

Championship Guidelines

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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 Championship ('The MENA Championship') 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 fifth MENA Esports Champion.
 - Riding on the momentum of the 2024 MENA Esports Championship, Desert Fox Racing will be organizing the fifth consecutive version of the MENA Esports Championship in Jordan, now renamed the MENA Esports Championship. The everimproving 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- <u>To take motorsport into the digital realm in the MENA region.</u>
 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 Championship 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 Championship will aim to highlight this and garner interest from the gaming community which numbers around 350 million users in the MENA region alone.

Timeline





Information Hub

Registration for all drivers and updated information will be available on www.desertfoxracing.com/menaesportschampionship/

Sporting Regulations

1. General Conditions

Desert Fox Racing ('DFR') will organize the 2025 MENA Esports Championship ('MENA Championship'). 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 Desert Fox Racing (DFR). 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 Championship 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

The FIA	The governing body of the MENA Esports Championship Final.
Desert Fox Racing	The Operator and organizer of the Event.
MENA Championship	An Esports competition that will determine the MENA Esports Champion.
MENA Pre-Qualifier	An Esports competition, run on Time Trial format to determine the top 14
WILIVA FTE-Qualifier	drivers in a country.
MENA Country	An Esports competition that will take place in all participating countries
Qualifier	separately. MENA Qualifiers will determine the top 2 drivers to participate
	in the MENA Post-Qualifier.
MENA Regional	An Esports competition, run on Time Trial format to determine the top 24
Qualifier	drivers that will participate in the MENA Cup Final.
MENA Championship	An Esports competition that will take place in Amman, Jordan on the 13 th -
Final	15 th of November that will include the top 24 drivers of the region and
	determine the MENA Esports Champion.
lumiana Cum	An Esports competition that will take place in Amman, Jordan on the 13 th –
Juniors Cup	15 th of November specifically tailored towards the youth in motorsports
	and sim racing. An Esports competition that will take place in Amman, Jordan on the 13 th –
Women's Cup	15 th of November specifically tailored towards women in motorsports and
women's cup	sim racing.
Gran Turismo 7	The driving simulation game that will be used in all competitions.
Host	A room member who can setup a room and start a race.
Broadcaster	A room member who will broadcast the race live on YouTube or Twitch.
Dioducastei	Officiating a race from a remote location. This will be done by allowing the
Remote Stewarding	Race Director/Stewards to enter the room and monitor the race.
	nace Director/Stewards to effect the room and monitor the race.

3. Application

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

www.desertfoxracing.com/menaesportschampionship/

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 Esports Championship:

	<u>'</u>
Algeria	Bahrain
Cyprus	Egypt
Jordan	Iraq
Lebanon	Kuwait
Mauritania	Morocco
Oman	Palestine
Qatar	Saudi Arabia
Sudan	UAE
Tunisia	Yemen
Syria	Libya

4.2 Eligible Competitors

- 4.2.1 The competition is open to drivers that are nationals or residents of the Eligible Countries listed above (copy of passport, national ID card, or residency card is required).
- 4.2.2 Minimum age of any driver participating in the MENA Esports Championship is 16 years by August 1st.
- 4.2.3 Maximum age of any driver participating in the Juniors Cup is 15 years by August 1st.
- 4.2.4 Women are eligible to compete in all categories as well as the Women's Cup; age restrictions apply for the MENA Esports Championship as well as the Juniors Cup.
- 4.2.5 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

Desert Fox Racing 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

Desert Fox Racing will provide the website

www.desertfoxracing.com/menaesportschampionship/

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 Country 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 Desert Fox Racing in scheduling:
 - The MENA Pre-Qualifier
 - The MENA Country Qualifier
 - Driver's Briefing
- Assisting Desert Fox Racing in communicating with Drivers.
- To Promote the MENA Country 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)



Championship 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**st **phase** of the MENA Championship will be the **MENA Qualifier**. This phase is divided into 2 stages.

