CHESS SA

RAPID — FINAL REPORT

Friday, 22 May 2026 • Rapid Championship Conclusion

South African Delegation • 17th African Youth Chess Championships • Entebbe, Uganda

TOP RSA RAPID PERFORMANCES

Madhav Puran — Rapid Open Rank 6 • 6.0 / 7 • Rp 1927

Chase Salimu — Rapid Open Rank 8 • 6.0 / 7 • Rp 2003 (highest RSA)

Viraak Dharampall — Rapid Open Rank 11 • 6.0 / 7 • Rp 1963

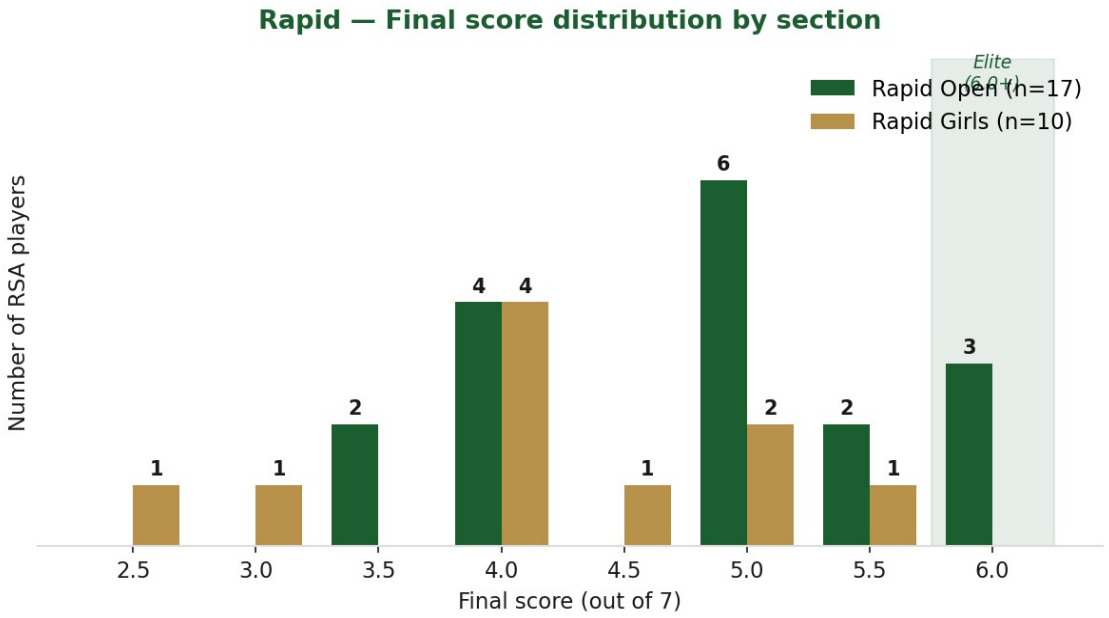
The Rapid championships concluded today after seven rounds of 10+5 play. South Africa entered 27 players across the two sections — 17 in the Rapid Open, 10 in the Rapid Girls. Combined delegation score: 123.5 of 189 player-game points (65.3%). The Rapid Open delivered the strongest top-of-field RSA performance of the tournament: three players (Puran, Salimu, Dharampall) on 6/7, all finishing inside the overall top 11. The Rapid Girls section produced one player inside the top 12 (Meeran) and 80% of the squad scored 4.0 or higher. The biggest individual rating gain came from Jamie Dylan Segal at +119.6 — the standout improver of the entire tournament.

