



# UN Inter-Agency Games 2024

LLORET DE MAR

## INVITATION – PARTICIPANTS

23-27 October 2024

### Contents

1. Introduction.....	2
2. Arrival .....	3
Barcelona .....	3
Girona .....	3
3. Accommodation .....	3
4. Pricing.....	3
5. Opening.....	4
6. Sports .....	4
6.1 Teams and Athletes .....	4
6.2 Disciplines .....	4
6.3 Venues .....	6
6.4 Eligibility to participate .....	6
6.5 Medical certificates.....	7
7. Closing Ceremony.....	7
8. How to register.....	7
8.1 Entry visas (VERY IMPORTANT).....	7
8.2 Deadlines for Registration and Cancellation .....	8
8.3 Official ID.....	8
9. For any other questions .....	8

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Dear friends and colleagues,

Over the past five decades the United Nations Inter-Agency Games (UNIAG) have evolved into a signature event for sports, leisure, rest, and recuperation. Sports enthusiasts from novice to amateur meet every year to compete in friendly competitions to take the Gold Medal across our many disciplines.

The UNIAG are organized each year from a pool of volunteers from across the entire UN System. While this comes with its own set of challenges, it does contribute to the spirit of the Games and delivers an event created by the peoples of the United Nations, for the people of the United Nations. We are a strong and committed community, so we are proud to have once again overcome all obstacles and put an exciting and attractive package together.

This year we took into account the lessons learned from last year and took account of your needs and expectations. In particular, we gave due consideration to the ever-increasing cost of services, as well as your desire to experience exciting locations and popular destinations. Due to high inflation around the world, prices have been increasing during the past years. For this reason, in preparing the package, we opted to give you full control over your hotel choice. That way you will be able to determine for yourselves where to stay and what hotel category to choose. Like every year, we looked at total cost of participation (flights, package, lodging, incidentals). We are now confident, that with some effective planning you will be able to participate at the same cost as last year or even less.

Our Destination – Costa Brava, Spain – Lloret de Mar, Girona, and Barcelona

The 49<sup>th</sup> UN Inter-Agency Games will be held from **23-27 October 2024** along the Costa Brava on the northern Mediterranean shore of Spain. We are honored to have our event hosted under patronage of the Lloret de Mar City Council who are looking forward to welcoming the UN family to their home.

[Lloret de Mar](#) is a major tourist and sport destination, hosting many international sport events throughout the year. The town's sport facilities are state of the art and fit to host all our disciplines at the level that you may expect. The majority of sports events as well as the opening ceremony will be held in the city center, easily accessible from anywhere by foot ([Lloret Sports Complex](#)). For those events outside of Lloret de Mar we will have shuttle buses available every morning from the central sport center.

Golf will be held at the prestigious [Camiral Golf Resort](#) in Girona which is located thirty minutes north of Lloret de Mar. The resort ranks amongst the top four in Spain and has applied to host the 2031 Ryder Cup. Formerly known as PGA Catalunya, the location will provide Golfers with a unique challenge and opportunity. While the competition will be held on the less challenging 'Tour Course'. Participants with an extended stay would have the possibility to book a round on the famous 'Stadium Course' for a pro-level challenge.

The closing ceremony and gala will be held at the Hyatt Regency in Barcelona. With the added hotel flexibility, participants will have the possibility to relocate to Barcelona on Saturday lunchtime to stay for an extra couple of nights after the closing or travel back to Lloret de Mar. We wanted this year to be all about choice so you can create that perfect getaway!

The Participation Package – What you can expect from joining the 49<sup>th</sup> IAG:

## 2. Arrival

### Barcelona

Josep Tarradellas Barcelona - El Prat Airport is the largest international airport of the region and easily accessible from all major hubs around the globe. Both major and national carriers, as well as low-cost airlines service Barcelona at reasonable prices.

[Bus services](#) are available for around EUR 15 to travel to Lloret de Mar.

