 Eur	149 Eur
<i>Park Inn Radisson 4*</i>	99 Eur	40 Eur	119 Eur	149 Eur
<i>Qafqaz Baku City Hotel 4*</i>	99 Eur	40 Eur	119 Eur	149 Eur
<i>Qafqaz Baku Sport Hotel 4*</i>	99 Eur	40 Eur	119 Eur	149 Eur
<i>The Crown Hotel 4*</i>	99 Eur	40 Eur	119 Eur	149 Eur

Fairmont Hotel 5* –for the Congress only

Double occupancy and food rate (if an other person is sharing a delegate free room given by the organizers)	89 Eur
Single Room	159 Eur

Transportation

The transportation from and to the Airport is guaranteed by the organizers.

In the airport the organizers will have an information desk just after the luggage pick-up, where the participants will be able to get necessary information and help.

Please note that the organizers don't bear any responsibility for lost luggage. Participants taking connecting flights should foresee the possibility of a lost luggage and take some belongings in their cabin luggage. Participants should inform nevertheless the organizers at the Airport Help Desk about lost luggage to allow them to bring the luggage to the hotels once it arrives to Baku.

The daily transportation between the hotels and the playing Hall venue, to and from the Opening and Closing Ceremonies as well as to and from the Bermuda Party is provided by the organizers.

The transportation schedule will be available at the Info desk of each hotel, in the Info Bulletin and on the official website of the Olympiad: www.bakuchessolympiad.com, in the section "For participants"

Payments to BCOOC

The registration fee is 100 Euro per person. This fee covers the accreditation and transportation costs for the whole Olympiad.

Accommodation: The upgrading fees and the accompanying persons' accommodation fees payment must be made before the Olympiad via a bank transfer or by cash upon the arrival of the teams.

Penalty fees:

- for late registration: 100 Euro per person, in addition to the regular registration fee
- for no-show: equal to one hotel night price

The total sums to be paid by the Federations will be calculated after their Registration. The bank details for the transfers will be communicated to the Federations in the Invoices that they will get from the Organizers.

The Federations are considered responsible by the Operating Committee for their accommodation reservations. In case of no-shows or problems regarding the payments, the organizers will address the Federations for financial regularizations.

The payments to BCOOC can be made via a bank transfer or by cash upon arrival. The financial offices of the Olympiad will be located in the venue, and in the Boulevard Hotel. Please refer to the Informative Bulletin to check their working time.



Opening and Closing Ceremonies

The Opening and Closing Ceremonies will take place on the following days:

The Opening Ceremony date is September 1st, the exact time of the ceremony will be confirmed.
The Opening Ceremony will be followed by the Captains meeting.

The closing ceremony date is September 13th at 20⁰⁰ hrs.

The venues of the Ceremonies will be confirmed later to the participants.

The transportation to and from the Opening and Closing Ceremonies will be provided by the Organizers, please check the schedule on the website, Info Bulletin and at the Info desks at the Hotels. The Operating Committee invites you to participate to both ceremonies.

Official Website and Informative Bulletin

All the necessary information about the Olympiad is available on the Official website of the Olympiad: www.bakuchessolympiad.com

Please consult the website regularly, and if you have any doubts consult the appropriate sections. They may contain the information you were looking for.

The Informational Bulletin will be given to all the participants to the Olympiad upon their arrival to Baku. The bulletin will contain a lot of useful information, so the Organizers invite all the participants to the Olympiad to read it carefully.

Olympiad Hot Line

A call center will be opened two months before the Olympiad, just after the closing of the registration procedure. Please bear in mind that **the preferred way to contact the organizers will still be by e-mail**. The Organizers request that federations use the call center only in case of strict necessity or emergencies.

Tel number: +99412-599-10-91

Working hours (GMT+4): 10⁰⁰-18⁰⁰

During the Olympiad, a local free number will be communicated to the participants of the Olympiad. With this number, they will be able to get basic information, ask for help, etc, 24/7.



The 87th FIDE Congress

The 87th FIDE Congress will be held in the Fairmont Hotel in Baku. All Congress participants (Delegates, Commission Chairpersons, Secretaries and members) must register through the Olympiad's official registration system. The Congress participants, except the FIDE Presidential Board and officials by FIDE should pay the registration fee of 100 Eur to BCOOC.

