OFFICE OF THE ELECTORAL OFFICER

ELECTION OF SPORTSPERSONS OF OUTSTANDING MERIT (SOMs)

INDIAN OLYMPIC ASSOCIATION

NOTIFICATION No. 2/2026/EO-IOA SOM Elections

Date: 13th October 2026

1) In terms of Order No. 1/2026/EO-IOA AC Elections D/t 07-10-2026, the appointment of the Electoral Officer/ Returning Officer OF the IOA Elections 2026, including the SOM Elections, the undersigned notify as follows:

1.1) Applications already submitted In terms of Rule 7.2.1 of the SOM Rules and Rule 5(1) of the NSGB Rules, the IOA issued its notice for applications for inclusion in the SOM Roster on **18th September 2026 (Friday)**, and window for application to close on **18th October 2026 (Sunday)** shall remain valid and need not be re-submitted. Persons who have not yet applied, and who satisfy the eligibility criteria set out in Part D below, may apply until the close of the Application Window, i.e., 18-10-2026, subject to the following:

A) Each application shall be submitted **online only**, in the Application Form prescribed in ANNEXURE 2 to the SOM Rules (including Schedules A, B and C thereto), on **elections@olympic.ind.in**; (offline submission shall not be entertained);

B) Each application shall be accompanied by self-attested copies of proof of date of birth, proof of citizenship (with the parents' birth certificates or the alternative documents listed in the Application Form for applicants born after 01 July 1987), proof of retirement from active sport (if available), certificates / official results / participation records for each achievement claimed, the award certificate where Tier 4 is claimed, proof of sanction by the relevant International Sports Body where Tiers 5, 7, 8, 9 and/or 10 are claimed, and a recent passport-size photograph (ANNEXURE 2, Parts II and III);

C) Incomplete, unsigned or unsupported applications, applications submitted after the close of the Application Window, and applications containing false, misleading or forged information shall be rejected (Rule 6.3.3 of the SOM Rules; Part I, paragraph 3 of ANNEXURE 2); and

D) The undersigned may seek clarification or additional documents where a defect is curable, and failure to furnish the same within the time prescribed may result in rejection (Rules 7.2.6 and 7.2.7 of the SOM Rules).

ELECTION SCHEDULE

2) The SOM Roster shall be created and the election of the eight (8) SOMs to the IOA General Assembly shall be held on **Monday, 9th November 2026**, as per the following schedule, which follows the SOM Election timeline approved for the IOA Elections 2026:

S. No.	SCHEDULE	DATE / DAY	TIME
1.	SOM Application / Roster process – public call for applications by the IOA and opening of the Application Window (on https://olympic.ind.in/) – **underway**	18th September 2026 (Friday)	–
2.	Application window – close of receipt of applications (via email on elections@olympic.ind.in)	18th October 2026 (Sunday)	Up to 23.59 hrs
3.	Scrutiny of applications and publication of the male and female SOM Rosters by the Electoral Officer (on https://olympic.ind.in/)	19th October 2026 (Monday)	20:00 hrs
4.	Receipt and disposal of objections to the SOM Roster (via email on elections@olympic.ind.in)	21st October 2026 (Wednesday) – 22nd October 2026 (Thursday)	Upto 17.00 hrs of 22nd October 2026
5.	Publication of the final electoral roll, Call for Elections and invitation for nominations (Election Notice) (on https://olympic.ind.in/)	23rd October 2026 (Friday)	Upto 23:59 hrs
6.	Filing of nominations by eligible candidates (via email on elections@olympic.ind.in)	27th October 2026 (Tuesday) – 30th October 2026 (Friday)	Upto 23:59 hrs of 30th October 2026
7.	Publication of draft list of nominations received by the Electoral Officer (on https://olympic.ind.in/)	31st October 2026 (Saturday)	Before 20:00 hrs
8.	Period for objections to the draft list of nominated candidates (via email on elections@olympic.ind.in)	1st November 2026 (Sunday) – 2nd November 2026 (Monday)	Upto 23:59 hrs of 2nd November 2026
9.	Scrutiny of nominations and disposal of objections by the Electoral Officer	3rd November 2026 (Tuesday) – 4th November 2026 (Wednesday)	–
10.	Publication of final list of valid nominated candidates	5th November 2026 (Thursday)	20.00 hrs
11.	Period for withdrawal of nominations (via email on elections@olympic.ind.in)	6th November 2026 (Friday) – 7th November 2026 (Saturday)	Up to 14.00 hrs on 07.11.2026

12.	Publication of final list of contesting candidates (on https://olympic.ind.in/)	7th November 2026 (Saturday)	20.00 hrs
13.	Polling, counting of votes and declaration of results by the Electoral Officer (on https://olympic.ind.in/)	9th November 2026 (Monday)	As notified in the Election Notice

Eligibility of SOM applicants and candidates

3) **General eligibility:** Under Rule 6.1.1 of the SOM Rules (read with Schedule I to the NSGB Rules and Article 1.11 of the IOA Constitution), a person seeking to be considered as a SOM shall:

   (a) be an Indian citizen;

   (b) be of sound mind;

   (c) be not less than twenty-five (25) years and not more than seventy (70) years of age on the date of application;

   (d) be retired from active sport, i.e. not have participated in any competitive sport event leading to selection to represent a district, State or India for at least one (1) year before the date of application; and

   (e) have represented India in an Olympic Sport for which the concerned National Sports Federation / national sports body is a member of the IOA, the relevant sporting achievement having been achieved in an Olympic Sport while representing India (Rule 6.1.2 of the SOM Rules).

4) **Exclusions and disqualifications:** Any medal that has been rescinded, and any award that has been rescinded or returned, shall not be considered (Rules 6.3.1 and 6.3.2 of the SOM Rules). An applicant shall further not be insolvent, convicted and sentenced to imprisonment (subject to the period under Rule 11 of the NSGB Rules), barred by an order of an Ethics Committee, declared ineligible, suspended or disqualified under WADA / NADA anti-doping rules, or otherwise disqualified under the Act, the NSGB Rules or the IOA Statutes, as declared in Schedule B to the Application Form. The disqualification provisions of Article 5 of the IOA Constitution applicable to members of the General Assembly shall also apply (Rule 9.1.1 of the SOM Rules).

5) **Age at nomination and term limits:** Each person elected as a SOM shall be below the age of seventy (70) years as on the last date of nomination, i.e. 1st November 2026 (Rule 7.4.4 of the SOM Rules). No person shall serve as a SOM for more than three (3) terms, and a person who has served three (3) consecutive terms shall be eligible only after a cooling-off period of one (1) term (Rules 8.2 and 8.3 of the SOM Rules).

Scrutiny of applications and creation of the SOM Roster

6) The undersigned shall scrutinise all applications received within the Application Window and create a SOM Roster of eighty (80) persons, being ten (10) times the number of SOMs to be elected, comprising a **male SOM Roster of forty (40)** and a **female SOM Roster of forty (40)** (Rules 5.2.3, 5.2.4, 7.3.1 and 7.3.2 of the SOM Rules; Rule 6(2) of the NSGB Rules).
7) Each SOM Roster shall be populated according to the ten (10) Tiered Eligibility Criteria in ANNEXURE 1 to the SOM Rules in sequential order, beginning with Tier 1, and no lower tier shall be considered before completion of consideration of the higher tier (Rules 7.3.4 to 7.3.6). The tiers are:

Tier	Eligibility Criterion (ANNEXURE 1 to the SOM Rules)
1	Won at least one gold, silver or bronze medal in the Summer or Winter Olympic Games.
2	Participated in two or more editions of the Summer or Winter Olympic Games.
3	Participated in at least one edition of the Summer or Winter Olympic Games.
4	Awarded the Major Dhyan Chand Khel Ratna Award or the Arjuna Award by the Central Government.
5	Won at least one gold, silver or bronze medal, or equivalent placing, in a World Championship or equivalent competition.
6	Won at least one gold, silver or bronze medal, or equivalent placing, in the Commonwealth Games, Asian Games or Asian Winter Games.
7	Won at least one gold, silver or bronze medal, or equivalent placing, in an Asian Championship or equivalent competition.
8	Participated in at least five sanctioned international events (individual sport) or five sanctioned international matches (team sport).
9	Participated in at least one sanctioned international event (individual sport) or one sanctioned international match (team sport).
10	Won at least one gold, silver or bronze medal, or equivalent placing, in the National Games or a National Championship or equivalent competition.

8) Where the number of applicants in a tier exceeds the available places, preference shall be accorded first to the eldest applicant by age and, upon a further tie, in accordance with the tier-specific tie-break in ANNEXURE 1 (higher medal tally in the order Gold, Silver, Bronze; greater number of editions, events or matches; or, for Tier 4, recipients of the Major Dhyan Chand Khel Ratna Award before recipients of the Arjuna Award) (Rule 7.3.7 of the SOM Rules).
9) The undersigned shall record the basis for the inclusion or exclusion of every applicant, and the male and female SOM Rosters shall be published on the IOA website on **19th October 2026**.

