

Oughterard Rapid Tournament

Saturday 13 June 2026

Venue

Oughterard Community Centre (H91 XA8R): rear meeting rooms
(go round the outside of the building and enter at the back)

Parking: there is free car parking at the Community Centre, and there is also ample free parking in Oughterard Car Park (next to H91 C59), which is on your right as you enter the village from Galway, or on your left as you leave the village heading towards Galway; the car park is about 5 minutes' walk from the Community Centre.

Start time

2.00 p.m. (sharp)

Expected finishing time: approx. 7.30 p.m.

Please note that there will be no scheduled breaks between rounds

Rate of play

15 minutes per player per game, plus a 10 second increment per move.

Number of rounds: 5

Accelerated pairing may be used.

Any player who is unable to play in all 5 rounds may miss one or more rounds, at their discretion, but must inform the arbiter before the pairings are made for that round. In such circumstances, the player will receive half a point (the equivalent of a draw) for the rounds in which they do not play, up to a maximum of two for rounds 1 to 4, and no points for any further rounds missed or for the last round.

The same will apply for players who have entered but arrive late.

Method of entry

1. ENTRIES NOW CLOSED.
2. **Pay the entry fee of €20** (cash only please) on arrival, between 1.30 and 1.45 p.m.

Note: entries will close on Wednesday 10 June, or when the venue's capacity is reached should that happen earlier.

We are happy to accept entries for children over 12, but we regret that we cannot accept entries for children aged under 12. All children will remain the responsibility of their accompanying parent or guardian throughout the tournament. We also regret that space is quite limited, and there will not be room to accommodate non-playing children.

Prizes

There will be prizes for first and second place, and also a prize for the highest-placed finisher who is playing in their first tournament and has an online rating under approx. 1000. The exact size of prizes - and the cut-off point for the 'first tournament' prize - will depend on the number and profile of entries

Timetable

Round 1 will start at 2 p.m. prompt. The pairings for round 1 will be made at 1.50. Players who have not yet arrived at the time the pairings for the first round are made will not be included for that round, though late arrivals may be added at the arbiter's discretion.

Subsequent rounds will start 2 minutes after the pairings for that round have been released; the pairings will be released as soon as possible after the completion of the previous round.

It is each player's responsibility to ensure that they are at their board at the time their game commences.

Default

There will be no separate default procedure, but any player who arrives at their board 15 minutes late will have lost on time. In the event that neither player has arrived at the board within 15 minutes, the game will be scored as a loss for both players.

Any player who loses on time without having played a move will be deemed to have withdrawn from the tournament. Such a player can be reinstated at the discretion of the arbiter, but no player will be reinstated twice.

Mobile Phones

You are strongly advised not to bring a mobile phone with you, nor any other device capable of communicating with others or assisting play, including a smart watch. If you do bring such a thing, it must be **switched off** whenever your game is in progress. It must also be **switched off** (not to silent) at all times that it is in the playing room; this applies to spectators and parents, as well as players. If your device makes **any noise** during your game you will automatically lose that game; if it makes any noise in the venue during play you may be excluded from the playing area.

Playing Rules

The FIDE rules for rapid tournaments will apply (see the [FIDE Laws of Chess](#), Appendix A; Section A5 will apply). A more detailed explanation is available on request.

Appeals

Given the restricted time-frame for this tournament, it is not possible to have an appeals procedure; therefore, all decisions of the arbiter will be final. Please remember that the arbiter is human, and has a lot of things to do simultaneously; it is therefore possible that he will make a mistake (or mistakes). In such circumstances, please be considerate and accept the error with good grace.