

DAKAR
2026



TOOLKIT

YOUTH OLYMPIC GAMES MEDAL DESIGN COMPETITION

L'AFRIQUE ACCUEILLE, DAKAR CÉLÈBRE

AFRICA WELCOMES, DAKAR CELEBRATES • AFRIG DALAL, NDAKAARU JĚMĚL.

DESIGN THE MEDAL



Creative minds and Olympic Games enthusiasts all over the world will once again have a chance to become part of Olympic history as the IOC calls for designs for the Youth Olympic Games (YOG). The selected design will be cast in gold, silver and bronze, and will be awarded to the young athletes who finish on the podium at the fourth edition of the Summer YOG, to be held in Dakar, Senegal, from 31 October to 13 November 2026.

Creators from all over the world, regardless of their level of design experience, are invited to submit their creations by 7 October 2025 (23:59 GMT+1) via the dedicated medal design webpage on Olympics.com. The selected design will be announced later in 2025.

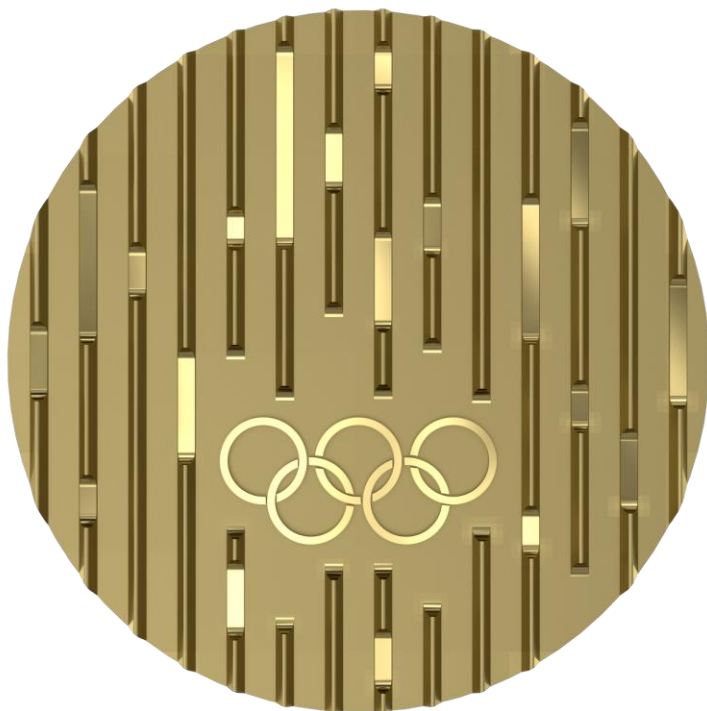
A panel of judges will rate the top designs, and the final results will be determined based on this ranking. The initiative is to design the obverse (front) of the medals, while the reverse will be designed by the Dakar 2026 YOG Organising Committee, and will reflect elements of Senegalese culture as well as the YOG emblem.

The call for Youth Olympic Games medal designs was [launched for the first time ahead of Singapore 2010](#), to reach out beyond the athlete community and tap into the creativity and imagination of young people across the world.

YOG MEDAL DESIGNS FROM PREVIOUS EDITIONS

Get inspired by past selected designs of the Youth Olympic Games Medal Design Competition. Explore the full collection of medals from past Summer and Winter YOG editions, from Singapore 2010 to Gangwon 2024, including photos, design descriptions, and technical details:

[View the full medal archive here](#)



GANGWON 2024

A Sparkling Future
By Dante Akira Uwai,
27, Brazil

The design is a geometric interpretation of the motto "Grow Together, Shine Forever". Vertical lines are used to convey the idea of growth, while random elements created through cutouts and texture changes represent the diverse group of people who participate in the Olympics. The variety of forms demonstrates diversity and how we can all contribute in different ways to peace and coexistence. The polished finishes create dynamic little sparks of light, symbolising our desire to overcome ourselves and make positive changes in the world.

LAUSANNE 2020

Beauty in Diversity
By Zakea Page,
20, New Zealand



BUENOS AIRES 2018

Fireworks of Victory
By Muhamad Farid Husen,
19, Indonesia



LILLEHAMMER 2016

To the TOP
By Burzo Ciprian,
24, Romania



DAKAR
2026



YOUTH
OLYMPIC
GAMES

HOW TO ENTER

HOW TO ENTER

1 DOWNLOAD THE DOCUMENTS

Download the ZIP file containing the template in the following formats: JPG, PDF, EPS and TIFF. Choose the format you prefer.

