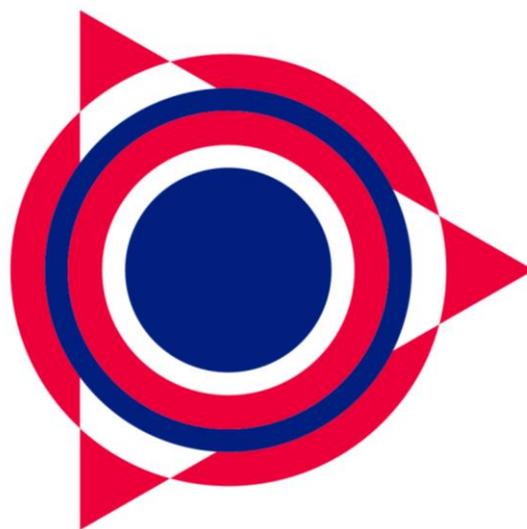




# Event Information Guide

**IBSA**  
World Games  
Birmingham  
**2023**

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# Welcome



On behalf of British Blind Sport, Birmingham City Council, University of Birmingham and MLS Contracts Ltd, I am delighted to invite you to the **IBSA World Games** which are being held between the 18-27 August 2023 in Birmingham, UK. Together, the partners, aim to deliver a world class and successful World Games, providing the very best environment for the athletes to compete in.

We are honoured to have been entrusted with this responsibility by the International Blind Sport Federation (IBSA) and we will endeavour to repay the trust placed in us. Staged every four years, the World Games are the pinnacle of the international calendar for eight of the sports in the programme as well as being one of the final qualification events for athletes aspiring to compete in three sports at the Paris 2024 Paralympic Games.

Birmingham is a global city that needs no introduction. As the host of the 2022 Commonwealth Games, the city put on a great festival of sport. In hosting the IBSA World Games, Birmingham and Great Britain will again aim to show that it can provide the best possible stage for the world's best blind and partially sighted athletes to showcase their talents. Additionally, we hope that all team members will have the opportunity to experience some of the history and contemporary culture for which Birmingham is so famous.

We hope the information in this handbook provides all the information you need to organise your team's attendance at the World Games but, if not, please do not hesitate to contact us.

We look forward to seeing you in Birmingham in August next year.

Sallie Barker MBE

Chair, British Blind Sport



# General Information

Host Organising committee for the World Blind Games 2023:

Address: IBSA World Games 2023,  
C/O MLS Contracts Ltd.  
4 Park Square,  
Chapelton,  
Sheffield,  
S35 2PH

Telephone: Registration administration office on +44 (0) 114 257 3170

Email: [IBSAgames2023@mlsgb.co](mailto:IBSAgames2023@mlsgb.co)





# Key Event Dates

## Registration Dates and Deadlines

The Organising Committee of 2023 IBSA World Blind Games

Birmingham have outlined some important deadlines below:

**December 2022 – Registration System Launch**

**10 February 2023 – Phase 1 Registration Deadline**

**30 April 2023 – Phase 2 Registration Deadline**

**18 – 27 August 2022**

Official Arrival and Check-In Available between:	12 - 21 August
Opening Ceremony:	18 August
Competition:	15 – 27 August
Final Game Competition Day:	27 August
Official Departure Available between:	25 –28 August
Classification Window 1:	13 – 15 August
Classification Window 2:	18 – 21 August

Teams and individuals are invited to arrive earlier and stay longer to make the most of their/your trip to the UK.



# Travel and Transport Information

## Arrival - Official Ports of Entry

- Birmingham Airport (BHX) is the Games official port of entry from which athletes will be collected.
- Birmingham International Airport has over 150 direct destinations including Australia, China, India, Brazil, Europe and North and South America.
- New Street Station in Birmingham is one of the largest train stations in the country and is only 90 minutes by train from London. Athletes arriving by train to Birmingham New Street will be given assistance on arrival and departure.
- The University of Birmingham Campus, which is the main hub of the Games and includes the Games Village, has its own train station connected directly to New Street Station. This is called University Station and the journey time is only 5-8 minutes.

## Departure

Departure days will span 18<sup>th</sup> August – 28<sup>th</sup> August.

It is important to note that transfers back to airports will be provided by the Local Organising Committee (LOC), however the LOC takes no responsibility for missed flights due to traffic, the competition over running or teams not completing the competition due to an early departure. Early departure does not qualify for a discount on fees.

