

PRESS RELEASE

Battle of the Fencers

Nilai, 1 March 2018: About 130 fencers from Thailand, Brunei, Cambodia, Singapore, Indonesia, Iran, India will battle it out with Malaysia's very own fencers in the upcoming 2nd ASEAN University Fencing Championship (AUFC) from 8 to 11 March, with the consent of MoHE. Iran and India will be making their maiden appearance for AUFC2018.

The event, organised by Nilai University's Sports Focus Centre (SFC) – Fencing, also known as Pusat Tumpuan (PST) - Lawan Pedang will be held at the university's President Hall starting this Friday, 9 March from 10am onwards.



Nilai University acquired the SFC (PST) status in 2012 and was officiated in 2014 with the opening of the university's fully-equipped Fencing Centre. It is currently the only private higher education institution to have received the status from the Ministry of Higher Education (MoHE - Sports Division).

The SFC, appointed, sanctioned and approved by MoHE is available to all fencers in any Higher Institutions for Studies (Institut Pengajian Tinggi), fencing clubs and associations.

The Championship has a similar format to the Sukan Institusi Pengajian Tinggi (SUKIPT), with all fencers representing their own institutions. While SukIPT is only open to Malaysians, AUFC is represented by fencers from countries outside of Malaysia. Highly skilled fencers participating in AUFC2018 will compete in Epee, Foil and Sabre on Individual basis only.



With the success of the 1st ASEAN University Fencing Championship, Nilai University is determined to lead the way in bringing a new generation of fencing champions to the eyes of the world.

“This is our baby,” said Michael Yei, Organising Chairman of AUFC as well as Nilai University’s Director of Student Affairs & Sports. “We came up with this project and now, it is our top-of-the-range event at ASEAN level,” he added passionately.

“Nilai University will be represented by Joshua Koh I Jie, Adam Lindbichler and Sopanut Mayakarn who are the defending champions of their respective categories,” said Yei.

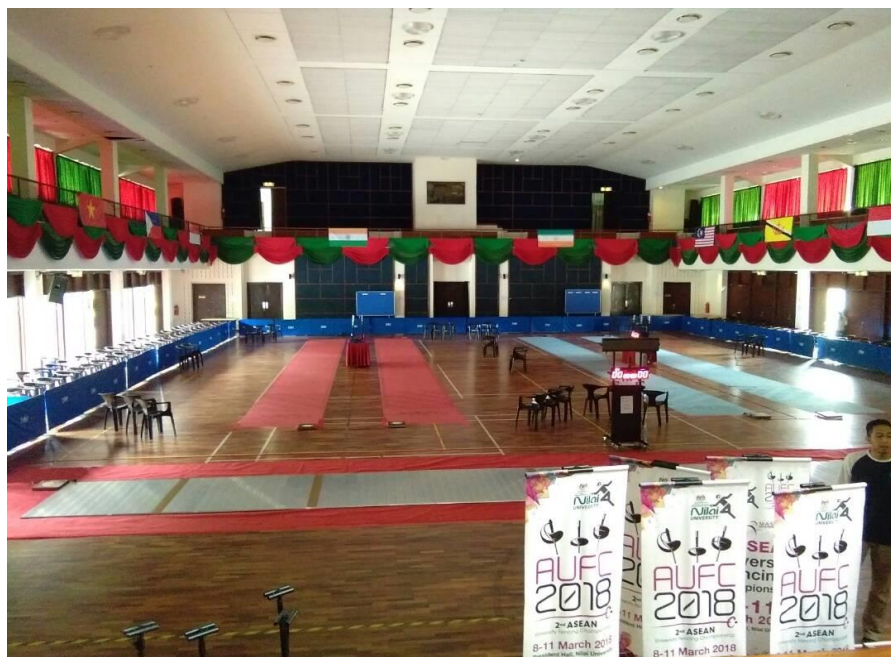
Nilai University has used the venue to host several fencing competitions, the latest being SUKIPT 2018. This effort is in line with the Sports Focus Centre (SFC) – Fencing programme, in which the university’s principal role will be to spot, nurture and develop talented young fencers.

“We are proud to be given the Sports Focus Centre (SFC) – Fencing status as we believe that fencing is a unique sport, which should be introduced to a bigger audience thus developing a new generation of champions in fencing,” said Yei.

The ASEAN University Fencing Championship kicked off in 2017 after the signing of a Memorandum of Understanding on 12 January between Nilai University and 15 national fencing associations and clubs, and one international fencing school. The MoU establishes a basis of cooperation between all parties for the purpose of strengthening, promoting and developing Fencing in Malaysia.



The associations and clubs are the Federal Territory Amateur Fencing Association, Persatuan Lawan Padang Amatur Melaka, Persatuan Lawan Padang Pulau Pinang, Sabah Fencing Association, Selangor Amateur Fencing Association, Bekking Fencing Academy, BLADE Fencing Club, GA Fencing, Jung Fencing Academy, SWASHBUCKLERS Fencing Club, TOUCHE Fencing Club, Trinity D Fencing Club, USJ Fencing Centre, X Fencing Academy and the Hong Kong Fencing School. The latest addition includes Musketeers.



YEAR	2017		2018	
Total Fencers	78		131	
Total Countries & Athletes	6		8	
	Malaysia	52	Malaysia	59
	Thailand	12	Thailand	10
	Brunei	7	Brunei	6
	Philippines	3	Cambodia	5
	Cambodia	3	Singapore	11
	Singapore	1	Indonesia	2
			Iran	24
			India	24
Fencers by Categories	Men's Epee	25	Men's Epee	32
	Women's Epee	12	Women's Epee	24
	Men's Foil	16	Men's Foil	18
	Women's Foil	10	Women's Foil	18
	Men's Sabre	10	Men's Sabre	19
	Women's Sabre	5	Women's Sabre	20
Total Universities	22		24	

Adding pomp to the opening of the 2nd ASEAN University Fencing Championship will be the university's very own 24 Festive Drum troupe who will be performing some of their more popular beats.



OVERVIEW

Nilai University was established as Nilai College in 1997 and was upgraded to a university college in 2007 and a full-fledged university in 2012. The Malaysian Qualifications Agency rated Nilai University as Excellent (Setara 5) in 2011 and has reaffirmed this in the latest rating exercise undertaken in 2013.

Faculties and Programmes

The university has five faculties which together house 11 departments. The five faculties are the Faculty of Business, the Faculty of Engineering & Technology, the Faculty of Hospitality and Tourism, the Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences and the Faculty of Applied Sciences. The NU Centre for Postgraduate Studies offers a variety of taught and research programmes while the Centre for Foundation Studies offers two foundation level programmes that permit progression to all the degree programmes offered at the university.

Ownership

Nilai University is jointly owned by the Nilai Resources Group and Felda Global Ventures Holdings Berhad (FGV).

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