



ABU DHABI SPORTS CHAMPIONSHIP  
FOR SCHOOLS AND UNIVERSITIES

# CHAMPIONSHIP GUIDE – SCHOOLS Version 2

AY 2024/25



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# Championship Overview

The Abu Dhabi Sports Championship is a strategic initiative that aligns with our leadership's vision to embed both competitive and recreational sportsmanship into our educational ecosystem.

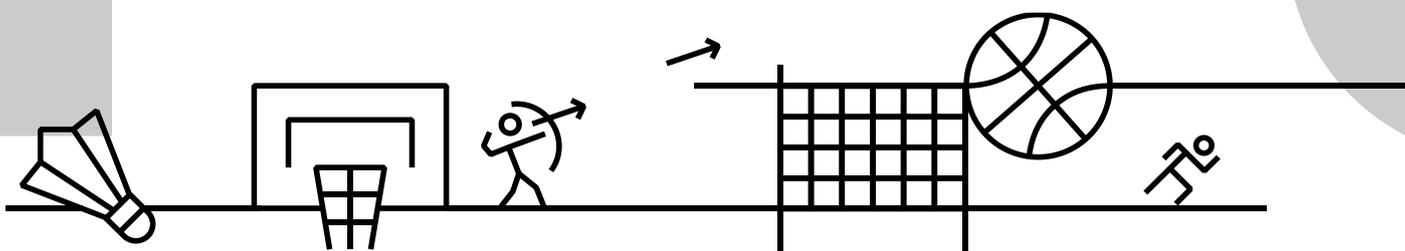
Featuring 18 sports, the 4<sup>th</sup> edition aims to bring together more than 27,000 students and aspiring athletes from across the emirate. They will take a shot at winning the cup in their respective categories and have the opportunity to take their first step toward professional and academic pathways in sports.

## What's New?

- **Four New Sports:** Chess, Distance Run, Jiu-Jitsu, Table Tennis.
- **Highlighting Talent:** Talent identification and access to scouting opportunities for student-athletes.
- **Competitive Leaderboard:** Dynamic, points-based leaderboard system to reward registration, participation, and top performance.
- **Seamless Registration:** User-friendly system indicating students' skill level and talent.
- **Updated Website:** New website, now integrating competition schedules and sport-specific rules & regulations for a streamlined experience.
- **Seasonal Approach:** This year's competition will unfold throughout the entire academic year, ensuring continuous engagement and allowing students to participate in multiple sports.

### Note:

This is an updated version of the Guidebook (V2\_ October 2024) with revised registration cut-off dates for various team & individuals Sports.

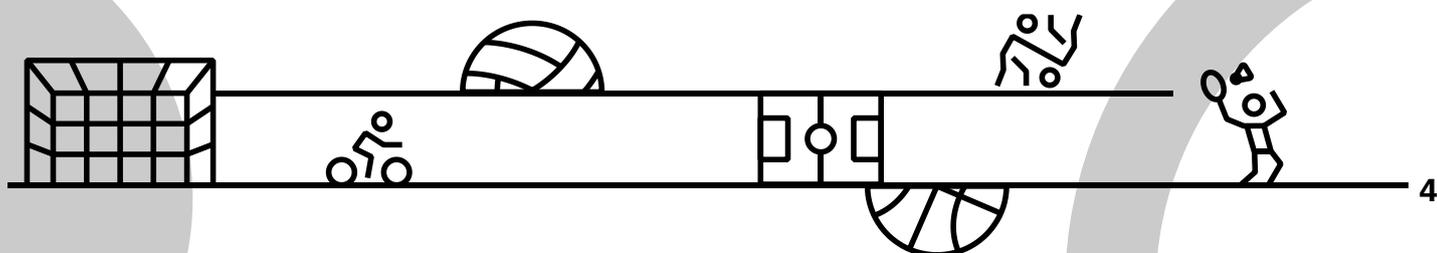


# Championship Calendar

The Championship will take place between November 2024 and May 2025 and is segmented into Term 1, Term 2, and Term 3. This structure ensures a comprehensive and engaging experience over the entire academic year:

	Team Sports	Individual Sports
Term 1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Volleyball</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Badminton</li><li>Cycling</li><li>Distance Run</li><li>Swimming</li></ul>
Term 2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Basketball</li><li>Football</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Athletics</li><li>Chess</li><li>Table Tennis</li><li>Triathlon</li></ul>
Term 3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Futsal</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Archery</li><li>Fencing</li><li>Judo</li><li>Jiu-Jitsu</li><li>Shooting (Laser)</li><li>Taekwondo</li></ul>

[Click here](#) to view and download the Championship calendar.



