

# JUNIOR EMIRATES ATHLETICS CONFERENCE



**OFFICIAL LEAGUE HANDBOOK**  
**For Schools, Athletic Directors & Coaches**  
**2025-2026**

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# JEAC Mission Statement

The Junior Emirates Athletics Conference (JEAC) offers students in Grades 4-6 an opportunity to have fun, participate in and learn the fundamental skills of soccer, track and field and basketball. The focus of the JEAC is to reinforce the value of sportsmanship, respect, teamwork and self-discipline through healthy and fair competition.

## JEAC Philosophy Statement

**Grade 4 and 5:** At this level the JEAC program is entirely inclusive and accommodating of all ability levels. It is focused on commitment to a team, fostering the enjoyment of organized sport, fundamental skill development, sportsmanship and learning through game play.

**Grade 6:** The focus of the JEAC program at this level is to continue the development begun in Grades 4 and 5 and begins to introduce concepts of healthy, safe competition. Ability levels are identified and teams formed in preparation for competition and jamborees. The emphasis is still focused on fundamental development with an introduction to competition preparation for the selective school programs beginning at the Middle School level.

## JEAC Statement of Sportsmanship

The purpose of the Junior Emirates Conference (JEAC) is to provide a venue for students from the member schools to participate in athletic events in an environment that is safe, challenging, professional and educational. Each participant is given the opportunity to demonstrate her/his best ability while maintaining a spirit of respect and cooperation with fellow students from various international backgrounds.

Each event involves students and adults in their different roles as athletes, competitors, participants, coaches, sports officials and spectators. All those involved in the event are expected to uphold the same spirit and cooperation. This spirit is demonstrated by fair play among competitors, positive encouragement from participants and coaches, cooperation among participants, impartial judgements from officials and respectful enthusiasm from spectators.

The behavior of adults is crucial to the successful educational aspect of the event. The adults act as models for our students. Therefore profanity, the condemnation of coaches or officials or any behavior that is disrespectful or degrading to the JEAC standard of sportsmanship, jeopardizes the purposes of the JEAC organization and, most of all, jeopardizes the quality of the experience for the participants.

As the event ensues, we ask that all of our parents, coaches, officials and participants keep this vision of purpose in mind.

## **By-Laws**

### **Article I: Name and Purpose**

#### Section 1.01

The name of this voluntary, unincorporated and non-profit organization shall be the Junior Emirates Athletics Conference (JEAC)

#### Section 1.02

The JEAC is the governing body that manages and administers the interscholastic regular seasons and end of season Jamborees amongst its member schools. JEAC substantiates the interscholastic athletics as an integral component of the total educational process and promotes high ideals of good citizenship and sportsmanship. JEAC formulates and maintains policies and enforces uniformity of standards in the organization.

### **Article II: Membership**

#### Section 2.01

Full Membership of the JEAC consists of philosophically aligned American and International Schools within the Dubai and Abu Dhabi regions of the UAE.

#### Section 2.02

Membership is valid for the academic school year. All membership issues will be determined by a majority vote of Full Members in a closed session.

#### Section 2.03

Members are expected to attend all meetings and the JEAC reserves the right to sanction any school (up to expulsion), which does not fulfill this obligation. Each member school must send and support a school representative whose responsibility is to receive and distribute information regarding games, Jamborees and meetings. It is recommended that this individual be an Athletic Director, Activity Director or Head of Physical Education.

### **Article III: Officers**

#### Section 3.01

The JEAC Executive Committee shall consist of the Athletic Directors of the Full Member Schools with one school designated as the Chair of JEAC on a two-year rotational basis. Please see the JEAC Chairperson rotation below:

2023-2025	ACS
2025-2027	DAS
2027-2029	AISA
2029-2031	GAA
2031-2033	ASD
2033-2035	DAA

#### Section 3.02

The Chairperson may be an Athletic Director, Activity Director or Head of Physical Education. The term of office shall be two (2) years commencing at the beginning of the following academic year.

#### Section 3.03

Officer may be removed by a three-fourths vote of the entire membership present and voting.

