

**PETROKIMIA GRESIK FUTSAL CHAMPIONSHIP (PGFC) 2022
ENCOURAGE THE EMERGENCE OF OUTSTANDING ATHLETES**

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Petrokimia Gresik once again brought together 32 high school futsal teams/equivalent, this time from five regions, namely Gresik, Surabaya, Sidoarjo, Lamongan, and Mojokerto in the 2022 Petrokimia Gresik Futsal Championship (PGFC) competition. The event was held at SOR Tri Dharma, Gresik, East Java, from September 19 to October 1, 2022.

Senior Executive Vice President (SEVP) of Petrokimia Gresik Operations, I Ketut Rusnaya during the opening match on Monday (19/9), said that, as part of an SOE that has the function of a development agent, Petrokimia Gresik is not only oriented towards profit and company performance but also highly committed to advancing national sports, one of which is by encouraging the emergence of outstanding athletes.

"PGFC is one of the forums presented by Petrokimia Gresik to bring out new talents or athletes in the sport of futsal. This competition competes with teams from high school/equivalent so that participants still have the opportunity to become professional athletes and excel through further coaching," said Ketut.

As for the 32 teams that competed, as many as 22 teams came from schools in Gresik Regency. Next, three teams each from Lamongan and Sidoarjo, as well as two teams each from Surabaya and Mojokerto. Among the participants who competed, there was a futsal team from SMA Negeri 1 Manyar (Gresik), first place in PGFC in 2014-2016, and SMA NU 2 Gresik which was first place in the last PG FC event in 2017.

PGFC itself has been held four times from 2014 to 2017, and this year at the moment of celebrating the golden anniversary of Petrokimia Gresik as well as welcoming the 77th Anniversary of the Republic of Indonesia, the 5th PGFC event was again presented to increase the means for futsal talents in achieving achievements.

"To produce outstanding athletes cannot be done instantly, it takes a lot of training, experience, coaching, and of course support from many parties. The role of Petrokimia Gresik through PGFC is to provide space and means for these talents to hone themselves and mentally in competing," added Ketut.

Meanwhile, to encourage PGFC participants to become outstanding athletes, in this year's event, Petrokimia Gresik also provided several assistance and facilities, including free registration fees, each team getting a set of jerseys for all players, futsal ball assistance for teams that passed the group stage, and prizes of tens of millions of rupiah for the winners.

In addition, at this opening ceremony, the inauguration of the Petrokimia Gresik Football School (SSB) was also held which will be a forum to produce and educate prospective athletes in the sport of football. SSB Petrokimia Gresik is expected to stimulate the interest of children in Gresik and its surroundings to become outstanding football players.

Ketut further explained that Petrokimia Gresik's commitment to advancing sports in the country has been ingrained for a long time. Some of the sports fostered by Petrokimia Gresik include martial arts, volleyball, swimming, and gymnastics which have made many achievements both at the regional, national and even international levels.

"For this reason, we ask for support from all parties so that Petrokimia Gresik can continue to provide the best performance so that the blessings or benefits we provide to the community around the company, including in the world of sports are also even greater," he said.

Meanwhile, Exco District Association (Askab) PSSI Gresik for Futsal, Munir Khan appreciated the competition organized by Petrokimia Gresik through PGFC. He hopes that futsal talents will emerge who can be prepared for the 2023 Provincial Sports Week (Porprov) in Sidoarjo later from this competition.

"Thank you Petrokimia Gresik for providing media to produce talented young seedlings in the field of futsal sports. Hopefully, this will continue," he said.

Finally, in front of the participants, Ketut emphasized that all participants must prioritize sportsmanship in the match. According to him, the struggle to achieve victory will be very meaningful, valuable, and perfect, when the victory achieved always upholds sportsmanship.

"I emphasize the existence of sportmanship because in fact, the attitude of sportsmanship is an important part as a tool for shaping values and character, as well as forming athletes with healthy, tough personality qualities and noble morals," he concluded.

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