



Republic of the Philippines
UNIVERSITY OF SOUTHERN MINDANAO
Kabacan, Cotabato
Email Address: op@usm.edu.ph



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In this regard, we respectfully request the endorsement of DepEd Region XII and, if deemed appropriate, the dissemination of information about the event to the Schools Division Offices and concerned schools within the region, particularly those with teachers and personnel involved in Physical Education, school sports, health and wellness, recreation, and youth development. We believe that collaboration between DepEd Region XII and higher education and sports organizations can further strengthen opportunities for professional learning, sports innovation, research exchange, and meaningful physical activity among learners and educators in the region.

For reference, the event has a registration fee of ₱5,000.00 per participant, which includes five-day program access, meals and refreshments, official event shirt/merchandise, training kit and event ID, seminar-workshop materials, certificates, hands-on training in the four featured sports, access to mini-tournaments and the Research Congress, PFA membership, networking opportunities, and other program inclusions. CPD credit units are applied for and subject to PRC approval/accreditation. Accommodation is not included in the registration fee.

We would be deeply grateful for the Department's favorable consideration and support for this initiative. Your endorsement and assistance in disseminating the event to appropriate DepEd personnel would significantly contribute to its goal of promoting innovative, inclusive, and meaningful opportunities for sports participation and professional development.

Attached for your reference are the official event poster, program schedule, registration information and inclusions, accommodation guide, and travel information.

Thank you very much for your continued support of initiatives that promote quality physical education, sports development, health, and professional growth among educators and learners in Region XII.

Respectfully yours,

JONALD L. PIMENTEL, PhD
SUC President, University of Southern Mindanao
Kabacan, Cotabato, Philippines

**"UNITY IN DIVERSITY
AND SUSTAINABLE
DEVELOPMENT IN
MINDANAO THROUGH QUALITY AND RELEVANT EDUCATION."**



SAJONG P. PIMENTEL



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OFFICE OF THE UNIVERSITY PRESIDENT

September 23, 2026

ATTY. ALBERTO T. ESCOBARTE, CESO II

*Regional Director, Department of Education – Region XII
Koronadal City, South Cotabato*

REQUEST FOR ENDORSEMENT AND DISSEMINATION OF THE NEXT PLAY 2026

Dear Atty. EscobarTE:

Warm greetings from the University of Southern Mindanao!

The University of Southern Mindanao (USM), through its Center for Human Kinetics and Wellness Studies (CHKWS), in partnership with Davao Oriental State University (DOrSU) and the International Organization for Health, Sports, and Kinesiology (IOHSK), respectfully seeks the endorsement and support of the Department of Education Regional Office XII for "The Next Play: Unlocking New Frontiers in Sports: A Seminar-Workshop on Emerging and Non-Mainstream Sports and The Inaugural 2026 FunEball Congress: Advancing Inclusive Physical Activity, Education, and Sustainable Partnerships." This five-day international professional development and sports education event will be held on November 23–27, 2026, at the University Auditorium, University of Southern Mindanao, Kabacan, Cotabato, under the theme "Expanding the Horizons of Sport Through Innovation, Inclusion, and Active Participation."

The event is designed to provide educators, coaches, sports practitioners, researchers, students, and sports development advocates with opportunities to explore and develop competencies in Disc Golf, Floorball, Roundnet, and FunEball, complemented by expert-led sessions, hands-on training, technical demonstrations, game applications and mini-tournaments, professional networking, and a Research Congress focusing on education, physical activity, and sports.

The initiative is particularly relevant to the continuing professional development of Physical Education teachers, school sports coordinators, coaches, and other education personnel, as it introduces innovative and inclusive approaches to physical activity and sports that may be adapted to school, community, and youth development settings. Through experiential learning and practical application, participants will be provided with knowledge and skills that can contribute to the diversification of school-based physical activity and sports programs.

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