2 DESIGN YOUR MEDAL

When designing your medal, you must respect the following guidelines:

- The initiative is to design the obverse (front) of the medal only. The reverse (back) will be designed by the Dakar 2026 YOG Organising Committee.
- Your design should reflect the spirit of the 4th Summer Youth Olympic Games. The reverse side, designed by Dakar 2026, will reflect elements of Senegalese culture and the YOG emblem. The border of your design must be circular in shape with no elements cut out.
- Your design must have a diameter of 80mm.
- The Olympic rings should appear somewhere in your design. The Olympic rings must always be reproduced in their pure form. They may not be altered, formed from other elements or cut.
- Include the following text on your design: “Dakar 2026 ” and “Youth Olympic Games” . Do not add any other text. Information on the Olympic rings is available [here](#).
- Your design must respect the rules of the Youth Olympic Games Medal Design Competition, in particular article 6.2. For more information read the Rules of the Youth Olympic Games Medal Design Competition to help create your design.

3 SUBMIT YOUR DESIGN

Upload your design in the template, from 2 September to 7 October 2025 (23.59 GMT+1), respecting the following:

- Size: 600x600 minimum pixels and 1,000x1,000 maximum pixels.
- Maximum resolution of 300 dpi.
- Format file: JPG or PNG.
- Give a name to your design and add a description (in English).
- Complete your personal information (full name, date of birth, email and postal addresses and telephone number).
- Click submit

Once you upload your design, a pop-up message will confirm that your entry has been received by the International Olympic Committee (IOC).

Your submission will then be reviewed to ensure it follows the Rules. Once reviewed, you'll receive an email confirming whether your design has been approved.

JUDGING CRITERIA AND EVALUATION PROCESS

All eligible submissions to the Dakar 2026 Medal Design Competition will be evaluated through a three-phase process:

PHASE 1: PRE-SELECTION

After an initial eligibility check (e.g. correct format, use of official template, compliance with the rules), all valid entries will be reviewed by a panel from the IOC. Each design will be assessed using the following five equally weighted criteria:

- Creativity (20%)
- Originality (20%)
- Relevance to the YOG narrative (20%)
- Feasibility (20%)
- Description (20%)

Based on these criteria, the IOC will compile a shortlist of at least 30 designs to be submitted to the jury for final evaluation.

PHASE 2: JURY EVALUATION

The shortlisted designs will be presented to a jury composed of representatives from the Olympic Movement, and the creative community.

The jury will review the shortlisted designs and evaluate the entries using the same five criteria applied in Phase 1, each weighted equally at 20%. Scores will be compiled and used to generate a ranked list. In the event of a tie, the jury will hold an additional discussion and vote to break the tie and determine the final ranking by consensus.

PHASE 3: POST-SELECTION PROCESS

The top five designs from the jury's ranked list will go through an intellectual property (IP) check. The production company will then provide technical feedback on the selected design, which will be adapted and translated into a 3D version for medal production. Branding elements may be adjusted during this process. The selected candidate will be consulted and involved in all necessary design adaptations.

DAKAR
2026



ABOUT THE YOUTH OLYMPIC GAMES

YOUTH OLYMPIC GAMES



The Youth Olympic Games (YOG) are an elite sporting event for young people from all over the world aged up to 17 years at the time of the Games.

The sports programme is mainly based on that of the [Olympic Games](#). In addition, it includes exciting new sports, disciplines and formats, such as breaking, sport climbing, 3-x-3 basketball, and mixed gender events.

Away from the field of play, the education programme uses a variety of fun and interactive activities, workshops and team-building exercises to give the participating athletes the opportunity to learn about the [Olympic values](#), explore other cultures, develop the skills to become true ambassadors of their sport, and improve their training methods and performance. Non-athlete participants, namely the Young Reporters, YOG Ambassadors and Athlete Role Models, are also an integral part of the YOG experience.

The most recent [Summer YOG in Buenos Aires in 2018](#) featured 4,000 athletes and achieved [gender equality](#) for the first time. The latest [Winter YOG took place in Gangwon in 2024](#) and featured 1,800 athletes.

The next Summer YOG will take place in [Dakar, Senegal, in 2026](#). Senegal will be the first country on the African continent to be awarded the honour of hosting an Olympic sports event.

More information on the Youth Olympic Games is available [here](#).

DAKAR 2026



Taking place from 31 October to 13 November 2026, the Dakar 2026 Youth Olympic Games (YOG) will be the first Olympic sports event to take place on African soil.

Drawing on this historical significance, the 4th Summer Youth Olympic Games will see youth and sport unite in peaceful competition and drive the transformation of Senegal, the host nation, while providing a source of inspiration for the whole of Africa.