# Competition Structure

## Age groups:

Name	Abbreviation	Birth Date From	Birth Date To
Under 9	U9	01/09/2015	31/08/2017
Under 11	U11	01/09/2013	31/08/2015
Under 13	U13	01/09/2011	31/08/2013
Under 15	U15	01/09/2009	31/08/2011
Under 17	U17	01/09/2007	31/08/2009
Under 19	U19	01/09/2005	31/08/2007

## Competition Format:

#	Sport	Sports Code	Age Categories	Gender	Competition Format
<b>Team Sports</b>					
1	Basketball	<b>BSK</b>	U13, U15, U17, U19	Males & Females	5-a-side
2	Football	<b>FBL</b>	U11, U13, U15, U17, U19	Males & Females	U11 - U13 - U15, 7-a-side U17 - U19, 9-a-side
3	Futsal	<b>FBS</b>	U9, U11, U13, U15	Males & Females	5-a-side
4	Volleyball	<b>VOL</b>	U13, U15, U17, U19	Males & Females	6-a-side

All team sport competitions will feature regional qualifying matches leading to playoffs and ultimately finals, set to take place in the Abu Dhabi region.

#	Sport	Sports Code	Age Categories	Gender	Competition Format
<b>Individual Sports</b>					
5	Archery	<b>ARC</b>	U11, U13, U15, U17, U19	Males & Females	Compound, Recurve
6	Athletics	<b>ATH</b>	U11, U13, U15, U17, U19	Males & Females	Running, Jumping, Throwing, Relay
7	Badminton	<b>BDM</b>	U11, U13, U15, U17, U19	Males & Females	Singles
8	Chess	<b>CHS</b>	U11, U13, U15, U17, U19	Males & Females	Blitz Chess
9	Cycling	<b>CYC</b>	U9, U11, U13, U15, U17, U19	Males & Females	Road Cycling
10	Distance Run	<b>DSR</b>	U9, U11, U13, U15, U17, U19	Males & Females	Road Run
11	Fencing	<b>FEN</b>	U13, U15, U17, U19	Males & Females	Épée, Foil, Sabre
12	Jiu-Jitsu	<b>BJJ</b>	U13, U15, U17, U19	Males & Females	As per applicable UAE Federation Weight Categories
13	Judo	<b>JUD</b>	U13, U15, U17, U19	Males & Females	As per applicable UAE Federation Weight Categories
14	Shooting (Laser)	<b>SHO</b>	U11, U13, U15, U17, U19	Males & Females	Laser Shooting
15	Swimming	<b>SWM</b>	U11, U13, U15, U17, U19	Males & Females	Freestyle, Butterfly, Backstroke, Breaststroke, Individual Medley
16	Table Tennis	<b>TTE</b>	U11, U13, U15, U17, U19	Males & Females	Singles
17	Taekwondo	<b>TKW</b>	U13, U15, U17, U19	Males & Females	As per applicable UAE Federation Weight Categories
18	Triathlon	<b>TRI</b>	U9, U11, U13, U15, U17, U19	Males & Females	Swim, Run, Bike

A breakdown of the age group-specific, competition format and rules for individual and team sports will be provided in the School Sports Rules & Regulations.

# Competition Guidelines

## Skill Level:

During registration, Sports Leads and Sports Coaches are expected to identify and fill in each participant's skill level based on the below categorization (applicable for teams and individuals).

Skill Level	Level Outline
<b>Elite Level</b>	<p>At this level, students should:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Demonstrate advanced skills and excel in competitions.</li><li>• Have experience in national and international competitions and training.</li><li>• Regularly achieve top finishes, earn MVP awards, or serve as team leaders.</li><li>• Show high commitment through consistent practice, active participation in games, and dedicated off-season development.</li></ul>
<b>Advanced Level</b>	<p>At this level, students should:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Have a strong grasp of fundamental techniques and strategies.</li><li>• Have experience with regular training.</li><li>• Have experience competing in regional or school-level competitions.</li><li>• Commit to regular practice and training.</li></ul>
<b>Development Level</b>	<p>At this level, students should:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Demonstrate a basic understanding of the sports rules, techniques, and strategies.</li><li>• Have limited or no previous competitive experience.</li><li>• Be primarily engaged in school-based training and games.</li><li>• Participate in introductory-level competitions, such as friendly matches.</li><li>• Show an interest in the sport.</li></ul>

## Timing & Attendance:

- All teams/students must arrive at the venue at least **60 minutes** before their scheduled event for registration and pre-competition briefing.
- Failure to arrive on time may result in match forfeiture subject to the discretion of the organizers.
- Participants must be accompanied by a school-appointed supervisor at all games.

