



TOYOTA GAZOO Racing

# 2024 TOYOTA GAZOO RACING MENA ESPORTS CUP



## **GUIDELINES**

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Version 1.0

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## MENA Esports Vision

### Background

Today, the interest of Millennials and Generation Z youth in smart phones, video games and the digital world, in general, far outweighs their interest in Cars. This shift is mostly evident in the worldwide growth of ride sharing and ride hailing business models vs. the traditional car ownership model.

Digital devices and services continue to get cheaper for consumers and in some cases are free. They are also extremely accessible as highspeed internet has become the standard in most communities around the world. This has created a consumer sentiment that expects the same from all industries.

Motorsport has long been viewed as an expensive and exclusive activity, only accessible to people with a high level of disposable income and communities with an available infrastructure for Motorsport (i.e. clubs, tracks, sponsors...etc.). In the MENA region this is more noticeable as these resources are only found in limited areas.

Motorsport organizers are now in need to take serious steps to regain the passion of youth and make Motorsport more accessible to enthusiasts and aspiring young drivers.

The MENA Esports Cup ('The MENA Cup') aims to do that by making Motorsport:

- Digitally Innovative – capturing the interest of youth by partnering with one of the most advanced online driving simulator games.
- Accessible – As this cup will require minimal resources from drivers, this will make it easy for youth to participate.
- Inclusive – The first phase of this cup will allow drivers to participate from home and thus putting a focus on reaching the underrepresented demographics of the sport, which may have not had a chance to experience Motorsport before.



## Objectives

The objectives of this cup are:

1- To crown the fourth MENA Esports Champion.

Riding on the momentum of the 2021 MENA Esports Cup, Jordan Motorsport will be organizing the fourth consecutive version of the MENA Esports cup in Jordan. The ever-improving technology of simulators and games pushes the sport to, more accurately, emulate real life racing and gives Esports a very direct link to the FIA. By continuing to establish competitions that create racing champions in this field the FIA will ensure legitimacy to this new discipline and garner more interest in it.

2- To take motorsport into the digital realm in the MENA region.

The interest of youth lies in everything digital. Taking motorsport into the digital space opens it up to a much wider segment of potential racers who have been more interested in video games than car racing.

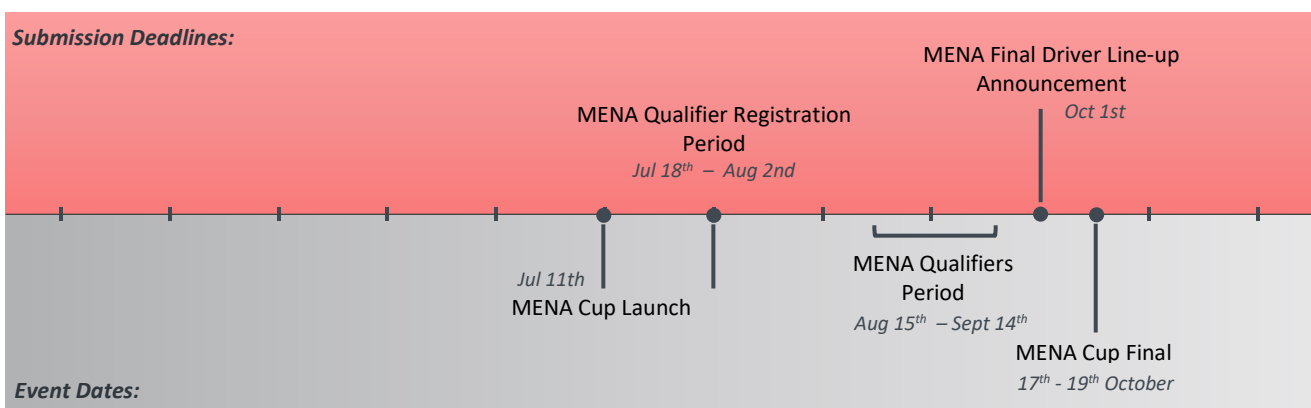
3- To put the spotlight on Esports and introduce it as a grass roots motorsport to discover talents in the MENA region.

