



THE RAPID RISE OF PADEL

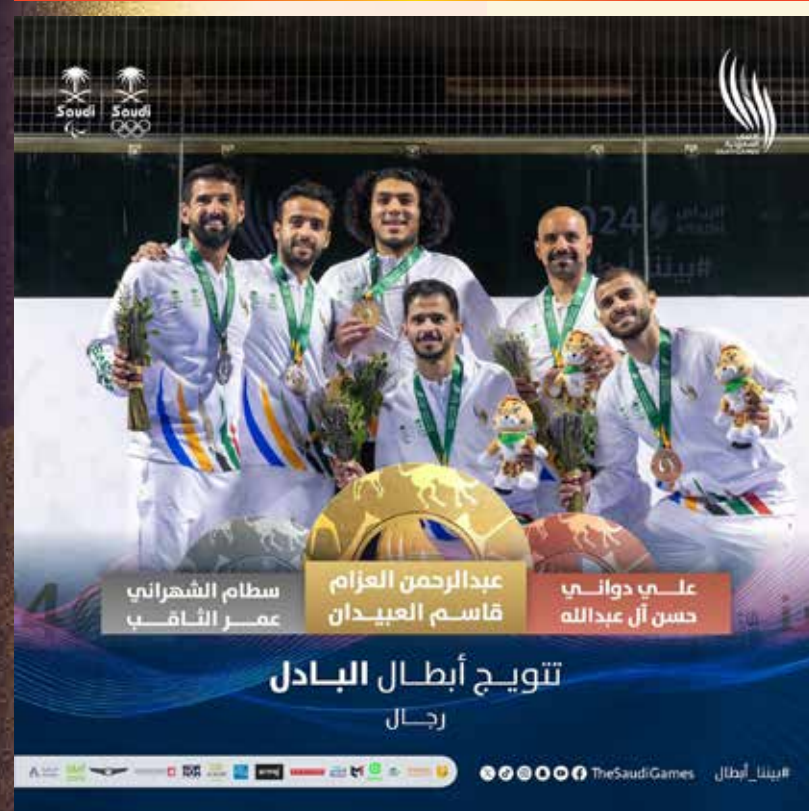
in the MENA region



Once a niche sport, padel is now one of the fastest-rising phenomena in MENA.

Over the past decade, it has evolved from a handful of courts in Dubai to a region-wide movement attracting hundreds of thousands of players.

This report delves into the sport's remarkable growth journey, highlighting key milestones, participation trends, infrastructure expansion, and the strategic factors driving its rapid ascent.



KEY MILESTONES

2013

UAE

First padel court opens in Dubai, marking its GCC debut

2019

UAE Sports Ministry officially recognises padel as a sport

2021

Saudi Arabia

80 courts across the country

2022

Saudi Arabia

Courts double to 160 (+100%).
First two national ranking tournaments see 248 participants

2022 [MAR]

Egypt

Egyptian Padel Federation founded.
~8,000 players recorded.
Top clubs like Al Ahly & Heliopolis add courts

2022

UAE

300 courts,
~6,500 annual players

2024

Saudi Arabia

Al-Qadsiah Club launches 4 world-class courts. Ramadan tournament hosts 150 players across 3 categories

2025

Egypt

1,500 courts,
500+ clubs nationwide

2025 [MAR]

UAE

600 courts (+100% vs. 2022),
13,000 annual players,
4,000 registered

2025

Saudi Arabia

1,097 courts, 400+ clubs,
388k practitioners, 760 registered players (6% women)

PARTICIPATION₆ ***FACILITIES*** ***GROWTH*** ***[2021 - 2025]***



COURTS
300 → 600
(+100%)

PLAYERS
6,500 → 13,000
(+100%)

REGISTERED PLAYERS
4,000



COURTS
80 → 160
(+100%)

CLUBS
400+

REGISTERED PLAYERS
760 (6% women)



COURTS
1,500
(2025)

VENUES
High-profile venues,
including a floating
court on the Nile



ECONOMIC & SOCIAL IMPACT

- 100% CAGR in court construction investment (UAE & KSA, 2021–2025)
- Padel courts integrated into malls, residential compounds, mixed-use developments
- Tournament participation in KSA up >15% annually over the past 3 years

STRATEGIC INSIGHTS

- MENA's padel infrastructure growth rate (2021–2025) outpaces most other emerging sports
- UAE & KSA lead in capital investment
- Egypt's growth driven by high-visibility urban projects

Future growth depends on:

- Increasing women's participation (currently <6% in KSA)
- Hosting international-standard events to secure global ranking points

Padel's rise in MENA is more than a passing trend.

It reflects changing lifestyles, a growing demand for new leisure activities, and strong investment in sports as part of urban development.

With infrastructure expanding quickly, the next phase will focus on inclusivity, raising competitive standards, and positioning MENA as a global hub.

The question is no longer if padel will secure its place in the region's sports culture, but how far it can go on the world stage.

