



Games of the Future 2026 Confirms Global Lineup for Astana

Descrizione

COMUNICATO STAMPA - CONTENUTO PROMOZIONALE

More than 800 athletes from over 50 nationalities will compete across eight disciplines, with leading clubs, athletes and esports organizations battling for over US\$4 million in prize money.

ASTANA, Kazakhstan, July 1, 2026 /PRNewswire/ - The Games of the Future 2026 has confirmed the final lineup of clubs and athletes set to compete at the world's leading phygital sporting event, taking place in Astana from July 29 to August 9. Bringing together some of the biggest names from international sport and esports, the lineup highlights the growing global reach of phygital competition as more than 800 athletes prepare to compete for a prize pool of over US\$4 million.

Featuring globally recognized titles including Dota 2, Counter-Strike 2, PUBG: Battlegrounds, UFL, FATAL FURY: City of the Wolves, Just Dance and 3on3 FreeStyle, the Games of the Future 2026 will deliver 12 days of elite sporting and esports competition, showcasing the innovation and excitement at the heart of the phygital movement.

Hosted across Astana's premier sporting venues, including Barys Arena, Beeline Arena, the Athletics Sports Complex and the Ushkempirov Martial Arts Palace, the Games of the Future 2026 will transform the city into the global home of phygital sport, welcoming athletes, fans and international media for 12 days of elite competition.

The lineup features iconic sports clubs, world champions and leading esports organizations from across the globe, promising unforgettable competition across every discipline.

Headlining the esports lineup is MOBA PC, featuring Dota 2, one of the world's most watched and celebrated esports titles. International powerhouses LGD Gaming, Xtreme Gaming, Execration and VICI GAMING will battle for the Games of the Future championship and a US\$1 million prize pool.

Battle Royale brings together another exceptional international field on PUBG: Battlegrounds, featuring globally recognized organizations including Team Vitality, Team Falcons, Virtus.pro, Twisted Minds, Geekay Esports and T1, creating one of the most competitive tournaments of GOTF 2026 with a total

US\$1 million prize pool at stake.

While the Games of the Future feature some of the world's biggest esports titles, the heart of the competition lies in its signature phygital disciplines. By combining digital gameplay with live sporting action, they create a unique spectacle unlike anything else in international sport, demanding skill, teamwork and adaptability across both arenas.

Phygital Football will see teams compete first in UFL before taking to the pitch for an intense 5-a-side match. The competition features an outstanding international field including Peñarol, one of South America's most historic football clubs, Kings League club LOS TRONCOS FC, ORLANDO PIRATES FIVES, one of Africa's most iconic football clubs and home-grown talent ACF x Allur, creating one of the strongest Phygital Football lineups assembled to date, with US\$625,000 on the line.

Phygital Basketball combines 3on3 FreeStyle with a fast-paced 2v2 basketball contest on the court. The lineup features international clubs including Boca Juniors, Valencia Basket and PBC Astana bringing together three of the sport's most recognizable sporting institutions from across the world, all battling for a total US\$400,000 in prize money.

In Phygital Dancing, athletes will compete on Just Dance, with three-time Just Dance World Cup champion Umutcan Tunc, leading competitive performer Ariana Katana, and Angelo Mokonyane among the standout names set to take the stage.

Built around Counter-Strike 2, one of the world's most recognized esports titles, Phygital Shooter combines elite esports competition with a live laser tag stage that tests teamwork, tactical awareness and execution. The competition features leading teams including Eternal Fire, one of Türkiye's leading esports organizations, Clan Pedrajas, an established Spanish competitive gaming team, and Minsk House, who return after claiming third place last year, all competing for a share of the US\$150,000 prize pool.

Phygital Fighting combines FATAL FURY: City of the Wolves, developed and published by SNK, with high-intensity physical combat. The lineup features Kuznya, SOLDIERS OF FORCHUNE, and SWORD, who will test their tactical gameplay, fighting ability and adaptability across both stages for a US\$500,000 prize pool.

The MOBA Mobile title and lineup will be announced in the coming days, completing the final roster of competitors for the Games of the Future 2026.

John Hewitt, International Marketing & Communications Director at Phygital International, said: "This year's Games will showcase the incredible breadth of talent across the phygital movement, bringing together iconic sporting clubs, world champions and some of the biggest names in esports on one global stage. Whether you're a sports fan, an esports enthusiast or discovering phygital competition for the first time, the Games of the Future offers something truly unique. We're looking forward to welcoming the world to Astana for what promises to be an unforgettable celebration of sport, gaming and innovation."

With the final lineup confirmed, attention now turns to the Games of the Future 2026 Draw Ceremony on July 7. The draw will determine the opening matchups and tournament brackets, setting the stage for the battles, rivalries and defining moments that will shape the road to Games of the Future glory.

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