10) All communications shall be addressed to the undersigned by email on elections@olympic.ind.in. A copy of the SOM Rules and the Election Bye-Laws is enclosed herewith.

By Order,

13.X.2026

Sanjay K. Srivastava
IAS (Retd.)
Electoral Officer (Returning Officer) – IOA Elections 2026

NOTE:

1. IOA - All the information regarding the IOA SOM Elections 2026 should be made available on the official website of the Indian Olympic Association: https://olympic.ind.in/.

Encl.:

1. A copy of the IOA Sportspersons of Outstanding Merit Rules, 2026
2. A copy of the IOA Election Bye-Laws, 2026
3. Copy of Application Form prescribed in Annexure 2 to SOM Rules (including Schedule A, B and C thereto)



SPORTSPERSONS OF OUTSTANDING MERIT RULES

INDIAN OLYMPIC ASSOCIATION

RATIFIED ON 08.09.2026

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1. Preamble

1.1. These Rules are derived and developed in line with the IOA Constitution.

1.2. These Rules provide a clear, transparent and merit-based framework for the identification, verification, roster creation and election or, as applicable, nomination of Sportspersons of Outstanding Merit (SOM) within the Indian Olympic Association (IOA). The inclusion of Sportspersons of Outstanding Merit in IOA governance recognises the value of athlete experience in institutional decision-making. It also seeks to ensure that such representation is meaningful, gender-balanced and aligned with the broader interests of the Olympic Movement in India.

2. Terms and Definitions

2.1. "**Applicant**" shall mean a person who submits an application for consideration as a Sportsperson of Outstanding Merit under these Rules.

2.2. "**Application Form**" shall mean the form prescribed in ANNEXURE 2 for submission of an application for inclusion in the SOM Roster.

2.3. "**Application Window**" shall mean the period of sixty (60) days from the date of opening of applications, or such extended period as may be permitted under these Rules.

2.4. "**Electoral Officer**" shall mean the Electoral Officer appointed by the IOA Executive Council in accordance with the applicable IOA Election Bye-Laws under the IOA Statutes, who shall be responsible for the preparation of the SOM Roster and the conduct of elections of the SOMs in accordance with these Rules and the Election Bye-Laws as applicable.

2.5. "**IOA Statutes**" shall mean the Constitution, Election Bye-Laws, codes, rules, bye-laws and regulations governing IOA, as applicable from time to time.

2.6. "**Olympic Sport**" shall mean a sport included in the Olympic programme (Summer or Winter) and for which the concerned National Sports Federation/ national sports body is a member of the IOA.

2.7. "**Rules**" shall mean these IOA Sportspersons of Outstanding Merit Rules, as amended from time to time.

2.8. "**Schedule**" shall mean any schedule forming part of the Application Form or any annexure to these Rules, as the context may require.

2.9. "**SOM Roster**" shall mean the roster of eligible Sportspersons of Outstanding Merit prepared under these Rules from which Sportspersons of Outstanding Merit shall be elected, to the IOA General Assembly.

2.10. "**Sportsperson of Outstanding Merit**" or "**SOM**" shall mean a person who satisfies the eligibility criteria under these Rules and is elected, in accordance with the relevant stage of these Rules.

2.11. "**Tiered Eligibility Criteria**" shall mean the ten-tier eligibility criteria specified under Rule 6.2.1 and ANNEXURE 1 for determining eligibility and priority for inclusion in the SOM Roster.

Any word or expression used but not defined in these Bye-Laws shall have the meaning assigned to it under the IOA Constitution and, where such word or expression is not defined therein, under the National Sports Governance Act 2025 and the rules and regulations framed thereunder or, where applicable, the International Charters and Statutes.

3. Objective of the Rules

3.1. These Rules set out the framework for the identification and inclusion of SOM within the governance structure of IOA.

3.2. The objectives are as follows:

3.2.1. To set out the process for identification, verification, SOM Roster creation and election of SOM within the governance structure of IOA.

3.2.2. To ensure that representation of SOM within IOA is based on clear eligibility criteria and a transparent application process.

3.2.3. To ensure equal representation of male and female SOMs.

4. Role and Responsibilities of SOMs

4.1. The SOMs shall discharge the following responsibilities:

4.1.1. contribute athlete experience and sportsperson-led perspective to support fair, transparent and athlete-centred governance within IOA;

4.1.2. act in the broader interest of the Olympic Movement in India and not merely as representatives of any one sport, federation, academy, region or private interest.

4.1.3. participate responsibly in the meetings and processes of the body to which they are elected;

4.1.4. comply with the IOA Statutes;

4.1.5. maintain confidentiality of documents, deliberations and information received in their official capacity;

4.1.6. disclose any actual, potential or perceived conflict of interest; and

4.1.7. not misuse their position for personal, commercial, political or institutional advantage.

5. Representation of SOMs within IOA

5.1. **Composition**

5.1.1. There shall be eight (8) SOMs in the IOA General Assembly, comprising four (4) male SOMs and four (4) female SOMs.

5.1.2. From amongst the eight (8) elected SOMs, two (2) SOMs, comprising one (1) male SOM and one (1) female SOM, shall be elected to the IOA Executive Council.

5.2. **Basis of Representation**

5.2.1. Sportspersons of Outstanding Merit forming part of the IOA General Assembly shall be elected only from amongst the persons included in the SOM Roster created and published on the IOA website.

5.2.2. SOMs who are part of the IOA General Assembly or the IOA Executive Council shall have the same voting rights, duties and obligations as other members of the IOA General Assembly or the IOA Executive Council, respectively, subject to IOA Statutes and other applicable IOA rules, policies and directives.

5.2.3. The SOM Roster shall be prepared at ten times the number of SOMs to be elected to the IOA General Assembly.

5.2.4. The SOM Roster shall have equal representation of male and female SOM.

6. Eligibility

6.1. General Eligibility Criteria

6.1.1. A person seeking to be considered as a SOM shall satisfy the following general eligibility criteria:

a. be an Indian citizen;

b. be of sound mind;

c. be not less than twenty-five (25) years and not more than seventy (70) of age, on the date of application;

d. be retired from active sport i.e, have not participated in any competitive sport event leading to selection to represent a district, State or India for at least one (1) year before the date of application; and

e. have represented India in an Olympic Sport for which the concerned National Sports Federation/ national sports body is a member of IOA.

6.1.2. For the purposes of these Rules, the relevant sporting achievement shall be in an Olympic Sport and shall have been achieved while representing India.

6.2. Tiered Eligibility Criteria

6.2.1. Applicants shall be considered for inclusion in the SOM Roster on the basis of the 10-tiered eligibility criteria attached in ANNEXURE 1.

6.3. Application exclusion

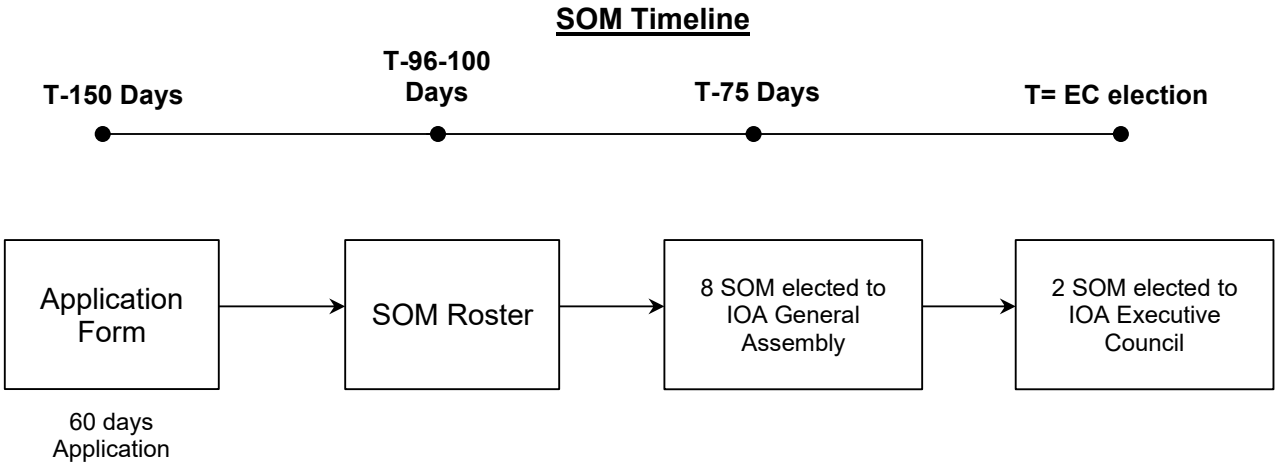
6.3.1. Any medal that has been rescinded shall not be considered for the purpose of determining eligibility under these Rules.

6.3.2. Any award that has been rescinded or returned shall not be considered for the purpose of determining eligibility under these Rules.