Taxi and Uber are also available but rather pricey due to the distance.

Rental cars are generally available for a good price in Spain. We are still negotiating special rates and will make those available through the website soon.

### Girona

Girona Airport is the closest Airport and services a number of destinations across Europe. Lloret de Mar is only a short drive by Taxi/Uber or a EUR 5 bus ride.

Golfers are particularly advised to look into this option as the golf resort is only 5 mins. away.

Buses are also available from the Airport.

## 3. Accommodation

This year, accommodation is not included in the UNIAG package. Participants will have the opportunity to book their lodging in accordance with their own wishes and standards.

As a major tourist destination Lloret de Mar has a great number of hotels, hostels, and apartments available, bookable through all major online travel agencies and booking sites.

The majority of sports competitions will be held at the [Lloret Sports Complex](#) and all competitions held off-site will be accessible through shuttle buses departing/arriving from/to there. Therefore, it would be advisable that you book a hotel close to that location, such as the Evenia Palace Hotel Complex.

For those of you who are not able to avail themselves of online bookings, our local partner O-Sports would be able to offer you a selection of rooms, accommodate special wishes, or handle group bookings. They can also accept wire transfers and payment options other than credit card. For inquiries, please contact them directly under:

[iag@o-sports.pt](mailto:iag@o-sports.pt)

## 4. Pricing

The pricing tables will be shared by your local Organizing Committee/Focal Points. They will inform you on the various participation package fees, payment modalities, and timelines.

**Participants are individually responsible for their travel and accommodation costs, and to ensure that they are duly registered and their participation fees are transferred to their focal point within the set deadlines.**

## 5. Opening

The opening ceremony will be held on Wednesday 23 October 2024 from 18:00 at the [Gran Casino Costa Brava](#) in the center of Lloret de Mar. We look forward to a classy cocktail hour followed by a grand opening and party.

The opening ceremony itself will start around 19:00.

**Captains' Meeting:** The Captain's Meeting will be held on Wednesday 23 October 2024 at 16:00 in a venue close to the Lloret sports complex (final location is still to be confirmed). You will receive more info soon, provided you register as a Team Captain.

## 6. Sports

In accordance with the UNIAG competition schedule, competitions will be held between Thursday and Saturday, 24-26 October 2024.

### 6.1 Teams and Athletes

Participants are invited to form teams but individuals wishing to participate will also be accommodated. There are no restrictions on the number of teams per discipline submitted for participation by any organization. However, the host reserves the right to limit team numbers if hosting limitations arise. In accordance with the [General Rules](#) of the Games, mixed teams are permitted but they should not be created to form a "stronger" team. Individuals not registered in a team will also be placed in such mixed teams. We highly encourage organizations to form complete teams and compete under their own flag.

### 6.4 Disciplines

Participating organizations are requested to form teams, or send athletes to compete in the following disciplines (required team numbers included):

#### 1. Athletics

- a. Men's competition: minimum 4 – maximum 6
- b. Women's: minimum 4 – maximum 6
- c. The relay will be held on a 400m athletics track. The 10k will be held in the local national park, on a natural field track. There will be a circular route of approximately 4 laps.

#### 2. Badminton:

- a. Team compositions: minimum 3 men and 1 woman, or 2 men and 2 women, maximum of 5 men and 3 women
- b. Players are expected to bring their own rackets.

#### 3. Basketball

- a. Team composition: maximum 12 players.
- b. Women are encouraged to participate. Mixed teams are permissible.

#### 4. Beach volleyball

- a. Team composition: teams are composed exclusively of 2 players, either men, women, or a mixed couples

#### 5. Chess

- a. Team composition: maximum 6 players.

