



The Palestinian National Olympic Committee

In Focus



By Basheer Mahameed

Translated by Elias Khayyo



Palestinian delegation on parade at the inauguration of the Olympics.

t

The Palestinian National Olympic Committee (PNOC) is a national nongovernmental organization with independent legal status, which has no political, religious, or commercial attributes. It was established and recognized for the first time by the International Olympic Committee in 1934 during the Athens session, then it was forced to cease its activities due to the British Mandate, followed by the Israeli occupation of Palestine, until it was recognized again, officially, in session 101 (in Monaco) on September 18, 1993, in accordance with the Olympic Charter. The PNOC is endorsed by the International Olympic Committee, registered with the Ministry of Interior, and licensed by the Higher Council of Youth and Sports in accordance with national laws. It is a member of the International Olympic Committee, the Olympic Council of Asia, the Union of Arab National Olympic Committees, and the Islamic Solidarity Sports Federation.

The committee is composed of unions of Olympic, international, and specialized sports, with the aim of regulating and sponsoring sports activities in Palestine within the framework of public policy made by the state and the Higher Council of Youth and Sports, and the programs and plans approved by the Olympic Committee and the concerned sports unions. The PNOC aims to spread, develop, regulate, and protect sports, and to prepare Palestinians based on Olympic values, principles, and ethics, in addition to the role it is vested with and is expected to perform in the journey of national liberation and innovation.

About 42 sports unions (groups, individuals, and specialized sports) fall under the umbrella of the Palestinian Olympic Committee nationally, including Olympic, global, and international sports.

The PNOC joined the Olympic Council of Asia in 1986, and has participated in its meetings since 1984. It took part in the Asian Games, which took place in Bangkok – Thailand (1998); Busan

– South Korea (2002); XV Asiad in Doha – Qatar (2006); Guangzhou – China (2010); and Incheon – South Korea (2014).

The PNOC is a founding member of the Union of Arab National Olympic Committees and has participated in all Arab games and ceremonies.

Vision

To have Palestinian athletes who have a sense of national belonging and Olympic culture and are skillful and capable of competing internationally.

Message

Consolidate national and Olympic values and principles in Palestinian society in all places where it is present via the development of the awareness and capabilities of Palestinian athletes and enable them within the framework of a legal environment to attain innovative Palestinian athletes who are partners in sustainable development and are capable of competing in the Arab, continental, and international arenas, culminating with the Olympics.

Goals

- Spread sports opportunities among Palestinians and expand the base of sportspersons.

- Establish active and advanced Palestinian sports that are protected nationally and committed to Olympics.

- Ensure regularity of sports tournaments and international competitions.

Mission

Spread, develop, and protect Palestinian sports at home and in the diaspora, and elevate the proficiency of sports unions and their constituents, including public and administrative bodies, work teams, players, and technical staff, through domestic and overseas programs and activities, in addition to the consolidation of the reality of a professional national institution.

The Palestinian National Olympic Committee Executive Bureau

The PNOC Executive Bureau consists of 15 members and is chaired by General Jibril Al-Rajoub, whereas the PNOC Secretary General is General Abed Al-Majeed Hijeh. The Executive Bureau is inclusive of the homeland and the diaspora. The most recent elections took place in 2017, and its term ends in 2020, following the prospective Tokyo Olympics.

The Sports Unions

Sports unions are considered the public body of the PNOC. They number 42 and were elected by their public bodies (sports clubs, centers, and gymnasiums), with presence in all parts of the homeland and the diaspora. The most recent elections took place in 2017, and their terms expire in 2020. Each sports union is considered an independent entity and a nongovernmental organization under the PNOC umbrella, the role of which is deemed supportive of these unions, whether logistically, financially, technically, or administratively, and as a monitor of their domestic and overseas activities. Each national union belongs to and is registered with international and continental unions, within which it exercises its natural right to activities, voting, candidacy in elections, and making important decisions in accordance with the international union charter.