As the accessibility to motorsport gets harder and more expensive, many talented youths have given up hope on taking the first step into participating and have turned their attention elsewhere. The MENA Cup will introduce Esports as an official and accessible motorsport that would allow drivers to explore their talents before making serious investments in Motorsport.

4- Aiding to establish motorsport as an accessible activity to a larger community of youth outside the conventional motorsport circles.

Esports does not have to be official and competitive. Anyone with a gaming console and some added hardware can experience this amazing sport. The MENA Cup will aim to highlight this and garner interest from the gaming community which numbers around 350 million users in the MEA region alone.

## Timeline



## Information Hub

Registration for all drivers and updated information will be available on [www.desertfoxracing.com/menacup/](http://www.desertfoxracing.com/menacup/)

## Sporting Regulations

### 1. General Conditions

Jordan Motorsport ('JMS') will organize the 2024 MENA Esports Cup competition ('MENA Cup'). The main goal of this competition is to crown the MENA Esports Champion. However, it also aims to highlight Esports as an accessible grass roots motorsport for aspiring racers as well as video gamers.

These Sporting Regulations have been laid down by the Jordan Motorsport (JMS). They are supplemented by:

- 1- A Sample Race Regulations for the MENA Qualifiers – *for reference only*.
- 2- The Technical Glitch Manual, which highlights the actions the Stewards will take in case of technical malfunctions in the game.

At a later stage, they will be supplemented by:

- 1- Brand Identity and the MENA Esports Cup for promotional use.
- 2- Entry Lists for the local MENA Qualifiers (each country separately).
- 3- The Race Regulations for the MENA Qualifiers – 1 week prior to event (each country separately).
- 4- The Race Regulations for the MENA Cup Final – 1 month prior to event.

For the sake of readability, the masculine form was used throughout these regulations. Naturally, the feminine form is also implied.

### 2. Definitions

<b>Jordan Motorsport</b>	The ASN of Jordan and the governing body of the MENA Esports Cup.
<b>Desert Fox Racing</b>	The Operator and organizer of the Event.
<b>MENA Cup</b>	An Esports competition that will determine the MENA Esports Champion.
<b>MENA Pre-Qualifier</b>	An Esports competition, run on Time Trial format to determine the top 14 drivers in a country.
<b>MENA Qualifier</b>	An Esports competitions that will take place in all participating countries separately. MENA Qualifiers will determine the top 2 drivers to participate in the MENA Post-Qualifier.
<b>MENA Regional Qualifier</b>	An Esports competition, run on Time Trial format to determine the top 24 drivers that will participate in the MENA Cup Final.
<b>MENA Cup Final</b>	An Esports competition that will take place in Amman, Jordan on the 17 <sup>th</sup> - 19 <sup>th</sup> of October that will include the top 24 drivers of the region and determine the MENA Esports Champion.
<b>Gran Turismo 7</b>	The driving simulation game that will be used in all competitions.
<b>Host</b>	A room member who can setup a room and start a race.
<b>Broadcaster</b>	A room member who will broadcast the race live on YouTube or Twitch.

### Remote Stewarding

Officiating a race from a remote location. This will be done by allowing the Race Director/Stewards to enter the room and monitor the race.

## 3. Application

Drivers intending to participate in the MENA Cup Final must register on the following platform.

[www.desertfoxracing.com/menacup/](http://www.desertfoxracing.com/menacup/)

Registration will be considered for the National MENA Qualifier (Pre-Qualifying Time Trial). Registration will only be considered for drivers participating in their local MENA Qualifier. Only the top 14 drivers from these Qualifiers will be selected for the MENA Qualifier (Qualifier Race). The Stewards of each qualifier will confirm the results.