### Documentation:

- All staff and participants must have a valid Emirates ID (original or digital) and present the same upon request.

### Clothing:

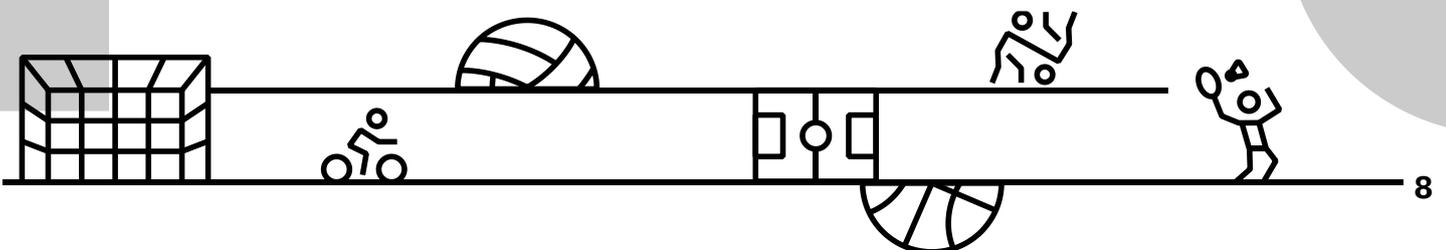
- Participants shall wear appropriate athletic attire and footwear. Clothing for running-type sports should not include jeans or combat boots.
- It is mandatory for female participants who wear sports hijabs to ensure their hijab is specifically designed without pins to prevent potential hazards.
- Where possible, female sports might be hosted in female-only facilities. However, this provision cannot be guaranteed. It is recommended that students and staff wear the necessary modest, athletic attire that will enable participation in mixed-gender venues.

### Results & Timing:

- For individual and team sport, a designated official will record the results.
- All sports will use a timing system to ensure the accuracy and consistency of the results.

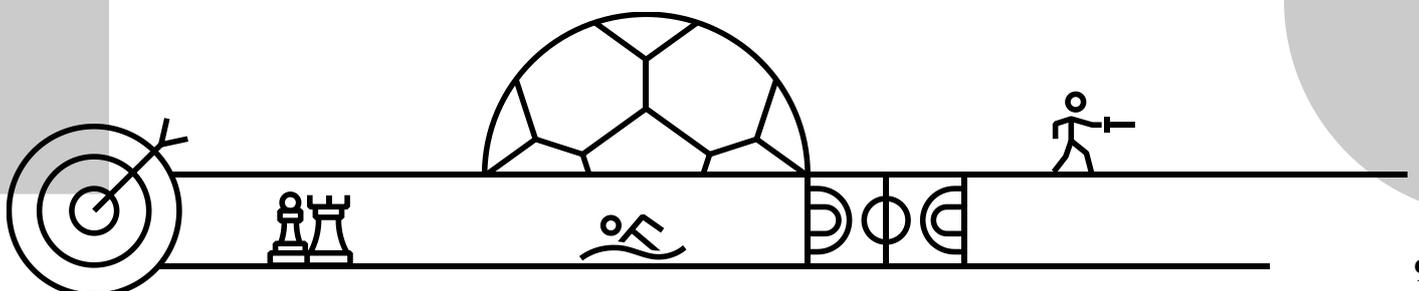
### Miscellaneous:

- Meals will be provided to students and school coaches during the competition days.
- In addition, it is recommended that each player/team bring their own snack pack and necessary hydration during the event.
- Participating schools will receive a competition pack specific to each sport after the registration cut-off date. These packs will contain competition timings, locations, schedules, and any additional information to allow for adequate preparation.



