

Proposal for the Establishment of the UAE FootGolf Federation

Subject: Proposal for the Establishment of the UAE FootGolf Federation

Dear Sir or Madam,

My name is Aleksei Gusev. I am based in Dubai, United Arab Emirates, and I have been actively involved in the development of FootGolf in the region.

FootGolf is a fast-growing international sport that combines elements of football and golf. It is played on golf courses, where the objective is to complete the course from the teeing ground to the hole in the fewest possible kicks. Like golf, FootGolf is built on discipline, fair play, respect for other players, and proper sporting conduct.

In recent years, FootGolf has grown significantly at the international level. Major tournaments bring together participants from around the world, and many countries already have national federations that are part of the international FootGolf system. The Gulf region has also demonstrated strong potential for the development of the sport, including tournaments in Sharjah that have shown clear international interest in this direction.

Over the past three years, I have worked consistently on developing FootGolf in the Gulf region, including through initiatives, sport promotion, and cooperation with venues in the UAE. This experience has shown that isolated events or local interest alone are not enough for real growth. What is required is an official national structure capable of developing the sport systematically, working with international organizations, and building a long-term program. The next logical step for the UAE is to establish such a structure on the right foundation and give FootGolf a sustainable national format.

In May-June 2026, Acapulco, Mexico will host the FIGF FootGolf World Cup 2026. Against this background, it is especially clear that the Gulf region still remains weakly represented in the international FootGolf structure, and the absence of national federations and official mechanisms significantly limits the ability to systematically form teams and ensure full participation of regional players in competitions of this level.

I am convinced that the UAE has all the necessary conditions to become one of the leading countries in the region for the development of FootGolf. Its climate allows year-round play, its sports infrastructure provides a strong basis for launch, and the country has the ability to attract both local players and international participants and visitors. The UAE can become a sustainable national center for FootGolf and an important regional platform for this sport.

For the UAE to become fully integrated into the international FootGolf system, the first key step is the establishment of the UAE FootGolf Federation. Once established, the federation can apply to join the relevant international organization. This creates a real opportunity for the UAE to build official international representation within the existing structure.

In the medium term, the UAE could also position itself to host regional and international FootGolf tournaments. This would contribute to sports tourism, increase the country's international visibility, and create new commercial opportunities for local partners. With systematic development, the UAE could in the future also aspire to host world-level competitions, including the FootGolf World Cup.

This is no longer simply a matter of concept, but of timely creation of a national structure, a player base, a network of venues, and international integration.

The development of FootGolf in the UAE would bring significant benefits, especially for golf clubs and for the country's sports and tourism economy as a whole:

- increased use of golf club infrastructure;
- additional revenue opportunities for golf clubs;
- growth in the number of participants and spectators;
- increased demand for hotels, airlines, restaurants, and transport services;
- international promotion of the UAE as a sports and tourism destination;
- the opportunity to host regional and international tournaments in the future.

One of the practical advantages of FootGolf is that it can be introduced at relatively low cost compared with many other sports projects. FootGolf is played on golf courses, and the cost of adapting or creating a FootGolf course is generally manageable. With proper institutional support, the UAE could identify one or more partner golf clubs to launch training activities, initial events, and the further development of the discipline.

To move this initiative forward, support is needed in three main areas:

- 1 Official approval and institutional support for the process of establishing the UAE FootGolf Federation;
- 2 Legal support for the creation of the federation in accordance with national sports rules and requirements;
- 3 Strategic and financial support for the launch of the first development phase, including cooperation with golf clubs and preparation of the first events.

It would be an honor for me to take part in this process and support the establishment of the UAE FootGolf Federation as part of the team that stands at the origin of this project. I am ready to assist with strategy, development planning, international coordination, and the promotion of FootGolf in the UAE and across the Gulf region.

I have also prepared a FootGolf development program for the UAE for the period 2026-2030, which includes the establishment of the federation, player development, integration with golf clubs, preparation for international competitions, and the creation of the foundation that would allow the UAE in the future to bid for world-level tournaments, including the FootGolf World Cup.

I would be grateful for the opportunity to present this initiative in more detail and discuss how we can work together to develop FootGolf in the UAE.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

Aleksei Gusev

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