

No. 12-5/2025-SP-III
Government of India
Ministry of Youth Affairs & Sports
Department of Sports

Hall No. 103, Stairs-1,
Jawaharlal Nehru Stadium, Lodhi Road,
New Delhi the 19th May, 2025

To

1. President, Indian Olympic Association (IOA)
2. President, Paralympic Committee of India (PCI)
3. President/Secretary General, recognized National Sports Federations (NSFs)
4. Principal Secretaries in-charge of Sports Departments in State Governments and UT Administrations

Subject: Instructions relating to hosting and conduct of National Games and National Championships – regarding

Sir / Madam,

The Olympic Charter, the Paralympic Charter and the National Sports Development Code of India, 2011, (The Sports Code) provide for the autonomy and responsibility of the IOA, the PCI and the NSFs for conduct of events such as the National Games and National Championships in association with their affiliate units. These national-level events have a major role in the development of a sporting culture across the country. The conduct of these events for different age groups and genders is also a functional requirement for the annual recognition of the NSFs for the Sports Code. Further, these events also enable the medal winners to enjoy the benefits of different government policies and programmes, including the Sports Quota benefits for admission in educational institutions and in recruitments, as also in the opportunities for recognition as Sportspersons of Outstanding Merit under various governance instruments.

2. While the country is making the bid to host the 2036 Summer Olympic and Paralympic Games, and other international events of repute, it is of prime importance that the national events are hosted with well-defined standards, adhering to proper norms, and honour their national character, respect national

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diversity and integrity by enabling wide participation by athletes and teams across sports disciplines, maintain the integrity of the sporting competitions and also ensure the welfare and safety of participating athletes from across the country.

3. Towards this end, the IOA/PCI/NSFs shall adopt a system of Olympic and Paralympic Cycle planning and publish in advance their respective annual calendars, so that all the stakeholders have a clear idea and opportunity to plan interventions and allocate and deploy resources. The exercise of preparation of annual calendars must be completed and published on their respective websites by December of the preceding year for the year that follows.

4. In accordance with the above, in addition to the existing regulations, the following directions are issued with the following specified timelines:

(I) National Games:

(a) At least six months prior to the commencement of the event, the IOA and the Host shall:

(i) Form a Games Technical Conduct Committee (GTCC) and other events committee in accordance with the IOA Constitution and submit a list of the same to this Ministry.

(ii) Submit a list of all sports disciplines included within the National Games competition programme, and with a written explanation in case any medal events Sports disciplines that have previously been included in any of the previous three editions of the National Games have been excluded from the proposed edition.

(iii) Submit a copy of the agreement entered into with the relevant State Government and its departments (including all permissions) and agreements with all competition venues with respect to hosting of the event.

(iv) Submit the eligibility criteria for participant entry and for representation of states/teams in the competition, including the procedures and protocols for transfer of a participant's eligibility for representation from one state/team to another state/team (including any residence/domicile criteria to be satisfied and no-objection certificates to be obtained).

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(b) At least 60 days prior to the commencement of the event, the IOA and the Hosts shall:

(i) Provide details of the NSFs governing different disciplines of the National Games, and in case of un-recognized NSFs, prior permission of the Ministry of Youth Affairs & Sports must be taken for inclusion of their sports in the National Games and for formation of the Committees to look after the conduct of the events.

(c) At least 45 days prior to the commencement of the event, the IOA and the Hosts shall:

(i) Submit the actual schedule and all state/other teams participating in the National Games, with a written explanation in case any state teams have not been invited to participate in the forthcoming edition of the National Games, or have otherwise been barred from sending entries in respect of their athletes and teams.

(ii) Provide a written description of all measures that will be undertaken in respect of anti-doping, age-fraud, match integrity, prevention of sexual harassment and athlete welfare and safety in respect of the event, including training of athletes, the deployment of policies and monitoring measures, whistleblower and reporting protocols and grievance redressal measures.

