January 2017 - In the most anticipated sporting event of the year so far, UNFICYP Sector Two emerged victorious in its sports day after a full day’s exhausting mental and physical competition against the other Sectors and Force Troops. In every category of sport, every last competitor gave 100% effort in order to gain those additional victories for their teams. Every hard won first, second, third and fourth place was separated by only the slightest of point margins that ultimately decided the overall victor of the day.

Exceptional skill and bravery was shown in each and every discipline, with challenging cross-country running and cycling circuits along the Buffer Zone from AD Crossing to Ledra Palace Hotel won by Sector One and Sector Two respectively. The athleticism shown on the basketball court and football pitch was reminiscent of any great championship. In the end, Sector Two just held onto the basketball, winning against Sector One in a thrilling final game but then losing to Sector Four in the football. In the road cycling, Sector Two’s team tactics allowed a comfortable win, whilst the sheer sturdiness of the Sector One tug-of-war team allowed them to capture the title of ‘champions of the rope’. The entire body strength of the Sector Two strong man team saw phenomenal displays of weight lifting, and with an eagle eye, the Sector Two team again won the darts.

With true sportsmanship, all competitors gathered at Ledra Palace Hotel parade square for the prize-giving ceremony, where Force Commander Maj. Gen. Mohammad Humayun Kabir congratulated them on giving so much energy and coming to the event with so much enthusiasm. The genuine camaraderie and sportsmanship on display was testament to the ethos of the United Nations military personnel here in Cyprus.