RAPID DELEGATION RESULT

PLAYERS	ROUNDS	POINTS	SCORE %
27	7	123.5	65.3%

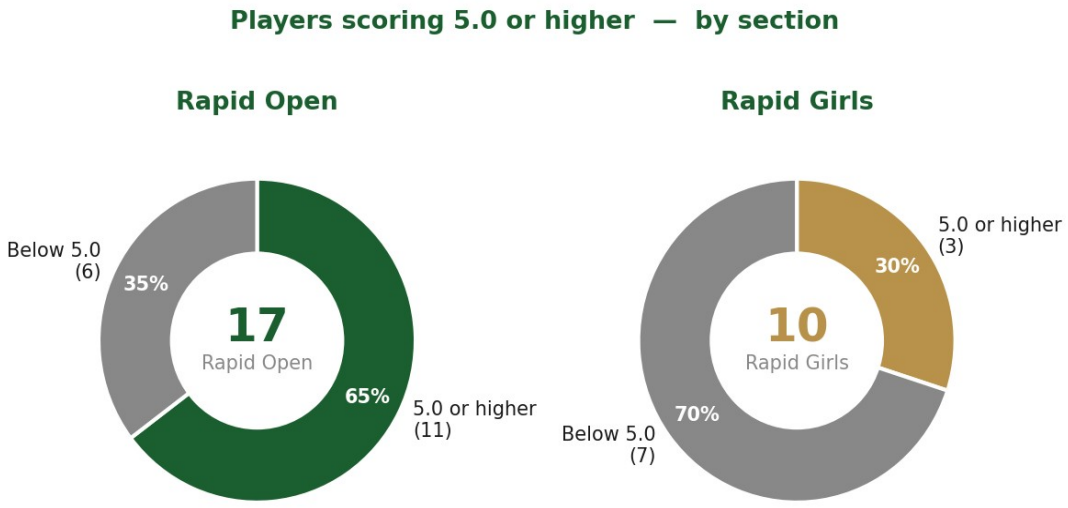
FINAL SCORE DISTRIBUTION — OPEN VS GIRLS

11 of 17 Rapid Open players (65%) finished on 5.0 or higher. 3 of 10 Rapid Girls players (30%) finished on 5.0 or higher. The Open section delivered better depth at the top; the Girls section finished more concentrated at 4.0–4.5.



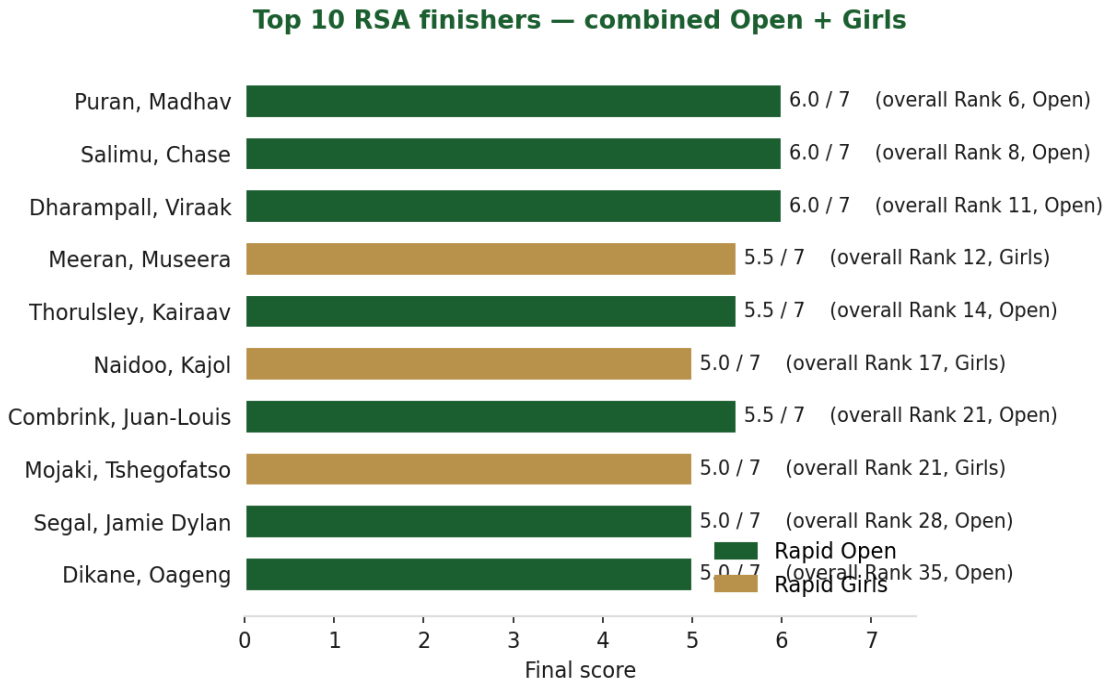
SECTION PERFORMANCE OVERVIEW

Proportion of each section's RSA delegation that finished on 5.0 / 7 or higher. The Rapid Open delegation cleared the 5.0 bar at 65%; the Rapid Girls delegation at 30%. This is a clean reflection of where RSA's rapid depth currently sits.



