

Dear Editor,
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The Allianz Junior Badminton Championship doles out special grants to groom future stars

Kuala Lumpur, 19 November 2023 – The second Allianz Junior Badminton Championship (AJBC) Grand Finals reached its climax at Stadium Bukit Kiara, Kuala Lumpur, on 19 November 2023 with a total of eight winners in the U-15 and U-13 Boys and Girls categories consisting of Singles and Doubles.

Out of over 2,600 players that participated in the thrilling Qualifying Rounds, which included three more new rounds in Sabah, Sarawak and Pahang, only 183 made the cut for the AJBC Grand Finals. For the record, a total of four categories (boys' singles, boys' doubles, girls' singles and girls' doubles) were contested in the Under-13 and Under-15 age categories. The Qualifying Rounds were held in 10 locations across peninsula and East Malaysia between July and November.

After four days of intense competition, the U-13 category saw double winners in both Boys and Girls Singles and Doubles. Marcus Hang from SMK Tanah Puteh, Pahang took home the Boys Singles and Doubles titles with Teoh Chong Yee from Regent International School Kuantan while the Johor's Low Zi Yu of SMJK Seg Hwa captured the Girls Singles title before returning to court to partner Auni Fatihin of SMK Kangkar Pulai to win the Girls Doubles category.

In the U-15 category, there were different champions in all categories - Tiew Yi Cheng, SMK Methodist Telok Datok for the Boys Singles and, Damien Ling, SMK Bandar Utama Damansara (4) and Ethan Oh, Sekolah Menengah Sri KDU for Boys Doubles while the Girls category saw Nur Aina Maisarah, SMK Sri Intan win the Singles title while Giovanna Koay, SMJK Perempuan China Pulau Pinang partnered Lee Joinne, SMJK Jit Sin for the Doubles title.



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Allianz Malaysia announced today an allocation of an RM2,000 special grant for each of the winners for them to use to support their future competition expenses including entry fees, purchase of equipment, coaching and others. This grant is in addition to the RM1,000 prize money offered for AJBC Grand Finals winners.

Allianz Malaysia Berhad Chief Executive Officer Sean Wang said the high participation rate was an indication of the enormous interest for the sport amongst youngsters. "As AJBC does not charge entry fees, many more are able to compete, allowing new talent to be identified. In two years, AJBC has become an important platform for young players to prove themselves.

"This year's competition was more intense than last year and it showcased the quality of young players we have in Malaysia. The larger pool of players augurs well for our objective of unearthing hidden gems in every corner of the country".

He further added that the recent World Junior Championship showed us that there are no more traditional powerhouses like Malaysia, China, Indonesia or Indonesia. Many countries are closing the gap with the powerhouses and as a responsible corporate citizen, this is sort of a national service to identify future talents and assist our national body in having bigger group of players for selection.

AJBC 2023 is supported by the Badminton Association of Malaysia (BAM) and the Malaysian Schools Sports Council (MSSM).

To learn more about the Allianz Junior Badminton Championship, visit:

<https://www.allianz.com.my/personal/allianz-at-a-glance/activities-and-initiatives/allianz-junior-badminton-championship.html>

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AJBC Grand Finals 2023

Under-13 Winners

Boys' Singles	Marcus Hang	SMK Tanah Puteh
Boys' Doubles	Marcus Hang Teoh Chong Yee	SMK Tanah Puteh Regent International School Kuantan
Girls' Singles	Low Zi Yu	SMJK Seg Hwa
Girls' Doubles	Auni Fatihin Low Zi Yu	SMK Kangkar Pulai SMJK Seg Hwa

Under-15 Winners

Boys' Singles	Tiew Yi Cheng	SMK Methodist Telok Datok
Boys' Doubles	Damien Ling Ethan Oh	SMK Bandar Utama Damansara (4) Sekolah Menengah Sri KDU
Girls' Singles	Nur Aina Maisarah	SMK Sri Intan
Girls' Doubles	Giovanna Koay Lee Joinne	SMJK Perempuan China Pulau Pinang SMJK Jit Sin

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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 2022 reached a mark of RM2.66 billion. Allianz Life offers a comprehensive range of life and health insurance and investment-linked products and for the financial year 2022, Allianz Life recorded a GWP of RM3.37 billion and is one of the fastest growing life insurers in Malaysia.

Allianz Malaysia has 31 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 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.



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About Allianz

The Allianz Group is one of the world's leading insurers and asset managers with more than 122 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 683 billion euros** on behalf of its insurance customers. Furthermore, our asset managers PIMCO and Allianz Global Investors manage about 1.6 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 among the leaders in the insurance industry in the Dow Jones Sustainability Index. In 2022, over 159,000 employees achieved total revenues of 152.7 billion euros and an operating profit of 14.2 billion euros for the group.

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

*** As of December 31, 2022*



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