6.3.3. An applicant who submits false, misleading or incomplete information, or any forged, incorrect or misleading document, may be rejected from consideration or removed from the SOM Roster, as applicable.

7. Application Process

7.1. Timelines



7.2. Application Form

7.2.1. IOA shall issue a public call for applications for the preparation of the SOM Roster.

7.2.2. The IOA Athletes Commission shall encourage eligible athletes to participate in the application process for election as SOMs.

7.2.3. Each application shall be submitted online. Offline submission shall not be entertained.

7.2.4. The application shall be submitted in the form prescribed in ANNEXURE 2.

7.2.5. The Application Form shall include the general eligibility criteria, Tiered Eligibility Criteria and the list of documents required to be submitted by the applicant.

7.2.6. IOA may seek clarification or additional documents from an applicant where the defect in the application is curable.

7.2.7. Failure to submit such clarification or additional documents within the prescribed time may result in rejection of the application.

7.2.8. The application window shall remain open for sixty (60) days from the date of opening of applications.

7.3. SOM Roster Creation

7.3.1. The SOM Roster shall be created from the applications received within the application window.

7.3.2. The scrutiny of applications and creation of the SOM Roster of eighty (80) persons shall be undertaken by the Electoral Officer on the basis of the Tiered Eligibility Criteria specified under Rule 6.2.1 and ANNEXURE 1.

7.3.3. The Electoral Officer shall be responsible for:

a. scrutinising applications received under these Rules;

b. verifying eligibility and supporting documents submitted by applicants;

c. applying the Tiered Eligibility Criteria specified under Rule 6.2.1 and ANNEXURE 1*;*

d. creating the SOM Roster;

e. ensuring separate male and female SOM Rosters are prepared;

f. ensuring publication of the male and female SOM Rosters on the IOA website in accordance with the prescribed timelines in Rule 7.1; and

g. Recording the basis for inclusion or exclusion of applicants from the SOM Roster.

7.3.4. Each SOM Roster shall be populated according to the Tiered Eligibility Criteria in sequential order. Applicants satisfying Tier 1 shall be considered first.

7.3.5. If the SOM Roster is not complete after considering applicants satisfying Tier 1, applicants satisfying Tier 2 shall be considered, followed by Tier 3 and each subsequent tier in sequential order.

7.3.6. No lower tier shall be considered before completion of consideration of the higher tier.

7.3.7. Where the number of applicants in a tier exceeds the required roster threshold, selection shall be made in accordance with the applicable tie-break criteria specified in ANNEXURE 1.

7.3.8. Where the IOA is unable to populate the SOM Roster of eighty (80) eligible applicants upon completion of the scrutiny process, IOA may issue another call for applications in accordance with Rule 7.2 or frame and adopt additional Tiered Eligibility Criteria for the SOM Roster, provided that such additional criteria are based on the principles specified in ANNEXURE 1, at its sole discretion.

7.3.9. The Electoral Officer shall ensure that adequate and eligible replacements are identified for the eight (8) Sportspersons of Outstanding Merit forming part of the IOA General Assembly. Such replacements shall be drawn from amongst the persons included in the SOM Roster and may be considered in the event of any removal, vacancy or inability of an elected SOM to continue.

7.4. **Election for SOMs to the General Assembly**

7.4.1. The Electoral Officer shall conduct the SOM elections in accordance with the following calendar:

Event	**Day**
Call for Elections, invitation for nominations and release of final electoral roll	Day 1
Filing of nominations	Day 8 to Day 10

Announcement of draft list of nominations received	Day 10
Objections to draft list of nominated candidates	Day 11 to Day 14
Scrutiny and disposal of objections to Draft list of nominated candidates	Day 15 to Day 16
Final list of nominated candidates	Day 17
Withdrawal of nominations	Day 18
Final list of contesting candidates	Day 19
Polling and announcement of results	Day 21

7.4.2. The Electoral Officer shall ensure that at the very least, the polling and announcement of results take place at least seventy-five (75) days prior to the expiry of the term of the incumbent IOA Executive Council elections.

7.4.3. The election process shall be as described in detail in the IOA Election Bye-Laws.

7.4.4. Each person elected as a SOM to the IOA General Assembly shall be below the age of seventy (70) years as on the last date of nomination for the election of SOMs to the General Assembly.

7.5. **Election of SOMs to the Executive Council**

7.5.1. From amongst the eight (8) elected SOMs, two (2) SOMs (one male, one female) shall be elected as members of the IOA Executive Council.

7.5.2. The election of such SOMs to the IOA Executive Council shall be conducted in accordance with the IOA Election Bye-Laws.

7.6. Where a person elected as a member of the Athletes Commission to the IOA General Assembly or the IOA Executive Council is also elected as a Sportsperson of Outstanding Merit to the IOA General Assembly, such person shall, within three (3) days of being elected to both positions, recuse himself/herself from one of such positions. The vacancy arising from such recusal shall be filled in accordance with the applicable IOA Election Bye-Laws, and the election to fill such vacancy shall be conducted concurrently with the elections to the IOA Executive Council

8. Term and tenure of SOM

8.1. The eight (8) SOMs shall be elected from the SOM Roster at least seventy-five (75) days prior to the expiry of the term of the incumbent IOA Executive Council. Their Term of office shall be four (4) years and shall commence from the date of announcement of their election.

8.2. The Term of office of a SOM shall not exceed four (4) years. No person shall be eligible to serve as a SOM for more than three (3) terms.

8.3. Cooling-off Period: A person who has served as a SOM for three (3) consecutive terms shall be eligible for election as a SOM only after a mandatory cooling-off period of one (1) term.

9. Removal, Vacancy and Appeal

9.1. Removal

9.1.1. All rules relating to removal or disqualification of members of the IOA General Assembly or the IOA Executive Council, as provided in the IOA Constitution, shall apply to SOM.

9.1.2. An SOM may also be removed on any of the following grounds:

a. false declaration;

b. submission of forged or misleading documents;

c. rescission, withdrawal or cancellation of the medal, award, participation record or achievement on the basis of which SOM status was claimed;

d. breach of the IOA Code of Ethics;

e. designation;

f. death; or

g. unsound mind or incapacity.

9.1.3. No SOM shall be removed without notice and a reasonable opportunity to respond and be heard, except in cases of resignation, death or automatic legal disqualification.

9.2. Vacancy

9.2.1. Any vacancy shall be filled from the same gender category.

9.2.2. In case of a vacancy, the next eligible person from the SOM Roster shall be appointed by the Electoral Officer.

9.2.3. A replacement SOM shall hold office for the remainder of the Term.

9.3. Dispute

9.3.1. Election of SOMs-

9.3.1.1. Any dispute relating to the conduct of

a. the election of the eight (8) Sportspersons of Outstanding Merit to the IOA General Assembly; or

b. the election of two (2) Sportspersons of Outstanding Merit from amongst the eight (8) Sportspersons of Outstanding Merit to the Executive Council,

shall be raised before the concerned Electoral Officer in accordance with the applicable IOA Election Bye-Laws.

9.3.1.2. The Electoral Officer shall decide all administrative matters relating to such elections which are not expressly provided for under the applicable IOA Election Bye-Laws or these Rules.

9.3.1.3. Where the Electoral Officer is of the opinion that there has been a breach of the applicable IOA Election Bye-Laws, the Electoral Officer may refer the matter to the IOA Ethics Commission, which may-

a. make such observations as it considers appropriate, which may be made public; or

b. issue a warning, which shall be published on the official website of the IOA.

9.3.1.4. Any applicant for election as a Sportsperson of Outstanding Merit having any complaint or grievance relating to the conduct of the election of the Sportspersons of Outstanding Merit to the IOA General Assembly or the Executive Council (where applicable) may bring the same to the notice of the concerned Electoral Officer.

9.3.1.5. Any decision of the Electoral Officer under these Rules shall be final and binding. Any petition before the National Sports Tribunal relating to the conduct or outcome of the elections referred to in Rule 9.3.1.1 shall be limited only to any alleged violation of the provisions governing the conduct of the election process under the applicable IOA Election Bye-Laws.

Provided that no such petition shall be filed after the expiry of thirty (30) days from the declaration of the election results.

10. Transitional Mechanism

10.1. These Rules shall apply to the first constitution of the SOM Roster and the first election of Sportspersons of Outstanding Merit following the adoption of these SOM Rules.

10.2. In the event that the National Sports Election Panel is not notified prior to the date of appointment of the Electoral Officer in accordance with these Rules and/or the IOA Election Bye-Laws, then the IOA Executive Council shall appoint one (1) Electoral Officer for conduct of elections of the SOMs in accordance with these Rules..

10.3. In the event the Government of India relaxes or reduces any timelines pertaining to the SOM application and/or elections, the same relaxation will be deemed to be incorporated in these Sportspersons of Outstanding Merit Rules. Accordingly, the timelines as relaxed/reduced, shall be basis of the SOM application(s)/elections.

ANNEXURE 1: TEN (10) TIERED ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA

Note: An achievement, medal or award shall not be considered where such achievement, medal or award has been rescinded, withdrawn, cancelled or returned, as applicable.