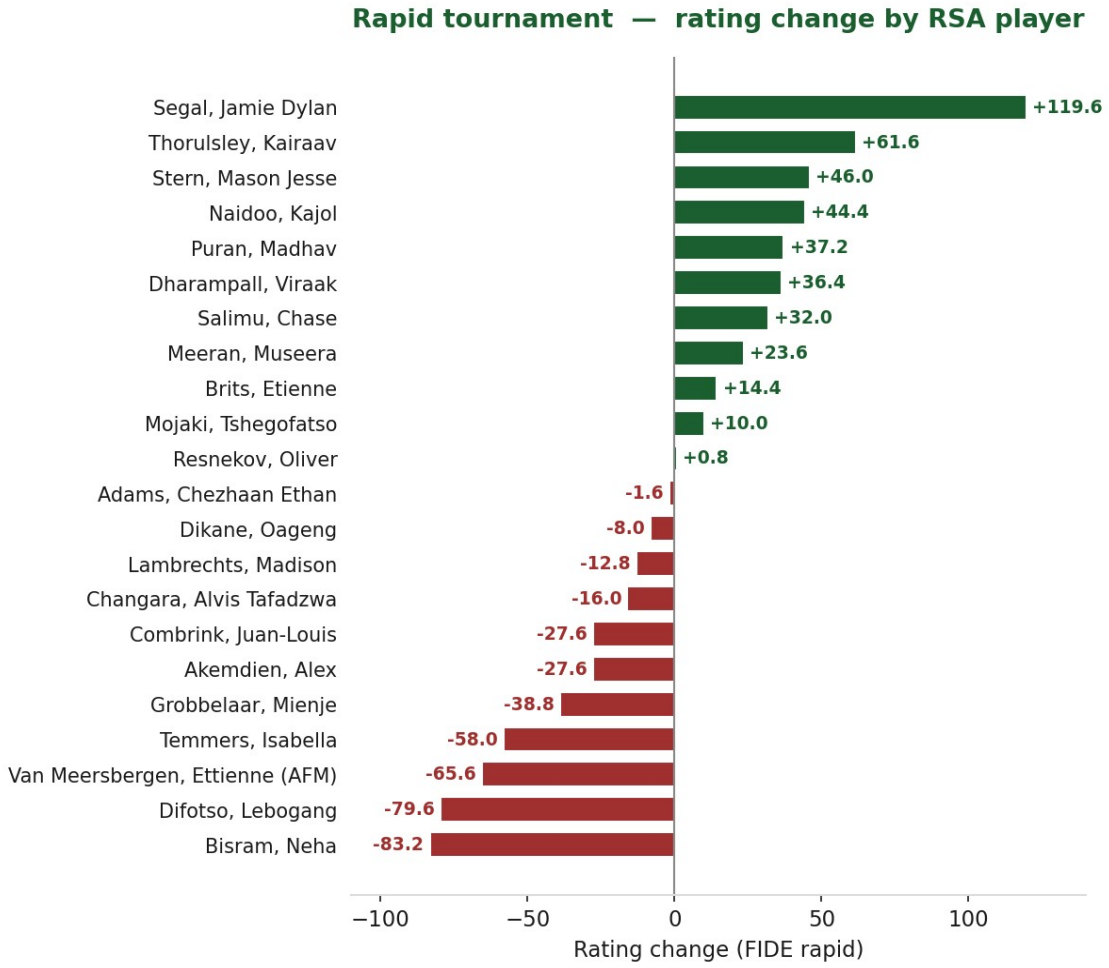
TOP 10 RSA FINISHERS — COMBINED RANKING

Across both Rapid sections, these are the top 10 RSA finishers by overall section rank. Three Rapid Open players inside the top 11 of their field; one Rapid Girls player inside the top 12.



