



USIG 2019 | Athlete Frequently Asked Questions

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Note about this document: In an attempt to provide the most current information, we will continue to update this document. Please visit this link periodically to review updates. This document is current as of 10/07/2019

General Overview

Q: When and where are the United States Ismaili Games (USIG) being held?

A: Dallas (Cricket):

- Check-In: November 20th, 2019
- Games: November 21st to November 24th, 2019

Austin (All Other Sports):

- Check-In: November 28th, 2019
- Games: November 29th to December 1st, 2019

Q: What are the sports being offered?

A:

Team Sports	Sport	Women's	Men's	Junior Women's	Junior Men's	Co-Ed
	Basketball	✓	✓		✓	
	Soccer		✓		✓	
	Volleyball - International	✓	✓			
	Flag Football	✓	✓			
	Volleyball - Traditional	✓				
	Cricket - Hardball		✓			
	Throwball	✓				
	Dance					✓
	Softball					✓
	Ultimate Frisbee					✓
Individual Sports	Sport	Women's	Men's	Junior Women's	Junior Men's	Mixed
	Badminton	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
	Chess	✓	✓	✓	✓	
	Golf	✓	✓	✓	✓	
	Squash	✓	✓			
	Swimming	✓	✓	✓	✓	
	Table Tennis	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
	Tennis	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
	Track & Field	✓	✓	✓	✓	

Athletes: We recommend that you please contact your Regional Manager or AKYSB before confirming your travel plans to ensure that your qualifying sport will be offered at USIG 2019.

Q: Whom can I contact to get more information about my region?

A: Local AKYSB representative or Regional Manager (RM) from the website [here](#).

Registration

Q: Will someone be contacting me to let me know that I can proceed with registration?

A: The Regional Manager (RM) in your region will contact you. However, if you participated in the Regional Games and believe that you have qualified to participate in the USIG, please contact the Regional Manager or local AKYSB representative for details. All athletes must receive confirmation from their local Regional Manager before they will be allowed to officially register to compete at the tournament.

Q: How do I register?

A: Qualified athletes will receive an email with a registration link from their respective RMs.

Q: How much does registration cost?

A: Registration cost for all athletes and coaches is \$325.

Q: What is included in the registration cost?

A: Please see the list below:

- Meals from Thursday Evening through Sunday afternoon
- Snacks and Beverages from Thursday Evening through Sunday afternoon, including snacks at the athlete's lounge.
- Athlete's lounge
- Memorabilia
- Transportation
 - Austin- Shuttle from Austin Bergstrom International Airport to designated hotels. (Please read elsewhere in this FAQ document to see the schedule for hours and days on which transportation will be provided from the airport to the designated hotels and from the hotels to the airport)
 - Austin- Shuttle from designated hotels to designated venues
- Playing Jerseys
- In addition to the above, your registration fee contributes to the cost of renting the sports venues, paying professional referees (in most sports), and the purchasing of the equipment used in the sports.

*Please note that hotel is NOT included with the registration fees.

Q: Who do I give my registration payment to and can we pay electronically?

A: Regional Manager (RM) or Local AKYSB Representative. Acceptable forms of payment include checks, cashier checks and money orders. They must be made payable to "Council for USA" and memo should state "USIG 2019". Cash will NOT be accepted.

Q: When is the last day to register? When is the last day to pay?

A: Athlete are strongly encouraged to register as soon as possible. Registration is scheduled to close on October 15th, 2019 at 11:59pm PST. Athlete registration payments are due by Friday October 25th, 2019. Registration will be deemed complete AFTER the payment is made and forms are signed.

Q: Is registration required for spectators or chaperones? What is the cost for chaperones?

A: There is no registration for spectators. Chaperone's are registered along with the Junior Athletes they will be accompanying. Chaperone cost is \$125. This fee includes the following:

- Meals from Thursday Evening through Sunday afternoon
- Snacks and Beverages from Thursday Evening through Sunday afternoon, including snacks at the athlete's lounge.
- Athlete's lounge
- Memorabilia
- Transportation
 - Austin- Shuttle from Austin Bergstrom International Airport to designated hotels. (Please read elsewhere in this FAQ document to see the schedule for hours and days on which transportation will be provided from the airport to the designated hotels and from the hotels to the airport)
 - Austin- Shuttle from designated hotels to designated venues

Travel

Q: Which airport should I fly into?