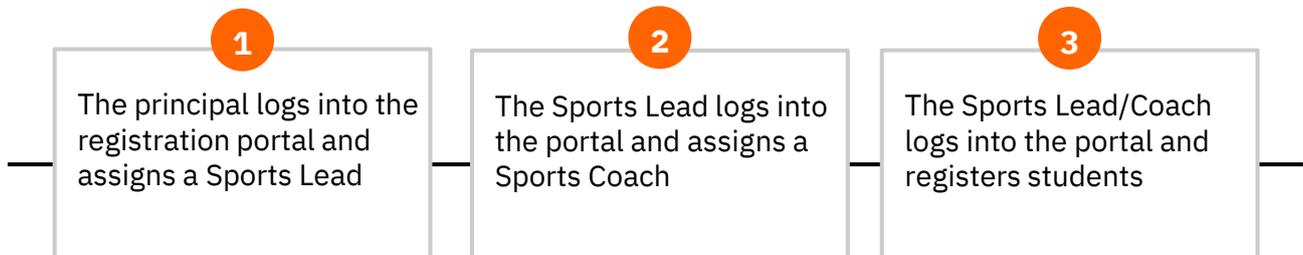
# Roles & Responsibilities

Sports Lead	Sports Coach
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Acts as the main point of contact for high level communication</li> <li>• Is responsible for assigning the Sports Coaches as needed</li> <li>• Is responsible for ensuring the school complies with the Championship Rules and Regulations</li> <li>• Can identify talented students during registration</li> <li>• Are expected to identify skill levels for individuals and teams during registration</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Acts as the point of contact for day-to-day operational communication</li> <li>• Is responsible for registering students</li> <li>• Is responsible for ensuring student-athletes comply with the sport's rules and regulations</li> <li>• Can identify talented students during registration</li> <li>• Are expected to identify skill levels for individuals and teams during registration</li> </ul>



# Registration

The competition is open to all male and female students from public, private, and charter schools in the Emirate of Abu Dhabi. This includes the three main regions of Abu Dhabi, Al Ain, and Al Dhafra.

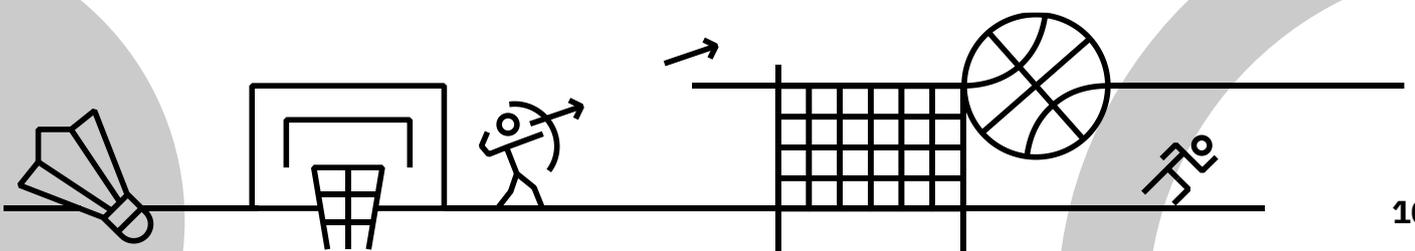


## Please note:

1. You can assign only one Sports Lead.
2. Sports Leads can assign multiple coaches (football coach, basketball coach, etc.).
3. Both the Sports Leads and Sports Coaches can register students.

**Exception:** If a school has one sports faculty member, they can assign themselves as both Sports Leads & Sports Coach to register students.

Registered users can log in to their school account through the [website](#) or by [clicking here](#).



# Registration Criteria & Cut-Off Dates

Team Sports							
Sport	Sports Code	Student Registration Limit			Min Skill Level Required	Team Registration Cut-Off Date	Student Registration Cut-off Date
		Min.	Max.	Match Roster			
Volleyball	<b>VOL</b>	6	16	11 Players	None	22 Oct 2024	29 Oct 2024
Basketball	<b>BSK</b>	5	15	10 players	None	10 Dec 2024	07 Jan 2025
Football 7-a-side	<b>FBL</b>	7	17	12 players	None	10 Dec 2024	07 Jan 2025
Football 9-a-side		9	19	14 players	None	10 Dec 2024	07 Jan 2025
Futsal	<b>FBS</b>	5	15	10 Players	None	04 Mar 2025	15 Apr 2025

Individual Sports				
Sport	Sports Code	Registration Limit Per Participant	Min. Skill Level Required	Registration Cut-Off Date
Badminton	<b>BDM</b>	None	None	29 Oct 2024
Swimming	<b>SWM</b>	2 Disciples + Medley	Development Level	22 Oct 2024
Cycling	<b>CYC</b>	None	Development Level	05 Nov 2024
Distance Run	<b>DSR</b>	None	None	05 Nov 2024
Athletics	<b>ATH</b>	2 Disciplines + Relay	Development Level	10 Dec 2024
Chess	<b>CHS</b>	None	Development Level	14 Jan 2025
Table Tennis	<b>TTE</b>	None	None	28 Jan 2025
Triathlon	<b>TRI</b>	None	Development Level	04 Feb 2025
Archery	<b>ARC</b>	None	Development Level	22 Apr 2025
Fencing	<b>FEN</b>	None	Development Level	22 Apr 2025
Judo	<b>JUD</b>	None	Development Level	22 Apr 2025
Jiu-Jitsu	<b>BJJ</b>	None	Development Level	22 Apr 2025
Shooting (Laser)	<b>SHO</b>	None	None	22 Apr 2025
Taekwondo	<b>TKW</b>	None	Development Level	15 Apr 2025