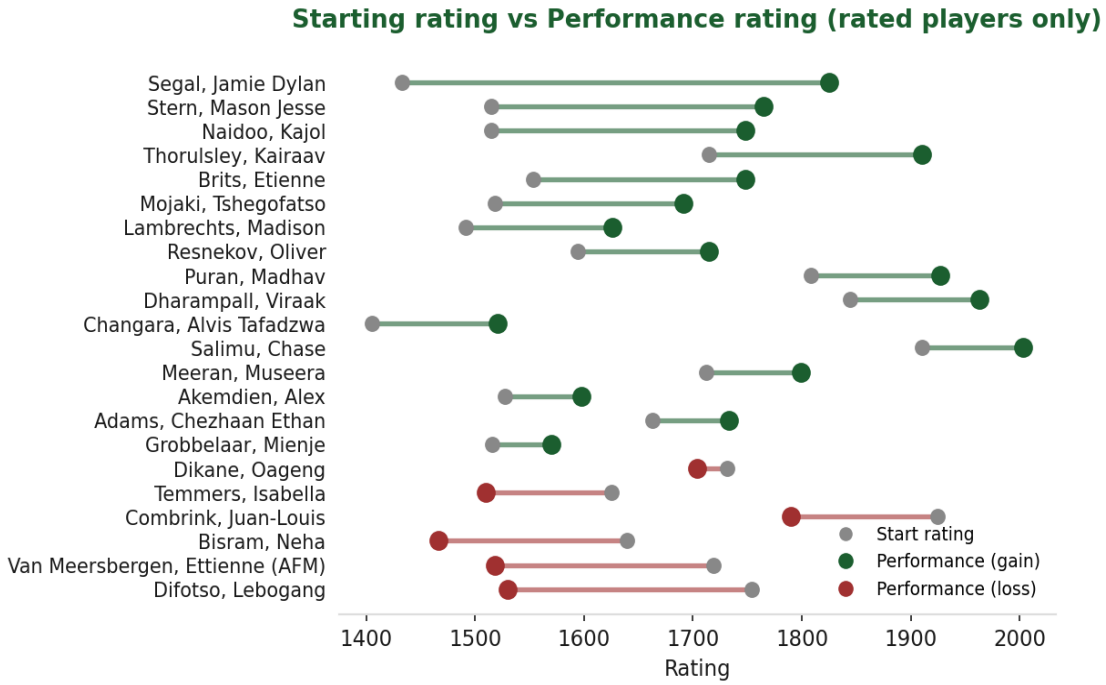
RATING CHANGE — THE STANDOUT CHART

FIDE-rapid rating change for every RSA player with a published rating. Eleven players gained rating, eleven lost rating. Net delegation change: +7 points. The chart is dominated by Jamie Dylan Segal's +119.6, the biggest single rating gain of the championship and the result of a 5.0/7 score from a 1433 starting rating.



PERFORMANCE RATING VS STARTING RATING

For every RSA player with both a starting rating and a calculated performance rating, the chart below shows the gap. Lines extending rightward in green indicate overperformance against rating; lines extending leftward in red indicate underperformance.



STAR HIGHLIGHTS — RAPID OPEN

- Puran Madhav (U14) — Rapid Open Rank 6 on 6/7. Top RSA finisher in the Rapid Open field. Performance rating 1927 against a 1808 starting rating (+37.2). Strongest individual RSA position of the rapid tournament.
- Salimu Chase (U16) — Rapid Open Rank 8 on 6/7. Highest RSA performance rating of the rapid tournament: Rp 2003. Crossed the 2000 performance threshold (+32.0 rating gain).
- Dharampall Viraak (U16) — Rapid Open Rank 11 on 6/7. Completes RSA's elite trio. Performance 1963 against 1844 (+36.4).
- Segal Jamie Dylan (U14) — biggest rating gain of the championship. +119.6 from a starting 1433 to perform at 1825 over seven rounds. A standout result given the rating base he came in on.
- Thorulsley Kairaav (U12) — Rapid Open Rank 14 on 5.5/7. Best RSA U12 result in the rapid event. +61.6 rating gain.
- Stern Mason Jesse (U12) — Rapid Open Rank 39 on 5.0/7. +46.0 rating gain from 1515 starting.