A: When booking flights, please fly into:

- For Cricket - Dallas Fort Worth International Airport or Dallas Love Field Airport
- For All Other Sports - Austin Bergstrom International Airport

Q: When can I book my travel?

A: Athletes are recommended to contact their Regional Manager or local AKYSB representative before confirming travel plans to ensure that their qualifying sport will be offered at USIG 2019.

Q: When should I arrive and depart?

A: Athletes should review the [weekend overview schedule](#) on the USIG 2019 website whilst making flight reservations. Transportation is currently being scheduled to operate from 3:00pm to 9:00pm on November 28th for Austin, so athletes should plan to arrive no later than 9:00pm. Every effort is being made to operate shuttles as frequently as possible, however, it is possible that those traveling into Austin Bergstrom Airport will have to wait some time for the next shuttle to depart for USIG registration and the hotels. Individuals arriving after 9pm or who have flight delays that result in them arriving after 9pm may have to make their own arrangements for transportation from the airport to the hotels.

The program is currently scheduled to end at 2pm on Sunday December 1st in Austin. Athletes and chaperones planning on taking a shuttle back from the sports facilities/hotels should plan flights on or after 4:30pm on Sunday. Efforts will be made to schedule shuttles to the airport as early as possible but those with flights before 4:30pm on December 1st may be required to make their own arrangements for transportation to the airport.

Q: How do I book a hotel room?

A: The USIG team has negotiated rates at select hotels. Athletes are responsible for making their own reservations directly with the hotel and urged to complete their own due diligence on hotel options, amenities, pricing, and so on. Links to hotels with negotiated rates are included in the athlete invitation letter and can be found [here](#) on the USIG 2019 website.

Q: Will there be transportation to and from the hotel?

A: Shuttle service will be provided from the host city's airport to the hotels with the negotiated discount code listed in the athlete invitation letter. Shuttle services will be provided from hotels with discount codes to designated sports venues.

Q: What is the cancellation policy if I book through the negotiated rates?

A: Cancellation and payments to hotel are between the athlete and the hotel. However, our understanding is that the cancellation policy for individual reservations booked under the group code is that cancellations made 72 hours before arrival will result in a full refund. Anything cancelled less than 72 hours in advance will be charged one night room and tax.

Participation

Q: Can I participate in 2 sports if I have qualified for both? (Including Dallas and Austin)

A: An athlete can only participate in one sport during USIG 2019. Dallas and Austin weekends are both part of USIG 2019. As such, an athlete may compete in only one sport between both weekends.

Q: Can I participate in USIG 2019 without playing in the Regional Games?

A: In order to compete at USIG 2019, an athlete must have participated and qualified through the regional games or be identified as an exceptional athlete from the respective region. In the latter scenario, Regional AKYSB Chair must be consulted for criteria.

Q: What is the exceptional athlete qualification criteria?

A: An athlete may participate in the USIG provided that an outside association professionally recognizes the athlete. Athletes under the age of 18 at the tournament date must be accompanied by a chaperone at all times, including lodging. Please contact the Regional Manager or local AKYSB representative for details on specific criteria for elite athletes. Elite athletes may only qualify in certain sports.

Q: Can athletes who have historically lived in the same region still play as a team if they are now in different regions?

A: If an athlete has moved to a new region “within” six months prior to the event date (i.e. November 21st, 2019 for Cricket and November 29th, 2019 for Other Sports), that athlete can choose to play from either region. If an athlete in a region longer than 6 months, they must play for the region in which they currently reside. College students can play from either home or school region. Regional Chairs must be consulted and aligned with.

Q: Can an athlete represent more than one region if they have played at multiple Regional Games with one or more sports?

A: No, athletes can participate in one sport and from one region. They must have played in that one sport and represented that one region at the regional games.

Q: How can a qualifying team from Regional Games fill spots that may be vacant?

A: The team that played at the regional games needs to be at least 50% intact for it to be considered eligible to play at USIG 2019 and pick up athletes for the vacant spots. The additional athletes picked up must have originally played that sport at the regional games from the region that team is representing.

For e.g., if a basketball team had 9 athletes signed up that played at the regional games, then at least 5 athletes should be willing and able to compete at USIG 2019 for the team to stand. If there are less than that, the team is considered dissolved and the remaining players will have to join the second place team to compete at USIG 2019.

