

2025 ICC Champions Trophy

The **2025 ICC Champions Trophy** was the ninth edition of the [ICC Champions Trophy](#). It was hosted by [Pakistan Cricket Board](#) from 19 February to 9 March 2025 and featured 15 matches held across three venues in Pakistan and one in the United Arab Emirates.

The tournament was contested by the top eight ranked men's national teams qualified from the [2023 World Cup](#). [Afghanistan](#) made their debut appearance in the tournament.

Co-hosts [Pakistan](#) were the defending champions and were eliminated in the [group stage](#). [India](#) became the champions by defeating [New Zealand](#) in the [final](#) and also became the first team to win three Champions Trophy titles.

Background

The [ICC Champions Trophy](#) is a quadrennial [ODI cricket](#) tournament organised by the [International Cricket Council](#) (ICC). Initially held as a biennial tournament since its inaugural edition in [1998](#) as ICC KnockOut Trophy, it was rebranded as ICC Champions Trophy in [2002](#) and has been held as a quadrennial tournament since [2009](#). In 2016, the ICC cancelled future editions of the Champions Trophy after the [2017 tournament](#), aiming to have only one major tournament in each format of international cricket.^[1] However in November 2021 as part of the [2024–2031 ICC men's hosts cycle](#), ICC announced that the tournament would return from 2025 onwards.^[2]

Host selection

Pakistan was announced as the host of the 2025 ICC Champions Trophy on 16 November 2021 as part of the [2024–2031 ICC men's hosts cycle](#).^[2] It is the first global tournament to be hosted by Pakistan after almost 29 years,^[3] since the [2009 attack on the Sri Lankan team](#).^[4] The last major tournament to take place in the country was the [1996 Cricket World Cup](#) which it co-hosted with India and Sri Lanka.^[5] [United Arab Emirates](#) was announced as a neutral venue for [Indian Cricket Team](#) matches due to India's refusal to play in Pakistan.^[6]

Format

The format of the competition had remained the same as it was since eight teams were introduced in the fray back in [2006](#). All eight teams were slotted into [two groups of four](#), with each team playing once against every other team in the group. The top two teams from each group advanced to the [knockout stage](#), featuring two semi-finals leading up to the [final](#).^{[7][8]}

India's participation

Further information: [India–Pakistan cricket rivalry](#) and [India–Pakistan relations](#)

The [India–Pakistan cricket rivalry](#) has been severely impacted by the tense political relations between the two nations. In November 2023, the [Pakistan Cricket Board](#) (PCB) met with the ICC Executive Board to discuss compensation if India refused to play in Pakistan.^{[9][10]} A year later, the [Board of Control for Cricket in India](#) (BCCI) informed the ICC that India wouldn't travel to Pakistan for the tournament, citing security concerns.^[11] Pakistan demanded a written explanation and initially rejected the proposed hybrid model.^[12]

Neutral venue arrangements

On 19 December 2024, following an agreement between BCCI and PCB, the ICC in an update issued on India and Pakistan hosted matches at ICC events, established that the ICC Champions Trophy 2025 will be played across Pakistan and a neutral venue.^{[13][14]} The ICC board confirmed that India and Pakistan matches hosted by either country at ICC events between 2024 and 2027 would be played at a neutral venue.^[13] The fixtures were announced on 24 December 2024, along with the [Dubai International Cricket Stadium](#) in [Dubai](#), UAE as the neutral venue for the tournament.^{[15][16]}

Prize money

The ICC allocated a pool of US\$6.9 million in [prize money](#) for the tournament, a 53 percent increase from the previous edition. The winners would receive the grand prize of \$2.24 million, with each team receiving an additional \$125,000 for participating.^[17]