Norway Chess 2026 Tournament

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Why in News?

Indian Grandmaster R. Praggnanandhaa created history at the Norway Chess 2026 tournament in Oslo, becoming the first Indian ever to win the prestigious event.

- Norway Chess is one of the ***world's most prestigious annual chess tournaments.***
- **Founded in -** 2013 in Stavanger, Norway.
- It attracts the very best players globally, including Magnus Carlsen, and is known for its innovative formats and equal prize funds for men and women.
- **Prize Fund -** ***Equal distribution for men's and women's tournaments,*** reflecting progressive ethics in sports.
- **Prestige -** Considered among the top-tier global chess events, alongside Tata Steel Chess and Candidates Tournament.

Key Highlights, 2026

- **Winner - R. Praggnanandhaa (India)** – 18 points.
- **Runner-up -** Wesley So (USA) – 17 points.
- **Third -** Alireza Firouzja (France) – 15.5 points.
- **Women's Champion -** Bibisara Assaubayeva (Kazakhstan) – 16.5 points.
- **Dates -** May 25 – June 5 2026 in Oslo, Norway.
- **Venue (2026 onwards) -** Deichman Bjørvika Library, Oslo.
- **Format**
  - Double round-robin with Armageddon tie-breaks;
- **Historic Wins -** Praggnanandhaa defeated **Magnus Carlsen twice** in classical games and overcame reigning World Champion D. Gukesh.
- **Prize Money -** 700,000 NOK (~Rs.70.5 lakh) for the winner.

Reference

[The Hindu | Norway Chess 2026]