The Congress participants will be able to obtain their accreditations in the Accreditation Center located in the Fairmont Hotel.

Except if they demand to the organizers to be accommodated in a different Hotel, the Congress participants will be accommodated in the Fairmont Hotel. The accommodation in the same hotel as the national team is possible, but the transport to and from the Congress venue won't be provided by the Organizers. Congress delegates will nevertheless have the possibility of using Baku cabs at a unique advantageous fee.

The Organizers offer the Congress delegates free accommodation in single rooms, with a full board. The other Congress participants should pay for their accommodation by themselves according to the rates indicated in the section "Accommodation".

A double occupancy and food supplement of Eur 89 per person and per night should be covered by the Congress delegates if they are coming with an accompanying person sharing their room.


Please note that for delegates who register for the Congress for particular dates, and then change their participation dates without informing the organizers the accommodation won't be guaranteed and they will be fined a no-show penalty.



Fairmont Hotel Baku



Congress Schedule

 FIDE Congress 2016- Schedule												
	Day 1 - 05/09/2016				Day 2 - 06/09/2016				Day 3 - 07/09/2016			
Commission/Committee	0900-1100	1100-1300	1500-1700	1700-1900	0900-1100	1100-1300	1500-1700	1700-1900	0900-1100	1100-1300	1500-1700	1700-1900
Central Board of Commissions (CBC)	M (30m)											
Arbiters Commission (ARB)					M	M						
World Championship & Olympiad (WCO)								M				
Commission for Chess Journalists (CCJ)				M								
Commission for the Disabled (DIS)		M										
Ethics Commission (ETH)					M	M						
Events Commission (EVE)							M	M				
Qualification Commission (QC)	M (0930)	M									M	M
Rules Commission (RTR)							M	M				
Technical Commission (TEC)		M										
Trainers Commission (TRG)			M									
Anti-Cheating Committee (ACC)									M	M		
Chess in Schools Commission (CIS)											M	M
Commission for Women's Chess (WOM)										M		
Ethics Commission (ETH)											M	M
Social Projects Commission (SPC)									M			
Online Commission (OLC)										M		
Skills & Management Committee		M										
AIDEF									M			
	Day 4 - 08/09/2016				Day 5 - 09/09/2016				Day 6 - 10/09/2016			
Meeting	0900-1100	1100-1300	1500-1700	1700-1900	0900-1100	1100-1300	1500-1700	1700-1900	0900-1100	1100-1300	1500-1700	1700-1900
Constitutional Committee (CON)	M	M (ETH joint)										
Development Commission (DEV)	M	M										
Medical Commission (MED)	M											
Ethics Commission (ETH)				M								
System of Pairings and Programs Commission (SPP)	M											
Social Action Commission (SAC)			M									
Commonwealth Chess Association		M										
IberoAmerican Chess Association		M										
Verification Commission (VER)				M								
Continental Africa									M	M		
Continental Europe									M	M		
Continental Americas											M	M
Continental Asia											M	M
Executive Board					M	M	M	M				
	Day 7 - 11/09/2016				Day 8 - 12/09/2016				Day 9 - 13/09/2016			
Meeting	0900-1100	1100-1300	1500-1700	1700-1900	0900-1100	1100-1300	1500-1700	1700-1900	0900-1100	1100-1300		
General Assembly	M	M	M	M	M	M	M	M	M	M		

Baku Chess Olympiad Operating Committee

Contacts:

-BCOOC office address: Zarifa Aliyeva 41, AZ 1000, Baku, Azerbaijan.

-BCOOC office telephone: +994125991091

Please note that this line will be available only two months before the beginning of the Olympiad: from July 1st to August 31st. You can at any time contact the Organizers using the Official e-mail: contact@bakuchess.com

Please note the subject of your e-mail or the person you wish to contact in order to ease the Organizers' work.

Baku Chess Olympiad Operating Committee Structure:

Mahir Mamedov
Director

Joanna Golas
Deputy Director

Murad Isgandarli
Executive director

Jahangir Agharahimov
Operations Director

Rauf Hajili
Finance Director

Rahim Gasimov
IT Director

For the Registration and Accreditation related questions please contact:

Kermen Goryaeva
Registration and Accreditation Manager
kema.goryaeva@bakuchess.com