(d) Within 30 days of the completion of the event, the IOA and the Hosts shall:

(i) Submit a list (in print and digital formats) of all participants, the state/team they represented (including the basis of their eligibility), the events they participated in and their results (list to be submitted in alphabetical order, state/team-wise and event wise).

(II) National Championships:

(a) at least 60 days prior to the commencement of the event, the NSF and the Hosts shall:

(i) Submit a list of all events (individual/team) included within the National Championships competition programme and all state/other teams participating in the National Championships, with a written explanation in case any event that have previously been included in

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any of the previous three editions of the National Championships have been excluded from the proposed edition, or any state teams have not been invited to participate in the forthcoming edition of the National Championships, or have otherwise been barred from sending entries in respect of their athletes and teams.

(ii) Submit the eligibility criteria for participant entry and for representation of states/teams in the competition, including the procedures and protocols for transfer of a participant's eligibility for representation from one state/team to another state/team (including any residence/domicile criteria to be satisfied and no-objection certificates to be obtained).

(b) At least 45 days prior to the commencement of the event, the NSF and the Hosts shall:

(i) Submit the actual schedule and all state/other teams participating in the National Championships, with a written explanation in case any state teams have not been invited to participate in the forthcoming edition of the National Championships or have otherwise been barred from sending entries in respect of their athletes and teams.

(ii) Provide a written description of all measures that will be undertaken in respect of anti-doping, age-fraud, match integrity, prevention of sexual harassment and athlete welfare and safety in respect of the event, including training of athletes, the deployment of policies and monitoring measures, whistleblower and reporting protocols and grievance redressal measures.

(c) within 30 days of the completion of the event, the NSF and the Hosts shall:

(i) Submit a list (in print and digital formats) of all participants, the state/team they represented (including the basis of their eligibility), the events they participated in and their results (list to be submitted in alphabetical order, state/team-wise and event wise).

5. In accordance with international best practices, the IOA / PCI / NSFs / Hosts (as the case may be) shall, in the interest of athletes and the sport, constitute one or more Ad Hoc Panel(s) for the resolution of disputes arising during the conduct of competitions at the event. Such Panel(s) and its procedures shall be duly notified at least 30 (thirty) days in advance on the federation / event website and to the

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concerned affiliate units. Athletes or participating bodies shall have the right to seek redressal of disputes pertaining to the competitions held at the event before the said Panel(s). The Panel(s) shall determine its own procedure for the resolution of disputes while ensuring expeditious disposal by following the principles of natural justice. If the Grievance Redressal Commission of the IOA or the concerned NSF (as the case may be) is functional, such Commission shall discharge the aforesaid responsibilities.

6. Based on the aforementioned submissions and satisfaction of the stated requirements, this Ministry may seek additional information or require certain measures or steps to be undertaken prior to issuing an approval to the said Federation and the Host, which shall be required for the hosting of the National Games or National Championships (as the case may be). Should no further requests be made by this Ministry within 15 days of due submission of all the details as contained herein, the approval of this Ministry shall be deemed to have been granted in respect of the event.

7. Compliance with the above-mentioned procedure and requirements will be reviewed at the time of annual recognition process in terms of the Sports Code.

8. No person may seek a trademark registration in India or claim any other exclusive intellectual property rights in the name "National Games", or "National Championships", or any logo or device containing such designation (alone or with other words or numbers) without the prior written consent of this Ministry.

9. This Ministry remains committed to ensuring that the governance of sports in India conforms with principles of good governance, transparency and accountability as embodied in the Olympic Charter and Sports Code.

10. This issues with the approval of the Competent Authority.

Yours faithfully,



(Tarun Pareek)

Under Secretary to the Government of India

Copy to:

1. Director General, Sports Authority of India
2. ED (TEAMS), SAI
3. CEO (TOPS), SAI
4. Jt CEO (TAAG), SAI
5. Director (SP-I)/Director (SP-III)
6. US (SP-I) / US(SP-III) / SO (SP-I) / SO(SP-III)
7. Guard File

Copy for information to:

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