

2025 NATIONAL PUZZLE CHAMPIONSHIP

Portuguese Puzzle Association - APPZ

- **Date:** May 10th and 11th
- **Place:** Pavilhão dos Desportos de Vila Real, Vila Real

CHAMPIONSHIP SCHEDULE

HOURS	CATEGORY	Nº PIECES	PRICE
MAY 10TH 2025, SATURDAY			
9h00 (2h)	Semifinal A Individual (13+ years)	500pc	17€
11h30 (2h)	Children (8 to 12 years)	200pc	10€
Award Ceremony			
11h30 (2h)	Semifinal B Individual (13+ years)	500pc	17€
14h30 (1h30)	Semifinal A Pairs (2 people)	500pc	24€ (Pair)
16h30 (1h30)	Semifinal B Pairs (2 people)	500pc	24€ (Pair)
18h30 (2h)	Semifinal A Teams (3 to 4 people)	1000pc	38€ (Team)
21h00 (2h)	Semifinal B Teams (3 to 4 people)	1000pc	38€ (Team)
MAY 11TH 2025, SUNDAY			
10h00 (1h45)	Final Individual (13+ years)	500pc	
Award Ceremony			
13h00 (1h30)	Final Pares (2 people)	500pc	
Award Ceremony			
15h30 (2h)	Final Equipas (3 to 4 people)	1000pc	
Award Ceremony			



2025 National Puzzle Championship Regulations

1 – THE TOURNAMENT

The **2nd National Puzzle Championship, organized by APPZ**, will take place in person at the Pavilhão dos Desportos de Vila Real on May 10th and 11th, 2025. It is sponsored by Ravensburger and organized in partnership with the Municipality of Vila Real and the World Jigsaw Puzzle Federation, represented by Alfonso Álvarez-Ossorio.

The championship is open to all individuals over the age of 8, regardless of nationality. Minors must be accompanied by an adult with the necessary authorization to participate.

As this is a national championship, there are specific rules regarding prize distribution, podium placements, and national records, which are clarified in section 4 of this regulation.

There will be four competitions: one for children aged 8 to 12 (including 12) and three for adults and teenagers (aged 13 and above). The goal is to assemble the highest number of pieces and complete the puzzle as quickly as possible within the allotted time for each competition.

Anyone is welcome to watch the competitions free of charge.

For any questions not addressed in the conditions below, please send an email to associacaoportuguesadepuzzles@gmail.com, including your name, contact information (email or phone number), and your query.

2 – THE COMPETITIONS

The championship consists of four competitions that will take place at the Vila Real Sports Pavilion. New puzzles will be distributed in each competition, identical for all participants (and they get to keep them). The competitions will follow the schedule below, with specified times, number of pieces, and registration fees:

Individual Competition – Children: Children aged between 8 and 12 years old (inclusive)

- Registration fee: €10
- 200 pieces | Saturday: 11:30 AM – 1:30 PM
- A child's age is determined based on the current legal year. Example: If a child is 7 years old on the day of the competition but will turn 8 by December of the current year, they are eligible to participate.
- Participants must complete a 200-piece puzzle within a time limit of 120 minutes. If they do not finish within the allotted time, the number of correctly placed pieces will be considered for ranking purposes. Groups of 3 or more correctly connected pieces will be counted.

Individual Competition – Adults : Participants aged 13 and above (inclusive)

- Registration fee: €17
- 500 pieces | Saturday – SFA: 9:00 AM – 11:00 AM / SFB: 11:30 AM – 1:30 PM
Sunday – Final: 10:00 AM – 11:45 AM
- Half of the participants from each semifinal will advance to the final. Since this is a national championship, at least 75% of the finalists must be of Portuguese nationality. *Example: In a total of 100 participants, based on completion times, 50 will qualify for the final. Among them, at least 38 must be Portuguese, while the remaining 12 can be of any nationality. If only 30 Portuguese participants qualify based on time, while 20 participants of other nationalities qualify, an additional 8 Portuguese participants will be selected based on their times, reducing the number of non-Portuguese finalists to 12.*
- Participants must complete a 500-piece puzzle within a time limit of ****120 minutes in the semifinals**** and ****105 minutes in the final****. If they do not finish within the allotted time, the number of correctly placed pieces will be considered for ranking purposes. Groups of 3 or more correctly connected pieces will be counted.