## 4. Eligibility

### 4.1 Eligible Countries

The following countries are eligible to take part in the MENA Cup:

Algeria	Bahrain
Cyprus	Egypt
Jordan	Iraq
Lebanon	Kuwait
Mauritania	Morocco
Oman	Palestine
Qatar	Saudi Arabia
Sudan	UAE
Tunisia	Yemen

### 4.2 Eligible Competitors

- 4.2.1 The competition is open to drivers from the Eligible Countries listed above (copy of passport is required).
- 4.2.2 Minimum age of any driver is 16 years.
- 4.2.3 Each driver must have a valid PlayStation Network Account and a valid PlayStation Plus Subscription at the time the qualifiers start and in the finals.

## 5. Race Platform

Jordan Motorsport will utilize the below platform to conduct the races:

- 1- Either a PlayStation 4 or PlayStation 5 device.
- 2- Gran Turismo 7 Game.
- 3- Vehicle Groups allowed are 'Gr.4' / 'Gr.3' / 'Gr.1'
- 4- All Races will be conducted under 'Balance of Performance (BOP)' and 'Tuning Prohibited' settings.

(More detailed race structure instructions are included in the [Sample Race Regulation Appendix](#)).



## 6. Material Resources

JMS will provide the website [www.desertfoxracing.com/menacup/](http://www.desertfoxracing.com/menacup/) which will include the following resources:

- Relevant Updates
- MENA Qualifier Registration
- Race Regulations for the MENA Qualifier
- Race Results and information

## 7. Human Resource Requirements

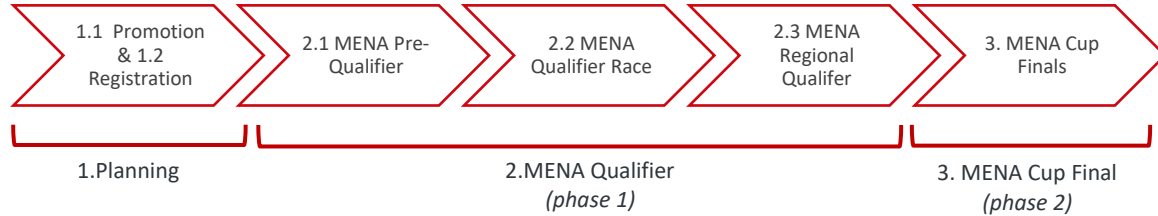
To ensure that the MENA Qualifiers are well organized, 1 person (General Coordinator) selected by the ASN is required to coordinate between Desert Fox Racing and the local drivers.

The responsibilities of the General Coordinator will be as follows:

- Assisting Jordan Motorsport in scheduling:
  - The MENA Pre-Qualifier
  - The MENA Qualifier
  - Driver's Briefing
- Assisting Jordan Motorsport in communicating with Drivers.
- To Promote the MENA Qualifier to local drivers in the aim of getting as many entries as possible.
- To act as a member of the Stewarding team to make amendments to the race schedule and the regulations as well as to judge racing incidents after the race.
- To determine and collect any license fees from drivers (License fees are optional for each ASN as the fees collected are for the ASN)

## Cup Guidelines

This Championship will take part in 3 major phases. 1. The Planning Phase 2. The MENA Qualifier and 3. The MENA Cup Finals.



### 1. Planning

- 1.1 Marketing & Promotion of the local MENA Qualifiers.
- 1.2 Registration of drivers for the MENA Qualifiers.

### 2. MENA Qualifier

The **1<sup>st</sup> phase** of the MENA Cup will be the **MENA Qualifier**. This phase is divided into 2 stages.

2.1 The **1<sup>st</sup> Stage** of the MENA Qualifier is the **MENA Pre-Qualifier** Time Trial. These Pre-Qualifiers will be organized by JMS and promoted by the local ASN with the objective of selecting 12 drivers that will participate in the MENA Qualifier. The Pre-Qualifiers will be conducted as a Time-Trial event.

