OVERVIEW

Welcome to **FIFS (Federation of Indian Fantasy Sports)** Sports Big Data Gamethon 2025. Join us for an exciting event that blends innovation, technology, data-science and collaboration in the realm of fantasy sports, gaming technology, and skill-based competitions.

The **Sports Big Data Gameathon** is a unique, season-long competition designed to challenge the brightest minds from India's premier technological institutes. Participants will harness the power of AI and ML to develop predictive models for creating winning fantasy cricket teams for the ICC Champions Trophy (Feb 19, 2024 – Mar 9, 2025).
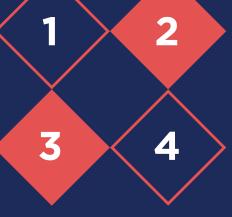
WHY PARTICIPATE?

SHOWCASE TALENT

Demonstrate your expertise in AI/ML within the dynamic world of sports. Hands-on experience in real-world data analytics

1

2

CAREER OPPORTUNITIES

Compete and gain exposure at national level.

ENGAGE WITH EXPERTS

Learn from industry leaders in sports analytics and AI

3

4

MAKE AN IMPACT

Contribute to the evolution of AI/ML in the Indian sports industry, enhancing athlete performance and fan engagement

PRIZES

2ND PRIZE

1ST PRIZE

3RD PRIZE

INR
7.5 LACS

INR
12.5 LACS

INR
5 LACS

PROBLEM DESCRIPTION

Build an AI/ML based model to develop a winning strategy for a season-long fantasy sports contest, hosted on the ICC Champions Trophy 2025 (February 19, 2025 to March 9, 2025). The objective will be to maximize fantasy points for each individual match during the Champions Trophy which will be cumulated across all matches of the tournament in a leaderboard to determine the winners.

The participating teams must ensure that their models are able to select and draft players for their respective fantasy teams for each individual match during the Champions Trophy. The model must take into account historical player performance, contextual match factors (such as pitch conditions, weather, venue record, toss, playing lineup etc.) and other game-related aspects to suggest an optimum team-selection strategy for each match. The model must also adhere to the gameplay constraints, such as player credits, team composition, while generating their respective outputs. The detailed gameplay rules are available under Section 2 - *"Platform & Gameplay Details"*.

Before commencing development of the model, the interested teams will need to submit a strategy paper that provides an overview of the proposed model and highlights the rationale behind the team selection strategy. We will confirm the final participating teams post evaluation of the strategy paper, who will then be participating in the season-long fantasy contest. The participating teams will also be required to submit a docker model for us to validate the models and outputs generated. More details about the strategy paper and the model docker are available under Section 3 - *"Technical Details"*.

PLATFORM & GAMEPLAY DETAILS

WHAT IS FANTASY SPORTS?

Fantasy Sports is a skill-based game where you create a virtual team of players for an upcoming real world match based on pre-specified constraints like team composition. Fantasy Points are earned by players on the basis of their actual performances in the match. For e.g., players earn points for scoring runs, taking wickets, etc. (cricket), scoring goals, making assists, etc. (football) and similar actions for other sports.

PLATFORM

The fantasy sports contests will be hosted on Dream11 in accordance with its gameplay rules. The participants will need to create an account on Dream11 to be able to enter their teams. The participants will be added to a private group, which will have a dedicated leaderboard that is updated after each match based on the fantasy points accumulated by each participant.

For details on onboarding and joining the contest we will come back with details once participation is finalized.

GAMEPLAY RULES

1. TEAM COMPOSITION

- The fantasy team should consist of the same number of players as the real-life teams i.e. 11 players for cricket.
- The fantasy team must consist of at least 1 player from each team.
- The fantasy team must consist of at least 1 player from each player category i.e. wicketkeepers, batters, all-rounders and bowlers.

2. BUDGET AND PLAYERS CREDITS

- Every player is assigned a certain credit value.
- All participants are allotted a total of 100 player credits to select the 11 players for their respective teams.

