

## **ALDER COLLEGE**

Sepfüzou

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## Distinctive Feature

A distinctive feature of the college is the Naga Wrestling.

It is a popular traditional Naga sport chiefly played by the Tenyimia Nagas, a conglomerate tribe(s) consisting of the Angami, Chakesang, Zeliang, Rengma, Pochury, Maram, Zeme, Liangmai, Rongmei, Poumai and Mao, etc. It is a belt type of wrestling as wrestlers wear tie a piece ofcloth around their waist on which opponents lifts one another before toppling the other on the ground.

In this game, mental strength and physical prowess is tested. Hence, it is not enough to be physically strong to defeat an opponent. But one also has to be strong mentally as well.

In the past, a wrestling bout was staged to settle scores, to display physical superiority over the others. Disputes between two or more person or even villages and between tribe(s) on private matters, or even land disputes were settled through a wrestling contest. Hence, the Naga wrestling is not just a sport in itself, but it is also an instrument of arbitration in the community.

What is however more significant is the social values built around it. Friendship, humility is encouraged. As such the community participates in the spirit of friendship. Competitors face each other as "Beloved Friends" or "Khrietho-u", in Tenyidie, the official dialect of Nagaland's Tenyimia community, and not as a sworn opponent.

The basic objective in introducing Naga Wrestling is to preserve and promote the indigenous game and while providing opportunity to our students to pursue sports alongside academic excellence. This way, the college seek to be socially responsive by transmitting the culture and tradition of the Naga tribes. It is also hoped that the students will learn to appreciate and take interest in the traditional Naga sports that are dying. Our college has incorporated this sport in the co-curricular activity of the college in a concerted manner. Since 2013, it has been a regular feature in the Annual Sports Week. And since then, there are encouraging visible achievement/progress.

Our record shows that the number of participants has increased from 11 (eleven) to 28 (twenty-eight) in its inception till date. Initially, the participants were from the wresting tribes, but over the years, the event has attracted students even from non-wrestling tribe(s). In 2021, a Lotha and a Ao tribe student participated. Similarly, in 2023, we had a participant from a Sema Tribe as well. This is a significant achievement because now the sport is extending beyond the traditional boundary of the Tenyimia fold.

Today, our college has also taken the sport beyond the walls of the college campus by organising the First ever Inter-Collegiate Wrestling Competition in the year 2022. This is perhaps the First ever inter collegiate Wrestling Competition held in the state at the college and university level.! In its first edition, 11(eleven) colleges participated. They are – Baptist college, Don Bosco College, Sazolie College, Kohima College, Kohima, Mount Olive College, Modern College Kohima, St. Joseph college, Oriental college. In total there were 28 participants.

There is an organizing committee also in place to oversee the growth of the Wrestling sport in the college. It is led by a group of college assistant professors with participation from the students as well to plan and execute the conduct of the event.

Besides, the organisational preparedness, financial allocation has also been made for the purpose. A sum of rupees 1(one) lakhs was allocated for this purpose. Admittedly, resource mobilisation has been a challenge since the college is a private institution. But we intend to take it forward as an important activity of the college.

We have also entered into partnership with the Naga Wrestling Association, which is a state level Association that promotes the sport in the state and is duly recognised by the state government. As part of the partnership, the Naga Wrestling Referee Board sends its members at our college events. The Angami Wrestling Association, a constituent member of the Naga Wrestling Association also extends its support in our endeavours.

Our vision is to establish a state-oftheart facility for training and development for our students in future. In due course of time this facility will also be extended to any registered students form other colleges as well. For this, efforts will be made to rope in professional wrestlers to give quality training to students. Today,Naga Wrestling competition is one of the biggest event of the college in term of scale of preparation and fund allocation for students development. It has also become a way of connecting with educational institutions in the state for promotion of sports and furthering the goal of a holistic development in students. Additionally, it has also given us a new opportunity and experience to partner with sporting agency beyond the academic space.















Azhalhou Kire winner of the annual alder college wrestling competition.2021



Champion Savituo Metha and runners up Rokosezo Pier with officials of the Alder College Annual Sports 2022















Azhalhou Kire, 2nd runners up at the 1st Biennial Intercollegiate Naga Wrestling Competition





Azhalhou Kire, second place winner in the light wieght category at Naga Wrestle Mania 9 (King of the Ring Series 2022) with certificate