Q: Can a non-Ismaili athlete participate at USIG 2019?

A: Only a non-Ismaili spouse or the non-Ismaili child of an Ismaili parent can participate.

Q: Can an athlete join another region’s team if they are interested in playing a team sport, but no teams are in place for the region they live in?

A: Yes, that athlete may represent another region if the home / original region is unable to send a team in that sport. This only applies to team sports. Both the Regional AKYSB Chair from the region in which the athlete resides as well as the region for which the athlete would like to complete must be consulted before the arrangement is finalized.

Q: What is the cutoff date for individuals who played at regional games as a junior athlete and now are signing up as an adult athlete?

A: Juniors must be 15 and under as at July 1st, 2019
Adults must be 16 and over as at July 1st, 2019

Q: How old do I need to be to participate in Ismaili Games?

A: Juniors:

- Team Sports: Athletes must be between 13 and 15 as at July 1st, 2019
- Individual Sports: Athletes must be 15 and under as at July 1st, 2019

Adults:

- Team Sports: Athletes must be 16 and over as at July 1st, 2019
- Individual Sports: Athletes must be 16 and over as at July 1st, 2019

Critical Notes:

- For team sports, exceptions may be made for “elite athletes”. Please consult with your AKYSB Regional Chairs for details and approval for elite athletes.

Q: Can elite athletes that qualify as elite but are under 16, compete in either category of Juniors or Regular?

A: Yes. Elite athletes under 16 may choose either adult or junior category to compete in.

Policies

Q: Who can be a chaperone?

A: All athletes under the age of 18 (as of Nov 28th, 2019) must be accompanied by a chaperone. The chaperone must be a parent of the minor athlete, or an individual designated by the parent. The chaperone can supervise up to a maximum of three (3) minors. A Chaperone cannot be an athlete in the USIG 2019 and must stay in the same accommodations as the minors he/she is chaperoning.

Q: Is there a zero-tolerance policy? If yes, please share details.

A: The zero-tolerance policy will apply both on and off the court(s) / field(s). Any violations of the policy will result in consequences. Details of the zero tolerance policy will be included in the athlete release and waiver forms.

Sports

Q: Which rules are in place for the sports being offered at USIG 2019?

A: Please visit the USIG 2019 website [sports page](#).

Q: Where are the sports fields/courts located?

A: Please visit the travel page on our USIG 2019 website for [venues](#).

Q: Do athletes need to bring their own sports equipment?

A: For individual sports (e.g. badminton, golf, table tennis, tennis, etc.), athletes may bring their own paddles / rackets / clubs, etc. Shared equipment such as balls / shuttles will be provided to the athletes. For team sports (e.g. basketball, volleyball, etc.), athletes will be provided with balls and other relevant and required equipment.

When You Arrive

Q: What time do the games start on Friday-Sunday and Thursday-Sunday for Cricket?

A: Please refer to the [weekend overview schedule](#) on the USIG 2019 website.

Q: What time will USIG Registration check in open on to retrieve my badge and jerseys?

A: Dallas: Wednesday November 20th, 2019 from 3pm to 9pm
Austin: Thursday November 28th, 2019 from 3pm to 9pm

Q: When will game schedules be provided?

A: Schedules will be made available one day prior to the first day of the Games..

Q: When do we get our jerseys and can our team make our own?

A: Each athlete will be given two jerseys at time of check in on November 20th, 2019 for Dallas and November 28th, 2019 for Austin. All athletes will be required to wear USIG 2019 provided jerseys while competing.

Q: Will there be shuttles to take us to each sporting facility?

A: Shuttles will be provided from the select hotels to and from the sporting venues. The specific shuttle schedule will be available upon arrival.

Other

Q: Does this USIG 2019 qualify for the next Jubilee Games?

A: Details for the next Jubilee Games are not currently available. We expect information in late 2019 or the first half of 2020.

Q: Will there be a USIG app to follow?

A: The team is actively working to determine the most effective way to communicate and engage the athletes as well as entire Jamat. Further details will be available later. In the meantime, please visit the USIG 2019 website USismailigames.org.

Q: Can an athlete be a volunteer?

A: An athlete can be a volunteer in non-sports related tasks.