### **Article IV: Responsibilities**

#### Section 4.01

The function of the Chairperson shall be:

- To ensure that JEAC member schools operate under the rules and regulations contained in the JEAC Handbook.
- To review the JEAC Handbook on an annual basis and ensure that its contents are accurate.
- To identify and be responsible for proposing a rotation of host sites for Jamborees and to ensure that each member school fulfills its hosting and financial obligations on an annual basis.
- To ensure that member schools meet the required Jamboree organization standards contained in the JEAC Handbook and hold member schools accountable for these standards.
- To act as an accrediting body for the Member schools and evaluate all schools on a regular basis. Assess if schools applying for membership to a particular sport have the capabilities of hosting Jamborees and advise the membership on its findings.
- In addition, formally, assess the quality of each jamboree including the level of sportsmanship displayed by the school, its student-athletes and its coaches and hold member schools accountable for upholding these standards.
- To act as mediators in the event of a dispute between schools and to act as a “Grievance Committee” when required.
- To act as a recommending body to the membership
- To facilitate the three (3) meetings per year.

### **Article V: Meetings**

#### Section 5.01

There shall be three (3) business meetings each academic year – Fall (September) will be a one (1) day meeting. The Winter (January) meeting will be a one (1) day meeting and the Spring (May) will be a one (1) day meeting. These meeting sites for the subsequent year shall be set each year the at the Spring meeting.

#### Section 5.02

Meetings shall begin at 10:00am with a maximum time of four (4) hours unless extenuating circumstances exist which must be established prior to the meeting. The Spring meeting agenda will include a period of time devoted exclusively to establishing the following year's Jamboree and game schedules.

#### Section 5.03

The Chairperson shall have the discretion to call special meetings at any time for important matters, but prior notice must be provided to the membership at the earliest convenience.

#### Section 5.04

A quorum shall exist at any meeting with the presence of five full member schools.

#### Section 5.05

In the absence of a quorum, business may still be discussed, but no items requiring a vote of the membership may be finalized.

#### Section 5.06

The Robert's Rules of Order shall govern all proceedings.

### **Article VI: Voting**

#### Section 6.01

The right to vote on any and all issues is reserved for Full Members only. Each school shall receive one (1) vote on any issue within its voting purview.

#### Section 6.02

A simple majority of the votes cast (excluding abstentions) shall be required for the passage of any business item.

#### Section 6.03

As a school's representative, members are entitled to vote on any issue within the purview of their respective school.

#### Section 6.04

There shall be no provision for proxy votes and/or votes submitted in advance of a meeting in writing by non-attendees.

## **Article VII: Proposals**

### Section 7.01

For a proposal to be considered by the organization, the written proposal must be received by the chairperson and Full Member schools at least five (5) business days prior to the Spring Meeting.

## **Article VIII: Non-Discrimination Statement**

### Section 8.01

The policy of the JEAC is that discrimination against any school and/or individual for reasons of race, creed, color, religion, sexual orientation, national origin, sex and/or handicap is specifically prohibited.

### Section 8.02

Non-adherences to this policy may result in censure of the offending school and/or individual to include sanctions against the school and a written statement by the Chairperson to the respective Head of School.

## **Article IX: Dissolution**

### Section 9.01

This organization may be dissolved by a three-fourths vote (including abstentions) of the entire membership whether present or absent at the meeting at which dissolution is voted upon. There shall be no provision for proxy votes and/or votes submitted in advance of a meeting in writing by non-attendees.

### Section 9.02

A dissolution vote may only be held at one of the two (2) regularly scheduled business meetings.

## **Article X: Amendments**

### Section 10.01

The JEAC By-Laws may be amended by a majority vote of the full member schools

### Section 10.02

Proposed amendments must be presented in writing to the membership either in advance or at the actual meeting itself.

# JEAC MEMBERSHIP 2024-2025

## Full Members of JEAC (6)

- American Community School of Abu Dhabi (ACS)
- American School of Dubai (ASD)
- Dubai American Academy (DAA)
- Dunecrest American School (DAS)
- GEMS American Academy of Abu Dhabi (GAA)
- American International School of Abu Dhabi (AISA)

## Full Membership Criteria

A school will retain its Full Membership status if it has fulfilled the following criteria on an annual basis:

- Are willing and able to host the JEAC AD Meetings on a rotational basis.
- Send a minimum of one representative to the JEAC AD Meetings.
- Schools must host JEAC events as allocated on the host site rotation determined at the Spring AD meeting.
- Participate in the majority of scheduled Jamborees.
- Abides by the rules and regulations of the JEAC Handbook.