Pairs Competition – 2 Participants. At least one participant must be over 13 years old, and the other must be at least 8 years old. *(Example: A pair with one participant aged 13 and another aged 25; a pair with two participants aged 13; a pair with two participants aged 30; a pair with one participant aged 8 and another aged 13.)*

- Registration Fee: €24
- 500 Pieces | Saturday: SFA: 14:30 – 16:00 / SFB:** 16:30 – 18:00
Sunday - Final: 13:00 – 14:30
- Half of the pairs from each semifinal will advance to the final. Since this is a national championship, at least 75% of the participants advancing to the final must be of Portuguese nationality. *Example: If there are 100 pairs in total, the top 50 by time will qualify. Among these, at least 38 must be considered Portuguese pairs, while the remaining 12 can be either Portuguese or foreign. If only 30 Portuguese pairs qualify based on time, while 20 foreign pairs do, then 8 additional Portuguese pairs will be selected in order of time, and only 12 foreign pairs will advance to the final.*
- Portuguese pairs are defined as any pair where at least one participant holds Portuguese nationality (or dual nationality). A pair consisting of one Portuguese and one foreign participant is considered a Portuguese pair.
- Participants must complete a 500-piece puzzle within a 90-minute time limit. If they do not finish within the time limit, the number of correctly placed pieces will determine their ranking. Only groups of 3 or more correctly connected pieces will be counted.

Team Competition – 3 to 4 Participants. At least one participant must be over 18 years old, and the remaining participants must be at least 8 years old. *(Example: A team with one participant aged 18 and two others aged 8 and 10; a team with three or four participants all aged 18 or older.)*

- Registration Fee: €38
- 1000 Pieces | Saturday: SFA: 18:30 – 20:30 / SFB: 21:00 – 23:00
Sunday - Final: 15:30 – 17:30
- Half of the teams from each semifinal will advance to the final. Since this is a national championship, at least 75% of the teams advancing to the final must be of Portuguese nationality. *Example: If there are 50 teams in total, the top 25 by time will qualify. Among these, at least 19 must be considered Portuguese teams, while the remaining 6 can be either Portuguese or foreign. If only 15 Portuguese teams qualify based on time, while 10 foreign*

teams do, then 4 additional Portuguese teams will be selected in order of time, and only 6 foreign teams will advance to the final.

- Portuguese teams are defined as any team with at least two participants holding Portuguese nationality (or dual nationality). A team with two Portuguese and two foreign participants is considered a Portuguese team.
 - In the first semifinal, participants must complete a 1000-piece puzzle within a 120-minute time limit. If they do not finish within the time limit, the number of correctly placed pieces will determine their ranking. Only groups of 3 or more correctly connected pieces will be counted. In the final, the team must choose between two 1000-piece puzzles and complete one as quickly as possible. Both puzzles belong to the team.
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3 – REGISTRATIONS

Individual Adults, Pairs, and Teams: Registrations will be made online through the World Jigsaw Puzzle Federation website <https://www.worldjigsawpuzzle.org/appz>. In individual competitions, each participant must register separately. In pairs and team competitions, registration must be done by only one member of the pair or group, specifying the details of the other members in the respective fields. After this, they must wait for the bank reference to be sent and make the payment within the specified deadline.

Individual Children: Registration must be done by the responsible relative, who should send the completed form, available on the association's website <https://appz.pt/>, to the email - associacaoportuguesadepuzzles@gmail.com, along with proof of the transfer made to the indicated IBAN.