Tier 1	**Applicants who have won at least one of any gold, silver or bronze medal in the Summer Olympic Games or Winter Olympic Games.** In the event of a tie or where the number of candidates meeting the prescribed threshold exceeds the available vacancies, preference and priority shall be accorded to the eldest applicant by age among the qualifying candidates. In the event of a further tie or where the number of candidates continues to exceed the prescribed threshold, preference and priority shall be given to the applicant who has secured a higher number of medals, evaluated in the order of precedence of Gold, followed by Silver, and thereafter Bronze, among the qualifying candidates.
Tier 2	**Applicants who have participated in two or more editions of the Summer Olympic Games or Winter Olympic Games.** In the event of a tie or where the number of candidates meeting the prescribed threshold exceeds the available vacancies, preference and priority shall be accorded to the eldest applicant by age among the qualifying candidates. In the event of a further tie, or where the number of candidates continues to exceed the prescribed threshold, preference and priority shall be accorded to the applicant who has participated in a greater number of Summer Olympic Games or Winter Olympic Games among the qualifying candidates.
Tier 3	**Applicants who have participated in at least one edition of the Summer Olympic Games or Winter Olympic Games.** In the event of a tie or where the number of candidates meeting the prescribed threshold exceeds the available vacancies, preference and priority shall be accorded to the eldest applicant by age among the qualifying candidates. In the event of a further tie, or where the number of candidates continues to exceed the prescribed threshold, preference and priority shall be accorded to the applicant who has participated in a greater number of Summer Olympic Games or Winter Olympic Games among the qualifying candidates.
Tier 4	**Applicants who have been awarded a Major Dhyan Chand Khel Ratna Award or an Arjuna Award by the Central Government.** In the event of a tie or where the number of candidates meeting the prescribed threshold exceeds the available vacancies, preference and priority shall be accorded to the eldest applicant by age

	among the qualifying candidates. In the event of a further tie, or where the number of candidates continues to exceed the prescribed threshold, preference and priority shall be accorded first to applicants who are recipients of the Major Dhyan Chand Khel Ratna Award, and thereafter to applicants who are recipients of the Arjuna Award, among the qualifying candidates. In the event of a further tie or where the number of candidates continues to exceed the prescribed threshold, preference and priority shall be given to the applicant who has secured a higher number of medals, evaluated in the order of precedence of Gold, followed by Silver, and thereafter Bronze, among the qualifying candidates.
Tier 5	**Applicants who have won at least one of any gold, silver or bronze medal or equivalent placing, in a World Championship or equivalent competition.** In the event of a tie or where the number of candidates meeting the prescribed threshold exceeds the available vacancies, preference and priority shall be accorded to the eldest applicant by age among the qualifying candidates. In the event of a further tie or where the number of candidates continues to exceed the prescribed threshold, preference and priority shall be given to the applicant who has secured a higher number of medals, evaluated in the order of precedence of Gold, followed by Silver, and thereafter Bronze, among the qualifying candidates.
Tier 6	**Applicants who have won at least one of any gold, silver or bronze medal or equivalent placing, in the Commonwealth Games or Asian Games or Asian Winter Games.** In the event of a tie or where the number of candidates meeting the prescribed threshold exceeds the available vacancies, preference and priority shall be accorded to the eldest applicant by age among the qualifying candidates. In the event of a further tie or where the number of candidates continues to exceed the prescribed threshold, preference and priority shall be given to the applicant who has secured a higher number of medals, evaluated in the order of precedence of Gold, followed by Silver, and thereafter Bronze, among the qualifying candidates.
Tier 7	**Applicants who have won at least one of any gold, silver or bronze medal or equivalent placing, in an Asian Championship or equivalent competition.** In the event of a tie or where the number of candidates meeting the prescribed threshold exceeds the available vacancies, preference and priority shall be accorded to the eldest applicant by age among the qualifying candidates. In the event of a further tie or where the number of candidates continues to exceed the prescribed

	threshold, preference and priority shall be given to the applicant who has secured a higher number of medals, evaluated in the order of precedence of Gold, followed by Silver, and thereafter Bronze, among the qualifying candidates.
Tier 8	**Applicants who have participated in at least five sanctioned international events (if individual sport) or five sanctioned international matches (if team sport).** In the event of a tie or where the number of candidates meeting the prescribed threshold exceeds the available vacancies, preference and priority shall be accorded to the eldest applicant by age among the qualifying candidates. In the event of a further tie, or where the number of candidates continues to exceed the prescribed threshold, preference and priority shall be accorded to the applicant who has participated in a greater number of international events (in the case of individual sports) or sanctioned international matches (in the case of team sports), among the qualifying candidates.
Tier 9	**Applicants who have participated in at least one sanctioned international event (if individual sport) or one sanctioned international match (if team sport).** In the event of a tie or where the number of candidates meeting the prescribed threshold exceeds the available vacancies, preference and priority shall be accorded to the eldest applicant by age among the qualifying candidates. In the event of a further tie, or where the number of candidates continues to exceed the prescribed threshold, preference and priority shall be accorded to the applicant who has participated in a greater number of international events (in the case of individual sports) or sanctioned international matches (in the case of team sports), among the qualifying candidates.
Tier 10	**Applicants who have won at least one of any gold, silver or bronze medal or equivalent placing in the National Games or a National Championship or equivalent competition.** In the event of a tie or where the number of candidates meeting the prescribed threshold exceeds the available vacancies, preference and priority shall be accorded to the eldest applicant by age among the qualifying candidates. In the event of a further tie or where the number of candidates continues to exceed the prescribed threshold, preference and priority shall be given to the applicant who has secured a higher number of medals, evaluated in the order of precedence of Gold, followed by Silver, and thereafter Bronze, among the qualifying candidates.

ANNEXURE 2

Application for inclusion in the Roster of Sportspersons of Outstanding Merit Under *Rule 5 read with Schedule I of the National Sports Governance (National Sports Bodies) Rules, 2026*

INSTRUCTIONS TO APPLICANTS

1. All sections must be completed in BLOCK LETTERS or typed electronically.
2. Any incomplete applications or applications submitted after the deadline will not be considered.
3. Applicants may append additional sheets where necessary.
4. Submission of this Application Form does not, of itself, guarantee inclusion in the Rosters of Sportspersons of Outstanding Merit.
5. The Indian Olympic Association reserves the right to verify all information and supporting documents submitted and seek additional information or documentation.

PART I
ACKNOWLEDGMENTS AND DECLARATIONS

1. Acknowledgment of Declarations and Annexures

I hereby confirm that I have carefully read, understood and accepted all declarations, undertakings and annexures forming part of this Application Form. I further confirm that the said annexures shall be treated as an integral part of this Application Form and shall be binding upon me.

2. Right to Modify or Cancel Process

The Indian Olympic Association reserves the right, at its sole discretion, to amend, modify, supplement, extend, defer, suspend, cancel or withdraw the present process or any part thereof, including this Application Form, at any stage. The Indian Olympic Association may also call for fresh applications or initiate a fresh process, in line with Article 7.3.10 of the IOA - Sportspersons of Outstanding Merit Rules 2026.

3. Incomplete, Incorrect or False Applications

Any Application Form which is incomplete, unsigned, unsupported by the required documents, submitted after the prescribed time, or found at any stage to contain false, incorrect, misleading information or any material suppression of facts, may be rejected without any further notice. Where any election, appointment or inclusion has already been made on the basis of such application, declaration or document, the Indian Olympic Association shall be entitled to cancel the same forthwith, without prejudice to any other action available under applicable law.

4. Mode of Submission

The duly completed Application Form, along with all required annexures and supporting documents, shall be submitted to the IOA on *elections@olympic.ind.in*.

Signature of the Applicant: _____

PART II
PARTICULARS OF THE APPLICANT

A. Applicant Details



Full Name of Applicant (As per Government ID):	
Date of Birth [DD/MM/YYYY]:	
Age as on date of application:	
Gender:	
Father's Name:	
Mother's Name:	
Gender: Male / Female	
Nationality:	
Permanent Address:	
Correspondence Address:	
Mobile Number:	
Email ID:	
Government-issued photo ID proof submitted: Passport / Voter ID / PAN / Other:	
Sport:	
Discipline:	

Note: *The date of birth must match the details mentioned in the Government ID, failing which the same application will not be taken into consideration.*

Part III
SPORTING CAREER DETAILS

B. Achievements

For the purpose of this section, the term "sanctioned" shall mean:

a. a competitive international event or match conducted under the aegis, approval or sanction of the relevant International Sports Body.

b. a competitive national event or match conducted under the aegis, approval or sanction of the relevant National Sports Federation/ national sports body.