3. BACKUPS

- Participants can choose up to 4 backups
- Backups will only replace players that are not announced in the starting 11
- Backups must fulfil all rules mentioned under "Team Composition"
- Example - if you have only chosen 1 bowlers in your 11 and that bowler is not announced and none of your backups are bowlers, then backups will not apply as create team rules are being invalidated

4. FANTASY POINTS SYSTEM

- You can find the fantasy points system here - **Link**
- Please refer to 'Cricket' section -> One Day (OD) tab for the fantasy points system applicable on the ICC ODI Champions Trophy

TECHNICAL DETAILS

DATA PROVIDED

1. You can use the following data/stats repository with detailed match wise player stats
   a. Cricinfo stats repository - **Link**
   b. Cricsheet - **Link**

2. Participants are free to use any additional/alternate publicly available data sources and sports websites as they deem fit and valuable for prediction

SUBMISSION REQUIREMENTS

SUBMISSION-1: 1-2 PAGE STRATEGY & APPROACH PAPER

1. Every team is required to **submit a 1-2 page strategy & approach paper**, which clearly articulates your thought process and describes how you plan to tackle the problem at a high level

2. Paper to include:

A. Team Information (Mandatory)
- Institute Name
- Team Name (decide a cool name for your team)
- Details of all team members (format below, pls fill each column for all team members)

Name	ID No.	Degree Type	Department	Starting Year
<Member -1 Captain>	<unique institute ID>	<e.g. B.Tech, M.Tech, BSc, PhD etc.>	<e.g. Computer Sc., Electrical etc.>	<e.g. 2022, 2023 etc.>
<Member - 2>	...	...	...	
...	...	...	...	

B. Strategy & Approach

(Format guidelines below but feel free to structure it differently)

- Introduction - Team's vision, what excites you about AI/ML in cricket
- Objective - core objectives, key challenges to be tackled
- Data sources - plan to use different data features & why it can be useful
- Approach to building a team - Key steps involved in building a team, plan to model the problem, dynamic adjustments etc.
- Risks & Assumptions
- Conclusion

3. Notes

- Be clear & concise - don't exceed 2 pages (no code has to be shared at this point)
- Evaluation will be based on clarity of thinking and applicability
- Demonstrate AI/ML Knowledge - models & techniques you plan to use
- Don't copy strategies or collude with other teams - can lead to disqualification
- Don't use Gen AI to create your strategy papers (duplicate papers can lead to disqualification)

Submission-1 Timeline: By February 3rd, 2025 11.59 PM (no paper submissions will be accepted beyond this point)

Please share your submissions on <ankit@fifs.in>, <arpita@fifs.in> with e-mail titled
'Strategy Paper Submission - Institute Name - Team Name'

SUBMISSION-2: TEAM LOCK-IN BEFORE START OF EACH MATCH OF ICC CHAMPIONS TROPHY

1. The team lock-in deadline is till the first ball is bowled - it will need to be done for each match on our member platform Dream11 as explained in previous section
2. You need to finalize your transfers, captain & vice-captain - please note the selection for each match should be done basis the output of your model and solution and not to be done randomly
3. You can factor-in the toss result & playing XI lineup to predict your output

Submission-2 Timeline:

On an ongoing basis for every match from 19th Feb - 9th March, 2025

Submission-3: Docker File for model evaluation

You will need to submit a Docker File to validate the models and outputs generated. This interface will allow a way to validate whether the team combination recommendations are generated from a model. No team selection should happen on a manual basis

Details on the input & output requirements for docker image will be shared with teams post the submission of strategy paper.

Docker File Specifications:

1. Input :
   a. No input needs to be provided. Depending on the date the docker file is run, it should consider the ICC Champions Trophy on that day.
2. Output : Predicted 11 players for fantasy team in a csv in the format below:

Player name	Team	C/VC
R. Sharma	Ind	C
J. Bumrah	Ind	VS
Pat Cummins	Aus	NA

3. We will be validating whether your team entered into the contest on a given match day matches the team produced from the docker file.

Important instructions:

1. Joining the contests with a team other than the ones that can be replicated through docker file will lead to disqualification
2. Please don't make any changes to the code repository post the submission of the docker file, the model thereafter should just fetch the latest data from the linked sources and produce the recommended fantasy team
3. If any changes are mode post docker submission, it will result into a different output at our end vs what you submit in the contest, and hence lead to disqualification
4. Make sure we are able to see the code repo linked to your docker file

5. If your model utilizes playing XI data, the docker model should produce the output depending on whether Playing XI for the match has been declared or not
6. Make sure you check that the docker file works on a few other systems at your end, so that no issues happen at our end during validation
7. Feel free to apply your creativity in leveraging existing open source models, make sure to disclose and credit what you leverage. Using an entire pre-built solution would not be permitted.
8. Strictly don't use any paid APIs, code base will be checked to ensure that

Submission-3 Timeline: 25th February, 2025 11:59 PM

JUDGING CRITERIA

- Validation using the docker model will be conducted as suggested in the previous section - your submitted fantasy team in the contest should match the fantasy team output from your docker file, on a daily basis.

