

CRICKET SPORT INFORMATION GUIDE







Cricket

Cricket brings strategy and skill together in a beloved sport rich in tradition and passion. Masters teams will showcase batting prowess, bowling finesse, and brilliant fielding in exciting matchups.

Competition dates

The cricket competition will be conducted in accordance with international cricket regulations and adapted to the specific needs of the Open Masters Games Abu Dhabi 2026 (OMGAD2026), ensuring fairness, safety, and competitiveness across all age categories.

The provisional Cricket competition schedule for OMGAD2026 is as follows:

February 7 Saturday	February 8 Sunday	February 9 Monday	February 10 Tuesday	February 11 Wednesday	February 12 Thursday	February 13 Friday
			Day off			

All dates and times are subject to change, pending final entries received. A detailed schedule by event for each discipline will be developed throughout 2025.

Competition venue: Abu Dhabi Cricket and Sports Hub, Abu Dhabi

 Pin Location

Team Structure

Teams will consist of a minimum of 11 players before each match. However, there is no maximum number of players on a team.

Competition format

The Cricket competition at OMGAD2026 will follow the **T20 format – 20 overs per side**, in accordance with international limited-overs rules.

The competition will also include separate events for men and women, though combined events may be held in some cases.

Athletes will compete within the appropriate age categories as outlined by the OMGAD2026 age group guidelines.

Men	Competitive / Recreational	30+, 40+, 50+, 60+
Women		

Para Cricket	30+, 40+, 50+
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In line with the sport-specific rules, an athlete must compete in their designated age group, with their age determined as at 31 December 2026. For example, if you turn 40 by 31 December 2026, you would compete in the 40-44 age category.

If there are insufficient entries in an age category, categories may be combined in order to conduct a viable competition. The awarding of medals will not be affected, that is, individuals will still be awarded medals in the age category in which they originally entered.

In the OMGAD2026 cricket competition, scores will be determined by the total runs accumulated by each team in their allotted overs. The team with the highest score at the end of the match wins. In the event of a tie at the end of a match, tiebreaker rules may be implemented, such as a super over or other pre-agreed method to determine the winner. Throughout the tournament, players' individual performances, including runs scored, wickets taken, and overall team performance, will be tracked for ranking purposes. Rankings will be updated after each round, with teams placed according to their win-loss record and total runs. If teams are tied in their rankings, net run rate (NRR) may be used as a deciding factor to determine which team advances to the finals or next round. The final standings in the competition will be determined by the outcomes of the final rounds, with the highest-ranked teams earning the opportunity to compete for medals.

Athletes participating in the cricket competition at the OMGAD2026 are expected to bring and use their own personal cricket equipment. This includes, but is not limited to pads, gloves, helmets, abdominal guards, and appropriate footwear. All gear should be in good condition and suitable for competitive play. While the organisers will provide match balls, bats and team bibs if necessary, personal equipment is the responsibility of each athlete. Participants are also encouraged to ensure their equipment meets safety standards, and to avoid any items that could pose a risk to themselves or others during play.

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Technical Meeting

One representative from each team is expected to attend the Cricket Technical Meeting prior to the commencement of the event. Further information will be confirmed closer to the start of the competition.

Technical delegate

The Technical Delegate endorsed by International Cricket Board will be announced in Version 2 of the Guide. The Technical Delegate will oversee the implementation of all sport specific rules and requirements at the Games.

Updates

This guide will be updated Version 2 by 1 September 2025. Important additional information will be available at that time. In the meantime, please address all inquiries to: sports@omgad2026.ae

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