Members of the Executive Office of the Palestinian Olympic Committee

No.	Name	Position
1	General Jibril Al-Rajoub	President
2	Abdel Majid Hujeh	Secretary-General
3	Dr. Hani Khalil Jiryas Al-Husary	Member
4	Bashar Masri	Member
5	Abdel Qader Seif El-Din Khatib	Member
6	Dr. Nibal Taisir Husni Khalil	Vice President
7	Khader Ahmad Diab	Member
8	Issam Ahmad Ibrahim Qishta	Member
9	Abdel Salam Ismail Haniyye	Member
10	Dr. As'ad Yousef Ismail Al-Majdalawi	Member
11	General Mohammad Ahmad Zidani	Vice President/Diaspora
12	Ghassan Abdel Ghani	Member/Diaspora
13	Hasan Sha'ath	Member/Diaspora
14	Dr. Basri Saleh	Member
15	General Nazih N'eirat	Member
16	Brigadier General Omar Abu Hashieh	Member

Significant Achievements

The PNOC amended its charter in 2017 and finalized a unified charter for sports unions, in addition to financial regulations and a players' affairs committee. All these rules were adopted during the PNOC general assembly meeting held on August 8, 2017 in Ramallah, and attended by a majority of the members, including heads of unions and delegates from all parts of the homeland and the diaspora.

Several sports unions achieved accomplishments at the individual and group levels during the years 2018–2019, including silver and bronze medals in the Arab, continental, and international arenas.

Basheer Mahameed is assistant secretary general of the Olympic Committee for Sports and Technical Affairs.

The Sports Federations

No.	Name of the Federation/Association	Acronym	Email Address
1	Palestinian Football Association	PFA	INFO@PFA.PS
2	Palestine Basketball National Federation	PBBNF	PBBNF@POC.PS
3	Palestinian Volleyball Federation	PVF	PVF@POC.PS
4	Palestine Handball Federation	PHF	PHF@POC.PS
5	Palestinian Karate Federation	PKF	PKF@POC.PS
6	Palestinian Swimming National Federation	PSNF	PSNF@POC.PS
7	Palestine Taekwondo Federation	PTF	PTF@POC.PS
8	Palestine Athletics Federation	PAF	PAF@POC.PS
9	Palestinian Table Tennis Federation	PTTF	PTTF@POC.PS
10	Palestinian Equestrian Federation	PEF	PEF@POC.PS
11	Palestine Judo Federation	PJF	PJF@POC.PS
12	Palestinian Federation for Billiard & Snooker	PFBS	PFBS@POC.PS
13	Palestinian Muaythai Federation	PMTF	PMTF@POC.PS
14	Palestinian Boxing National Federation	PBNF	PBNF@POC.PS
15	Palestine Sailing & Rowing Federation	PSRF	PSRF@POC.PS
16	Palestine Triathlon Association	PTA	PTA@POC.PS
17	Palestinian Fencing Federation	PFF	PFF@POC.PS
18	Palestine Chess Federation	PCF	PCF@POC.PS
19	Palestinian WU SHU KUNG FU Federation	PWKF	PWKF@POC.PS
20	Palestinian Federation of Kickboxing	PFK	PFK@POC.PS
21	Palestinian Motor Sports and Motorcycles Federation	PMSMF	PMSMF@POC.PS
22	Palestinian Sport Culture Association	PSCA	PSCA@POC.PS
23	Palestinian Weight Lifting Federation	PWLF	PWLF@POC.PS
24	Palestinian Federation of Sport for All and Traditional Games	PFSATG	PFSATG@POC.PS
25	Palestinian Aikido Association	PAA	PAF@POC.PS
26	Palestinian Gymnastic Federation	PGF	PGF@POC.PS
27	Palestinian Physical Power Lifting & Arm Wrestling Federation	PPAF	PPAF@POC.PS
28	General Federation of Military Sport	GFMS	GFMS@POC.PS
29	Palestinian Wrestling Federation	PWF	PWF@POC.PS
30	Palestinian Federation of Bodybuilding & Fitness	PFBB	PFBB@POC.PS
31	Palestinian Air Sport Federation	PASF	PASF@POC.PS
32	Palestinian Bridge National Federation	PBRNF	PBRNF@POC.PS
33	Palestinian Sport Medicine Federation	PSMF	PSMF@POC.PS
34	Palestinian Shooting Federation	PSHF	PSHF@POC.PS
35	Police Sports National Federation	PSPNF	PSPNF@POC.PS
36	Palestinian Squash Association and Tennis Games	PSTA	PSTA@POC.PS
37	Palestine Sport School Union	PSSA	PSSA@POC.PS
38	Palestinian Rugby Committee	PRC	PRC@POC.PS
39	Palestinian Sport Media Federation	PSMA	PSMA@POC.PS
40	Palestinian Cycling Federation	PCYF	PCYF@POC.PS
41	Palestinian Federation for University Sports		shakerjammal@yahoo.com
42	Palestinian Teqball	PTBF	PTBF@POC.PS