2.2 The **2<sup>nd</sup> Stage** of the MENA Qualifier is The **MENA Qualifier Race**. This single race will be organized and broadcasted by JMS and promoted by the local ASN. The objective of this race will be to select the top 2 (of the 12 drivers) to participate in the MENA Cup Post-Qualifiers.

2.3 The **3<sup>rd</sup> Stage** of the MENA Qualifier is the **MENA Post-Qualifier** Time Trial. These Post-Qualifiers will be organized by JMS and promoted by the local ASN with the objective of selecting the top 20 drivers from the region. The top 20 drivers will be invited to Amman to participate in the MENA Cup Finals.

### 3. MENA Cup Finals

The **2<sup>nd</sup> phase** of the MENA Cup is the **MENA Cup Finals**. This will be organized by Desert Fox Racing, it will be held in Amman / Jordan on the 17<sup>th</sup> - 19<sup>th</sup> of October. It will be held in an auditorium in front of a live audience. At the end of this event the MENA Esports Champion will be crowned.

## 1- Planning

### Promotion

Achieving two of the major objectives of the MENA Cup will be the responsibility of the Marketing function for this event.

- 1- To highlight Esports as a form of grass roots motorsport.
- 2- To introduce Esports to segments that are outside the traditional Motorsport circles.

### More directly this function should work:

- 1- To achieve the maximum number of participants possible
- 2- To achieve the maximum number of spectators possible.



### *Registration*

#### *Registration for MENA Qualifiers*

Drivers must register for the MENA Qualifiers on [www.desertfoxracing.com/menacup/](http://www.desertfoxracing.com/menacup/)

This registration is considered for the MENA Pre-Qualifier Time Trials only. The top 14 drivers from the Pre-Qualifiers will participate in the Qualifying race.

Drivers will be required to provide the following information:

Name, Nationality, DOB, Phone number, Email, Instagram Username, Facebook username as well as other optional information.

Drivers will be required to provide a valid Passport Copy and an Esports license (*if applicable*).

*(Based on the decision of ASN, Drivers must obtain an Esports license from the respective ASNs to participate in MENA Qualifier)*

Drivers who qualify for the MENA Qualifier Race will also be required to provide a picture of themselves in the following pose:



#### *Registration for the MENA Cup Final*

No registration will be necessary for the MENA Cup Final as the results of the MENA Qualifiers in each country will be confirmed and announced by the stewards.

Only the top 2 drivers from each country are eligible to qualify for the MENA Cup Finals. In the case of inability of these drivers to travel and participate in the MENA Cup Finals, the drivers with lower ranks will be allowed to participate in accordance with their results.

Race, Travel and Accommodation details will be communicated to the ASNs and the drivers at a later stage.

## **2- MENA Qualifiers**

The MENA Qualifiers is the Esports competition that will establish the top 2 drivers in each country. These drivers will be eligible to participate in the MENA Cup Finals.

The MENA Qualifiers will be done virtually. Each driver will be able to participate from a location that suits him. A video conferencing tool will be used to support the race director and organizers in observing and communicating with the drivers.

The MENA Qualifiers are broken down into two stages. 1. The Pre-Qualifiers 2. The Qualifier Race.

### *MENA Pre-Qualifier*

Time Trial Pre-Qualifier event will be held to determine the top 14 drivers that will qualify to participate in the MENA Qualifier race of their country.

The Pre-Qualifier will be performed as follows:

- 1- The track will be opened for 30-minute timeslots for groups of 15 drivers.
- 2- Fastest lap of each driver is recorded at the end of each session.
- 3- The top 14 drivers to participate in the MENA Qualifier are selected based on fastest lap results of all sessions combined.

Drivers must be logged into the race room before the start time of the pre-Qualifying event to be able to take part in this event. Any driver that is late will not be allowed to join the pre-Qualifying event or any other pre-Qualifying event.

