



Johannesburg Metro Chess

Junior Team Selection Criteria (SAJCC and Inter Regions) published June 2018

A.	General Information
A.1	What is SAJCC?
	<p>The South African Junior Chess Championships (SAJCC) is one of the premier junior sporting events of any sporting code in South Africa. The history of this tournament dates back more than 30 years and the tournament typically attracts in excess of 2,500 junior chess players and officials.</p> <p>The championship consists of a team event and a wild-card event. The team tournament features regional teams of between 6 and 10 players who compete in age categories ranging from u/8 to u/18.</p> <p>The wild-card tournament, is an individual age-group event which serves as one of the key qualifying routes to the South Africa Junior Closed Chess Championships (SAJCCC).</p>
A.2	What is SAJCCC?
	<p>The South African Junior Chess Closed Championship is the annual Individual event where the top 30 qualifiers for each gender/age group compete for National Honours (SA colours) to represent South Africa in international events. Also called "Closed".</p> <p>Participation in the Team event (SAJCC) is mandatory for players who qualified and wished to participate in the Closed.</p> <p>The event is over 11 rounds, and usually takes place during the Easter school holidays.</p> <p>Any player selected to represent JHB Metro at the SAJCC who is not a South African citizen will be eligible to participate however such player will not qualify for the SAJCCC (Junior closed) nor play in the wild card event.</p>
A.3	Scope of this selection criteria
	<p>This selection criteria are for the purposes of selecting Junior Teams based on the age groups specified in the next section, to represent Johannesburg Metro Chess at the annual SAJCC event, as well as any Inter regional events with other regions.</p> <p>IMPORTANT: THESE CRITERIA ARE THE MINIMUM REQUIREMENTS FOR PLAYERS TO BE SELECTED FOR THE A and B TEAMS for SAJCC. Depending on Strength and availability of players, the selections committee may invite more teams. We will however invite all players for inter region competitions with other regions close by or further away.</p>
A.4	Validity Period of this criteria
	<p>This selection criteria will be effective for every year hereafter, until such time as an official replacement policy is published. It is a working document in the sense that only the AGE Groups for every year needs to updated.</p>



Johannesburg Metro Chess

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A.4	Chessa Age Groups for 2018												
	<p>The following age groups categories will apply for 2018</p> <table border="1" data-bbox="225 344 1305 584"> <tr> <td data-bbox="225 344 767 385">Players born in 2002 and 2001</td> <td data-bbox="767 344 1305 385">Under 18</td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="225 385 767 425">Players born in 2004 and 2003</td> <td data-bbox="767 385 1305 425">Under 16</td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="225 425 767 465">Players born in 2006 and 2005</td> <td data-bbox="767 425 1305 465">Under 14</td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="225 465 767 506">Players born in 2008 and 2007</td> <td data-bbox="767 465 1305 506">Under 12</td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="225 506 767 546">Players born in 2010 and 2009</td> <td data-bbox="767 506 1305 546">Under 10</td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="225 546 767 584">Players born in 2011 or later</td> <td data-bbox="767 546 1305 584">Under 8</td> </tr> </table>	Players born in 2002 and 2001	Under 18	Players born in 2004 and 2003	Under 16	Players born in 2006 and 2005	Under 14	Players born in 2008 and 2007	Under 12	Players born in 2010 and 2009	Under 10	Players born in 2011 or later	Under 8
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A.5	Number of Teams												
	<p>The number of teams selected to represent JHB Metro Chess will be determined by the strength and availability of the players in the specific age group and available resources (i.e. coaches, managers and funding) to participate in the event.</p> <p>JHB Metro will enter a maximum of two (2) teams per age group, depending the availability of players on the players ranking list.</p>												
A.6	Girls Teams												
	<p>To comply with the requirements of Chessa to increase the number of girls participating in chess, JHB Metro Chess will also enter a minimum of 1 all Girls team for the age groups under 8 and under 10.</p> <p>These All girls teams will be of a development nature, unless otherwise determined by the Selection Committee in conjunction with the Executive Committee</p>												
A.7	Final Team Selection												
	<p>Selection of teams will be based on the player ranking table immediately after the JMC Closed and taking approved JMC Closed exemptions and discretion into account.</p> <p>The rankings will guarantee the first seven(7) players for under 10 to under 18 and the first four (4) players for under 8 that will be selected for the A team .</p> <p>The remaining open positions for the A Teams, will be selected through a process whereby the coaching committee nominates players, together with supporting motivation, for selection from the ranking list.</p> <p>The nominations will be assessed by the selection committee and approved at their discretion. The Selection Committee’s decision is final.</p> <p>In the event that the nomination is declined, the next player(s) on the Final ranking list will be selected. All information regarding applications and decisions will be available upon request.</p> <p>The remaining players on the ranking list will form the B or Girls teams in the order that they ended on the Final Ranking Lists.</p>												
A.8	Team changes after Final Team announcements												
	<p>Should any player withdraw for various reasons after the Final Teams have been announced, the next highest players from the team below according to the Final Ranking lists, will move up. No discretionary decisions will be entertained by the selection committee.</p>												