## Extended Stay

Teams can stay a minimum of 6 consecutive nights and a maximum of 17 nights at a cost of £150.00 per night.



# The City of Birmingham

The 2023 IBSA World Games will be held in the city of Birmingham in the UK.

- The most centrally based city and 90 minutes from London by train
- The Games Village is 11 miles from an international airport (BHX) and 2 miles from Birmingham New Street Station
- Recognised as the UK's second city
- Industrial hub known as the 'city of 1,001 trades'
- A culturally diverse city
- Birmingham has more canals than Venice!
- Hosted the Commonwealth Games Summer 2022





# Visit Birmingham

## Thinktank Science Museum



Birmingham's science museum is packed with hands-on exhibits for ages and abilities. Thinktank was created in partnership with the visual impairment specialists at Queen Alexandra College, with every element of the space crafted to ensure accessibility. The displays are low-level, with plenty of free space around the exhibits and captions on the walls are generally large.

## Birmingham Cathedral

The UK's third smallest Cathedral, but truly stunning and the only green space within the city. Designed in a fine English Baroque style, this elegant Cathedral is decorated with four stained glass windows by Pre-Raphaelite artist, Edward Burne-Jones. Daily services and prayer, Cathedral shop open most days.



## Gas Street Basin

The Gas Street Basin is the area of Birmingham that was at the centre of England's canal system. You can take a walk alongside these canals that are just five minutes away from the city centre. Today, all the industry has been replaced by bars and restaurants, making a perfect place for you to take a stroll.



## Cadbury World

Uncover a world of chocolate delights and enjoy a fascinating, fun-packed day out at Cadbury World. From learning how your favourite confectionery is made and uncovering the fascinating story of Cadbury chocolate, to playing in chocolate rain and adding your favourite treat to a delicious pot of warm liquid Cadbury Dairy Milk.



## Bullring & Grand Central

At Bullring & Grand Central – Birmingham's largest shopping centre – you'll find your favourite home stores, electronics shops, fashion brands and restaurants all under one iconic roof.



## Mad Museum



This is the UK's only museum dedicated to mechanical art and design, and features everything from Wallace and Gromit's crazy contraptions to creations from Chitty Chitty Bang Bang and Scrap Heap Challenge.



There's a large lift with audio announcements and Braille text on the buttons. Once on the first floor, the museum is all on one level with wide walkways, no steps or ramps, and several seats throughout. Most of the exhibits are operated by well-lit, low-level push buttons. Clear directional signage is used throughout, and descriptive text for people with impaired vision is available on request.

## Winterbourne House and Gardens

Winterbourne is a rare surviving example of an early 20<sup>th</sup> century suburban villa and garden. Mary Nettlefold designed the garden, inspired by the books and garden designs of Gertrude Jekyll. The Grade II listed botanical gardens contains plants from around the globe, with an original sandstone garden and woodland walk.





## Lapworth Museum

Enabling visitors to explore life over the past 3.5 billion years, the Lapworth Museum showcases exceptional objects from one of the UK's most outstanding geological collections. Our state of the art galleries and range innovative and interactive exhibits are all completely free of charge. From rocks and fossils to volcanoes, earthquakes, and even dinosaurs, the Museum captures the imagination of all ages.

## Barber Institute of Fine Arts

Home to 'one of the finest small art galleries in Europe', and a concert hall with 'perfect acoustics', the Barber Institute is as unique as it is uplifting – a haven of tranquility on a bustling university campus in a major metropolis.



**Further information on Birmingham can be found on the following website:**

[Attractions in Birmingham - Visit Birmingham](#)



# Athlete Participation and Accommodation

## Participation Fees

- Participation fee for each athlete, coach or team staff is £150 per day and includes all meals (Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner), accommodation, and transport.
- Please note, all payments to be made in GBP (£)
- Individuals are expected to attend for a minimum of six consecutive days to include classification, training and competition days
- Formal registration is planned to commence in December 2022
- Athletes will also be expected to pay a capitation fee of £25 per person
- Following the close of Phase 1 entries, individuals/National Federations will be expected to pay a deposit of 1 night's stay (£150.00) per person. An invoice will be produced for the cost and the amount is non-refundable



## Games Village

The University of Birmingham will be the central hub for the Games Village and many of the sports venues.