Registrations will be open from March 3rd until April 12th, 2025. All competitions require registration and payment within 3 days after registration.

Payment receipts for registrations will be available on the event days, May 10th and 11th, at the event venue, and should be requested via email.

Members of the association who are up to date with their membership fees, including for January 2025, are entitled to the following discounts: (When making the transfer, please apply the €2 discount and indicate the respective membership number in the description.)

- Individual Competition (Children or Adults): €2
- Pairs Competition: €2 per member
- Teams Competition: €2 per

The puzzles used in the competitions belong to the participants after the competitions.

The Association reserves the right, if deemed necessary, to adjust the schedule based on the number of registrations, while maintaining the initially defined start and end dates and times:

- Start: May 10th, 2025 – 9:00
- End: May 11th, 2025 – 18:00

There is no defined limit for registrations. However, the association reserves the right to close registrations before the announced final date, if necessary.

Until the registration deadline, the participant may cancel their registration, and the registration fee will be refunded. After the registration deadline, and up to one week before the event, only the registration fee will be refunded upon medical justification or another equivalent reason.

If the participant does not attend the competition they registered for, they can collect the puzzle(s) and welcome kit at the event location during the event days. If the participant does not attend the event at all, they can request (via email) the shipment of the welcome kit and the puzzle(s) by paying the shipping fees (valid for mainland Portugal, Islands, and Spain).

In the event of cancellation or postponement of the Championship for reasons beyond the Organization's control, the APPZ is not responsible for any expenses incurred by participants, except for the registration fees paid.

4 – PRIZES

We will award prizes to the national record holders in the different competitions:

- **National Records** – National records will be for Portuguese citizens or those with dual nationality that includes Portuguese nationality.
 - **CHILDREN:** National records will be set by Portuguese children who finish the puzzles in the shortest possible time.
 - **INDIVIDUAL:** National records will be set by Portuguese participants who finish the puzzles in the shortest possible time in the final.
 - **PAIRS:** National records will be set by pairs in which at least one member has Portuguese nationality, who finishes the puzzles in the shortest possible time in the final.
 - **TEAMS:** National records will be set by teams in which at least half of the members (2/3 or 2/4) have Portuguese nationality, who finish the puzzles in the shortest possible time in the final.

To reward participants from other nationalities, we will award a prize and trophy to the fastest participants from each category who are of a nationality other than Portuguese:

- **CHILDREN:** The fastest foreign child to finish the puzzle will be awarded.
- **INDIVIDUAL:** The fastest foreign participant to finish the puzzle will be awarded.
- **PAIRS:** The fastest foreign pair to finish the puzzle will be awarded.
- **TEAMS:** The fastest foreign team to finish the puzzle will be awarded.

A pair consisting of one Portuguese participant and one foreign participant will be considered for the national podium. Similarly, a team with at least two Portuguese participants will be considered for the national podium and will not be eligible for the foreign awards.

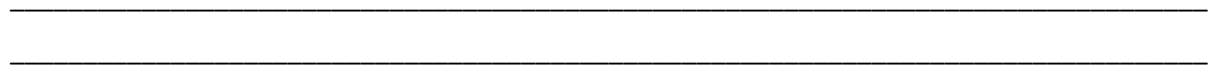
National record holders will be recognized with medals or equivalent, as well as prizes – 3 prizes per competition.

Trophies or equivalent and prizes will be awarded to the foreign winners – 1 prize per competition.

This award distribution means that no individual, pair, or team can win more than one prize.

The description of the prizes will be announced up to one week before the championship begins and may be subject to change until the event date.

Children's prizes will be presented at the end of the competition. The remaining prizes for the individual, pairs, and teams categories will be awarded after each final.



5 – GENERAL CONDITIONS

Each participant may use up to 2 boards made of cardboard, foam, or other types of material, with a maximum size of A3, to assist in assembling the puzzles.