- b. Participants are expected to have a basic knowledge and standard of chess play corresponding to a minimum Elo rating of 1400 (Class C) and some tournament experience, including use of the chess clocks and recording of moves.
6. Cricket
- a. Team composition: The format is 6-a-side. Teams can register up to 8 players (6+2 reserves).
  - b. Individual players will be placed in joint teams.
  - c. Players are expected to bring a full equipment set. Only balls will be provided.
7. Darts:
- a. Team composition: minimum 6 – maximum 8 players
  - b. Players are expected to bring their own darts. Steel tips are required to play on standard ‘bristle’ type boards.
8. Football
- a. Men’s competition: minimum 7 – maximum 12 per team
  - b. Women’s competition: minimum 7 – maximum 12
  - c. Individual players will assigned to joint teams. Female players are particularly encouraged to register in order to form enough teams to hold a complete tournament.
  - d. Matches will generally be played on artificial turf.
  - e. The men’s final will be held on natural grass at the stadium.
  - f. The men’s and women’s competitions will be held at separate venues.
9. Golf
- a. Team composition: minimum 4 – maximum 6
  - b. A thorough understanding of competitive Golf as well as a certified tournament license are required to participate.
  - c. Maximum handicaps apply. However, higher handicap players can participate but will be adjusted to the maximum.
  - d. Being familiar with the IAG [rules](#) as well as the R&A [Golf rules](#) is a requirement to be eligible to play.
10. Padel Tennis
- a. Team composition: Teams of 2 men, women, or mixed.
  - b. Players are expected to bring their own rackets.
11. Pétanque
- a. Team composition: 3 per triplet plus maximum 2 reserves.
  - b. Players are expected to have their own set of competition certified boules.
  - c. A thorough understanding of the sport, tournament format, and rules is recommended.
12. Pool Billiards
- a. Team composition: Teams of 2 men, women, or mixed.
  - b. Players are expected to have good knowledge and understanding of the [General Rules & Eight Ball Rules](#).
13. Swimming
- a. Men’s competition: minimum 4 – maximum 5

- b. Women's competition: minimum 4 – maximum 5

#### 14. Table Tennis

- a. Men's competition: minimum 3 – maximum 5
- b. Women's competition: minimum 2 – maximum 3
- c. Players are required to bring their own rackets. Equipment must conform with the standards set out in the [rules](#).

#### 15. Tennis

- a. Team composition: 10 per team (5 men and 5 women)

#### 16. Volleyball

- a. Men's competition: max. 10 players per team
- b. Women's Competition: max. 10 players per team

### 6.3 Venues

The competitions are the true reason we embark on this journey every year. That is why we have not compromised on the quality of any of the facilities of any discipline. All competitions will be held at the highest amateur level, and the most appropriate facility available at the host location. We expect players to bring the same level of commitment and knowledge to the competitions.

Free shuttle busses will be available to/from all locations outside of Lloret de Mar. Shuttles buses will depart in the morning at 8am from the [Lloret Sports Complex](#) and returns to Lloret de Mar after competitions.

The majority of events will be held in [Lloret Sports Complex](#).

Golf will be held at the prestigious [Camiral Golf Resort](#) in Girona, thirty minutes north of Lloret de Mar. We recommend players to book at the onsite hotel, or, to hire a car if residing in Lloret de Mar.

Darts will be held in the Evenia Olympic Palace Hotel. Onsite refreshments and a competitive setup will be provided, as in previous years.

Basketball, Table Tennis, Football (women), and Badminton will be held at the [Ciutat Esportiva de Blanes](#) (Shuttles available).

Beach volleyball will be held at Sandance Club Lloret de Mar (Shuttles will be available).

Pétanque will be held near the [Teatre Municipal](#) in central Lloret de Mar.

Pool billiards will be held at the Bowling Center Blanes (Shuttles will be available)

Tennis will be held at the stunning [Mas Sola Club](#) (Shuttles available)

### 6.4 Eligibility to participate

In accordance with General Rule 14, *any person of a participating organization or agency who has served under contract, including supernumeraries (consultants and other contractors that are verified by your respective HR department), for at least three months or who holds a contract of at least three months duration and, in either case, holds a contract effective at least one month before the IAG open and during their entire duration, is eligible for selection as a member of a team. Any person who has retired from any participating organization or agency is also eligible to participate in the UNIAG.*

Participating organizations/agencies must normally be listed on the United Nations System document [www.unsystem.org](http://www.unsystem.org) or if not listed therein then have the approval of the Secretariat to participate. Such approval shall depend on any such organization having joint missions with the UN (see General Rule 6).

