

## ACROPOLIS



*The most important Greek international chess festival series organized in Athens*

The **Acropolis International Chess Tournament (ICT)** was a [chess](#) tournament held in [Athens](#), and the longest running international chess tournament in [Greece](#). The first Acropolis event in 1968, a pretty strong international invitation tournament, was won unbeaten by [Luděk Pachman](#) (ahead of 2.-4. Bobotsov, Ciric, Kavalek, 5-6. Hort, Parma, 7. Tringov, 8.-9. Triantafyllos Siaperas (Greece), Lazaros Vizantiades (Greece), 10. Hristos Kokkoris (Greece) who all surpassed players like Tatai, Czerniak, Ciocaltea, and Damjanovic, then already a grandmaster, in total 16 participants).

The next event was not held until 1977, but subsequently it has been organized on a fairly regular annual basis by the [Greek Chess Federation](#), including sometimes a tournament for women and another minor (open) tournament for men.

The 2007 tournament was part of the [Association of Chess Professionals](#) Tour (ACP Tour). The 2009 open tournament took place in [Chalkida](#) on the island of [Euboea](#) and was won by [Borki Predojević](#) on tie-break. It turned out to be the last one.

The inaugural Acropolis was played as a round robin (all-play-all), then the format varied across the series, switching several times between closed and open tournaments (swiss system), **totaling 24 editions.**



Photos: CNC

**Winners:** 1968 Ludek Pachman (inaugural edition, closed), 1977 Valentin Stoica, 1978 Bela Soos, 1979 Aurel Urzica, 1980 Duzan Rajkovic, 1982 Nikolaos Skalkotas, 1983 Nikola Padevsky, 1984 Sasa Velickovic, 1985 Valentin Stoica, 1987 Efstratios Grivas, 1987 Evgeni Vasiukov, 1988 Vasilios Krotroonias (Greece), 1989 Petar Velikov, 1991 Efstratios Grivas, 1992 Rainer Knaak, 1993 Hannes Stefansson, 1997 Tamas Gelashvili, 2003 Vasilios Kotroonias (Cyprus), 2004 Athanasios Mastrovasilis, 2005 Vugar Gashimov, 2006 Tamaz Gelashvili, 2007 Ilia Smirin, 2008 Ilia Smirin, 2009 Borki Predojevic (last edition, open). Further prominent greek players: Skembris, Halkias. In the list of the winners at Acropolis, only the best player on tie-break is indicated if there were shared first places.

Sources:

[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Acropolis\\_International\\_chess\\_tournament](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Acropolis_International_chess_tournament)

<http://tournaments.chessdom.com/acropolis-2009/round-9-report> (last edition in 2009)

<http://theweekinchess.com/html/twic461.html#4> (example 2003: GM, WGM, and Open)

2017, published in: <http://www.chessdiagonals.ch/>