



June 30, 2022

Press Release

Rakuten Group, Inc.
JUBF

Rakuten and JUBF Launch “World University Basketball Series” in Tokyo This August

- Sun Chlorella to be presenting partner of inaugural tournament, which will host teams from Indonesia, Japan, Philippines and Taiwan.
- Fans can purchase tickets now on the [WUBS official site](#).

Tokyo, June 30, 2022 – Rakuten Group, Inc. and the All Japan University Basketball Federation (JUBF) today announced the launch of Sun Chlorella’s World University Basketball Series (WUBS), an annual champions league-style tournament for university basketball teams. The inaugural tournament will host top university teams from Indonesia, Japan, Philippines and Taiwan at Yoyogi National Stadium Second Gymnasium in Tokyo from August 9-11, 2022.



Hosted by JUBF and supported by Rakuten Sports, a Rakuten Group service focused on creating partnerships built on shared values with professional sports teams, athletes, brands and rights-holders around the world, WUBS is envisioned to empower local talent and the basketball community. The tournament gives collegiate players and teams a platform to showcase their skill on an international stage. By bringing together university teams to compete each year for the series title, the two organizations aim to take university basketball to new heights and bring the global basketball community closer together.

Tickets for the games are now available for purchase on [this dedicated page](#).



The first edition is an invitation-only event featuring four top university teams: Pelita Harapan University (UPH) from Indonesia, Tokai University from Japan, Ateneo de Manila University from Philippines and National Chengchi University (NCCU) from Taiwan. The teams will compete in a series of six round-robin games over three days to claim the series championship. Future plans call for expansion in the number of participating teams and countries each year.

Naoki Hayashi, JUBF Chairman and President of the World University Basketball Series Organizing Committee, commented, "We are delighted to announce the new World University Basketball Series. We have invited four top universities from across Asia – including Japan – to join us here in Tokyo for this international tournament. It is my great hope that through WUBS, university basketball will continue to grow and reach greater heights in each country and region and that many deep and lasting friendships will be formed among participants. We hope that fans from across the basketball community will come to the venue and cheer on the teams."

Futoshi Nakayama, President & CEO of Sun Chlorella, commented, "It is an honor to partner with the World University Basketball Series in its inaugural edition. I'm thrilled that we can have this tournament this fall, and it's been amazing to watch the preparations come together so well. As a partner company, Sun Chlorella will do everything we can to make WUBS a smashing success. I look forward to meeting all the teams and university staff from Indonesia, Philippines and Taiwan here in Japan!"

Going forward Rakuten Sports and JUBF will continue to empower local heroes and the next generation of rising athletes through engaging initiatives that unite fans and grow the sport of basketball in markets around the world.

Comments from participating teams

Stephen L. Metcalfe, Pelita Harapan University Head Coach, commented, "We are happy for our students to have this opportunity, coming out of the pandemic. Traveling, playing basketball, representing UPH and Indonesia as the Champions of LIMA is a great privilege. To compete against university teams from Japan, Taiwan and the Philippines is special. We hope to represent well and enjoy this unique tournament established by WUBS. The creation of an international tournament for university students is an excellent idea – may all who participate find good success."

Akira Rikukawa, Tokai University Head Coach, commented, "I would like to thank you from the bottom of my heart for inviting us to the first World University Basketball Series. I am also determined to do my best to live up to the name of the All Japan University Basketball Federation, which has recommended us. I sincerely hope that this tournament will contribute to the development and friendship of university basketball in Asia and around the world."

Tab Baldwin, Ateneo de Manila University Head Coach, commented, "Ateneo is very excited and proud to be a university selected by WUBS to represent the Philippines in this prestigious



event. We believe that the quality of competition and the excellent organization that is always present in Japan will make this event a significant element in our preparation for the upcoming UAAP. The opportunity to experience international competition as well as the cultural experience in Japan will be priceless for our student athletes.”

Chen Tzu-wei, National Chengchi University Head Coach, commented, “We are grateful for the opportunity to participate in the memorable first World University Basketball Series. And we recognize that participation in WUBS will make a significant contribution to the promotion of basketball, sports and culture in Taiwan. It is expected that WUBS will serve as a legacy for university basketball in Taiwan and Japan to be passed on to the next generation.”

About Rakuten Sports

Rakuten Sports is a Rakuten Group service that focuses on creating partnerships built on shared values with professional sports teams, athletes, brands and rights-holders. For more information visit <https://biz.sports.rakuten.net/>

About JUBF

The All Japan University Basketball Federation is an organization whose purpose is to strengthen, promote and grow university basketball in Japan. JUBF is also a member of the Japan Basketball Association and the University Sports Association. As of today, the federation has 352 men's teams and 293 women's teams registered. The student federations in Japan are divided into nine districts, with each student federation overseeing university basketball in its respective district.

About Sun Chlorella

Sun Chlorella is a health food company that offers Chlorella from green algae in countries around the world. Sun Chlorella “A” Powder, which is NSF Certified for Sport and Informed Sport certified, has been adopted as The Official Superfood of the Brooklyn Nets, a professional basketball team in the U.S., and it is used as part of the health regimen of many globally competitive athletes. In addition, Sun Chlorella is involved in the Globalers Project, which identifies and nurtures promising young basketball talent in Japan. Sun Chlorella is dedicated to working alongside athletes to help them achieve excellence.

Sun Chlorella official website: <https://www.sunchlorella.com/>

Globalers Project official homepage: <https://scqglobalers.com/>

WUBS Overview

Tournament name: Sun Chlorella presents World University Basketball Series

Tournament host: All Japan University Basketball Federation

Tournament organizing committee: World University Basketball Series Organizing Committee

Tournament operation support: Rakuten Sports

Date: Tuesday, August 9 to Thursday, August 11, 2022

Venue: Yoyogi National Stadium Second Gymnasium

Format: Round-robin (2 games/day, 6 games for 3 days)

Participating universities:



Universitas Pelita Harapan (UPH) (Indonesia)

Tokai University (Japan)

Ateneo de Manila University (Philippines)

National Chengchi University (NCCU) (Taiwan)

Rules and regulations: In accordance with FIBA competition rules

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