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New category for Allianz Junior Badminton Championship 2024

Kuala Lumpur, 9 May 2024 – This year’s edition of the Allianz Junior Badminton Championship will feature a new category, the Under-11 Boys and Girls Singles category introduced for the benefit of younger players.

Allianz Malaysia Berhad Chief Executive Officer Sean Wang said that with this new category, a larger pool of players can be identified as potential talents for the future. Currently, the youngest category in AJBC is the Under-13 Boys and Girls.

“Over the last two years, parents, teachers and officials have asked us to look into the possibility of adding a new category for Under-11 players. Not many are aware that a year or two difference in age can make a difference in terms of physical strength and size. After careful consideration of their feedback, we decided it was the right time to introduce a new age group for the benefit of younger players. This third edition of the AJBC promises to be more exciting with this new category,” said Sean.

For the record, four of AJBC’s players have been selected to enter the prestigious Bukit Jalil Sports School and last year, several Under-15 Grand Finalist were invited for Akademi Badminton Malaysia trials.

“I am extremely pleased with this development as it goes to show that AJBC is moving in the right direction and aligns in what we set out to do. Our goal has always been to support Malaysian badminton by presenting more opportunities for all players (both boys and girls) to compete in a competitive environment nationwide,” added Sean.

Last year, over 2,500 players participated in AJBC and entries are expected to rise to 3,000 this year in the 10 Qualifying Rounds. The opening round took place in Taiping, Perak last weekend and will be followed by Penang (17–19 May). Qualifying Rounds will be staged in various venues around the country such as Alor Setar, Cheras, Kuching, Kota Kinabalu, Kluang, Pengkalan Chepa, Bukit Beruang and Kuantan.

The Perak leg which was held last weekend in Taiping, was 'Girl Power' all the way with Nur Aina Maisarah from SMK Sri Intan clinching a double in the singles and doubles category in the Girl's Under-15 followed by Tan Zhi Ying from SMJK San Min in the Girl's Under-13.

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 does 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 and those who are keen to participate in AJBC, please visit www.allianz.com.my/ajbc

Results

Under-15

Boy's Singles: S. Sivenesh, BM High School

Boy's Doubles: Bryan Chun and Chiam Dar Hern, SMK Seri Bintang Selatan

Girl's Singles: Nur Aina Maisarah, SMK Sri Intan

Girl's Doubles: A. Baavanya, SMK Perempuan Methodist and Nur Aina Maisarah, SMK Sri Intan

Under-13

Boy's Singles: Zannhin Yap, Axcel International School

Boy's Doubles: Braxton Ling, SMK Methodist Ayer Tawar Perak and Cheng Jia Hao, Yik Ching High School

Girl's Singles: Tan Zhi Ying, SMJK San Min

Girl's Doubles: Tan Zhi Ying, SMJK San Min and Yong Hui Teng, SMJK Ayer Tawar

Under-11

Boy's Singles: Liu Yi Kang, SJKC Chung Kwok

Girl's Singles: Lim En Yu, SJKC Keat Hwa S

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AJBC 2024's Qualifying Round details are as follows:

Qualifying Round	Date	Venue	Registration Period
1	3 – 5 May 2024	Wintel Sports & Hotel, Taiping, Perak	5 April 2024
2	17 – 19 May 2024	Jesselball Pearl City Sports Centre, Penang	19 April 2024
3	28 – 30 June 2024	Dewan KBA, Alor Setar, Kedah	31 May 2024
4	5 – 7 July 2024	Tops Arena Empire, Cheras, Kuala Lumpur	7 June 2024
5	19 - 21 July 2024	Seven Stone Badminton Court, Kuching, Sarawak	21 June 2024
6	26 - 28 July 2024	Olympia Badminton Arena, Kota Kinabalu, Sabah	28 June 2024
7	9 - 11 August 2024	Titan Indoor Sport, Kluang, Johor	12 July 2024
8	23 - 25 August 2024	Dewan Badminton Tengku Anis, Pengkalan Chepa, Kelantan	26 July 2024
9	11 - 13 October 2024	Jebat Racquet Sports Centre, Bukit Beruang, Melaka	13 September 2024
10	18 - 20 October 2024	Kuantan Synergy Sports Centre, Pahang	20 September 2024
GF	20 – 25 November 2024	Stadium Juara, Bukit Kiara, Kuala Lumpur	

About Allianz in Malaysia

The investment holding company, Allianz Malaysia Berhad, a subsidiary of Allianz SE, has two insurance subsidiaries - Allianz General Insurance Company (Malaysia) Berhad ("Allianz General") and Allianz Life Insurance Malaysia Berhad ("Allianz Life"). Allianz General is one of the leading general insurers in Malaysia and has a broad spectrum of services in personal lines, small to medium enterprise business and large industrial risks. The GWP for general insurance business for financial year 2021 reached a mark of RM2.43 billion. Allianz Life offers a comprehensive range of life and health insurance and investment-linked products and for the financial year 2021, Allianz Life recorded a GWP of RM3.26 billion and is one of the fastest growing life insurers in Malaysia. Allianz Malaysia has 32 branches nationwide.

In 2021, Allianz Malaysia won The Edge Billion Ringgit Club (BRC) Financial Services (below RM10 billion market capitalisation) award for the highest growth in profit after tax (PBT) over three years. The Company also bagged the

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Malaysia International Business Awards 2021 (Life Insurance category) and three awards at the Global Banking & Finance Awards: Insurance Brand of the Year Malaysia 2021; Best General Insurance Product Malaysia 2021; and Best Insurance Social Media Engagement Malaysia 2021. In 2020, Allianz Malaysia was awarded the Industry Excellence Award for financial services at the MSWG-ASEAN Corporate Governance Awards. The Company also ranked seventh amongst the Top 100 Companies for Overall Corporate Governance and Performance (by Rank) and 16th amongst the Top 100 Companies for Corporate Governance Disclosure (by Rank).

To learn more about Allianz Malaysia, visit allianz.com.my

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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.

**Including non-consolidated entities with Allianz customers.*

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