- Amazing Sports facilities - £65 million investment
- Most sports are within walking distance of each other either at the University or nearby facilities
- Accommodation is onsite and acted as the Games Village for the 2022 Commonwealth Games
- The University and venues are accessible and welcoming
- Train station on campus connects directly to the main New Street Rail Station in Birmingham and via New Street, to the Birmingham International Airport, or London (Avanti Trains)
- 64 blind staff and students are in education at the University of Birmingham with past students competing as visually impaired athletes winning medals in Rio 2016 and Tokyo 2020.





# Welcome to the University of Birmingham

We are delighted to welcome you to the University of Birmingham. We're proud to be one of the key partners of the 2023 IBSA World Games. Founded in 1900, we were England's first civic university and more than 100 years on, our campus has grown to more than 672 acres. Each year, we welcome in excess of 35,000 students from across the world, employ more than 8,000 staff and have an alumni network of over 300,000.

Having recently delivered the Birmingham 2022 Commonwealth Games, as the largest Athlete's Village, a competition venue hosting hockey and squash (two of the 19 sports), an official training venue and a tier 1 sponsor, we are honoured to host the Games Village and five of the 11 sports for IBSA 2023.

We hope you enjoy our state-of-the-art sporting and cultural facilities across our iconic campus and that your Games experience provides you with future life-long memories as part of your visit to Birmingham.



UNIVERSITY OF  
BIRMINGHAM



Birmingham  
City Council





# Accommodation Explained

The Games Village will be based at the Vale, the University of Birmingham

- Bedrooms are single occupancy – mainly ensuite, but some shared bathrooms
- Olympic style restaurant catering from 06:00 – 22:00
- The athlete's village is 20 minute walk to many sports venues

## **Games Village Accommodation: Shackleton, Mason, Chamberlain, & Elgar Court.**

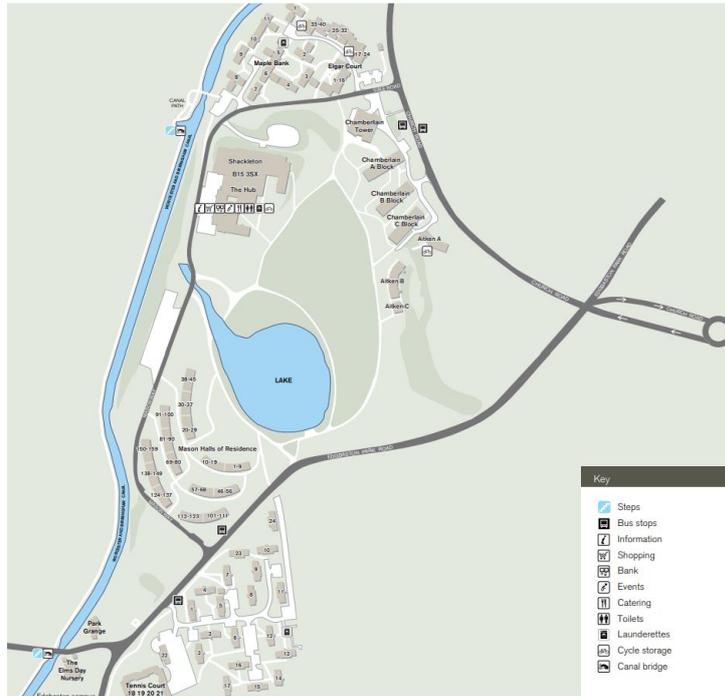
- Fresh towels every other day
- Daily replenish of tea and coffee within kitchen areas
- 24-hour reception
- Self-service laundry facilities are available on a 24 hour basis.
- \*Wi -Fi provided across campus – varies across venue and village.

All rooms are equipped with the following:

- Free Wi-Fi
- Bedding and towels
- Courtesy beverages and kettle in the kitchen
- International travellers, please note: to check in you'll need to bring your passport, and an address for your next destination.
- Please note, these rooms do not have TVs.

Walking is the best way to get around the campus. Your map will show you clear walking routes, including the best way to walk from the Vale to the Edgbaston campus for your events. These routes are all accessible and step-free, though you will find some inclines on campus.