Johannesburg Metro Chess

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	Players will be refunded any monies already paid, less the non-refundable deposit and any pro-rata fees for training sessions already attended.
B	Selection Committee
B.1	Committee Composition
	<p>The Selection committee shall comprise of a team of people as decided by Exco, and as a minimum include the Head Coach and Junior Representative, if those positions are filled on the Exco.</p> <p>It shall exclude the President and Vice President for the reasons specified below. Should appointed members resign from their position in this committee, the Exco shall endeavour to find a suitable replacement, if available. In the event of too many people having left the committee, and the Exco deem the committee to be non-functional or sub-standard, the committee shall be taken over by the Exco.</p> <p>The EXCO reserves the right to appoint any substitutes to the above people should the positions above be vacant.</p> <p>The EXCO reserves the right to appoint any additional individuals to the above committee should they require so to determine the best possible teams.</p>



Johannesburg Metro Chess

Junior Team Selection Criteria (SAJCC and Inter Regions) published June 2018

B.2	Responsibility and power
	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• The duties of this committee shall be<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ To manage the selection of junior teams as per the criteria in this document.○ To review requests by team coaches, for positions 8,9,10 in under10A to under 18A teams and positions 5,6 in the under 8A team. Should a member of the selections committee be involved in the request, they will be excused from voting for that particular matter (to avoid conflict of interest). The Exco may nominate a substitute member for this conflict of interest only.○ To review exemption requests by players, as per these criteria. Should a member of the selections committee be involved in the request, they will be excused from voting for that particular matter (to avoid conflict of interest). The Exco may nominate a substitute member for this conflict of interest only.○ To collaborate with the Exco and coaching committee on coach/manager allocations to minimize any player/coach/manager conflicts, with the intent to make the event an enjoyable experience for all.○ To collaborate with the development committee on areas and players for development.○ To document all selections and decisions and then provide monthly feedback to the Exco.○ All movement of players between teams (eg. Under 10 players playing in under 12 team) will be performed at the discretion of the selection committee. Any such decision will be final. <p>A. President & Vice President</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• To manage any unresolved matters or deadlocks on decisions from the selections committee.



Johannesburg Metro Chess

Junior Team Selection Criteria (SAJCC and Inter Regions) published June 2018

C	Mandatory Requirements
C.1	Membership
	<p>Players must be registered to a club that is affiliated to and in good standing with Johannesburg Metro Chess.</p> <p>Players must be registered on the Chessa database (www.chessa.co.za) as a Johannesburg Metro Chess player ("GJM"), at least 1 month prior the JMC Closed. It is the responsibility of clubs to ensure members are correctly shown on the Chessa Database.</p>
C.2	Membership Fees
	Player membership with Chess SA and JHB Metro Chess must be paid up. Proof of payment must be provided by the Player upon request.
C.3	Minimum Activity
	<p>Per age group we require players to have played a minimum number of tournaments , starting after the previous year's final tournament up to the JMC Closed, to be included into player rankings. Reference: any tournament after the Metro Open in Sept 2017 will count. In addition, players should have played at least 3 tournaments hosted by JMC clubs.</p> <p>Under 8 – 3 tournaments Under 10 – 4 tournaments Under 12 – 4 tournaments Under 14 – 4 tournaments Under 16 – 4 tournaments Under 18 – 3 tournaments</p>
C.4	Continuous Activity
	We recommend players to continue to actively participate in tournaments, even after meeting the minimum number of tournaments. Active players perform better in the long run, and activity might be considered in discretionary decisions.
C.5	Attendance of coaching/workshops
	<p>Prior to team selections -We do encourage attendance of squad training sessions and specific workshops scheduled around specific topics.</p> <p>Post Team selections - We do require commitment from players to attend as many training sessions as possible once scheduled. The selection committee reserves the right to remove any player from final teams who does not regularly attend team training sessions.</p>
D	Ranking System
D.1	What is used to calculate?
	<p>The tournament performance rating of any standard rated tournament played in South Africa and/or Internationally will be included in determining the players ranking, except those tournaments specifically mentioned in the "Excluded Tournament" list.</p> <p>However, the tournament performance rating must be available on the Chess SA data base 7-14 days before the JMC Closed.</p>
D.2	Calculation – Standard