Details of Achievements (Insert all applicable achievements for all tiers, highest achievement to lowest)

S. No.	Event / Competition	Year & Date	Discipline	Country / State Represented	Medal / Position / Participation	Organising / Sanctioning Body	Proof Attached
1							
2							
3							
4							
5							

C. Please select the eligibility tier based on your achievements

The applicant shall tick the highest applicable tier and provide documentary proof, for each claim separately

Tier	Eligibility Claimed	Tick
Tier 1	Won at least one of any gold, silver or bronze medal in the Summer Olympic Games or Winter Olympic Games.	
Tier 2	Participated in two or more editions of the Summer Olympic Games or Winter Olympic Games.	
Tier 3	Participated in at least one edition of the Summer Olympic Games or Winter Olympic Games.	
Tier 4	Awarded a Major Dhyan Chand Khel Ratna Award or Arjuna Award by the Central Government.	

Tier 5	Won at least one gold, silver or bronze medal, or equivalent placing, in a World Championship or equivalent competition.
Tier 6	Won at least one of any gold, silver or bronze medal, or equivalent placing, in the Commonwealth Games, Asian Games or Asian Winter Games.
Tier 7	Won at least one of any gold, silver or bronze medal, or equivalent placing, in an Asian Championship or equivalent competition.
Tier 8	Participated in at least five sanctioned international events, in case of an individual sport, or five sanctioned international matches, in case of a team sport.
Tier 9	Participated in at least one sanctioned international event, in case of an individual sport, or one sanctioned international match, in case of a team sport.
Tier 10	Won at least one gold, silver or bronze medal, or equivalent position, in the National Games, National Championship or equivalent competition.

NOTE: Please attach

□ *Award Certificate, where Tier 4 is claimed*

□ *Proof that the event was sanctioned by the relevant International Sports Body, where Tier 5,7,8, 9 and/or 10 is claimed.*

D. Retirement and Last Participation Details

1. Date of retirement from active sport:

2. Whether any formal retirement communication was issued: Yes / No

3. Details of last competitive event participated in:

(a) Name of the Competition:

_____

(b) Venue of the Competition:

_____

(c) Date:

_____

(d) Position Secured, if any:

_____

(e) Organised By:

_____

4. Confirmation that you have not participated in any competitive sporting event leading to selection to represent a district, state or India for at least one year before the date of application: Yes / No

Details:

_____

_____

_____

_____

E. Documents to be Attached

The applicant shall attach self-attested copies of the following:

□ Proof of date of birth

(Aadhar Card/ Voter ID/ Passport/ Others): _____

□ Proof of Citizenship*

(birth certificate/ certificate of registration/ certification of naturalisation):

_____

□ Proof of retirement from active sport, if available.

□ Certificates / official results / participation records for the achievement claimed.

□ Additional supporting documents

Document details: _____

*Note: *For Applicants born after 01 July 1987, the registered birth certificate MUST be accompanied by the parents' birth certificate. Should the parents not have a registered birth certificate, only then, the following documents may be submitted for each of the parent of the Applicant:*

- ✓ *Any identity card/Pension Payment Order issued to a regular employee/pensioner of any Central Government/State Government/Public Sector Undertaking (PSU); or*
- ✓ *Any identity card/certificate/document issued in India by the Government/local authorities/Banks/Post Office/LIC/PSUs prior to 01.07.1987; or*
- ✓ *Passport; or*
- ✓ *Matriculation/Educational certificate issued by recognized Boards/Universities; or*
- ✓ *Permanent Residence certificate issued by the competent State authority; or*
- ✓ *Forest Right Certificate; or*

- ✓ *OBC/SC/ST or any caste certificate issued by the competent authority; or*
- ✓ *National Register of Citizens (wherever it exists); or*
- ✓ *Family Register, prepared by State/local authorities; or*
- ✓ *Any land/house allotment certificate by the Government.*

SCHEDULE A - GENERAL ELIGIBILITY DECLARATION

I hereby declare that:

(i) I am an Indian citizen.

(ii) I am of sound mind and capable of discharging responsibilities connected with sports governance.

(iii) I am not less than 25 years of age on the date of this application.

(iv) I have not participated, for at least one (1) year prior to the date of this application, in any competitive sporting event for which selection is made to represent a district, State or India.

(v) I confirm that I satisfy the Tier Eligibility Criteria under Tier(s) _____ and have furnished relevant details and documents in proof of the same.

(vi) My last competitive sporting event was:

(a) Name of event:

(b) Date:

(c) Level: District / State / National / International

(d) Organising body:

(vii) The information provided in this Application Form, and in all accompanying documents, is true, complete, and correct to the best of my knowledge and belief.

Place:_____

Date: (DD/MM/YYYY)_____

Signature of Applicant:_____

Name:_____

SCHEDULE B - DISQUALIFICATION AND INTEGRITY DISCLOSURE

I hereby declare that:

(i) I have not been adjudged insolvent under any applicable law.

(ii) I have not been convicted by a court of competent jurisdiction in India for an offence resulting in a sentence of imprisonment, or, where such conviction existed, the period of disqualification as per Rule 11 (c) (ii) of the National Sports Governance (National Sports Bodies) Rules, 2026 has expired.

(iii) I have not been barred from holding office by an order of the Ethics Committee of the concerned National Sports Federation/ national sports body, or, where such a bar existed, the period of such a bar has expired.

(iv) No medal, position or award relied upon by me for this application has been withdrawn, cancelled or returned.

(v) I am not otherwise disqualified under the National Sports Governance Act, 2025, the National Sports Governance (National Sports Bodies) Rules, 2026, or the bye-laws of the concerned National Sports Federation/ national sports body or Indian Olympic Association.

(vi) I shall inform the Indian Olympic Association of any change in the information provided with this application, within a period of three (3) days from such change.

(vii) I have not been declared ineligible, suspended, or disqualified under the applicable anti-doping rules of World Anti-Doping Agency (WADA) and /or National Anti-Doping Agency (NADA).

Additional disclosure:

□ Whether presently a member of the General Body or any committee of respective National Sports Federation/ national sports body: Yes / No

Details:

_____

_____

_____

_____

□ Whether presently holding or previously held the office of President / Secretary General / Treasurer in any National Sports Federation/ national sports body: Yes / No

Details:

_____

_____

_____

_____

□ Whether the applicant is presently a member of the General Body or any committee of the Indian Olympic Association, or is presently holding / has previously held the office of President, Secretary General or Treasurer in the Indian Olympic Association: Yes / No

_____

If yes, provide details including date of election/appointment and tenure of the term thereof:

Details:

_____

_____

_____

_____

Place:

Date:

Signature of Applicant:

Name:

SCHEDULE C- APPLICANT'S SELF DECLARATION

(i) I, _____, understand that submission of this application does not automatically confer the status of Sportspersons of Outstanding Merit, nor does it create any automatic right to be elected to the General Body or Executive Committee of the Indian Olympic Association.

(ii) I further understand that the Indian Olympic Association may verify the information submitted by me from the relevant authorities, including Government departments, the concerned National Sports Federation/ national sports body, State associations, International Sports Bodies, event organisers, or any other competent body, as deemed fit and appropriate.

(iii) I hereby declare and confirm that all information, documents, records, certificates and particulars furnished by me to the Indian Olympic Association are true, correct and complete to the best of my knowledge and belief, and that no information, document, record or certificate submitted by me is forged, fabricated, false, misleading or fraudulent.

(iv) I understand and agree that if any information, document, record or certificate furnished by me is found to be false, incorrect, forged, fabricated, misleading or fraudulent at any stage, my inclusion in the Sportspersons of Outstanding Merit roster and/or any election to the General Body or Executive Committee of the Indian Olympic Association shall be liable to be cancelled forthwith, without assigning any further reasons.

(v) I further understand that in such circumstances, the Indian Olympic Association shall be at liberty to initiate appropriate legal action, including filing of a First Information Report and/or criminal complaint under applicable laws. I also understand that I may be debarred from future participation, election conducted by the Indian Olympic Association as applicable under these Rules and applicable law.

(vi) I consent to the use of my information for the purpose of verification, preparation of the Sportspersons of Outstanding Merit roster, and publication of the final roster on the

official website of the Indian Olympic Association, as required under the National Sports Governance (National Sports Bodies) Rules, 2026.

Place:
Date:

Signature of Applicant:
Name:



ELECTION BYE-LAWS

INDIAN OLYMPIC ASSOCIATION

RATIFIED ON 08.09.2026

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1. Short Title and Definitions

1.1. These bye-laws shall be called the **"Election Bye-Laws"** and shall govern the conduct of elections to the Executive Council, Athletes Commission, General Assembly, the election of Sportspersons of Outstanding Merit and representatives of the Athletes Commission to the General Assembly, where applicable, of the Indian Olympic Association (IOA). These Bye-Laws shall be read in conformity with and shall stand amended to the extent necessary to comply with the IOA Constitution.

1.2. In these Bye-Laws, unless the context otherwise requires:

1.2.1. "**Candidate**" shall mean a person validly nominated for election to any post under these Bye-Laws.

1.2.2. "**Election**" shall mean the process of electing a person to any office or body of the IOA in accordance with the IOA Constitution and these Bye-Laws.