Edgbaston Campus and The Vale maps can be downloaded from <https://www.birmingham.ac.uk/contact/directions/index.aspx>



**Edgbaston Campus Map**

<p><b>Red Zone</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>R0 The Harding Building</li> <li>R1 Law Building</li> <li>R2 Frankland Building</li> <li>R3 His Building</li> <li>R4 Aston Webb - Lapworth Museum</li> <li>R5 Aston Webb - B Block</li> <li>R6 Aston Webb - Great Hall</li> <li>R7 Aston Webb - Student Hub</li> <li>R8 Physics West</li> <li>R9 Nuffield</li> <li>R10 Physics East</li> <li>R11 Medical Physics</li> <li>R12 Barwell Music Building</li> <li>R13 Puynting Building</li> <li>R14 Barber Institute of Fine Arts</li> <li>R15 Watson Building</li> <li>R16 Arts Building</li> <li>R17 Ashley Building</li> <li>R18 Strathcona Building</li> <li>R19 Education Building</li> <li>R20 J D Smith Building</li> <li>R21 Muirhead Tower</li> <li>R22 University Centre</li> <li>R23 Staff House</li> <li>R24 Geography</li> <li>R25 Biosciences Building</li> <li>R26 Murray Learning Centre</li> <li>R29 The Alan Walters Building</li> <li>R30 Main Library</li> <li>R31 Collaborative Teaching Laboratory</li> <li>R32 Teaching and Learning Building</li> <li>R33 Fry Building</li> <li>R34 Cure</li> </ul> <p><b>Blue Zone</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>B1 Medical School</li> <li>B2 Institute of Biomedical Research including IBi West</li> <li>B3 Wellcome Clinical Research Facility</li> <li>B4 Robert Alken Institute for Clinical Research</li> <li>B5 CRUK Institute for Cancer Studies and Denis Howell Building</li> <li>B6 Research Park</li> <li>B7 90 Vincent Drive</li> <li>B8 Henry Wellcome Building for Biomolecular NMR Spectroscopy</li> <li>B9 Medical Practice and Dental Centre</li> <li>B10 Advanced Therapies Facility</li> <li>B11 BioHub Birmingham</li> <li>B12 Health Sciences Research Centre (HSRC)</li> </ul>	<p><b>Orange Zone</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>O1 The Guild of Students</li> <li>O2 St Francis Hall</li> <li>O3 University House</li> <li>O4 Ash House</li> <li>O5 Beech House</li> <li>O6 Cedar House</li> <li>O7 Sport &amp; Fitness</li> </ul> <p><b>Green Zone</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>G1 52 Pritchatts Road</li> <li>G2 31 Pritchatts Road</li> <li>G3 European Research Institute</li> <li>G4 4 Elms Road</li> <li>G5 Computer Centre</li> <li>G6 Metallurgy and Materials</li> <li>G7 RRC Neil Shape Laboratory</li> <li>G8 Gabriel Kapp Building</li> <li>G9 52 Pritchatts Road</li> <li>G10 54 Pritchatts Road - Institute for Global Innovation</li> <li>G11 Maples Nursery</li> <li>G12 Winterbourne House and Garden</li> <li>G13 Horton Grange</li> <li>G14 Garth House</li> <li>G15 Westmere</li> <li>G16 Lucas House</li> <li>G18 Phoenixfield</li> <li>G19 Park House</li> <li>G20 Wilton Ashwood Glasshouses</li> <li>G22 Elms Day Nursery</li> <li>G23 Edgbaston Park Hotel and Conference Centre</li> <li>G24 Centre for Human Health</li> <li>G25 EcoLab</li> </ul> <p><b>Yellow Zone</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Y1 The Old Gym</li> <li>Y2 Haworth Building</li> <li>Y3 Engineering Building</li> <li>Y4 Terrace Huts</li> <li>Y5 Estates West</li> <li>Y6 Maintenance Building</li> <li>Y7 Grounds and Gardens</li> <li>Y8 The School of Engineering</li> <li>Y9 Computer Science</li> <li>Y11 Chemical Engineering</li> <li>Y12 Biochemical Engineering</li> <li>Y13 Chemical Engineering Workshop</li> <li>Y14 Sport, Exercise and Rehabilitation Sciences</li> <li>Y15 Civil Engineering Laboratories</li> <li>Y16 Institute of Occupational and Environmental Medicine</li> <li>Y17 Public Health</li> <li>Y18 Bournehouse Student Accommodation</li> <li>Y19 NBF</li> <li>Y20 URRRN</li> </ul>	<p><b>Key</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Steps</li> <li>Bus stops</li> <li>Information</li> <li>Shopping</li> <li>Bank</li> <li>Events</li> <li>Catering</li> <li>Toilets</li> <li>Launderettes</li> <li>Cycle storage</li> <li>Canal bridge</li> </ul>
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## Meals

