



2025 IBSA Men's Blind Football Elite Cup in Umekita

Dear Friends in Blind Football

Jan 2025

We are honored to send you an invitation "2025 IBSA Men's Blind Football Elite Cup in Umekita".

This tournament is an official event for the top eight countries in the IBSA rankings announced in January 2025. It is the first official event in the new cycle leading up to the next Paralympic Games in Los Angeles.

We will be holding this tournament in Osaka, Japan. Osaka is currently attracting a great deal of attention from around the world as it hosts the "World Expo" during this period. Umekita is the most talked about commercial area in Osaka. We aim to hold this tournament in the Umekita building complex, and to make it a tournament that is watched and supported by many people around the world.

In parallel, "IBSA Men's Blind Football Nations Cup" is scheduled to be held in India in November 2025. If the top eight countries in the IBSA rankings do not participate in the tournament in Japan, the entry slots for the tournament in Japan will be adjusted from the ninth place and below.

If you wish to participate in the competition, 1st entry form, expression of interest, should be returned to us by **10th Feb 2025**, in order to present your interest to participate in the games.

If you have any questions or need further information, please do not hesitate to contact us. We look forward to seeing you in Japan next spring.

Sincerely Yours,

Eigo MATSUZAKI

Executive Director, JBFA; Japan Blind Football Association

Competition Information

Visual Classification:	B1 There will be an official classification.
The Number of Participants:	6 or 8 countries including host country, Japan.
Dates:	16 th May to 26 th May, 2025, 10 nights 11 days. ◆ The duration may be shortened depending on the final number of participating countries.
Eligibility	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The top eight countries in the IBSA rankings announced in January 2025. • If there are no entries from the top eight countries, the entry qualifications will be allocated to the countries ranked ninth and below in order. • Duplicate participation in “IBSA Men's Blind Football Nations Cup” is not permitted.
Venue:	<p>Grand Front Osaka, Umekita park</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Artificial Grass, outside ◆ Access to Grand Front Osaka ◆ A special pitch will be created between the commercial buildings. It is not a so-called 'sports ground', and there are various environmental restrictions.
Accommodation:	TBD
Airports:	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) Kansai International Airport (KIX) 2) Itami Airport (Osaka International Airport) (ITM) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Organizing Committee will provide the transportation from/to the KIX or ITM Airport only.

Entry and Financial Schedule for qualifiers:	10 th February, 2025	Due for the 1st entry form, expression of interest.
	1 st April, 2025	Due for deposit payment, 3,000.00EURO. Due for the confirmation form.
	4 th April, 2025	Due for the final entry form including member list, photos, and copy of passport.
	1 st May, 2025	Due for the balance payment and pay for capitation fee.
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Please note that the official draw for the competition will take place after 1st April, due for the deposit, with countries processed the deposit payment and confirmation form. ◆ Deposit fee is EURO 3,000.00 in total. ◆ Cancellation after the 1st April will be charged. ◆ As mentioned above, due to the schedule of the Nations Cup, there may be cases where the participation of countries that cannot comply with the deadline schedule will not be accepted. ◆ Participating countries with restrictions on international money transfers may require confirmation from the embassy in Japan. 	
Participation Fee:	EURO 990.00 per person within 16 persons.	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Includes local transportations, meals, accommodation. ◆ It includes “Sanction right’s fee” of EURO 1,500.00 for each team, which will be paid to IBSA. ◆ Excludes capitation fee, visa, travel insurance, flight fee. 	
Capitation fee:	LOC will collect an additional EURO 50.00 per athlete and EURO 25.00 per team member, as a capitation fee to be paid to IBSA.	
Delegation Number:	16 people including translator	
	◆ Exceeded person will be charged EURO 1,500.00 per person at maximum of 18.	
Extension of stay:	Participants who arrive/depart exceeded days, it will cost you EURO 250.00 per person a night.	
Official Language:	Japanese and English. All printed materials will be available in English.	
Transportation:	Organizing Committee will be responsible for all local transportation.	
Insurance:	Participation Countries are responsible for their own insurance requirements for travel, personal accident, liability, and medical matters.	
VISA:	Verify with the Japan Embassy or Consulate in order to request visas.	
Other notes:	This tournament will be held on the same dates and at the same venue as the IBSA Women's Blind Football World Grand Prix 2025 in Umekita.	

