

YB DATUK ONN HAFIZ GHAZI ON SPORTS AND THE DEVELOPMENT OF FUTURE LEADERS



EduCity Iskandar recently had a webinar session with YB Datuk Onn Hafiz Ghazi, Johor State EXCO for Tourism, Youth and Sports, to discuss a bit of state history and how a progressive state can develop youth leaders. Following up on that session, EduBuzz caught up with YB Onn and talked about how sports can help develop future youth leaders.

“Sports promotes fitness and helps develop qualities like teamwork, leadership skills, competitiveness, the pursuit of excellence and of course, accountability. Being active in sports also provides a strong foundation in strategic planning,” said Onn.

He added that these are the essential skills needed to mould a courageous leader with clear focus, integrity, honesty and humility. Onn believes that the lessons learned in sports are valuable and unique to each individual due to the challenges one faces over their life.

“There is a quote by Bill Gates - Failure is the best teacher. The experience of failing will provide a learning curve for leaders to understand how to learn and accept their flaws and mistakes, which in turn will allow them to make better decisions in the future,” said Onn.

He further explained that by participating in sports, one develops their skills to create an ideal and positive environment with their team to build trust and work towards a common goal.

Onn added that one’s experience and achievements matter as the experience of winning and losing would create a solid foundation for leaders to build and develop themselves further to achieve their goals better.

“With time and wisdom, the recovery period after losing will be faster as leaders will understand the best practices for strategic planning. Pick up a sport, any sport, solo or team, and commit to being the best in it,” he said.

He elaborated that being active in exceptionally competitive sports will help build character and develop the essential leadership skills to succeed.