First Meal provided – Evening Meal on day of arrival

Last meal provided – Breakfast on day of departure

- 3 meals per day (Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner)
- Timings – 06:00-22:00
- Location - Shackleton
- Buffet style
- Varied menu available

## Games time Shuttle

Shuttle services will be provided between the Games Village and competition venues.





# Sports and Venues

## Sports

The 2023 IBSA World Games will host 11 sports and competitions which will each take place across a number of high-class facilities.

Sport	Location
Archery	UoB – Green Heart
Chess	UoB – The Great Hall
Cricket	King Edward School/Tally Ho
Football	UoB – Bournbrook
Futsal	University of Wolverhampton Walsall Campus
Goalball	The Edgbaston Priory Club
Judo	University of Birmingham Sport & Fitness
Powerlifting	King Edward School, Andrew Brode Sport Centre
Shooting	Aldersley Village
Showdown	UoB – Teaching & Learning Building
Ten Pin Bowling	Hollywood Bowl, Broadway Plaza
Tennis	Billesley Tennis Centre

**Key:** UoB – University of Birmingham.

# Venue Guide

## UoB - Green Heart

Sport: Archery

In January 2019, the 'Green Heart' parkland in the centre of the University of Birmingham's campus was completed. Boasting over 12 acres of land, the centre will make for an exciting location.



## UoB - The Great Hall

Sport: Chess

The Great Hall is a Grade II-listed red-brick hall built in 1900 on Edgbaston Campus. The Hall is accredited as one of the University's 'Venues of Excellence', featuring a trompe l'oeil domed ceiling alongside a marble entrance.



## UoB - Bournbrook Pitches

Sports: Football Male and Female B1

The redeveloped 3G artificial football pitch is FA certified and has seen a variety of national and international sports events. Located next to the Bournbrook Pavilion, with its accessible changing facilities, Bournbrook is overseen by our iconic Old Joe, the world's largest freestanding clock tower, from the centre of campus.



## University of Birmingham Sport & Fitness

Sport: Judo

The indoor hall consists of three courts with wood, semi-sprung floors, and bleacher seating for over 750 spectators. The hall has been host to numerous national and international sporting events, from Trampolining championships to England Netball team training, and most recently hosting the Squash competition for the Birmingham 2022 Commonwealth Games.



## King Edward's School

Sports: Cricket, Powerlifting

King Edward's School is a beautiful facility situated on a 50-acre site next to the University of Birmingham. There are extensive sport facilities available at the school, including the 1st XI Cricket Pitch and the Andrew Brode Sports Centre, in which Powerlifting will take place.



## The Edgbaston Priory Club

Sport: Goalball

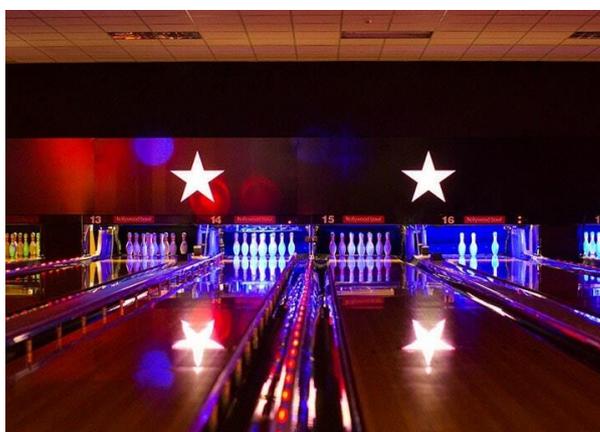
Goalball will find its home at The Edgbaston Priory Club, a facility that contains a range of sport facilities. This venue is sure to offer beautiful grounds and amenities.