## New Membership Applications

A school seeking initial membership in JEAC must complete the formal JEAC application and submit to the JEAC Chairperson no later than one month prior to the Spring Planning Meeting. Schools will be considered for JEAC Membership if they:

- Operate as a school whose program promotes the types of activities sponsored by the JEAC and are philosophically aligned.
- Have on-campus facilities necessary or access to suitable facilities to host major JEAC activities and be willing and able financially support JEAC events and programs.
- New member schools must be located in the greater Dubai/Abu Dhabi area.

## Force Majeure on Membership Status

If a situation arises, which is considered to be beyond the control of the school involved, which causes the school to not meet the minimum criteria established for their membership status, the Full Membership may vote to uphold their membership status or not. Each situation will be reviewed on an individual basis at the Spring Meeting.

## Membership Hosting Responsibilities

Schools currently involved in JEAC events are expected to host JEAC Jamborees on a rotational basis as outlined by the Hosting Rotation.

## Host school responsibilities are as follows:

- Distribute all Jamboree information to participating schools.

- Designate a site manager to be present throughout the Jamboree.
- All JEAC Athletic events will have a nurse on site at the host school's expense.
- Arrange all officiating and necessary volunteers.
- Arrange a coach's room where food and refreshments are available.
- Arrange food for tournament participants, this will be at the expense of all visiting schools.
- Complete a tournament report (google doc link here) within one (1) week of the completion of the event and submit it to all member schools.

**Visiting Schools responsibilities are as follows:**

- Arrive at the host school no later than 9:30am
- Know and observe the host school campus guidelines
- Visiting coaches are responsible for their student athletes at all times.
- Observe the organization guidelines for maximum and minimum participants per team.

**Uniforms**

Teams are required to have each player wear matching uniforms during the Jamboree. Numbers are not required.

**Membership Attendance Responsibilities**

Teams participating in JEAC Jamborees must arrive in good time, at least 30 minutes prior to the start time. However, teams are permitted to leave the event after the conclusion of their final scheduled games.

**JEAC Athletic Director Meetings**

These meetings will take place at the same time and venue as EAC meetings. (06/24)

# Sports and Teams

JEAC Sports are available for students in Grades 4-6 and are open to both boys and girls.

The following table shows the sports and seasons for JEAC 2023-2024

Season One	Season Two	Season Three
September to November	November to January	April to May
Soccer	Track & Field	Basketball

The JEAC calendar spans the entire academic year. A final calendar of events will be established at the Spring Meeting for the upcoming school year.

## Eligibility for Participation

JEAC conference recommends that each JEAC member school establish academic and ethical standards for participation eligibility, which are consistent with the school's educational philosophy. Students must participate in the grade level they are enrolled. In the event of a shortage of participant number students may play up in the older grade level in order to help field a team, but will then be ineligible for the lower grade level team.

## Jamboree Organization

### Officials

Every effort must be made to obtain experienced adult officials for all JEAC Jamborees. The conference recognizes that this is not always possible and that interpretations and applications of rules and judgements of officials are subjective. The orderly conduct of an activity dictates the decisions of officials be honored as final. Good sportsmanship is expected of all participants, including coaches. All JEAC games and Jamborees will be required to have officials sanctioned by the Athletic Director. The JEAC must have adult officials for all exchanges and jamborees.

### Payment Officials

It is the host school's responsibility to ensure payment of the officials.

### Coaches Meetings

The conference recommends that the Athletic Director of the JEAC activity/event conduct a meeting of the coaches and officials before the start of the activity to discuss rules and procedures. All coaches are required to attend the coaches' meeting, which will take place at

9:30am onwards prior to the start of each tournament and events. Tournaments cannot start before 10:00am to accommodate travel time between Abu Dhabi and Dubai.

### **Protest/Grievance Procedures**

Differences in opinion or interpretation of rules and regulations that may arise during an JEAC activity/event will be handled by the host school event director (Athletic Director). The director will consult rule books, JEAC by-laws, and all parties involved, including officials, to resolve the matter as soon as possible while all parties are in attendance at the activity/event site.

The event director of a school may submit a letter to the JEAC Chairperson if questions concerning JEAC by-laws still remain at the conclusion of an activity/event. Any questions submitted will be discussed at the next conference meeting.

The event director of any JEAC activity/event is requested to inform the JEAC Chairperson as soon as possible should any major problems and/or incidents arise during the activity.

Following a JEAC event, in the case of a complaint being submitted to the JEAC Chairperson, the chairperson has the authority to investigate the incident as necessary and to take action deemed appropriate, including suspension of the Jamboree until the matter can be resolved. Schools involved in disciplinary matters will be required to submit a report and/or present an explanation to JEAC members. The Full Membership has the authority to decide on appropriate action.