- 2.1 The 1st Stage of the MENA Qualifier is the MENA Pre-Qualifier Time Trial. These Pre-Qualifiers will be organized by Desert Fox Racing and promoted by the local ASN with the objective of selecting 15 drivers that will participate in the MENA Qualifier. The Pre-Qualifiers will be conducted as a Time-Trial event.
- 2.2 The **2**nd **Stage** of the MENA Qualifier is The **MENA Country Qualifier Race**. This event will be organized and broadcasted by Desert Fox Racing and promoted by the local ASN. The objective of this event will be to select the top 2 (of the 15 drivers) to participate in the MENA Championship Regional Qualifiers.
- 2.3 The **3rd Stage** of the MENA Qualifier is the **MENA Regional Qualifier** Time Trial. This event will be organized by Desert Fox Racing and promoted by the local ASN with the objective of selecting the top 24 drivers from the region. The top 24 drivers will be invited to Amman to participate in the MENA Championship Finals.

3. MENA Championship - Finals

The **2**nd **phase** of the MENA Championship is the **MENA Championship - Finals**. This will be organized by Desert Fox Racing with the support of the FIA, which will be held in Amman, Jordan on the 13th - 15th of November. 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.

^{**}Drivers qualifying to the finals must hold an Esports license from their local ASN.



1- Planning

Promotion

Achieving two of the major objectives of the MENA Championship 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/menaesportschampionship/

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 or proof of residency 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 Country Qualifier Race will also be required to provide a picture of themselves in the following pose:





Registration for the MENA Championship - Final

No registration will be necessary for the MENA Championship 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 Championship - Finals. In the case of inability of these drivers to travel and participate in the MENA Championship - 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 Country Qualifiers

The MENA Country 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 Championship - Finals.

The MENA Country 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.

In the event that fewer than five drivers register in a particular country, its national qualifier may be merged with that of another country. Final classifications will remain based on each driver's country of representation.

In the event of an unstable internet connection that prevents the race from being conducted properly, Desert Fox Racing reserves the right to cancel the race. In such cases, the local ASN may organize a time-trial session under the supervision of Desert Fox Racing, with final classifications determined by the fastest lap times recorded.

The MENA Qualifiers are broken down into three stages.

- 1- The Pre-Qualifiers.
- 2- The Country Qualifiers.
- 3- The Regional Qualifiers.

MENA Pre-Qualifier

Time Trial Pre-Qualifier event will be held to determine the top 15 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 20-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 Country Qualifier

The MENA Country Qualifiers are two sprint races that will determine the top 2 drivers in a country. The MENA Country Qualifiers will include the top 14 drivers from the MENA Pre-Qualifier. The MENA Country Qualifier will consist of a practice session, qualifying session (only for race 1), and two sprint races.

Race 1 will be split into a practice session, qualifying session, and a sprint race. Race 2 will have a practice session, and a sprint race. The starting grid for race 2 will be determined by the results from race 1.

Drivers will accumulate points over the course of the two races. The point system is as follows:

Position	Qualifying Points	Race points
1	15	26
2	14	24
3	13	22
4	12	20
5	11	18
6	10	16
7	9	14
8	8	12
9	7	10
10	6	8
11	5	6
12	4	4
13	3	2
14	2	1
15	1	0

Note: 'Race Points' apply to both sprint races, and 1 point will be awarded for the fastest lap.

The top two drivers in the overall points standings after the conclusion of both sprint races will advance into the MENA Regional Qualifiers.



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

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 FIA MENA Esports Championship Final Race in Amman.

The structure of the Regional Qualifier will be sent as a bulletin at a later date.

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 Desert Fox Racing) 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 Championship Final

Outline

The MENA Championship - Finals will take place on during the 13th to the 15th of November 2025 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 Championship final is 24. The MENA Championship 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 Championship final will be provided at a later stage.

Travel & Accommodations

- Desert Fox Racing 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.