

No. 12-2/2025-SP-III  
Government of India  
Ministry of Youth Affairs & Sports  
Department of Sports

\*\*\*\*\*

Hall No. 103, Jawaharlal Nehru Stadium,  
Lodhi Road, New Delhi  
5<sup>th</sup> March 2025

To,

1. President, Indian Olympic Association
2. President/Secretary General of recognized NSFs

**Subject: Instructions relating to selection of sportspersons for participation in international events, inclusion in coaching camps and selection of coaches/support staff – regarding**

Sir/Madam,

In supersession of all instructions on the subject of selection of sportspersons for participation in international events, inclusion in coaching camps and selection of coaches/support staff, as mentioned in the National Sports Development Code of India, 2011 and the subsequent instructions issued by the Ministry from time to time, it has been decided to bring out the revised instructions on this subject.

2. The revised instructions have been formulated keeping in view the various developments and the experiences related to selection of athletes and coaches, judicious use of public resources and benefits available to NSFs and the athletes, and with a desire to upholding the principles of objectivity, fairness and transparency in the selection process with no scope for bias, so that no talented sportsperson is deprived of having a fair chance at the selection trials.

3. Instructions related to selection of sportspersons and coaches/support staff are given as under:

**A: Selection of Sportspersons**

- i. The selection of sportspersons for participation in international events shall be the responsibility of National Sports Federations (NSF) concerned in terms of the selection policy/criteria prescribed by the NSF. The Government and the Sports Authority of India (SAI) will not have direct involvement in the selection process.
- ii. Selection of athletes should be done in a fair and transparent manner and in terms of the policy/criteria formulated in advance. The NSFs should have a standard selection policy



for all events as well as national camps (if organized by the NSF) and any other events where selection of athletes is deemed necessary. This standard policy laying down the selection norms should be uploaded on the NSF website and any amendments to the policy should be done at least 3 months in advance of the subject event. Selection policy/criteria shall also be sent by email to all member units of the NSFs and SAI.

- iii. Selection policy/criteria shall ensure that all athletes are evaluated based on clear, consistent criteria, ensuring fairness and transparency. The specific criteria may vary widely depending on the sport and levels of competition and the policy of the NSF for creating bench strength and providing opportunities for players at the lower rungs.
- iv. Selection trials or any domestic competition, which may form the basis of selection for a future international event, shall be mandatorily video-graphed or under CCTV. Wherever the competition policy provides for event based live proceedings and video referral, there separate videography or CCTV will not be required. Video recordings of the selection trials shall be forwarded to SAI along with the duly signed minutes of selection committee, while sending proposals for financial assistance.
- v. Selection policy/criteria for mega sports events such as Olympics, Paralympics, Asian Games, Para Asian Games and Commonwealth Games should be well-publicized and uploaded on the website of the NSF at least two years in advance of the commencement of these Games. Selection policy/criteria shall also be emailed to member units of the NSFs and to SAI.
- vi. Inclusion of names of sportspersons, coaches, support staff and officials in the long list of these mega sports events will be done with the prior intimation to the Ministry giving the rationale and basis for names proposed to be included in the long list. Details of long list will be submitted to Ministry/SAI at least 30 days before the last date for making entries in the long list.
- vii. The selection policy may clearly specify the guidelines for selection of campers for National Camps (if any organized by the NSF) at SAI Centres or SAI permitted non-SAI Centres/Academies for preparation for International events as well as multi-disciplinary sport events.
- viii. Where selection of athletes for participation in an international sports competition is restricted to the athletes undergoing coaching at coaching camps at SAI Centres or SAI permitted non-SAI centres/Academies, selection of athletes for coaching camp will also be on the basis of the selection criteria prescribed at least three months in advance of the commencement of the coaching camp and the same shall be uploaded on the website of the Federation and communicated through email to the member units of NSF. Selection of athletes for camps (if organized by the NSF) will also be videographed.