STAR HIGHLIGHTS — RAPID GIRLS

- Meeran Museera (U18G) — Rapid Girls Rank 12 on 5.5/7. Top RSA girl in the rapid event. Performance rating 1799 (+23.6 rating gain).
- Naidoo Kajol (U18G) — Rapid Girls Rank 17 on 5.0/7. Second-best Rapid Girls result with +44.4 rating gain — biggest rating gain in the Rapid Girls section.
- Mojaki Tshegofatso (U18G) — Rapid Girls Rank 21 on 5.0/7. Third RSA girl to clear the 5.0 bar; +10.0 rating gain.

BEST RSA FINISHER PER AGE CATEGORY — RAPID OPEN

Age band	Best RSA player	Score	Overall rank
U10	Akemdien, Alex	4.0 / 7	Rank 94
U12	Thorulsley, Kairaav	5.5 / 7	Rank 14
U14	Puran, Madhav	6.0 / 7	Rank 6
U16	Salimu, Chase	6.0 / 7	Rank 8
U18	Difotso, Lebogang	4.0 / 7	Rank 93

PLAYERS WHO UNDERPERFORMED — FOR COACHING REVIEW

- Bisram, Neha (Rapid Girls) — 4.0 / 7 • Rp 1466 • rating Δ -83.2. Largest rating loss in the Rapid Girls squad.
- Difotso, Lebogang (Rapid Open, U18) — 4.0 / 7 • Rp 1530 • rating Δ -79.6. Largest rating loss in the Rapid Open squad.
- Van Meersbergen, Ettienne (AFM) (Rapid Open, U16) — 4.0 / 7 • Rp 1518 • rating Δ -65.6.
- Temmers, Isabella (Rapid Girls) — 4.0 / 7 • Rp 1510 • rating Δ -58.0.
- Grobbelaar, Mienje (Rapid Girls) — 4.0 / 7 • Rp 1570 • rating Δ -38.8.

RAPID OPEN — FULL RSA FINAL STANDINGS

Rk	Player	Age	Rtg	Pts	Perf	Δ Rtg
6	Puran, Madhav	U14	1808	6	1927	+37.2
8	Salimu, Chase	U16	1910	6	2003	+32.0
11	Dharampall, Viraak	U16	1844	6	1963	+36.4
14	Thorulsley, Kairaav	U12	1715	5.5	1910	+61.6
21	Combrink, Juan-Louis	U16	1925	5.5	1790	-27.6
28	Segal, Jamie Dylan	U14	1433	5	1825	+119.6
35	Dikane, Oageng	U16	1731	5	1704	-8.0
38	Resnekov, Oliver	U12	1594	5	1715	+0.8
39	Stern, Mason Jesse	U12	1515	5	1765	+46.0
43	Adams, Chezhaan Ethan	U14	1663	5	1733	-1.6
50	Brits, Etienne	U12	1553	5	1748	+14.4
78	Van Meersbergen, Ettienne (AFM)	U16	1719	4	1518	-65.6
93	Difotso, Lebogang	U18	1754	4	1530	-79.6
94	Akemdien, Alex	U10	1527	4	1598	-27.6
111	Changara, Alvis Tafadzwa	U14	1405	4	1521	-16.0
137	Radha, Yugesh	—	—	3.5	—	—
139	Klopper, Ben	—	—	3.5	—	—

RAPID GIRLS — FULL RSA FINAL STANDINGS

Rk	Player	Rtg	Pts	Perf	Δ Rtg
12	Meeran, Museera	1712	5.5	1799	+23.6
17	Naidoo, Kajol	1515	5	1748	+44.4
21	Mojaki, Tshegofatso	1518	5	1691	+10.0
40	Lambrechts, Madison	1491	4.5	1626	-12.8
51	Steel, Lujain	—	4	1528	—
54	Temmers, Isabella	1625	4	1510	-58.0
60	Bisram, Neha	1639	4	1466	-83.2
66	Grobbelaar, Mienje	1516	4	1570	-38.8
103	Gabriels, Amrienta	—	3	1469	—
129	Naidoo, Nadeema	—	2.5	—	—

RAPID CHAMPIONSHIP SUMMARY

27 South African players. Two sections. Seven rounds of rapid play. Three RSA players inside the top 11 of the Rapid Open. 11 of 17 Rapid Open players scored 5.0+. 8 of 10 Rapid Girls players scored 4.0+. Net delegation rating change positive (+7.2). Biggest individual gain: Segal +119.6.

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