

THE IRISH CHESS UNION

Cumann Fichille na hÉireann



15th March 2026

Re: Invitation to the 2026 Glorney Gilbert International Chess Tournament

Dear federation representative,

The Irish Chess Union is delighted to invite your federation to participate in the 2026 Glorney Gilbert International Chess Tournament.

The Glorney Cup was founded by a Dublin businessman, Mr Cecil Parker Glorney, in 1948 and was conceived as an open U18 tournament between the four 'home' nations (Ireland, England, Scotland and Wales). In 1968, it was joined by the Faber Cup (sponsored by Faber Books and since renamed the Gilbert Cup), a similar-styled U18 event for girls. Over the years the event has expanded further to include the Robinson Cup (Under 14 open) and Stokes Cup (U12 open).

The event has also been extended in many individual years to include additional participating federations with teams representing the Netherlands, Germany, Belgium, Slovakia and Czechia participating at various points.

The tournament is one of the oldest continuously running junior tournaments in the world with the purpose of giving opportunities to junior players to practice and meet players beyond their national competitions, and to gain international level experience.

It is in that spirit of fostering increasing competition, inclusion and collegiality in Chess that the Irish Chess Union is delighted to invite your federation to participate in the 2026 Glorney Gilbert International Chess Tournament.

The tournament will be held in the University of Limerick from **Monday 27th July (arrival day) to Thursday 30th July**. This superb university campus venue was host to the European School Championships in 2024, receiving overwhelmingly positive reviews.

You are invited to send 4 teams for a **total playing delegation of 20 players** comprising:

1. **Under 18 Open** (the Glorney Cup): five (5) players
2. **Under 18 Girls** (the Faber Cup): three (3) players
3. **Under 14 Open** (the Robinson Cup): six (6) players
4. **Under 12 Open** (the Stokes Cup): six (6) players

The reference date for participants is Under 18, 14 or 12 on January 1st 2026.

We expect teams to arrive on Monday 27th of July and depart on the afternoon/evening of Thursday 30th July.

The tournament is being organised in accordance with the *GLORNEY GILBERT CUP INTERNATIONAL CHESS TOURNAMENT RULES - 2019 Edition*, a copy of which accompanies this invitation letter.

All sections will be **FIDE rated** with the rate of play, being 90 minutes with increments of 30 seconds per move from the first move, for each player.

There will be two matches on Tuesday and Wednesday and one on Thursday, giving a total of five rounds.

All games will be played on digital boards and broadcast with an appropriate delay.

Full details on the tournament schedule can be found below.

Expansion of number of participating teams

The ICU is extending invitations to a number of additional teams outside of the traditional federations of England, Scotland and Wales with the intention of having more than the minimum of 4 teams per cup. As federations confirm their participation, we will announce the same to all federations.

Federations wishing to express interest in sending more than one team are requested to inform the organisers at the earliest opportunity.

Accommodation package (3 nights) and payment details

OFFICIAL ACCOMMODATION : University of Limerick on-campus accommodation*

*Please find more information about the accommodation below.

Accommodation package includes (per person):

- It is expected that all players and accompanying delegates will stay on site at the University of Limerick
- Accommodation for 3 nights in apartments, each with 4 or 6 ensuite single bedrooms
- Sponsors Gala Dinner on Wednesday night 29th
- All taxes (including VAT, Municipality Tax and Tourism Tax).

Pricing Options

- Self Catering: €264 per Person
- Bed & Breakfast: €297 per Person
- Full board (3x Breakfast, 3x lunch, 1x dinner Tue 28th): €364 per Person

Additional Nights

Additional nights' accommodation(self catering only) outside of the 27th to 30th of July can be booked separately by emailing ggi2026@icu.ie.

Additional nights, self catering only: €90 per Person

Transport Option

Pre-booked Airport Transfers will be available from Dublin and Shannon Airports on Monday 27th July and returning on Thursday 30th July. We will co-ordinate with visiting delegations to ensure maximum efficiency of these transfers. Otherwise, transport to/from the venue is with the player and their delegation. See transport options.

Payment details

The deadline for confirmation of entry is **30th April 2026**, together with a **25% deposit within 5 days**.

The deadline for accommodation bookings is **5th June 2026**, payable no later than **12th June 2026**.

On completion of your booking to ggi2026@icu.ie, relevant payments shall be made only by wire transfer to:

Bank: AIB Bank,

Bank SWIFT/ BIC: AIBKIE2D

Account Holder: Irish Chess Union

Bank address: 219 Crumlin Road, Dublin 12, Ireland.

IBAN account no: IE26AIBK93102024160063

Team Managers and communications

Your first point of contact will be our tournament organiser, Andrew Kelly (ggi2026@icu.ie) who will provide you with logistics details and address any queries you may have.

It would be very much appreciated if you could provide Andrew with the name and contact details of your team manager, so that they can be sent a copy of this letter and other information concerning the tournament.

I look forward to meeting your country's representatives and to seeing them participate in another enjoyable Glorney Gilbert Tournament.