*Tanumkorede*



- ix. The selection shall be done by a Selection Committee, constituted by the NSF, in terms of the specified selection policy/criteria.
- x. Composition of the selection committee shall be decided by the President of the NSF. Selection Committee should ideally be headed by High Performance Director/Chief Coach/Foreign Coach/former international player (preferably Major Dhyan Chand Khel Ratna Awardee/ Arjuna Awardee), Sportspersons of Outstanding Merit (SOM), who must have retired from active sports for at least four years. Selection Committee may include, among others, coach(es), SOM, ex-international player(s), member(s) of Executive Committee (not more than two on rotation basis) nominated by the President of NSF.
- xi. NSFs shall mandatorily inform the Ministry and SAI well in advance about each and every selection trial to be conducted by it.
- xii. Wherever a Government observer has been appointed, or SAI has appointed any nominee from within SAI or outside SAI, such observer/SAI nominee will be informed about the date and venue of selection trials at least 15 days in advance.
- xiii. Government observer/SAI nominee, if any appointed by the Ministry /SAI, will not be members in the selection committee and will not sign the proceedings of the selection committee or mark their attendance in the meetings of selection committee. The Observer/SAI nominee will observe the selection trials and submit their report to the Ministry/SAI, as the case may be.
- xiv. Where participation in international events is based on national ranking, NSFs should advise their State/UT affiliate units to field their teams and players to maintain national ranking.
- xv. NSFs shall ensure that athletes selected for representing the country in international sports events should pass the required medical check up to demonstrate his/her physical fitness for competition. NSFs shall make the necessary entries in centralized portal created for this purpose
- xvi. NSFs shall put in place a mechanism, where a sportsperson aggrieved by the decision of the selection committee can register his/her grievance. Grievances relating to selection should be enquired into and redressed promptly, latest by seven days of filing of the grievance. Grievance Redressal Committee or Appeal Committee shall invariably include Sportspersons of Outstanding Merit who must have retired from active sports for at least four years. No member of Selection Committee shall be part of the Grievance redressal Committee. Such proceedings will be summary in nature following principles of natural justice. If the NSF has formed a Dispute Resolution Commission (DRC), then second appeal shall be made before the DRC.

*Tanvir Anwar*

**B: Selection of coaches and support staff:**

- i. Responsibility for appointment of coaches, including national coach/chief coach and support staff, will be that of the NSF.
  - ii. Where the expenditure on payment of remuneration of coaches including national coach/chief coach and support staff is borne by the Government, their selection shall be done by a Selection Committee headed by President of NSF or Sportsperson of Outstanding Merit (SOM), ex-international player (preferably Major Dhyan Chand Khel Ratna Awardee/Arjuna Awardee), who has retired from active sports for at least 4 years, nominated by the President of the NSF. Selection Committee shall include, among others, DG, SAI or his/her nominee, SOM, ex-international player (preferably Major Dhyan Chand Khel Ratna Awardee/Arjuna Awardee), who has retired from active sports for at least 4 years, member(s) from Executive Committee of the NSF (not more than two on rotation basis) nominated by the President.
  - iii. The Selection Committee shall take into consideration the parameters/norms or minimum qualifications, if any, prescribed by SAI.
  - iv. The team of coaches, sports scientists, experts etc. once chosen, shall not normally be changed or modified, till the Asian/Olympic Games are over.
  - v. While selecting the national coach, Assistant Coach and other members of the coaching team, due care should be taken to ensure that no person with a tainted record is selected as a member of the coaching team.
  - vi. While selecting the team for participation in any international event including multi-sports events, it shall be ensured that only those coaches/supporting personnel are selected, who have been associated with the team during the coaching camp on a continuous basis.
  - vii. Inclusion of personal coaches and support staff who have been associated with the training of the athlete on a regular basis will be considered on merit basis.
  - viii. Coaches and support staff who are part of coaching camp (if organized) shall invariably be included in the long list required to be submitted in respect of multi-sports events.
4. The selected contingent finalised by the NSF should be published on the website immediately after the finalisation. The selection documents including photographs, videos will be preserved for a period of one year and if any court case over selection is filed, the same should be preserved till the disposal of case. Unless otherwise specified, the NSF shall mean all sports bodies which are part of the Olympic Movement or are recognised by the Government.

*Tarun K. Singh*

5. If the Ministry/SAI is not satisfied with the selection of athletes recommended by the NSF on the grounds of fairness and transparency, the Ministry reserves the right to approve the participation at no cost to the Government.

6. The NSFs must finalize the selection process for international participation at least 45 days prior to departure in order to prevent any last-minute logistical challenges such as obtaining visas or booking air tickets/ accommodation in view of the prevalent scenarios. Furthermore, they should implement an efficient Management Information System (MIS) to effectively monitor these aspects.

This issues with the approval of the competent authority.

  
(Tarun Pareek)

Under Secretary to the Government of India

Copy to:

1. Director General, Sports Authority of India
2. Executive Director (TEAMS), SAI
3. CEO, TOPS, SAI
4. Secretary, SAI
5. Director (SP-I)/Director (SP-III)
6. Under Secretary (SP-I)/Under Secretary (SP-III)
7. Guard file
8. Sr. Technical Director, NIC with the request to upload on website of the Ministry

Copy for information to:

1. PS to Hon'ble Minister (YA&S)
2. PS to Hon'ble MOS (YA&S)
3. PS to Secretary (Sports)