Each pair may use up to 2 boards made of cardboard, foam, or other types of material, with a maximum size of A3, to assist in assembling the puzzles. The Organization recommends using the same shirt model, with names and the country of origin.

Each team may provide up to 4 boards made of cardboard, foam, or other materials, with a maximum size of A3, to assist in assembling the puzzle. The Organization recommends using the same shirt model for all team members, with names and the country of origin.

All tables will be numbered along with the names and the city or country of origin of the participants. The table numbers will be posted at the event location.

Participants must arrive at the venue at least 15 minutes before the start of each event.

Until the presenter indicates the start of the event and begins the timer, participants may not handle, open, or unlock the puzzle boxes on the table.

To open the plastic covering the puzzle box, only letter openers, keys, or other non-sharp objects may be used. Scissors and/or utility knives are not permitted for safety reasons.

During the competition, the identified monitors will track the progress of the assembly, ensuring they are near when a participant is close to finishing a puzzle. If no member of the Organization notices this situation, the participant must raise their hand so a monitor can record the puzzle completion time. Once the monitor confirms the assembly is correct, they will note the time in the participation record and deliver the puzzle to the main table.

All participants who finish the puzzles within the time limit, after a monitor records the time achieved, must collect their belongings and leave the competition area to facilitate preparation for the next round.

Only the monitors and duly accredited members of the organization are allowed to record the completed puzzle times.

If, once the time limit has passed, the participant has not finished the puzzle, the monitors will count the pieces placed in the incomplete puzzle, only adding groups of 3 or more correctly connected pieces.

If pieces are missing at the end of the puzzle, 10 seconds will be added to the final time for each missing piece. If the last piece appears after 10 seconds of searching, the time of the penultimate piece plus the penalty will be considered. If more than 10 pieces are missing, the participation will be considered void. If two or more adjacent pieces are missing, no penalty will be applied, as this is considered a manufacturing error.

If, due to a manufacturing defect, the puzzle does not have the correct number of pieces and causes harm to the participant, the Organization may take the necessary measures to correct the damage caused, without compromising the rights of other participants.

Only participants and authorized personnel are allowed to enter the competition area.

The use of supports or any objects that alter the height or arrangement of the tables is not permitted.

Supports to keep the box lid upright and easily visible during the puzzle assembly are allowed.

The use of headphones is allowed, as long as it does not disturb other participants.

Singing or vocalizing is not permitted. The organization may disqualify participants who are repeatedly reprimanded for behaviors that cause discomfort to others.

The use of extra lighting or printed or digital models showing any kind of manufacturer's cutting pattern is not permitted.

Any assistance provided during the competition by someone other than the participants may result in disqualification.



In pairs or individual competitions, if shared tables are used, participants are not allowed to invade the adjacent participant's area or obstruct their construction. A participant may be disqualified if they severely hinder another participant.

The organization will record images in photography and video, which will be publicly disclosed to promote the event and the organizing entities. By registering, all participants and their guardians agree to this public disclosure.

The organization is not responsible for any lost items during the championship.

Any issues or doubts arising during the competition will be decided by the Event Organization during the event.

Decisions made during the competition are final.

6 - PARTNERSHIP WITH HOTEL MIRACORGO (VILA REAL)

For this championship, we have partnered with Hotel Miracorgo. Below, you will find all the relevant information.

Prices for the 2nd NATIONAL PUZZLE CHAMPIONSHIP – MAY 10TH AND 11TH, 2025

- Single (Sgl) – 85.50 EUR / room / night / Breakfast
- Double/Twin (Dbl/Twin) – 117.00 EUR / room / night / Breakfast
- Twin with extra bed – 139.50 EUR / room / night / Breakfast
- Suite – 148.50 EUR / room / night / Breakfast

Reference for Reservation: 2º CAMPEONATO NACIONAL DE PUZZLES – 10 E 11 DE MAIO 2025

Website: [Hotel Miracorgo](#)

Phone Number: 259325001 (national landline call)

Email: reservas@hotelmiracorgo.com



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