Johannesburg Metro Chess

Junior Team Selection Criteria (SAJCC and Inter Regions) published June 2018

	The tournament performance of the best 5 (five) standard rated tournaments starting after the previous year's final selection tournament up to this year's JMC Closed will determine the ongoing ranking lists.												
D.3a	Calculation – full compliance												
	e.g. <table border="1" style="margin-left: 20px;"> <tr> <td>Tournament 1 :</td> <td>1250</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Tournament 2 :</td> <td>1330</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Tournament 3 :</td> <td>1100</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Tournament 4 :</td> <td>1450</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Tournament 5 :</td> <td>1300</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Final Ranking before JMC Closed:</td> <td>6430</td> </tr> </table>	Tournament 1 :	1250	Tournament 2 :	1330	Tournament 3 :	1100	Tournament 4 :	1450	Tournament 5 :	1300	Final Ranking before JMC Closed:	6430
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D.3b	Calculation – minimum tournaments done only												
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D.4	Where to find Rankings?												
	<p>Ranking lists will be published on the Region's website on a monthly basis. www.jhbmetrochess.co.za</p> <p>It is the responsibility of the members to visit the website regularly to look for communiqué on invitations, Merit Ranking Lists, tournament dates etc.</p>												
D.5	Validity of ranking list												
	Only the official Ranking List (after the JMC Closed) as produced and signed off by the Selection Committee, and marked as FINAL, can be used for final selections.												
E	Tournament												
E.1	Tournaments included												
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • All standard rated events as per chessa database • Starting after last tournament used for previous year's selection up to JMC Closed for this year 												
E.2	Tournaments excluded												
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Any tournament which does not meet Chessa Grand Prix standard of a minimum 33% rated players • Any standard tournament where a player has completed less than 70% of the rounds (on Chessa these will have 0 performance) • Any tournament classified as Rapid or Blitz as per chessa database 												



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F	Johannesburg Metro Chess – CLOSED CHAMPIONSHIP
	<p>Participation in the JMC Closed is compulsory to be eligible for SAJCC A and B team selection. The purpose of the JMC Closed is to expose players to national tournament circumstances and assess the players performance where:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Players participate in appropriate age groups, • Player strength and chess quality is measured, • Players are exposed to the same playing environment (i.e. venue, arbiters, notation, clocks and other circumstances).
F.1	JMC Closed Invitations
	<p>Participation in the JMC Closed will be on an invitational basis only. Players that complied with all mandatory criteria and appear on the official ranking lists will be invited. JMC will endeavour to invite as many players possible, but cannot guarantee that all will be selected to represent JMC at SAJCC.</p>
F.2	JMC Closed Exemptions
	<p>If a player cannot participate in the JMC Closed event, they should for apply for exemption. Any player can forward a written request to the Selection Committee AND JMC President at least 3 weeks before the start of the tournament. This request must explain the circumstances and contain documentary proof where possible. The JMC Executive will notify the player of the outcome within 7 days.</p> <p>The exemptions may be granted to, but not limited to, the following categories</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. Representing South Africa in any international event b. A school event, which is compulsory in nature c. Representation of school/district in any sport d. Academic Examination/selection test (like SAT) e. A holiday that has been booked prior to the announcement of the JMC Closed tournament. JMC Tournament Calendar was published end March Closed thus only bookings made prior to April will be considered. <p>No late submissions under any circumstances will be considered and decisions are final.</p> <p>All players with valid exemption approved by the executive committee will be allowed to participate in the SAJCC event according to Final Ranking Calculations. There might be optional trials held earlier in the year that can be used as one of the 5 tournaments for the ranking lists.</p>
F.2b	JMC Closed Exemptions – part2
	<p>Any player who entered but due to unforeseen circumstances could not play, can forward a written request to the Selection Committee or JMC President within 5 days after the end of the tournament. This request must explain the circumstances and contain documentary proof where possible. The JMC Executive will notify the player of the outcome within 7 days of receipt of the request.</p> <p>No late submissions under any circumstances will be considered and decisions are final.</p>