## Hollywood Bowl – Broadway Plaza

Sport: Ten Pin Bowling

This facility boasts 20 bowling lanes and is sure to set the scene for an eventful four days of tough competition. The site also contains an American themed diner, a relaxing bar, and an amusement area.



## Billesley Tennis Centre

Sport: Tennis

Billesley Tennis Centre will play host to the four-day tennis competition, utilising the venue space of six indoor courts. The air-conditioned facility will act as the perfect venue for a heated competition.



## Aldersley Village

Sport: Shooting

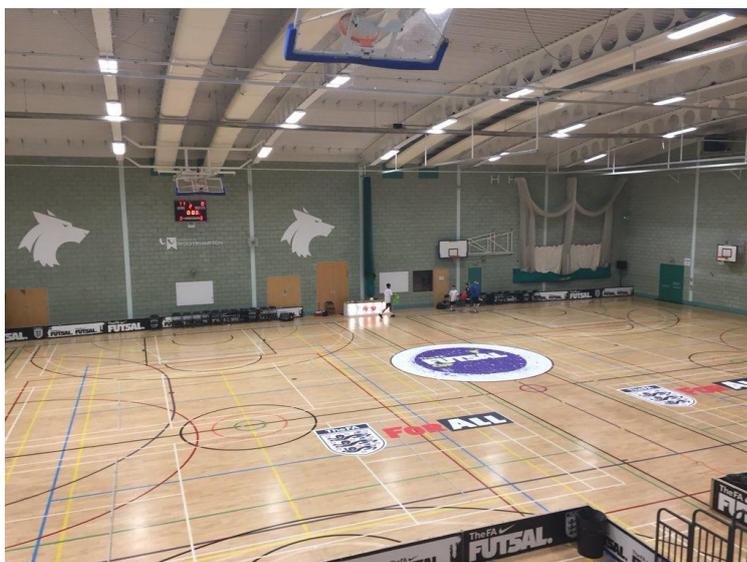
The centre is disabled friendly. It has facilities for acoustic/VI shooting and benchrest rifle shooting, and for deaf shooters a "traffic light" system is available that relays range commands visually. All of the indoor ranges and the outdoor firing point are fully accessible for wheelchair users.



## UoW - Walsall Sports Centre

Sport: Futsal

The Walsall campus at the University of Wolverhampton boasts top-of-the-range sports facilities and will accommodate PS-B2/B3 Football at the Games.



## Tally Ho

Sport: Cricket

As well as being a conference and banqueting center, Tally Ho is a venue which can host multiple sports events. This includes three football pitches, a cricket pitch, rounders square, three tennis courts and a level and crown green for bowls.



## UoB Teaching & Learning Building

Sport: Showdown

The Teaching and Learning Building opened in 2019 and is in the heart of campus. A hub for education, the facility provides state-of-the-art teaching and social study space to support the modern learning experience at Birmingham. Adjacent to the new library, the building is IT and audio-visual rich, with excellent access for students with a diverse range of needs and preferences.





## Preliminary Schedule

<b>Sport</b>	<b>Location</b>	<b>Arrival</b>	<b>Classification</b>	<b>Training</b>	<b>Competition</b>	<b>Rest Day</b>
<b>Archery</b>	UoB – Green Heart / Cu-re	20/08	21/08 – 22/08	22/08 - 23/08	24/08 – 25/08	26/08 – 29/08
<b>Chess</b>	UoB – The Great Hall	17/08	N/A	18/08 – 19/08	20/08 – 26/08	27/08 – 29/08
<b>Cricket</b>	King Edward School / Tally Ho	17/08	18/08 – 19/08	18/08 – 19/08	20/08 – 27/08	28/08 – 29/08
<b>Football Male (B1)</b>	UoB – Bournbrook 3G Pitch / Tennis Courts / Changing Rooms / Brooks Function Room	12/08	13/08	13/08 – 14/08	15/08 – 27/08	28/08 – 29/08
<b>Football Male (PS – B2/3)</b>	University of Wolverhampton – Wallsall Campus	14/08	15/08	16/08 – 17/08	18/08 – 20/08 22/08 – 23/08	24/08 – 29/08