Detailed Regulations and Time Schedule will be published at a later stage.

Details on how technical glitches will be dealt with are found in the Appendix section of this document.

### *MENA Qualifier Race*

The MENA Qualifier Race is a single race that will determine the top 2 drivers in a country. The MENA Qualifier race will include the top 14 drivers from the MENA Pre-Qualifier.

The race will be split into a qualifying round, and a feature race.

The Qualifying Round: A Time Trial event that will determine the starting grid of the Feature Race.

The Feature Race: A Race that will determine the top 2 drivers that will participate in the MENA Cup Regional Qualifiers.

Drivers must be logged into the race room before the start time of the Qualifying event to be able to take part in this event. Any driver that is late will not be allowed to join the Qualifying event.

Detailed Regulations and Time Schedule will be published at a later stage.

Details on how technical glitches will be dealt with are found in the Appendix section of this document.

### *MENA Regional Qualifier*

A Time Trial Regional Qualifier event will be held to determine the top 24 drivers regionally that will qualify to participate in the MENA Cup Final Race in Amman.

The Regional Qualifier will be performed as follows:

- 1- The track will be opened for 20-minute timeslots for groups of 12 drivers.
- 2- Fastest lap of each driver is recorded at the end of each session.
- 3- The top 24 drivers from all groups to participate in the MENA Post-Qualifier are selected based on fastest lap results of all sessions combined.

Only the top 2 drivers from each country are eligible to participate in the MENA Post-Qualifier.

Drivers must be logged into the race room before the start time of the Regional Qualifying event to be able to take part in this event. Any driver that is late will not be allowed to join the Regional Qualifying event or any other Regional Qualifying event. Exceptions to this can only be considered by Stewards of the MENA Cup Final.

Detailed Regulations and Time Schedule will be published at a later stage.

Details on how technical glitches will be dealt with are found in the Appendix section of this document.

### *Driver Communications*

A Discord group will be opened for all drivers participating in the pre-Qualifying and Qualifying race events. This discord group will be the main form of communication with the drivers.

Communicating with drivers mainly takes place before and after the race sessions. There is no communication between the organizers and the drivers during the race.

The most important piece of information that drivers must be aware of is that they need to be on time to all their sessions. All online racing games have software or network glitches. They can be considered an equivalent to mechanical failures in a normal race. However, these glitches can be reduced or avoided by obliging drivers to be ready on time for practice sessions so that they may have some time to solve any issues before qualifying.

Once a qualifying session begins racers who did not enter the room, cannot join the race anymore.

A driver's briefing will be conducted to explain the race regulations as well as answer any questions before the MENA Qualifying race. The date and time of the driver's briefing will be communicated via Discord.

### *Confirming and Publishing Results*

After each race, the Race Director (appointed by JMS) will review the replay of the race and report any incidents to the Stewards who are responsible for judging the Race and deciding on any reported incidents as well as signing the final results.

The Race Director is obliged to save the replays of all the races to be able to review protests.

## **1- MENA Esports Cup Final**

### *Outline*

The MENA Cup final will take place on during the 17<sup>th</sup> to the 19<sup>th</sup> of October 2024 in Amman, Jordan. The Event will take place in an auditorium where all drivers will be present.

The maximum number of drivers that can participate in the MENA Cup final is 24. The MENA cup final will consist of several Semi Finals (depending on the number of drivers) and one Grand Final to determine the MENA Esports Champion.



### *Race Regulations*

Race Regulations for the MENA cup final will be provided at a later stage.

### *Travel & Accommodations*

- JMS will cover the cost of travel to and from Amman – Jordan for the top two drivers from each country.
- Drivers must arrive one day before the start of the Event and can depart as soon as the Event is over.

- Desert Fox Racing will cover the cost of 1 Double Room per driver. Additional rooms will be provided at a special rate.
- Desert Fox Racing will provide transport to and from the following locations Airport, Hotel and Racing Venue.