



# Attending The Tournaments

## What Is The National Qualifying Tournament?

1. Enrolled universities must conduct Student Tryout Tests, open to all students in order to be eligible to compete in the National Qualifying Tournament.
2. After the tests are administered and scored, the top students will practice the game and the Coach will select the university's four-player Zain Africa Challenge Scholars Team.
3. Once the team is selected, the Liaison or Coach must complete the Qualifying Tournament Registration form. The deadline for this is 27 October. Registration for the National Qualifying Tournaments is limited and administered on a first-come, first-served basis
4. National Qualifying Tournaments will be held in all countries:

Country	Date & Location	Maximum of Teams	Tournament Format
Ghana	16 Nov. Accra	8	Double knockout tournament wherein each team competes until they have lost two matches. The top four teams from this tournament will advance to the International Championship Festival.
Kenya	12 Nov. Nairobi	16	Double knockout tournaments wherein each team competes until they have lost two matches. Each group of 8 teams or less will be a separate knockout tournament. The top four teams from this tournament will advance to the International Championship Festival.
Malawi	16 Nov. Lilongwe	5	Double knockout tournament wherein each team competes until they have lost two matches. The top three teams from this tournament will advance to the International Championship Festival.
Nigeria	19 Nov. Abuja	16	Double knockout tournaments wherein each team competes until they have lost two matches. Each group of 8 teams or less will be a separate knockout tournament. The top four teams from this tournament will advance to the International Championship Festival.
Sierra Leone	16 Nov. Freetown	2	Double knockout tournaments wherein teams representing the two universities compete until they have lost two matches. Both of the two universities will advance to the International Championship Festival.
Tanzania	12 Nov. Dar es Salaam	16	Double knockout tournaments wherein each team competes until they have lost two matches. Each group of 8 teams or less will be a separate knockout tournament. The top four teams from this tournament will advance to the International Championship Festival.
Uganda	12 Nov. Kampala	16	Double knockout tournaments wherein each team competes until they have lost two matches. Each group of 8 teams or less will be a separate knockout tournament. The top four teams from this tournament will advance to the International Championship Festival.
Zambia	16 Nov. Lusaka	6	Double knockout tournament wherein each team competes until they have lost two matches. The top three teams from this tournament will advance to the International Championship Festival.

## National Qualifying Tournament

5. Zain Africa Challenge (ZAC) will pay for or reimburse each university for its cost to attend the National Qualifying Tournament. A Travel Expense Policy Document will be supplied to the ZAC Liaison and Coach.
6. Hotel rooms and any airline tickets, where required, will be paid directly by ZAC. University teams which travel by vehicle will be reimbursed for the pre-approved cost of the transport and meals en-route. Travel per diems are not paid; however meals during the National Qualifying Tournament will be furnished.

## What is the International Championship Festival?

1. The International Championship Festival is the final tournament of the Zain Africa Challenge year. Thirty-two student teams from Ghana, Kenya, Malawi, Nigeria, Sierra Leone, Tanzania, Uganda and Zambia will attend. It will be held in Kampala, Uganda on 23 January - 2 February.
2. The 32 teams will compete in a 31 game knockout, with all games being recorded for TV broadcast throughout the 8 participating countries.
3. Teams compete for institutional grants for their universities and educational grants for themselves. The further the team progresses in the tournament, the larger the Zain grants they receive.
4. The Zain Africa Challenge International Championship Festival is a live event. The games are its centerpiece, but it also features welcoming activities, social and cultural events, guest speakers, celebrity performances and a gala championship awards banquet.
5. In addition to the teams, attendees include university officials, government and civic leaders and volunteers representing Zain and the community at large who assist in the competition and other events.

**The International Championship Festival includes: games, social and cultural events, guests speakers, celebrity performances and gala banquets.**



## Coaching at the Tournaments

### Before Games

As your team is getting situated and the game is about to start, it's your final chance to relax the players and get them focused on the match. Again, there are some different approaches:

- ❖ Remind them to have fun and relax
- ❖ Some teams will even play ball before each game
- ❖ Some teams huddle and talk or pray
- ❖ Teams rely on anything that gives them that little confidence boost, from petting the team mascot to giving a quiet pre-game prayer
- ❖ Coaches rarely give specific advice to players just before the game

### Quick Tip

The Coach sets the tone for the team. Keep it positive and the players will reflect that in the game.

### During Games

You will certainly be watching closely and cheering for your team. Here are some tips:

- ❖ Sit with the team alternate
  - You will both want to have someone to whom you can whisper
- ❖ Don't sit near the other Coach
  - During games, all your attention needs to be centered on your team
  - Players need to see that you are as focused on them as they are on the game
- ❖ Be quiet
  - Hearing cries of "Focus" or "Go for it" can confuse the presenter and can disrupt the game
  - In addition, your players may begin to pay attention to what you are saying and not to the questions
- ❖ Look positive
  - When the team earns points, clap and look pleased; they may look to you for approval
  - If the team is losing, seeing that you are still proud of them will help keep them from getting discouraged.

## Code of Conduct

As a question and answer competition for universities, the Zain Africa Challenge programme endeavours to promote the advancement of academic achievement, sportsmanship, a respect for the dignity and worth of all individuals and a continuing desire for knowledge among

its participants. Thus, the programme seeks to provide a positive experience that will contribute to the advancement of student development. To this end, there are codes of conduct that all participants must abide by. Disregard for the codes of conduct may result in disqualification and expulsion from the tournament.

## What to Wear

For the most part, the Zain Africa Challenge Tournaments are casual affairs. At the National Qualifying Tournaments, teams are encouraged to bring at least one team "uniform", like matching shirts (polo or tee) with the university emblem or name. Teams that look like a team tend to perform as a team. Never underestimate the effect of school pride in a heated match.

At the International Championship Festival, matching shirts will be provided to wear on the TV programme. However, business dress (jacket and tie) or traditional attire is expected for the Opening Dinner and Closing Awards Banquet.



[www.ZainAfricaChallenge.com](http://www.ZainAfricaChallenge.com)