PILOT EVENT CONCLUDED

Total Chess Pilot 2026

Budapest 10–20 November 2026 Winner — Budapest 2026: Alireza Firouzja

New to Total Chess? A Blitz Swiss, then four groups at Fast Classic, then knockouts in all three disciplines.

How the format works

Blitz Groups Semis Finals Winner

COMPLETE 20 NOV

Winner: Alireza Firouzja



WINNER — BUDAPEST 2026

Alireza Firouzja

France

Won the Knockout 1 final against Anish Giri after an Armageddon.

DAY 1 9–11 · DAY 2 12–8

KNOCKOUT 1 · 17–20 NOV

Road to the winner

The four group winners, paired by Blitz Swiss rank: best against lowest, 2nd against 3rd. Every match is two days of 4 Blitz, 2 Rapid and 1 Fast Classic; the day scores reset, and a level match goes to Armageddon. Only the winner of this final wins the event.

SEMIFINALS · 17–18 NOV

FINAL · 19–20 NOV

All six knockout brackets →

11–15 NOV

Four groups of six

Double round-robin at Fast Classic, two games a day. Win 3, draw 1; ties broken by the Blitz Swiss rank. Group rank decides the knockout: every group winner goes to Knockout 1, every runner-up to Knockout 2, and so on down to Knockout 6.

Every group and every round →

KNOCKOUTS 2–6

Places 5 to 24

Every player keeps playing: group rank N plays Knockout N, and each bracket decides four places.

More from Budapest 2026

Final standings →
Places 1–24, final.

Blitz Swiss →
1st: Magnus Carlsen

The field →
24 of 24 confirmed.

How it works →
The format, stage by stage.

Schedule →
Day by day.

Gallery →
128 photographs.

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