Johannesburg Metro Chess

Junior Team Selection Criteria (SAJCC and Inter Regions) published June 2018

F.3	<p>Final Ranking Calculation</p> <p>The tournament performance of the best five (5) standard rated tournaments from JMC Closed of the previous year and up to the JMC Closed event, plus performance rating of the JMC Closed will be added together to determine the ranking table. JMC Closed performance will carry a 20% extra weighting, as compared to the top 5 tournaments prior to the JMC Closed. e.g. Player had a performance of 1500 at JMC Closed. Thus $1500 \times 1.2 = 1800$</p> <table border="1" style="margin-left: 20px;"> <tr><td>Tournament 1 :</td><td>1250</td></tr> <tr><td>Tournament 2 :</td><td>1330</td></tr> <tr><td>Tournament 3 :</td><td>1100</td></tr> <tr><td>Tournament 4 :</td><td>1450</td></tr> <tr><td>Tournament 5 :</td><td>1300</td></tr> <tr><td>Invitational Perf :</td><td>6430</td></tr> <tr><td>JMC Closed Perf:</td><td>1800</td></tr> <tr><td>Final Perf :</td><td>8230</td></tr> </table>	Tournament 1 :	1250	Tournament 2 :	1330	Tournament 3 :	1100	Tournament 4 :	1450	Tournament 5 :	1300	Invitational Perf :	6430	JMC Closed Perf:	1800	Final Perf :	8230
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F.4	<p>Final Ranking Calculation with Exemption</p> <p>The tournament performance of the best five (5) standard rated tournaments from JMC Closed of the previous year and up to the JMC Closed event, plus performance rating of the JMC Closed will be added together to determine the ranking table. Should a player's exemption request be successful, the average performance of his top 5 tournaments prior to the JMC Closed will be used as a substitute to the JMC Closed. . e.g. Player's has avg performance of 1286. The same weighting factor of 1.2 applies. e.g. Player's has avg performance of 1286. Substituted Performance = $1286 \times 1.2 = 1543$</p> <table border="1" style="margin-left: 20px;"> <tr><td>Tournament 1 :</td><td>1250</td></tr> <tr><td>Tournament 2 :</td><td>1330</td></tr> <tr><td>Tournament 3 :</td><td>1100</td></tr> <tr><td>Tournament 4 :</td><td>1450</td></tr> <tr><td>Tournament 5 :</td><td>1300</td></tr> <tr><td>Invitational Perf :</td><td>6430</td></tr> <tr><td>Exempted Perf :</td><td>1543</td></tr> <tr><td>Final Perf :</td><td>7973</td></tr> </table>	Tournament 1 :	1250	Tournament 2 :	1330	Tournament 3 :	1100	Tournament 4 :	1450	Tournament 5 :	1300	Invitational Perf :	6430	Exempted Perf :	1543	Final Perf :	7973
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Johannesburg Metro Chess

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F.5	Final Ranking Calculation without Exemption																								
	<p>The tournament performance of the best five (5) standard rated tournaments from JMC Closed of the previous year and up to the JMC Closed event, plus performance rating of the JMC Closed will be added together to determine the ranking table.</p> <p>Should a player not participate in the JMC Closed, and have no successful exemption, the player cannot be eligible for an A team, and the performance of the JMC closed will be substituted with a 0 (zero) to calculate Final Ranking lists.</p> <p>e.g.</p> <table border="1" style="margin-left: 20px;"> <tr> <td>Tournament 1 :</td> <td>1250</td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Tournament 2 :</td> <td>1330</td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Tournament 3 :</td> <td>1100</td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Tournament 4 :</td> <td>1450</td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Tournament 5 :</td> <td>1300</td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Invitational Perf :</td> <td>6430</td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>JMC Closed Perf:</td> <td>0</td> <td>No participation</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Final Perf :</td> <td>6430</td> <td></td> </tr> </table>	Tournament 1 :	1250		Tournament 2 :	1330		Tournament 3 :	1100		Tournament 4 :	1450		Tournament 5 :	1300		Invitational Perf :	6430		JMC Closed Perf:	0	No participation	Final Perf :	6430	
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F.7	Final Teams																								
	<p>Once the team selections have been announced, and published as FINAL, the teams are final. The Selection Committee reserves the right to remove players from teams after these FINAL published teams, should a player fail to comply with minimum team training sessions.</p>																								
F.8	Team Board Orders																								
	<p>The players ranking will however not determine the board order of the team. This will be determined by the Coaching Committee in conjunction with the Selection Committee. Input might be requested from the Team Managers.</p> <p>Any decisions regarding board order will be final.</p>																								
F.9	All star players																								
	<p>Any player that does not qualify for a team or where there are an inadequate number of players available to make up a team, then these players shall be accommodated in the All Stars section.</p> <p>Participating in the All Stars section will take place on the same terms and conditions (e.g. coaching, funding and entry fees) as if participating in the JMC team.</p>																								
F.10	Wild Card entry																								
	<p>Only players that have participated in the SAJCC and have obtained permission from Johannesburg Metro Chess may participate in the Wildcard event.</p>																								
F.11	Inter Regional Teams																								
	<p>Team selections for these events will be based upon the ranking lists two (2) weeks prior to that event, and the availability of players for the event. These events are seen as practise events and increases player exposure to players from other regions.</p>																								



Johannesburg Metro Chess

Junior Team Selection Criteria (SAJCC and Inter Regions) published June 2018

G	JMC Open Tournaments at year end
	JMC will endeavour to host tournaments in Sept to Nov of the year to provide players with practise for SAJCC.
	These tournaments will be 90/90 format over 2 or more days
	It will be recommended for SAJCC team players to participate in at least one of these events. This will support coaches to evaluate players and assist with coaching preparation for SAJCC. Continuous activity also keeps our players fresh with regards to competitiveness and to be prepared for SAJCC.