



Open International d'Aix en Provence 2026



The Open International d'Aix en Provence (also known as Dole Open International) was held from July 18-26, 2026 in the picturesque city of Aix-en-Provence in Southern France. The Dole Open International 2026 runs as a 9-round, FIDE-rated international chess tournament and features three categories designed for different rating levels, including a top Masters event for players above 2100 Elo.

The tournament applies a classical time-control and offers a generous prize structure of over USD36,600. The winner of the Master event receives the Trophée Dole and a first-prize fund of 8,000 euros. The venue of the event is the futuristic Pasino Grand Aix, a casino complex.

This year's event attracted over 400 players of 40 plus nationalities and 150 titled players. Talented 26 year-old Armenian GM Haik Mikaeli Martirosyan, a former World Youth



Under-16 Champion won the 2026 Trophee Dole (Masters +2100) with a score of 7.5/9.

Fellow Armenian GM Robert Hovhaanisyanyan and Polish GM Jan Malek finished 2nd and 3rd respectively with the same score. There were 3 super GMs with ratings of above 2,700 in the playing field, including two-time Candidates winner, Russian GM Ian Nepomniachtchi!



Penang's teenage IM and Malaysian Number 2, Poh Yu Tian started with a ranking of 68, reflecting the overall strength of the tournament. However, the Malaysian had an outstanding tournament. He ended his final game with a win against GM Jan Malek, securing a score of 6/9 - the same points as Super GM Nepomniachtchi.

IM Poh had wins 2 wins and 2 draws against strong GMs, and an only loss to GM Pierre Laurent Paoli. His final standing was 32nd, with a performance rating of 2,555! Keep up your wonderful run!

