



PRESS RELEASE

IOA and NGOC establish Safeguarding helpline to ensure safety and well-being of athletes

Dehradun, January 27: The Indian Olympic Association (IOA) and the National Games Organising Committee (NGOC) have established a Safeguarding telephone helpline as part of a focused initiative to promote safety and well-being as well as to prevent and address adverse incidents during the Uttarakhand 2025 National Games 2025.

IOA President Dr PT Usha said the helpline will be available to athletes, coaches and officials round the clock. “This is part of our initiative to prevent harassment, abuse, and other forms of interpersonal violence in sports. We have also formed a Safeguarding Committee that will work to prevent Safeguarding issues and look into any complaints that may arise,” she said.

“This reflects IOA and NGOC’s commitment to creating a safe and inclusive environment, ensuring athletes, coaches, and support staff have confidential resources to report and resolve issues effectively,” she said. “While safeguarding measures are in place for all participants, the Committee will place special emphasis on supporting women athletes, coaches and officials.

The Safeguarding Committee includes Ms. Neetal Narang as Chairperson and Ms. Deepa Mehta and will prioritise the prevention of incidents that compromise the integrity and safety of participants and ensure timely action while maintaining the confidentiality of all complaints, Dr. Usha said.

“The Committee will document incidents, maintain accountability, and implement measures to deter potential misconduct. This proactive approach underscores the IOA’s commitment to fostering a safe and trustworthy sporting environment,” the IOA President said.

“IOA and NGOC encourage all participants to utilise these resources as needed. We remain steadfast in our commitment to implementing effective safety protocols and safeguarding the well-being of athletes,” Dr Usha said. The State Olympic Associations and National Sports Federations have been requested to share the contact details with their teams to ensure widespread awareness of the initiative.

Helplines

Mobile: +91 9220132079;

Landline (Monday to Friday, 10.30 a.m. to 5.00 p.m.): 8881288864

e-mail: SafeguardingNG25@gmail.com