## Leaderboard

- Schools will be evaluated and ranked based on student registration numbers, participation, and performance in the Championship.
- The Leaderboard ensures that every team's effort is recognized and fairly assessed.
- The top 3 schools will be announced at the end of the Championship.
- Leaders will receive prizes for their active participation.
- There will be 2 different leaderboards, one specific to private and charter schools, the other will be specific to the public schools.
- The weighting will be as per the following three criteria: registrations, participation, and performance.

## Talent Identification

- Using the registration system, Sports Leads and Sports Coaches will be able to highlight talented students for scouting opportunities.
- More information regarding talent development and pathways will be made available during the Championship on our [website](#).

## Communication

- Registered schools and Sports Lead will receive a confirmation through their designated focal point of contact.

# Disputes & Resolution

- Official complaints may be raised by contacting [sports@adek.gov.ae](mailto:sports@adek.gov.ae).
- All disputes will be resolved by a Disciplinary Committee.

## Appeals:

- Appeals must be submitted via the official email [sports@adek.gov.ae](mailto:sports@adek.gov.ae) with the subject “**Appeal**”. These should be sent no later than the end of the next business day.
- Appeals should clearly state the sport, age category, location, date, and pertinent information for review.
- During playoffs, appeals can be brought to the direct attention of the League Management.
- The League Committee decides on all matters not stated in the rules.
- The Committee’s decisions are binding and final.

## Championship Exclusion:

- Failure to comply with the guidelines, Code of Conduct, or rules and regulations set out for each competition, may result in the exclusion of players or their schools. This encompasses rule violations, failure to adhere to the dress code, cheating, or any behavior deemed unsportsmanlike by officials.

# Medical Liability

- A medical team will be on-site during the Championship play hours to assist. In the unlikely event that transportation to the hospital is required, this will be prioritized and is under the discretion of the medical personnel and guardian of the person (if any).
- The Championship and its organizers cannot be held liable for any death, disability, personal injury, loss of property, or any other loss arising from any cause whatsoever at any time during the Championship.

# Sportsmanship Values

- Sportsmanship values enhance the sports experience, foster community positivity, and support athlete growth. The Emirate of Abu Dhabi promotes a sportsmanship culture of respect, safety, fairness, dignity, solidarity, and excellence, to reinforce unity and boost global sports reputation. Please [click here](#) to download the Sportsmanship Values.

## Code of Conduct

- All staff, players, and supporters are to conduct themselves in a sportsman-like manner throughout the Championship, ensuring they promote the values of the Championship and school sports; fair play, health & fitness, participation, competitive spirit, and fun.
- All staff, players, and supporters should refrain from engaging in behavior that could intimidate, offend, insult, humiliate, or discriminate against any individual on the grounds of gender, race, disability, age, religious or political belief, social background, ethnic origin, or language.
- Teams not adhering to the Code of Conduct may be subject to a warning, or in cases of extreme or continued violation will render the school removed from play & forfeited from the Championship.
- Should a spectator not adhere to the Code of Conduct, they will be asked to exit the spectating area. The game will not start/re-start until their removal.

Code of Conduct	
Staff Conduct	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Staff must refrain from using abusive or profane language, consistently model good personal conduct, and treat everyone - players, opposing coaches, parents, administrators, and board members - with respect and dignity.</li> <li>● They are also responsible for ensuring that players consistently uphold acceptable behavior.</li> </ul>
Player Conduct	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Players must respect officials and disciplinary bodies, avoid foul language or gestures, and appreciate the efforts of all involved.</li> <li>● They should play with discipline and sportsmanship, not intentionally break rules, and help protect the game's reputation.</li> </ul>
Supporters Conduct	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Supporters should appreciate the efforts of coaches, officials, and others involved, and ensure the game is played with discipline and sportsmanship.</li> <li>● They must respect officials' decisions, avoid foul language and gestures, stay off the field during play, and refrain from criticizing players for mistakes.</li> </ul>