### **Awards**

There **will be no** awards presented at the Jamborees.

### **Adding a New Sport**

All JEAC member schools must have three-fourths majority to the addition of a new sport.

## **JEAC Code of Conduct**

The pursuit of good sportsmanship is a priority for JEAC and its member schools. Coaches, administrators, athletes, support groups, parents and fans are expected to display good sportsmanship at all regular season and tournament competitions. Member schools are encouraged to have policies that promote good sportsmanship.

General guidelines include, but are not limited to:

- No offensive or profane lyrics on recorded music.
- No playing music during playing action.
- No air horns, whistles.
- No noise makers of any kind may be used during the playing action.
- No laser pens during any contest.

# Code of Ethics for Players

Sportsmanship demands and expects that athletes:

- Recognize and applaud honestly and wholeheartedly the efforts of their team or opponents regardless of the result.
- Give opponents full credit when they win and congratulate them on their success, regardless of your disappointment.
- Play hard at all times in spite of all hardships; good teams never give up, quit, complain or argue with their teammates, coaches, officials or fans.
- Support and encourage their team members on the playing field, as a fan, in the hallways of the school, in the classroom, and in the community.

# Code of Ethics for Parents and Spectators

The school expects parents and spectators to:

- Conduct themselves as mature role models, supporting the team in a positive manner.
- Respect the decisions made by the game officials and tournament personnel.
- Cheer for their team whether they are successful or not and use phrases that are positive and uplifting.
- Never “boo” the visiting team or cheer when the opposition makes a bad play or performs poorly.
- Recognize outstanding performances on either side of the playing court.

The athlete expects parents and spectators to:

- Support the players, team and coach regardless of the outcome of the match/game.
- Cheer in a positive manner at all times during the game.
- Not interfere with the coaching, officiating, or practice routine of any team.
- Support the athletes with enthusiasm and composure.

Sportsmanship demands and expects parents and spectators to:

- React in a positive manner to a coaching or officiating decision that may seem questionable.
- Display good sportsmanlike behavior.
- Treat visiting teams with respect.
- Treat all those associated with the event with respect.

# JEAC Disciplinary Procedure

**If any problem should occur with regard to the behavior of any participant during a JEAC game or Jamboree event, the following procedures will be enforced:**

- The host school Athletic Director will be notified of the behavioral problem.
- The students' coach/sponsor will be notified of the issue.
- The director of the activity/event and the coach/sponsor of the student(s) concerned will strive to determine all the facts relative to the situation, confer, and attempt to reach a common understanding of the problem and situation.
- The director of the activity/event will then determine what action will be taken with regard to the student(s) participation in the event.

**Courses of action available to the Athletic Director of the event are:**

- The problem or situation is not of sufficient magnitude to merit disciplinary action.
- The student(s) will not be allowed to participate further in the activity/event.
- The student(s) will be allowed to continue participating in the activity/event with a formal report of the problem or situation being made in writing by the Athletic Director of the host school and mailed to the school administration of the student's school, plus a copy to the person responsible for the school athletic program.
- If the problem or situation is of sufficient magnitude to merit disciplinary action, JEAC recommends that as a courtesy, the host school Athletic Director makes telephone contact with the Athletic Director of the student's school as soon as possible.
- The coach/sponsor of the student(s) may not set aside any disciplinary action taken by the director of the event, but may supplement the director's action in any way he/she deems appropriate and in accord with his/her own school's established procedures or philosophy.

# Sports Rules and Regulations

## *Soccer*

### **League Play**

FIFA rules with the following JEAC exceptions

The following are JEAC exceptions for the following levels of play: Grade 4, 5 and 6

### **Team Size**

Games will be played 7-a-side teams, six (6) field players and one (1) goalie

### **Tournament Play Modifications**

Depending on the number of teams participating the schedule will reflect and show an equal number of games and playing time for each school at the tournament director's discretion.

### **Field Size**

The 7-a-side field should be approximately 22m x 30m (quarter of the fields). The goal should be no bigger than the dimensions of 6' x 18'. The goalkeeper box will be marked with a line or cones. Ratio of the semi-circle/box will be determined by size of goal and field. Players are allowed in the circle/box during open play, but must retreat on goal kicks.