If you are unsure whether you or your organization is eligible, please direct your inquiries to [secretariat@interagencygames.org](mailto:secretariat@interagencygames.org)

#### 6.5 Medical certificates

Although medical certificates are not mandatory in Spain it is recommended that, for their own safety, participants consult with their general practitioner before engaging in any sporting activity. Please be mindful that competitions are held at the amateur level and span multiple days. Participants and supporters are responsible for their own medical insurance. The host organizations will not be held liable.

#### 7. Closing Ceremony

The Closing Ceremony and Gala Night where all trophies will be presented to Winners of 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup>, and 3<sup>rd</sup> places will be held at the exclusive Hyatt Regency Tower Hotel in Barcelona. The event is scheduled to take place from 18:00 on Saturday, 26 October 2024. Shuttle buses will leave the hotels around 1700 and will return participants to Lloret de Mar after the event.

Barcelona is the capital of Catalonia, and one of the world's foremost tourist destinations, rich with distinct culture, history, and language. It is world famous for its cuisine, unique style, and vast shopping opportunities. For those wanting to depart Lloret de Mar early to relocate for maybe an extra day or two, early busses will be provided. For those looking to extend the party after the Gala in Barcelona, we will look into late shuttles, picking up people early morning. Pre-registration will be required and subject to availability. We will post details on the website, closer to the event.

#### 8. How to register

Registration is possible through focal points designated by each participating organization.

##### 8.1 Entry visas (VERY IMPORTANT)

Kindly ensure that you have the necessary visas for Spain (and any countries you might need to travel through) and that they apply as early as possible to ensure that the visa is available on time. We would recommend immediate action to ensure visa availability. Invitation letters can be provided to facilitate visa requests. Full details of all travelers will be required, therefore please send us a copy of your passport and all the data we require.

We are negotiating a smooth process with the Spanish authorities, but the issuance of a Schengen C-Visa cannot be guaranteed.

Those colleagues with a valid UNLP may use this to travel to the Games. Central guidance on this provision can be shared upon request. Participation in the Games does not qualify as a reason to request for a UNLP.

There will be no reimbursement for no-show due to visa-related issues.

To request a personalized visa letter invitation, please visit:

[www.interagencygames.org/visa](http://www.interagencygames.org/visa)

**Please make sure you have registered through your focal point before requesting a visa letter. Only duly registered participants may avail themselves of this service.**

For questions, please refer to: [iag2024@interagencygames.org](mailto:iag2024@interagencygames.org)

### 8.2 Deadlines for Registration and Cancellation

Full reimbursement of the IAG package cost will only be possible for cancellations up to Friday, 20 September 2024. We reserve the right to assess refunds for cancellations after that date on a case-by-case basis.

Our global registration deadline is also set around mid to end September. However, the exact dates for payment, registration and cancellation will be set by your organization's focal point.

### 8.3 Official ID

We would like to remind you to have official picture identification with you in case we need to verify your identity prior to or during the competitions.

### 9. For any other questions

If you have specific questions should contact the 2024 IAG Organizing Committee under:

[iag2024@interagencygames.org](mailto:iag2024@interagencygames.org)

Please also regularly check our website:

[www.interagencygames.org](http://www.interagencygames.org)

and follow us on

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/UNInterAgencyGames>

And

Instagram: @uninteragencygames

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On behalf of the team

Anthony Alozie

*Chair, IAG Organizing Committee 2024*

&

Fernand Agbogbe – Steven Eales

*Project Leads, IAG 2024*