THE MOTTO

“Africa Welcomes, Dakar Celebrates” (*L’Afrique accueille, Dakar célèbre* in French and *Afrig Dalal, Ndakaaru Jëmël* in Wolof) is the Dakar 2026 motto – one that highlights the unique nature of the continent’s first Summer YOG. It is a motto that seeks to encapsulate the essence of African hospitality and the host city’s festive spirit, while also inviting the world to share in the occasion and come together as one. An expression of the readiness of Africa’s young people to welcome their counterparts from around the world, it is an invitation to all to shape a shared future during the Games.

Marking a milestone for the continent, Dakar 2026 will be the first Olympic sports event held in Africa. More than just a sporting event, it will be an opportunity to highlight Senegal’s cultural wealth and Africa’s growing role in the Olympic Movement. By celebrating the continent’s diversity and potential, the Games aim to inspire and set a reference point for future Youth Olympic hosts.

The 4th Summer YOG will also be a platform for mutual exchange. They will introduce the world’s best young athletes to *Teranga* – the Wolof word that embodies Senegal’s unique spirit of warmth, respect and hospitality – while promoting the Olympic values among young people in Senegal and across the African continent. *Teranga* is deeply rooted in Senegalese life, reflecting a culture of generosity and openness toward others.

More than just a sporting event, Dakar 2026 represents a platform for cultural exchange activities and the promotion of African and other cultures around the world. Acting as a catalyst to engage Senegal’s young people through the development of national sport and youth policies and the spirit of volunteering, it aims to transform their lives and bring sustainable economic, social and environmental benefits.

It will also be the first edition of the Youth Olympic Games to feature a Refugee Olympic Team, composed of athletes based in Africa. This reflects the International Olympic Committee’s continued commitment to supporting refugees and displaced persons through sport at all levels.

L'AFRIQUE
ACCUEILLE,
DAKAR
CÉLÈBRE.

DAKAR 2026



From the sports on the programme to the venues, celebrations and youth legacy initiatives, explore what makes Dakar 2026 a truly unique Youth Olympic Games — and the first ever on African soil. Dive into each area to see how sport, culture and opportunity are coming together to shape a new chapter for Senegal and beyond.

SPORTS

[Dakar 2026](#) will be the first Youth Olympic Games to benefit from the IOC's evolved approach to the [YOG sports programme](#), designed to better fit the local context. There are 25 competition sports and 10 engagement sports on the programme at the Dakar 2026 Youth Olympic Games.

- The 25 competition sports are athletics (track and field), aquatics (swimming), archery, badminton, baseball (baseball5), basketball (3x3), boxing, breaking, cycling (road cycling), equestrian (jumping), fencing, football (futsal), gymnastics (artistic gymnastics), handball (beach handball), judo, rowing (coastal rowing), rugby (rugby sevens), sailing, skateboarding (street), table tennis, taekwondo, triathlon, volleyball (beach volleyball), wrestling (beach wrestling) and wushu.
- The 10 engagement sports for Dakar 2026 are canoe-kayak, golf, hockey, karate, modern pentathlon, shooting, sport climbing, surfing, tennis and weightlifting.

CULTURE

To further strengthen the blending of sport and culture, the countdown to the Dakar 2026 YOG has featured *Dakar en Jeux* – an annual cultural and sports festival that has been running since 2022 and will be held for the fourth and final time in November 2025. Combining music, art, sport and local culture, it has become a central feature of the build-up to Africa's first Olympic event.

Reflecting the spirit and values of the Youth Olympic Games and celebrating Senegalese culture, sport and African youth, the festival aims to bring communities together and stimulate their interest in and enthusiasm for Dakar 2026. Also promoting youth engagement and athlete education, the initiative has bolstered the cultural dimension of the Games by showcasing the dynamic character of Senegal and the warm hospitality the country offers to local and international audiences.

VENUES

[Dakar 2026](#) will be held across three host zones (Dakar, Diamniadio and Saly) comprising eight venues in total. The capital of Senegal, Dakar, is home to three of the competition venues: the Tour de l'Oeuf, where the 3x3 basketball, baseball5, breaking, skateboarding and swimming events will take place; the Stade Iba Mar Diop (athletics, boxing, futsal, rugby sevens); and Corniche West, the location for all 10 engagement sports and the start and finish of the road cycling events. The city of Diamniadio, around 30 kilometres east of Dakar, boasts four venues: the Equestrian Centre (jumping), Dakar Arena (badminton and futsal), Abdoulaye Wade Stadium (archery), and Dakar Expo Centre (artistic gymnastics, fencing, judo, table tennis, taekwondo and wushu). Diamniadio will also host the Youth Olympic Village. Saly, around 80 kilometres south of the Senegalese capital, will host events at one sole venue: Saly Beach West, home to the beach handball, beach volleyball, beach wrestling, coastal rowing, sailing and triathlon events.