### **Substitutions**

There will be unlimited substitution allowed throughout the game. Either team may substitute on goals, corner-kicks, throw-ins or any dead ball deemed by the referee. Substituted players can leave the field from any part to help speed up play.

### **Uniforms**

Teams should be dressed in alike uniforms, numbers are not necessary. Goalkeepers must wear a different color than field players, if teams are in similar colors pinnies/bibs will be used.

### **Equipment**

- A good quality soccer ball size 4 must be used for all games.
- No metal cleats are permitted.
- All players are required to wear shin-guards.

### **Other exceptions**

- There will be no offside rule.
- Yellow and red cards will not be used – for any serious infringement, the referee should give the player a warning, which could result in the player being asked to leave the field of play. This should also result in the player/coach discussion.
- The back-pass rule to the goalkeeper will be applied.

- On goal kicks the opposing team must retreat behind a designated  $\frac{3}{4}$  line/cone to all the goalkeepers the opportunity to pass or kick the ball.
- Each team is asked to adhere to the equal playing time agreement for all players.
- Foul throw-in, is a first warning, on the second offence it is a change of possession.

# Sports Rules and Regulations

## *Track and Field*

### **Team Sizes**

There is an unlimited number of athletes that are allowed to participate

### **Grade 4/5 Events**

- 50-meter spring
- 200-meters
- 4x100 meters relay
- 50-meters Mini Hurdles (12 inches)
- Long Jump
- High Jump
- Quoit Throw
- Softball Shot Put

### **Grade 6 Events**

- 100-meters sprint
- 200-meters sprint
- 4x100 meters relay
- 50-meters Mini Hurdles (12 inches)
- Long Jump
- High Jump
- Quoit Throw
- Shot Put

### **Standard Equipment to be used in all JEAC Events**

- Shot Put – 1Kg
- Quoit (Rubber Ring)

# Sports Rules and Regulations

## *Basketball*

### **League Play**

FIBA rules with the following JEAC exceptions

### **Team Sizes**

There will be five (5) players on the court to start the game.

### **Equipment**

- A good quality leather basketball must be used. Size 28.5 ( ) will be used for both boys and girls' games. size 6
- Students should not have any watches or jewelry on during games.

### **Court/Basket Height**

All basketball courts should be of regulation size and dimensions, and the height for the baskets should be eight (8) feet where possible.

### **Uniforms**

Teams should be dressed in alike uniforms, numbers are not necessary, if teams are in similar colors pinnies/bibs will be used.

### **Tournament Play Modifications**

Depending on the number of teams participating the schedule will reflect and show an equal number of games and playing time for each school at the tournament director's discretion.

### **Substitutions**

There will be unlimited substitution allowed throughout the game. Substitutions are made on the team's possession in accordance to FIBA rules.

### **Other Exceptions**

- There will be no full court defense allowed, the defending team will retreat inside the defending three-point line. Once the ball passes the midcourt line, the defending team may become active. If the offensive team attempts to fast break on a rebound, the defenders may attempt to steal the ball.
- Teams are only allowed to play man to man defense.
- If a player is fouled (non-shooting), possession of the ball is awarded to the offensive team on the sideline.
- If a player is fouled in the act of shooting, 1 point will be awarded and the possession of the ball is awarded to the offensive team on the sideline in line with the foul.
- If the basket is made an automatic three-point play is awarded to the opposition on the end line under the basket.

- Each team is asked to adhere to the equal playing time agreement for all players.
- Scoreboard will be turned off once a team goes up by 20 points.

# JUNIOR EMIRATES ATHLETIC CONFERENCE (JEAC)

## *Application for Membership*

Name of School: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Fax: \_\_\_\_\_

Name of School Administrator: \_\_\_\_\_

Name of Athletic Director: \_\_\_\_\_

Name of Activities Director: \_\_\_\_\_

Type of Curriculum: \_\_\_\_\_

Student Population: \_\_\_\_\_

### Questions

Describe in details (including # of participants, facilities use, etc.) recent inter-scholastic activities in which your school has participated.

Which JEAC activities could your school host using school-owned facilities? Please describe these facilities in detail and include photos if possible.

Describe personnel available, and qualified, to referee/judge these activities.

What emergency medical arrangements would you provide during hosted activities?

Describe in detail inter-scholastic activities your school has recently hosted (including # of participants, officiating capability)

Has your school authorities read and agreed to support JEAC policies?

Why is your school applying for membership to the JEAC

Application submitted by

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(Name of Athletic Director)

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(Head of School)

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(Date)