

Dear Editor, For immediate release:

Allianz Junior Badminton Championship (AJBC) 2024 Roundup for Melaka, Kelantan and Johor

Kuala Lumpur, 29 October 2024 - As the race to the Allianz Junior Badminton Championship (AJBC) 2024 Grand Finals in November heats up, more players are claiming their spots in the qualifying legs of Melaka, Johor and Kelantan.

In the Melaka qualifying leg which was held at the Jebat Racquet Sports Centre, Bukit Beruang recently, Veehan Preman from SMK Taman Jasmin 2, Kajang denied Javier Ng from SMK Bandar Baru Sg Long a double in the U-15 Boys' Singles when he clinched the title in an all Selangor final. Javier then partnered Low See Zhe from SMK Bukit Rahman Putra to defeat a pair from Seremban to claim the U-15 Boys' Doubles title.

"At AJBC 2022 in Kuala Lumpur, I was not focused and I also felt that my stamina was not where it should be even though I finished third in the Boys' U13 Singles and quarterfinals in the Doubles. So this year, I am really happy to win the Boys' U15 Singles after changing my badminton club. It's okay I didn't win the doubles, as at least I have made it to the Grand Finals again," said Veehan who also made the semifinals of the U-15 Boys' Doubles category.

At Qualifying Round 8 held in Dewan Badminton Tengku Anis, Pengkalan Chepa, Kelantan, Nik Al Amin Azaem from SMK Putera Kota Bharu made it a double celebration for himself in the U-13 Boys' category, taking home the Singles title defeating his partner Nagib Mifdhal from Maktab Sultan Ismail. Later, they both combined to win the Doubles title also. Joining him as a double winner too is Dayana Farisya from SMK Ibrahim Fikri who won the Girls' U-15 Singles and Doubles titles.

Over in Johor, it was the case of so close yet so far for both Albee Loh and Muhammad Darwisy who emerged as the Boys' Doubles champion but couldn't repeat the same feat in the Singles category. Albee from Foon Yew High School, Kulai partnered Muhammad Iqbal from SMK Skudai to win the U-15 Doubles but succumbed to Kua Ming Ze from SMK Seri Perling in the Singles final. In the U-13 category, Darwisy of SM Agama Dato' Klana Petra Maamor and partner, Hoo Kai Jun from SMK Methodist played superbly to win the Doubles crown but he couldn't reproduce his form and lost to Chiam Zi Hong of SJKC Pu Sze in Singles final.

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The AJBC Grand Finals, featuring Under-13 and Under-15 finalists from all the Qualifying Rounds, will take place at Stadium Juara in Bukit Kiara from 20–25 November. Each round will see 24 players qualifying for the finals. The Under-11 players will not advance to the AJBC Grand Finals.

As in previous years, players participating in the AJBC Qualifying Rounds do not have to pay any entrance fees. The top three winners in the Qualifying Rounds, for all age categories, will earn RM500, RM300 and RM150 (singles) and RM600, RM400 and RM200 (doubles). Players finishing in the top three at the Grand Finals will pocket RM1,000, RM600 and RM300 (singles) and RM1,200, RM800 and RM400 (doubles).

For more information, please visit www.allianz.com.my/ajbc

AJBC 2024 Qualifying Round details are as follows:

| Qualifying Round | Date | Venue |
|---------------------|----------------------|---|
| 1 | 3 – 5 May 2024 | Wintel Sports & Hotel, Taiping, Perak |
| 2 | 17 – 19 May 2024 | Jesselball Pearl City Sports Centre, Penang |
| 3 | 28 – 30 June 2024 | Dewan KBA, Alor Setar, Kedah |
| 4 | 12 – 14 July 2024 | Tops Arena Empire, Cheras, Kuala Lumpur |
| 5 | 19 - 21 July 2024 | Seven Stone Badminton Court, Kuching, Sarawak |
| 6 | 26 - 28 July 2024 | Olympia Badminton Arena, Kota Kinabalu, Sabah |
| 7 | 9 - 11 August 2024 | Titan Indoor Sport, Kluang, Johor |
| 8 | 23 - 25 August 2024 | Dewan Badminton Tengku Anis, Pengkalan Chepa, Kelantan |
| 9 | 11 - 13 October 2024 | Jebat Racquet Sports Centre, Bukit Beruang, Melaka |



| 10 | 18 - 20 October 2024 | Kuantan Synergy Sports Centre, Pahang |
|----|-----------------------|---|
| GF | 20 – 25 November 2024 | Stadium Juara, Bukit Kiara, Kuala Lumpur |

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In 2023, Allianz Malaysia won Gold in the category of Diversity and Inclusion at the HR Excellence Awards. The company also secured Gold in categories such as Best Remote Work Strategy, Best Post-Pandemic Recovery Strategy, Best Remote Management Strategy, and the Overall Engagement Award at the Employee Experience Awards 2024 Malaysia. Allianz Malaysia won Silver for Excellence in Workforce Flexibility. Allianz General and Allianz Life were ranked among the Top 5 performers across the takaful and insurance industries based on the Customer Satisfaction Index (CSI) of the Customer Satisfaction Survey (CSS 2022).

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About Allianz

The Allianz Group is one of the world's leading insurers and asset managers with more than 126 million* private and corporate customers in more than 70 countries. Allianz customers benefit from a broad range of personal and corporate insurance services, ranging from property, life and health insurance to assistance services to credit insurance and global business insurance. Allianz is one of the world's largest investors, managing around 809 billion euros on behalf of its insurance customers. Furthermore, our asset managers PIMCO and Allianz Global Investors manage nearly 2.0 trillion euros of third-party assets. Thanks to our systematic integration of ecological and social criteria in our business processes and investment decisions, we are amongst the leaders in the insurance industry in the Dow Jones Sustainability Index. In 2021, over 155,000 employees achieved total revenues of 148.5 billion euros and an operating profit of 13.4 billion euros for the group.

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