1.2.3. "**Election Date**" shall mean the date on which Elections are to be held in accordance with the necessary resolution passed by the General Assembly or the Executive Council of the IOA or by the Electoral Officer, as the case may be.

1.2.4. "**Election Notice**" shall mean the notice issued by the Electoral Officer calling for Elections in accordance with these Bye-Laws.

1.2.5. "**Electoral College**" shall mean the Electoral College constituted under these Bye-Laws.

1.2.6. "**Electoral Officer**" shall mean the person appointed under the IOA Constitution, to conduct and supervise the Elections.

1.2.7. "**Form**" shall mean the forms annexed to these Bye-Laws or the relevant rules pertaining to the Athletes Commission and Sportspersons of Outstanding Merit.

1.2.8. "**NSF Member**" shall mean a National Sports Federation admitted as a Member of the IOA entitled to exercise voting rights in accordance with the IOA Constitution.

1.2.9. "**Olympic Sport**" shall mean a sport included in the Olympic programme and for which the concerned National Sports Federation/ national sports body is a member of the IOA.

1.2.10. "**Representative**" shall mean an authorised representative or delegate of an NSF Member or the Athletes Commission, as applicable, forming part of the Electoral College under **Bye-Law 4**.

1.3. Any word or expression used but not defined in these Bye-Laws shall have the meaning assigned to it under the IOA Constitution and, where such word or expression is not defined therein, under the National Sports Governance Act, 2025 and the rules and regulations framed thereunder or, where applicable, the International Charters and Statutes.

2. Electoral Officer

2.1. The Executive Council shall, by resolution, appoint an Electoral Officer for conduct of elections under the IOA Constitution, at least sixty (60) days prior to the expiry of its Term. In the event the same Electoral Officer, is to be appointed to conduct the elections of the SOMs and the Athletes Commission, the Electoral Officer should be appointed at least one hundred and fifty (150) days prior to the expiry of the Term of the Executive Council.

2.2. The Executive Council shall, in consultation with the Electoral Officer, notify the date for elections for the Executive Council, at least fifty (50) days prior to the expiry of such Executive Council's term.

2.2.1. The Electoral Officer shall, in consultation with the Executive Council, prepare and release the draft electoral roll for election to the Executive Council, at least forty-five (45) days prior to the expiry of the Term.

Provided that the decision of the Electoral Officer regarding the inclusion or non-inclusion of any person in the electoral roll shall be final and binding.

2.2.2. The Electoral Officer shall allow a period of not less than seven (7) days from the release of the draft electoral roll for receipt and disposal of objections regarding the composition of the electoral roll.

2.2.3. The Executive Council shall, in consultation with the Electoral Officer, call the Elections at least thirty (30) days prior to the expiry of its Term, in accordance with the IOA Constitution and these Bye-Laws. The election of the Executive Council shall be included in the agenda of the General Assembly Meeting convened for such purpose.

2.2.4. The Electoral Officer shall also act as the Returning Officer in order to conduct, monitor and supervise the election process. The Electoral Officer shall be independent, impartial and unquestionable personalities, shall not be candidates for any position, voting members or have any interest in the election process.

2.3. The Electoral Officer shall be responsible for supervising the administrative process relating to the elections, including, -

2.3.1. ensuring the correct application of the National Sports Governance Act, 2025 and the National Sports Governance (National Sports Bodies) Rules, 2026;

2.3.2. setting reasonable deadlines for each stage of the elections in accordance with the model calendar provided under **Bye-Law 3.7**, and enforcing such deadlines strictly;

2.3.3. determining and distributing the appropriate documentation and forms, including nomination forms and ballot papers, for each stage of the elections and enforcing and verifying their proper use;

2.3.4. distributing information to voting members, other members, the media and public;

2.3.5. managing relations with government bodies or the National Sports Board and any observers as deputed by the National Sports Board;

2.3.6. causing the publication of all notifications and forms concerning the elections on the official websites of the IOA, the National Sports Board and the Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports; and

2.3.7. all other tasks necessary to ensure the smooth running of the electoral process.

2.4. The Electoral Officer may, only for reasons of practical necessity, modify the forms appended to these Bye-Laws, while ensuring that the principles of these Bye-Laws are adhered to.

2.5. The Electoral Officer shall facilitate and/or conduct the elections of the eight (8) SOMs forming part of the General Assembly through virtual mode using the technology available with him or her. In absence of the same, the Electoral Officer shall facilitate elections through physical means available with him. The elections shall be conducted in conformity with these Bye-Laws.

2.6. The Electoral Officer shall conduct the election to constitute the elected members of the Athletes Commission in accordance with the Athletes Commission Rules and these Bye-Laws. Save as otherwise provided in the Athletes Commission Rules, the procedure prescribed under these Bye-Laws shall apply *mutatis mutandis* to such election.

2.7. Where, in accordance with the Athletes Commission Rules, the offices of the Chairperson, Vice-Chairperson and any other office of the Athletes Commission are determined as part of the election, to constitute the elected members of the Athletes Commission, such election shall be conducted by the Electoral Officer from amongst the Athletes Commission's members', in accordance with the Athletes Commission Rules and these Bye-Laws. Save as otherwise provided in the Athletes Commission Rules, the procedure prescribed under these Bye-Laws shall apply *mutatis mutandis* to such election.

2.8. The Electoral Officer shall also conduct the election of the two (2) representatives of the Athletes Commission to the General Assembly in accordance with Bye-Law 15 of these Bye-Laws and the Athletes Commission Rules.

3. Manner of Election

3.1. These Bye-Laws shall apply to the election of all Office-Bearers and members of the Executive Council of the IOA who are to be elected by the General Assembly, including the President, Senior Vice President, two (2) Vice Presidents, Treasurer, two (2) Joint Secretaries, two (2) Members, comprising one (1) male and one (1) female, who shall be elected from the category of Sportsperson of Outstanding Merit (SOM), and other Executive Council Members.

3.2. All elections to the posts of Office-Bearers and members of the Executive Council of the IOA shall be conducted only by secret ballot.

3.3. Elections shall be held at the General Assembly Meeting called for the purpose of election, in accordance with the procedures prescribed herein, from amongst the Electoral College.

3.4. The method to be followed for the election of all Office-Bearers and members of the Executive Council shall be as follows – the candidate who secures the highest number of valid votes cast, for each post, shall then be declared elected.

3.5. The entire electoral process, including polling and counting, shall be supervised and controlled by the Electoral Officer.

3.6. The Electoral Officer shall, on **Day 1**, issue the Election Notice specifying the Election Date, electoral calendar, elected posts and the final electoral roll.

3.7. The election process shall be conducted in accordance with the model electoral calendar and shall be completed within a maximum period of twenty-one (21) days from the issuance of the Election Notice. The elections shall be conducted in accordance with the following electoral calendar:

Event	**Day**
Call for Elections, invitation for nominations and release of final electoral roll	Day 1
Filing of nominations	Day 8 to Day 10
Announcement of draft list of nominations received	Day 10
Objections to draft list of nominated candidates	Day 11 to Day 14
Scrutiny and disposal of objections to draft list of nominated candidates	Day 15 to Day 16
Final list of nominated candidates	Day 17
Withdrawal of nominations	Day 18
Final list of contesting candidates	Day 19
Polling and announcement of results	Day 21

3.8. The Electoral Officer may, for reasons of practical necessity and by recording reasons in writing, modify the dates specified above, provided that the entire electoral process is completed within the outer limit of twenty-one (21) days and not later than the date of expiry of the term of the incumbent Executive Council.

4. Electoral College

4.1. The Electoral College for the Executive Council elections shall consist of:

4.1.1. two (2) authorised Representatives of each NSF Member, each Representative being entitled to cast one (1) vote;

4.1.2. IOC Member(s), each having a vote;

4.1.3. two (2) authorised Representatives of the Athletes Commission, each having a vote; and

4.1.4. eight (8) Sportspersons of Outstanding Merit forming part of the General Assembly, comprising four (4) male and four (4) female Sportspersons of Outstanding Merit, each having a vote.

4.2. On **Day 4**, each NSF Member and the Athletes Commission shall intimate the names of their respective authorised Representatives for inclusion in the Electoral College to the Electoral Officer through a communication duly signed by the President or Secretary of the concerned NSF Member or the Chairperson or Secretary of the Athletes Commission, as applicable, including by electronic mail. Each such authorised Representative shall be entitled to cast one (1) vote in the election.

4.3. On **Day 5**, upon receipt of the names of the authorised Representatives under **Bye-Law 4.2**, and by including the IOC Member and the eight (8) Sportspersons of Outstanding Merit forming part of the General Assembly, the Electoral Officer shall prepare and publish the provisional Electoral College in **Form 1**.

4.4. The Electoral Officer shall take up objections raised, if any, and decide on the same by **Day 6**.

5. Eligibility and disqualification for election to the Executive Council

5.1. Eligibility - A person shall be eligible to contest elections to the Executive Council in accordance with Article 12.1.10 of the IOA Constitution.