Yours sincerely,

Desmond Beatty,
Chairperson
Irish Chess Union

Attachments: Summary of deadlines
Provisional tournament schedule
University of Limerick - on campus accomodation
Transport options
Tournament rules

Accommodation booking form
Flight details and airport transfer booking form
Federation and player registration form

The Glorney Gilbert International 2026

Summary of deadlines

- | | |
|------------------------|---|
| March 31st | Indication of intention to participate |
| April 30 th | Confirm entry and pay 25% accommodation booking deposit |
| June 5th | Confirm accommodation bookings for the whole delegation |
| June 12th | Latest date for receipt of full payment to ICU for accommodation. |
| July 3rd | Return of completed federation and player form |
| | Return of completed Shannon/Dublin airport flight details and group transfer booking form. |
| | Deadline for (minor) accommodation adjustments. |
| | Deadline for ordering “delegation dinners” for Monday and/or Tuesday evenings |
| July 10 th | Latest date for receipt of payment to ICU for group airport transfers, any delegation dinners (and minor accommodation adjustments) |
| July 17 th | Latest date for Team and board order declarations to arbiters via ggi2026@icu.ie (to facilitate preparation, reporting and live broadcasting) |
| July 19 th | Distribution of all teams and board orders to all delegations. |

Glorney Gilbert International 2026 - Provisional Schedule

Monday 27th July 2026 (Arrival Day)	
12.00 – 23.00	Arrival of teams at University of Limerick
20.00 – 21.00	GGI 2026 Opening ceremony and draw Jean Monnet Theatre
Tuesday 28th July 2026	
07.30 – 09.30	Breakfast
09:45	Ceremonial opening move and briefing in Playing Hall
10:00	Round 1
12.30 – 14.30	Lunch
15:00	Round 2
17:30 - 21:00	Dinner / *Delegation Dinners
20:00	Fun Blitz / Bughouse
Wednesday 29th July 2026	
07.30 – 09.30	Breakfast
10:00	Round 3
12.30 – 14.30	Lunch
15:00	Round 4
19:00	Sponsors Gala Dinner for all delegation members resident on campus and players (additional tickets available @€20)
Thursday 30th July 2019 (Departure Day)	
07.30 – 09.30	Breakfast
09:30	Round 5
10.00	Checkout
12.30 – 14.00	Lunch
14:00	Presentation of Prizes

*Delegations dinners - individual delegations may request a group booking for dinner for their delegation by 3rd July. Price €20 per person.

University of Limerick On-Campus Accommodation

The University of Limerick is a public research university institution in Limerick, Ireland. Founded in 1972 as the National Institute for Higher Education, Limerick, it became a university in 1989 in accordance with the University of Limerick Act 1989.

Situated on a superb riverside campus of over 140 hectares, the University of Limerick (UL) has a proven track record of delivering complex quality events at local, national, European & World Championship level.



Delegations will be accommodated in on-campus villages, which are attractive apartment style complexes.



Each apartment has 4 or 6 lockable en-suite bedrooms, a shared spacious kitchen/ living room area with a television. The kitchen is furnished with delph, cutlery, pots & pans. Some apartments have a balcony, depending on if it is above the ground floor.

All bedrooms are en-suite bedrooms with one double bed, provided with towels and toiletries (soaps, shampoo and toilet paper) including a desk and sufficient storage for clothes and personal belongings.



We reasonably expect and encourage requests from federations to group people into apartments of 6 and also requests from some families not to be in an apartment with others.

We will provide room allocation forms to your designated team manager/liaison person.

The Glorney Gilbert International 2026 Transport Options

The University of Limerick (UL) is situated 4km east of Limerick City.

Address: University of Limerick, Castletroy, Co. Limerick, V94 T9PX, Ireland

It is about 35mins from Shannon Airport and about 135 mins from Dublin Airport by road.



By Plane

Shannon Airport (SNN) (www.shannonairport.ie) serves London, Birmingham, Manchester, Liverpool and Edinburgh airports as well as over 15 in continental Europe

Dublin Airport (DUB) (www.dublinairport.com) serves over 20 UK airports with around 60 flights per day.

Transfer options from Shannon are as follows:

- **Car hire** - <https://www.shannonairport.ie/car-rental-at-shannon>
- **Bus** - <https://www.shannonairport.ie/bus>
- **Pre-booked taxi** – Local examples include:
 - Castletroy Taxis +353 86 825 2019 (Contact: Niall) €90->€130
 - Free Now booking app: <http://free-now.com/ie/>
 - Uber booking app: <https://www.uber.com/ie/en/>
- **Organiser facilitated group transfer** - For groups of between 20 and 50 prearranged with the ICU by 28th June, private coach/minibus transfers are possible on Monday, July 27th **from Shannon and Dublin Airports**. Depending on numbers and flight times, around three transfers (say at 1200, 1500 and 1800) are envisaged. Similarly, for return transfers on Thursday 30th, three transfers (say at 1500, 1600, 1700) are envisaged.

Cost per person: Shannon €18 and Dublin €30 one-way payable **by 10th July**.

To apply for this service, please use the attached form (one per nation) to Andrew Kelly (ggi2026@icu.ie) and should be completed by 3rd July 2026.

Cork and Belfast Airports (ORK, BFS and BHD) also offer regular services to UK and European airports. No organiser arranged transfers are available from these airports.

By Car and Ferry (www.irishferries.com, www.stenaline.co.uk) via:

- Dublin Port (from Holyhead) (~135 mins to venue)
- Rosslare (from Fishguard/Pembroke) (~3h to venue)
- Larne/Belfast (from Scotland) (~4h to venue)

(For details of UL's options for students, see UL's [getting-to-ul](#) guide.)