L'AFRIQUE
ACCUEILLE,
DAKAR
CÉLÈBRE.

**DAKAR
2026**



**YOUTH
OLYMPIC
GAMES**

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

FAQS



What is the Youth Olympic Games Medal Design Competition and who is organising it?

It's an open call to design the obverse (front) of the official medal that will be awarded to athletes on the podium at the Dakar 2026 Youth Olympic Games. The initiative is organised by the International Olympic Committee (IOC).

Who can take part?

Anyone who has reached the age of majority in their country of legal residence and has a valid email address can enter. Minors are not eligible to participate.

How old do I have to be in order to participate?

Any participant has to be over the age of majority (i.e. not be a minor) in the country of his/her legal residence to be allowed to participate.

Are there any specific design guidelines or themes I must follow?

Yes. Designs must reflect the Olympic values and follow the technical and content requirements outlined in the Rules. All necessary materials, including the official template, inspiration toolkit, and rules — are available on the web page.

What size should my medal design be for uploading with the online entry form?

Your design must be inserted into the official template and saved as a JPEG or PNG file.

It should follow these specifications:

- Minimum size: 600 x 600 pixels
- Maximum size: 1000 x 1000 pixels
- Maximum resolution: 300 dpi
- File format: JPEG or PNG

Can I use AI tools to help create my design?

No, you CANNOT use any artificial intelligence (AI) tools in order to create, or be part of, your design. Your work must be original and must not contain any third-party content, such as output from any AI tool. Designs may be checked to verify that no AI was used. Any design created or altered using AI will be automatically disqualified.

Can I submit more than one design?

No. Only one valid submission per candidate is allowed.

L'AFRIQUE
ACCUEILLE,
DAKAR
CÉLÈBRE.

FAQS



What happens after I submit my design?

You'll see a pop-up message confirming your submission. Once your design is reviewed, you'll receive an email letting you know whether it has been approved.

Will my design appear in the online gallery?

Yes, once approved, it will be published in the gallery for others to view and share.

Can I revise and resubmit my design?

Candidates may submit only one valid design. Once a design is approved, it cannot be revised or replaced. If your submission is not approved, you will be informed by email and may revise and resubmit it, as long as it's before the deadline of 7 October 2025 (23.59 GMT+1).

Who selects the design, and what are the judging criteria?

A jury appointed by the IOC will review approved designs and choose the selected design. Medals will be rated using five equally weighted criteria: creativity, originality, relevance to the Youth Olympic Games, feasibility, and the description. The final ranking will be determined by the jury. In the event of a tie, the jury will vote to decide the outcome.

How will the selected candidate be celebrated?

The selected design will appear on the front side of the Dakar 2026 Youth Olympic Games medals awarded to the athletes. The selected candidate will join a line-up of creators who have shaped the look of YOG medals since Singapore 2010.

When will the selected candidate be announced, and how will I be notified?

The selected candidate will be announced later in 2025 and will be notified directly by email from the IOC. The result will also be published on Olympics.com and shared on the official Olympics social media channels.

What happens to the rights of my design after submission?

By entering, you agree to assign all your rights relating to your submission, including all intellectual property rights inclusive of all moral rights to the extent permissible under the applicable law, in the design of the medal that you submit, to the IOC.

I have another question, who can I contact?

Most questions are answered in this FAQ, the Rules, or the toolkit. Please check these resources first to see if the information you're looking for is already available. If you can't find what you're looking for, you may contact us at yog-medal-competition@olympic.org. Please note that response times may vary due to high volume.

L'AFRIQUE
ACCUEILLE,
DAKAR
CÉLÈBRE.



DAKAR 2026



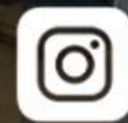
YOUTH
OLYMPIC
GAMES

L'AFRIQUE
ACCUEILLE,
DAKAR
CÉLÈBRE.

AFRICA
WELCOMES,
DAKAR
CELEBRATES.

AFRIG
DALAL,
NDAKAARU
JÈMÈL.

www.dakar2026.org



@jojdakar2026

MERCI – JĚRĚJĚF

JĚRĚJĚF – THANK YOU

THANK YOU – MERCI

MERCI – JĚRĚJĚF

JĚRĚJĚF – THANK YOU

THANK YOU – MERCI

MERCI – JĚRĚJĚF

JĚRĚJĚF – THANK YOU

THANK YOU – MERCI



THANK YOU – MERCI

MERCI – JĚRĚJĚF

JĚRĚJĚF – THANK YOU

THANK YOU – MERCI

MERCI – JĚRĚJĚF

JĚRĚJĚF – THANK YOU

THANK YOU – MERCI

MERCI – JĚRĚJĚF

THANK YOU – MERCI