5.2. Disqualification - A person shall be disqualified from contesting an election to or continuing to hold office as a member of the Executive Council in accordance with Article 6 of the IOA Constitution.

6. Nomination of Candidates

6.1. The nomination of a Candidate for election as Office-Bearer or member of the Executive Council shall be made in **Form 2**.

6.2. The nomination of a Candidate for election as Office-Bearer or member of the Executive Council shall be proposed by one member of the Electoral College and seconded by another member of the Electoral College (who may, but need not, belong to the same category of the

Electoral College as the proposer), each of whose name appears in the electoral roll in **Form 1**.

6.3. Each Nomination Paper shall be delivered in person by the Candidate to the Electoral Officer during **Day 8 to Day 10**, within the deadline specified in the Election Notice.

6.4. No member shall nominate more than one (1) Candidate for the same elected post, either as proposer or seconder and, if he or she so does, only the first valid nomination shall be accepted, and all other nominations of such member shall be deemed to be void and inoperative.

6.5. No person shall be permitted to withdraw his or her name as proposer or seconder, once the nomination paper endorsed by him or her has been delivered to the Electoral Officer.

6.6. On **Day 10**, the Electoral Officer shall publish the draft list of nominations received in **Form 3**.

7. Scrutiny of Nominations

7.1. The Electoral Officer shall scrutinise each nomination form received by him or her and determine its validity or otherwise, during **Day 15 to Day 16**.

7.2. During the scrutiny of nominations under Bye-Law 7.1, each Candidate or one of his or her authorised representatives shall have the right to be present and raise any objection in relation to nomination of another Candidate for the elected post for which he or she has filed his or her nomination.

7.3. Pursuant to the scrutiny of nomination forms, the Electoral Officer shall, on **Day 17**, prepare a list of validly nominated Candidates in accordance with **Form 4**.

8. Withdrawal of Candidates

8.1. Each Candidate whose nomination has been found valid on scrutiny shall be entitled to withdraw his or her candidature on **Day 18** by providing notice to the Electoral Officer in accordance with **Form 5**, and the Electoral Officer shall accept the notice of withdrawal if he or she is satisfied as to the genuineness of such notice.

8.2. Any notice of withdrawal of candidature shall be final and shall not be allowed to be cancelled.

8.3. The Electoral Officer shall, on **Day 19**, prepare the final list of contesting Candidates in accordance with **Form 6**. The names of the contesting Candidates shall be arranged, for each elected post, in alphabetical order according to the English alphabet.

9. Uncontested Returns and Contested Elections

9.1. Where the number of contesting Candidates for any post or category of post in **Form 6** is equal to the number of posts to be filled, all such contesting Candidates shall be deemed to be duly elected unopposed to those posts, and it shall not be necessary to take a poll for election to such post.

9.2. Where the number of contesting Candidates for any post or category of post in **Form 6** is more than the number of posts to be filled, a poll shall be taken by secret ballot for those posts remaining unfilled.

9.3. The IOA shall produce the ballot papers in accordance with **Form 7** under the supervision and charge of the Electoral Officer.

9.4. The ballot papers shall be printed clearly and legibly, and the names of the contesting Candidates shall be arranged, for each elected post, in alphabetical order according to the English alphabet.

9.5. Where all posts are uncontested, the Electoral Officer shall declare the Candidates as having been elected unopposed, and the formal declaration of results shall be made in accordance with **Bye-Law 14** on **Day 21**.

10. Campaign Practices

10.1. Electoral campaigns shall be carried out by the Candidates in a fair manner and, in a spirit of respect for fundamental ethical principles.

10.2. Candidates shall conduct all campaigns with dignity and moderation and with respect for any other Candidates, the IOA and its members.

10.3. A Candidate shall not produce any spoken word, written text or representation of any nature likely to harm the image of another Candidate or cause him or her prejudice, and criticism of other Candidates, if made, shall be confined to their policies and programme, past record and work.

10.4. No Candidate shall engage in criticism based on unverified allegations or distortion against any other Candidate, and there shall be no appeal to caste or communal feelings for securing votes.

10.5. Every Candidate may present to the members in the electoral roll his or her plans and views for the elected post, in the form of a written document, which shall be published by the Electoral Officer in accordance with **Bye-Law 2.3.7**.

10.6. Candidates shall avoid excessive expenditure in campaigning, recognising that it could become a factor of inequality amongst the Candidates.

10.7. The promotion of a Candidate shall exclude any form of publicity, including the use of new media or social networks, and no public meeting or gathering of any kind may be organised in the process of promoting a candidature, and no use, free of charge or in return for payment, of the services of a journalist or the media may be made in order to place a Candidate at an advantage or a disadvantage.

10.8. All Candidates shall scrupulously avoid all activities that are "*corrupt practices*", including bribing of voters, intimidation of voters, impersonation of voters.

10.9. Candidates may, in no case and under no pretext, give presents, offer donations, gifts or grant advantages of whatever nature, directly or indirectly, to voting members.

10.10. The incumbent Executive Council member shall ensure that no cause is given for any complaint that they have used their official position for the purposes of their election campaign and in particular shall not -

a. use official transport including, vehicles, machinery and personnel for furtherance of their campaign;

b. issue any advertisement at the cost of the IOA or its members in the newspapers and other media or misuse the IOA's official media channels during the elections;

c. sanction grants or payments out of discretionary funds from the time elections are announced; and

d. enter into any promise or undertaking to be performed, whatever the timing of such performance, for the direct or indirect benefit of any of the IOA's members or its partners.

11. Neutrality and Independence

11.1. As the voting is secret, voting members are prohibited, individually or collectively, from announcing publicly, in any form whatsoever, their intention to vote or not vote for a Candidate.

11.2. Incumbent Executive Council members shall refrain from making any public declaration and may in no way support a Candidate.

11.3. No Candidate shall:

a. accept instructions from any person;

b. accept direct or indirect assistance, be it financial, material or in kind, by any third party, or

c. enter into any form of undertaking with any person likely to affect the freedom of decision or action of the elected post.

11.4. The IOA's executive team and administration shall maintain a strict duty of neutrality at all times, and no support or service in relation to a candidature shall be provided.

12. Polling

12.1. On **Day 21**, the Polling for the posts remaining unfilled under **Bye-Law 8.2** above shall be taken post-wise and shall commence at a suitable time at the place decided and declared in advance by the Electoral Officer.

12.2. At the poll, each member of the Electoral College whose name is included in the electoral roll in **Form 1** shall be entitled to cast his or her vote independently and by secret ballot, in accordance with the following:

12.2.1. cast one (1) vote for each of the elected posts remaining unfilled, where only one (1) such seat is to be filled; and

12.2.2. cast as many votes as are the number of seats to be filled for an elected post, where more than one (1) seat is to be filled.

12.3. The ballot papers shall contain the name(s) of the Candidate(s), and the voters must mark one Candidate only.

12.4. Every voter shall be required, before he or she is supplied with a ballot paper, to give his or her signature on the authenticated copy of the electoral roll for taking the poll.

12.5. Except for the circumstance under **Bye-Law 12.1**, a secret ballot shall always be conducted, regardless of how many Candidates there are, and the secrecy of the ballot shall be guaranteed by the provision of a procedure ensuring privacy for the voter, and the Electoral Officer shall conduct the distribution and counting of the ballot papers and be responsible for ensuring that the process is properly documented.

12.6. Voting members must vote in person where required.

12.7. The voter shall record his or her vote on the ballot paper in secrecy in a voting compartment specially provided for the purpose at the polling station.

12.8. The voter shall record his or her vote on the ballot paper by placing a tick mark against the name of the Candidate of his or her choice, and the tick mark to indicate the vote shall be placed only by means of an article (such as a stamp) specifically provided for the purpose by the Electoral Officer.

12.9. The ballot paper marked by a voter shall be deposited by him or her in a ballot box specially prepared and sealed by the Electoral Officer and placed at such a conspicuous place in the polling station that it shall be constantly visible to all present in the polling station.

12.10. The Electoral Officer shall close the poll at the designated time of closure, and such voters who are present at the polling station at the appointed closing hour, if any, shall be entitled to vote even if the poll proceedings have to be extended for more time.

12.11. The number of ballot papers that have been distributed shall be announced by the Electoral Officer before the commencement of the voting, and if the number of ballot papers returned in the poll is equal to or less than the number of ballot papers distributed, the Election shall be declared valid, but if the number returned in the poll exceeds that of the ballot papers distributed, the vote shall be declared null and void and another poll shall be taken immediately.

12.12. Polling shall be done in the following order in case of Executive Council elections:

12.12.1. one (1) President;

12.12.2. one (1) Senior Vice President;

12.12.3. two (2) Vice Presidents;

12.12.4. one (1) Treasurer;

12.12.5. two (2) Joint Secretaries;

12.12.6. two (2) Members (one male and one female) from the category of Sportspersons of Outstanding Merit; and

12.12.7. other Executive Council Members.