Planned Itinerary: 2025 May

DAY	DATE	OUTLINE
1	16 Fri	Arrival / Classification
2	17 Sat	Classification / Official Training / Technical Meeting
3	18 Sun	Official Training / Group League
4	19 Mon	Group League
5	20 Tue	Group League
6	21 Wed	Group League
7	22 Thu	Group League
8	23 Fri	Day-off
9	24 Sat	Placement matches / Semi-finals
10	25 Sun	Final
11	26 Mon	Departure

- ◆ The duration may be shortened depending on the final number of participating countries.
- ◆ The number of participating countries for the women's competition could also affect the competition schedule.

Contact:

- ◆ liaison@b-soccer.jp

The following is a notice from the classification committee.

Visual Classification

Classification days are May 16th and 17th 2025.

Please read all below and prepare your team for Classification according to the rules. Players must become familiar with rules and procedures of IBSA medical classification:

(<http://www.ibsasport.org/documents/files/68-1-IBSA-Classification-Rules-and-Procedures.pdf>).

Submission Deadlines

1. **The First Deadline for Submission** of a **Request for Classification Form** (by email to ibsassist@ibasport.org) and for uploading athlete MDFs and supporting medical tests in ISAS is **February 16th, 2025**. Submissions received by this deadline will be given first priority for allocation of a classification assessment slot at the competition. Athletes will be assigned a classification appointment only after the MDF and supporting medical documents have been approved by the classifiers as establishing an UHC (Underlying Health Condition)

2. Second Deadline: Submissions received after the first deadline (**and by April 4th 2025**) will be allocated a classification slot if available, on a first come first served basis. Athletes will be assigned a classification appointment (if available) only after the MDF and supporting medical documents have been approved by the classifiers as establishing an UHC.

Submissions received after April 4th 2025, will not be reviewed by classifiers or considered for this competition.

Medical Diagnostics Form (MDF) and other required medical diagnostics documentation must not be older than 1 year. Final second deadline for MDF is April 4th, 2025.

The Classification Process is as follows

The first step in the classification process is to establish that the athlete has an ***Underlying Health Condition (UHC)*** that leads to an eligible vision impairment. This is done by classifiers who review the athlete's Medical Documentation Form (MDF) and supporting medical documents. This review takes place before the athlete is assigned a classification evaluation appointment. If the information is not complete, or there is not sufficient evidence of an UHC leading to an eligible vision impairment, the athlete will not be scheduled for a classification appointment.

1. Once a UHC is established, the athlete can be scheduled for a classification evaluation appointment.
2. At the classification evaluation appointment, the classification panel will
 - a. confirm (or not) the UHC,
 - b. if the UHC is confirmed, the classification panel will proceed with a vision assessment to determine
 - i. if the athlete meets the minimum impairment criteria,

- ii. assign a sport class and sport class status to the athlete

Only athletes competing in this event can be classified.

IBSA ISAS online registration of players:

All players participating in the event must be registered in the ISAS database and have a current ISAS Active Sport License for **2025** and IBSA Athlete ID

Entry by number on IBSA ISAS will be from February 11th to March 11th 2025.

Entry by Name on IBSA ISAS will be from March 4th to April 4th 2025.

Anti-Doping Control

The event is subject to random doping tests in accordance with IBSA regulations. Athletes should refer to the IBSA Anti-Doping Policy.

Any athlete taking medication subject to doping control must be in possession of a valid IBSA **Therapeutic Use Exemption (TUE)**. For information on IBSA's anti-doping policies and how to apply for a TUE, go to www.ibsasport.org/anti-doping. For more info you can contact Juliana Soares at juliana@ibasport.org