- Upon successful validation, the final rankings at the end of Champions Trophy basis the fantasy points scored from your team selections over the course of the tournament will define the winners.

- Results of the above steps will only be shared post the completion of Champions Trophy

NEXT STEPS

Action Item	Timeline
Strategy Paper Submission	Feb 3rd, 2025 - 11:59 PM
Confirmation of Participation	Feb 5th, 2025
Model & Solution Building	Feb 5th - Feb 19th, 2025
Team Selections & Transfers on Dream11 App (based on solutions built)	Feb 19th - March 9th (deadline for each match is before first delivery is bowled)
Model Docker Submission	Feb 25th - 11:59 PM
Announcement of Top 3 Winners	Between March 20th-25th

TERMS & CONDITIONS

1. ELIGIBILITY:
- Teams must consist of 4-7 members from a recognized Indian educational institution.
- Participants must only be students engaged in an ongoing full-time degree in educational institutions (undergraduate, master's, or PhD programs). Failure to adherence will lead to immediate disqualification.
- All team members must be from the same institution - we will request for identity details

2. SUBMISSION GUIDELINES:
- All submissions, including the strategy paper, must adhere to the guidelines and timeline provided by FIFS, wherever specified.

3. EVALUATION AND DISQUALIFICATION:
- All rights related to evaluation, participant selection, and disqualification reside solely with FIFS.
- If any plagiarism is found in the models or teams colluding with each other, teams will be disqualified

4. PARTICIPATION RULES:
- Participants must abide by the rules communicated by FIFS.
- Any violation of guidelines may result in immediate disqualification.

5. INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY:
- Any AI models or strategies developed during the event remain the property of FIFS.

6. PRIZES AND AWARDS:
- Prize amounts are subject to taxation as per government regulations.
- Decisions regarding winners are final and binding.

7. FORCE MAJEURE:
- FIFS reserves the right to reschedule or cancel the event under extraordinary circumstances.

8. DISPUTE RESOLUTION:
- Any disputes will be addressed under the jurisdiction of Indian courts.

FAQS

1. Can more than one team participate from the same institute?

- The number of teams shortlisted from the same institute will be determined based on the total number of registration we receive.
- Our aim is to ensure that the maximum number of institutes participate in the contest based on
- The selection of the team will be done based on the strategy paper

2. How will FIFS shortlist the final participants?

- Our experts (Prof. Vishal Misra and Joy Bhattacharjya) will go through all the strategy papers and shortlist the final list of participating teams. This will be confirmed to you by 5th February, 2025.
- These experts will ensure that all the evaluations are conducted fairly.

3. Which platform will be used to create our team

- The technology of the tournament is powered by one of our member organizations - Dream11, one of the leading fantasy sports players in India
- The accounts and teams will be registered on Dream11 - the details of which will be shared as we confirm the participation

4. How will the prize money be distributed?

- Within 10 days of the completion of the event on 9th March, 2025 once we complete the model evaluation
- We will reach out the winning teams regarding the details and mode of disbursal

5. Is there any advice for data and strategies which are recommended?

- Students have the freedom to decide and choose which techniques, features, variables and models that are used
- However we wil organize a 1-hour guidance session with our expert Prof. Misra who can provide some high-level guidelines and recommendations
- We will also share a publicly available data set to start with - students are free to use any further publicly available data source which can aid the development of the models

6. Is there any registration fee or charge?

- It is absolutely free of charge - all of you have to do is build quality model to make winning teams and be at the top of leaderboard

CONTACT US

For more information or any queries, please contact:

- Email: ankit@fifs.in ; arpita@fifs.in
- Phone: 9889767666 ; 7982328685
- Website: www.fifsgamethon.in

About FIFS :-

Federation of Indian Fantasy Sports (FIFS) is India's first and only dedicated Fantasy Sports industry body established to protect consumer interest and create standardized best practices in the FS industry.

FIFS aims to create a thriving ecosystem for FS users and operators by creating guidelines for a common set of practices and setting standards of operations to protect the FS user and operator interests. FIFS works with key industry stakeholders and liaisons with policymakers to help create a robust governance structure to support the sustained growth of the industry. Join us in redefining the future of sports through technology! Register now and be part of this exciting journey

All the Best and Innovate Freely!