<b>Sport</b>	<b>Location</b>	<b>Arrival</b>	<b>Classification</b>	<b>Training</b>	<b>Competition</b>	<b>Rest Day</b>
<b>Football Female (B1)</b>	UoB – Bournbrook 3G Pitch / Tennis Courts / Changing Rooms / Brooks Function Room	13/08	14/08 – 15/08	14/08 – 17/08	18/08 – 23/08 25/08 – 27/08	28/08 – 29/08
<b>Goalball (M/F)</b>	The Priory	17/08	18/08 – 19/08	18/08 – 19/08	20/08 – 27/08	28/08 – 29/08
<b>Judo</b>	UoB – Munrow Arena / Slater Hall / Do-jo / Ergo Room / Storeroom	19/08	20/08	21/08 – 22/08	23/08 – 25/08	26/08 – 29/08
<b>Powerlifting</b>	King Edward School – Andrew Brode Sport Centre	19/08	20/08 – 21/08	22/08	23/08 – 25/08	26/08 – 29/08
<b>Shooting</b>	Aldersley Village	19/08	20/08	21/08 – 22/08	23/08 – 26/08	27/08 – 29/08
<b>Showdown</b>	UoB – Teaching & Learning Building	20/08	21/08	22/08	23/08 – 25/08	26/08 – 29/08
<b>Ten Pin Bowling</b>	Hollywood Bowl – Broadway Plaza	19/08	20/08	21/08	22/08 – 25/08	26/08 – 29/08

<b>Sport</b>	<b>Location</b>	<b>Arrival</b>	<b>Classification</b>	<b>Training</b>	<b>Competition</b>	<b>Rest Day</b>
<b>Tennis</b>	Billesley Tennis Centre	20/08	21/08	22/08 – 23/08	24/08 – 27/08	28/08 – 29/08

<b>Activity</b>	<b>Location</b>	<b>Dates</b>
Opening Ceremony	Symphony Hall	18/08
Closing Ceremony	UoB – The Vale	27/08
Exhibition Village	UoB – South Gate Car Park	15/08 – 27/08
Media Centre	UoB Sport & Fitness – Large Meeting Room	15/08 – 27/08
Event Operations	UoB Sport & Fitness – Small Meeting Room	09/08 – 27/08
Anti-Doping	UoB – Sport & Fitness	21/08 – 26/08
Games Services	Chamberlain – Ground Floor	09/08 – 29/08



# Ceremonies and Celebrations

## Opening Ceremony

The Opening Ceremony is set to take place at the Symphony Hall, located in Birmingham's Centenary Square, on Friday 18 August. The Symphony Hall hosts many classical concerts including performances by blind and visually impaired musicians. The venue,



opened by Queen Elizabeth II in 1991, will be the perfect setting for a spectacular launch of the Games. The official ceremony will last circa one hour, including musical performances by blind and partially sighted performers. Teams will be transferred by coach to and from the Opening Ceremony (20 minute journey time from the Games Village).

## Closing Celebration

The Closing Celebration of the IBSA World Games will take place on campus at the University of Birmingham on the evening of Sunday 27 August 2023. The Celebration will be informal, outdoors with live music, hot roast, barbecue, and fun activities, to allow the athletes to mix and have fun. Because you'll be right next to your accommodation, there's no need to travel!





# Essential Information

## **Visas**

It is the responsibility of the visiting nation to obtain any necessary visas to enter the country. Applications can be made up to 3 months prior to travel. We strongly advise that you begin this process as early as possible.

The links below help attendees to check if they need a visa to travel to the UK, with a helpful step by step procedure. The standard visit visa rules will allow visitors to participate in sports events. The Home Office page explains what a visitor can and cannot do.

<https://www.gov.uk/apply-standard-visitor-visa>

<https://www.gov.uk/standard-visitor-visa>

## **Accreditation**

All athletes and staff will be provided with official accreditation for the event, which must be carried at all times and presented at meals and when accessing Games Transport.

## **Insurance**

All participating nations must arrange medical and accident insurance for the entire length of their stay. The insurance should cover all competitors and staff.

## **Doping control**

Please be advised that this event is subject to anti-doping testing in accordance with the policies and procedures of UK Anti-Doping and the World Anti-Doping Agency (WADA) regulations.

## **Communications**

Registration Enquiries: [ibsagames2023@mls.gb.co](mailto:ibsagames2023@mls.gb.co)

Website: [www.ibsagames2023.co.uk](http://www.ibsagames2023.co.uk)

Instagram, Twitter, Facebook: **@ibsagames2023**