

Dear Editor, For immediate release:

Girls rule the court in Allianz Junior Badminton **Championship 2025 Qualifying Round 2**

Kuala Lumpur, 6 June 2025 – It was a field day for the girls at the second Qualifying Round of the Allianz Junior Badminton Championship (AJBC), with Low Hui Yein and Ng Yun Xi winning their singles and doubles events in the U-15 Girls' and U-13 Girls' categories respectively.

The second Qualifying Round of the AJBC, which took place from 30 May to 1 June 2025 at the Wintel Sport Arena in Taiping, Perak, saw Low Hui Yein from SMJK Yuk Choy beating Ho Wen Jie of SMK Seafield to win the U-15 Girls' Singles, and partnering Yong Hui Teng from SMK Ayer Tawar in the U-15 Girls' Doubles to beat Chai Xiao Qing from SMJK Pei Yuan and Chang Zhi Qing of SMJK Shing Chung.

This year marks Low's fourth participation in the AJBC, after making it to the Grand Finals in both the U-13 Girls' Singles and Doubles of the 2022 and 2023 editions, and the semi-finals of the U-15 Girls' Singles and Doubles in 2024.

"I only train twice a week with my club (Falim BC) and twice more with the Perak Badminton Association. But the rest of the time, I spar with my father and my uncles, and that has made the difference for me. Sparring with them creates a competitive atmosphere where I'm playing against players older than me," said Low, whose dream is to be an Olympic champion like her idol, South Korean badminton player An Se-young.

Ng Yun Xi of Wesley Methodist School KL (International) was crowned twice when she defeated Nur Keisha Zulaika Binti Mohd Zulhasrad from SMK Putrajaya Presint 5(1) in the U-13 Girls' Singles, and partnered Khor Pei Xuan of SMK Seri Bintang Selatan to clinch the top spot in the U-13 Girls' Doubles over Marissa Aisy Sofea Binti Muhammad Hasrul Nizam from SMK Putrajaya Presint 8(1) and Nur Keisha Zulaika, her opponent in the U-13 Girls' Singles final.

Meanwhile, Darwin Yeong Jun Bin from SMK St George defeated H'Ng Tze Hoong of SMK Desa Perdana to win the U-15 Boys' Singles. In the U-15 Boys' Doubles, Braxton Ling Liq Wei from SMK Methodist teamed up with Cheng Jia Hao from Yik Ching High School to emerge victorious over Muhamad Rafique Naufal Bin Muhamad Nizam of SMK King Edward V11 Taiping and Muhammad Daris Bin Idi Azhar of SMK Datuk Hj Abdul Wahab Perak.

ALLIANZ MALAYSIA BERHAD Level 29, Menara Allianz Sentral 203, Jalan Tun Sambanthan Kuala Lumpur Sentral, 50470 Kuala Lumpur Tel: 603-2264 1188/ 0688 Fax: 603-2264 1199 allianz.com.mv

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Loo Xuan Le of SMJK Yuk Choy nearly netted a double win too when he won the U-13 Boys' Singles over Phoon William from SMJK Sam Tet and partnered Wong Hong Bin from SMJK Hua Lian in the U-13 Boys' Doubles final. However, Phoon William ultimately got the better of him, winning the U-13 Boys' Doubles together with Lim Zi Xiong, also from SMJK Sam Tet.

A total of 286 players took part in this tournament, the second Qualifying Round of 10 rounds which will culminate in the year-end Grand Finals.

The AJBC Grand Finals 2025 featuring U-13 and U-15 finalists from all the Qualifying Rounds, will take place in Kuala Lumpur from 5 – 9 November 2025. Each round will see 24 players qualifying for the finals. The Under-11 players will not advance to the AJBC Grand Finals.

As in previous years, players participating in the AJBC Qualifying Rounds are not required to pay any entrance fees. The top three winners in the Qualifying Rounds, for all age categories, will earn RM500, RM300 and RM150 (singles) and RM600, RM400 and RM200 (doubles). Players finishing in the top three at the Grand Finals will pocket RM1,000, RM600 and RM300 (singles) and RM1,200, RM800 and RM400 (doubles).

The AJBC is supported by the Sports, Co-curricular and Arts Division, Ministry of Education Malaysia and the Badminton Association of Malaysia.

For more information and those who are keen to participate in AJBC, please visit <u>www.allianz.com.my/ajbc</u>

Qualifying Round	Date	Venue
1	16 – 18 May 2025	89 Arena, Klang, Selangor
2	30 May – 1 June 2025	Wintel Sport Arena, Taiping, Perak
3	20 – 22 June 2025	NS Sport Gelang Patah, Johor
4	11 – 13 July 2025	Seven Stone Badminton Court, Kuching, Sarawak
5	18 – 20 July 2025	Olympia Badminton Arena, Kota Kinabalu, Sabah

The details of the AJBC 2025 Qualifying Rounds are as follows:

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6	8 – 10 August 2025	Jebat Racquet Sports Centre, Bukit Beruang, Melaka
7	22 – 24 August 2025	Kuantan Synergy Sports Centre, Pahang
8	26 – 28 September 2025	Dewan KBA, Alor Setar, Kedah
9	3 – 5 October 2025	Dewan Tunku Anis, Kota Bahru, Kelantan
10	10 – 12 October 2025	Berapit Badminton Court, Bukit Mertajam, Pulau Pinang
Grand Finals	5 – 9 November 2025	Kuala Lumpur

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* As of December 31, 2024. Including non-consolidated entities with Allianz customers. ** As of March 31, 2025.

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