13. Counting of Votes

13.1. The Electoral Officer shall take up the counting of votes, post-wise and category-wise, as soon as may be, after the polling process is complete.

13.2. Every contesting Candidate can nominate one authorised representative who shall be entitled to be present at the place of counting of votes, and other than such authorised representative, only the Electoral Officer and members of the IOA's executive or administrative team, as specifically approved by the Electoral Officer, may take part in the count.

13.3. Every ballot paper on which a vote has been recorded shall be treated as one vote for the Candidate for whom it has been validly marked.

13.4. The following ballot papers shall be considered invalid and shall be rejected by the Electoral Officer, namely:

a. those that do not bear the official distinctive marks defined by the Electoral Officer;

b. those that bear any words other than the names of the Candidates;

c. those that are illegible or have been defaced;

d. those that bear identifying marks; and

e. those that include votes for more Candidates than permitted in a particular poll.

13.5. The Electoral Officer shall write on the back of any invalid ballot paper, in red, the reasons for its invalidity and confirm with a signature.

13.6. The votes validly cast for each of the contesting Candidates shall be counted post-wise, and category-wise where applicable, and recorded in the descending order of the votes so cast for each Candidate in accordance with **Form 8**.

13.7. The Electoral Officer shall thereafter ascertain the result of counting and determine the successful Candidate(s) as follows:

13.7.1. For the Post of President: The Candidate who has secured the maximum number of valid votes cast for the post of President shall be deemed to have been duly elected as the President.

13.7.2. For the Post of Senior Vice President: The Candidate who has secured the maximum number of valid votes cast for the post of Senior Vice President shall be deemed to have been duly elected as the Senior Vice President.

13.7.3. For the Posts of Vice President: The two (2) Candidates securing the maximum number of valid votes cast for the posts of Vice President shall be deemed to have been duly elected as the Vice Presidents.

13.7.4. For the Post of Treasurer: The Candidate who has secured the maximum number of valid votes cast for the post of Treasurer shall be deemed to have been duly elected as the Treasurer.

13.7.5. For the Posts of Joint Secretary: The two (2) Candidates securing the maximum number of valid votes cast for the posts of Joint Secretary shall be deemed to have been duly elected as the Joint Secretaries.

13.7.6. For the Members from the category of Sportspersons of Outstanding Merit: The one (1) male Candidate and the one (1) female Candidate securing the maximum number of valid votes cast shall be deemed to have been duly elected as Members from the category of Sportspersons of Outstanding Merit.

13.7.7. For the Posts of Executive Council Members: The Candidates securing the maximum number of valid votes cast for the posts of Executive Council Member shall be deemed to have been duly elected as Executive Council Members.

13.8. After completing and verifying the count, the Electoral Officer shall put the ballot papers that have been collected and counted into envelopes intended for this purpose and seal them immediately, and the IOA shall keep these envelopes and shall retain them at least until the

declaration of results of the immediately subsequent Election of the Executive Council, or till the pendency of any legal proceedings relating to such Elections, whichever is later.

14. Declaration of Results

14.1. The contesting Candidates who have been elected shall be declared as having been duly elected to their respective posts by the Electoral Officer in **Form 9** on **Day 21** at the General Assembly Meeting.

14.2. The results of the election shall be declared in accordance with **Form 9** appended to these Bye-Laws and published on the IOA's official website within twenty-four (24) hours of completion thereof.

14.3. If after the counting of votes, for any post, an equality of votes is found to exist between any candidates for such post, and the addition of one vote will entitle any of those candidates to be declared elected, the Electoral Officer shall forthwith decide between those candidates by lot and proceed as if the candidate on whom the lot falls had received an additional vote.

15. Sanctions and Complaints

15.1. The Electoral Officer shall decide all administrative matters relating to the conduct of elections which are not expressly provided for under these Bye-Laws. The Electoral Officer may issue such directions as may be necessary for the conduct of elections, consistent with these Bye-Laws.

15.2. In the event of a breach of these Bye-Laws, the Electoral Officer may refer the same to the IOA Ethics Commission, who may make to the Candidate in question-

a. observations as it considers appropriate, which may be made public; or

b. issue a warning, which shall be published on the official website of the IOA.

15.3. Any Candidate or voting member of the General Assembly having any specific complaint or grievance regarding the conduct of the elections may bring the same to the notice of the Electoral Officer, who shall decide on it.

15.4. Any decision of the Electoral Officer under these Bye-Laws shall be final and binding. Any petition before the National Sports Tribunal relating to the conduct or outcome of the election shall be limited to any violation of the provisions relating to the process of conduct of elections under these Bye-Laws.

Provided that no such petition shall be filed after the expiry of thirty (30) days from the declaration of the election results.

16. General

16.1. In the event the Government of India relaxes or reduces any timelines pertaining to the elections and/or SOM applications, the same relaxation will be deemed to be incorporated in these Election Bye-Laws. Accordingly, the timelines as relaxed/reduced, shall be basis of

the elections being conducted in accordance with these Bye-Laws.

Form 1 – Electoral Roll

Indian Olympic Association

Indian Olympic Association Elections on [*Insert Date*]

NSF Member/ Athletes Commission/ IOC Member (Affiliate Units)			
Sl. No	**NSF Member/ Athletes Commission/ IOC Member Name**	**Election Representative Name**	
Sportspersons of Outstanding Merit			
	Name		
	Name		
	Name		

Name:

Electoral Officer, Indian Olympic Association

Date:

Place:

Form 2 – Nomination Form

Indian Olympic Association

Indian Olympic Association Elections on [*Insert Date*]

NOMINATION FORM FOR ELECTION AS _____ (NAME OF THE ELECTED POST)

To

The Electoral Officer, Indian Olympic Association

[Insert Address]

We nominate Shri/Smt./Ms. _____ (name and address) for the above-mentioned Elected Post.

Our particulars are given below:

	Name	**Name of NSF Member represented/ Athletes Commission/ SOM (if applicable)**	**Sl. No. in the Electoral Roll List**	**Signature**
Proposer				
Seconder				

I, the Candidate below named, do hereby give my assent to my nomination for the above Elected Post. Further, I certify and confirm that –

a) I am eligible to contest for the above-mentioned Elected Post as per the Articles of the Indian Olympic Association;

b) I am not currently undergoing, and am not required to undergo, any cooling-off period in relation to the above-mentioned Elected Post or barred from contesting for such Elected Post, as per the Indian Olympic Association Statutes or under applicable law; and

c) the information provided in the declaration appended to this form is true and correct to the best of my knowledge.

Name of the Candidate: _____

Name of Full Member Represented (if applicable):_____

Sl. No. in the Electoral Roll list (if applicable): _____

Signature: _____

Date: _____

Place: _____

Form 3 – List of Nominations Received

Indian Olympic Association

Indian Olympic Association Elections on [*Insert Date*]

Sl. No.	Name and Address of Candidate	Elected Post	Name and Sl. No. in Electoral Roll List of Proposer	Name and Sl. No. in Electoral Roll List of Seconder

Name:

Electoral Officer, Indian Olympic Association

Date:

Place:

Form 4 – List of Validly Nominated Candidates

Indian Olympic Association

Indian Olympic Association Elections on [Insert Date]

Sl. No.	Name and Address of Candidate	Elected Post	Name and Sl. No. in Electoral Roll List of Proposer	Name and Sl. No. in Electoral Roll List of Seconder

Name:

Electoral Officer, Indian Olympic Association

Date:

Place:

Form 5 – Notice of Withdrawal

Indian Olympic Association

Indian Olympic Association Elections on [*Insert Date*]

NOTICE OF WITHDRAWAL OF CANDIDATURE FOR ELECTION AS _____ (NAME OF THE ELECTED POST)

To

The Electoral Officer, Indian Olympic Association

[Insert Address]

I, the validly nominated Candidate, do hereby give my notice of withdrawal of candidature for the above Elected Post.

Name of the Candidate: _____

Name of Affiliate Unit Represented (if applicable): _____

Sl. No. in the Electoral Roll list (if applicable): _____

Signature: _____

Place: _____

Date: _____

Form 6 – List of Contesting Candidates

Indian Olympic Association

Indian Olympic Association Elections on [*Insert Date*]

Sl. No.	Elected Post	Name of Candidate	Name of NSF Member represented/ Athletes Commission/SOM (if applicable)	Sl. No. in Electoral Roll List (if applicable)

Name:

Electoral Officer, Indian Olympic Association

Date:

Place:

Form 7 – Ballot Paper

Indian Olympic Association

Indian Olympic Association Elections on [*Insert Date*]

Elected Post	Name(s) of Candidate	Mark vote here by placing tick mark (√)

Place a tick mark (√) against the name of only one (1) contesting Candidate for the respective Elected Post.

DO NOT place any other mark like (x) or word against the name of any Candidate, as that shall render your ballot paper liable for rejection.

Place a tick mark on the ballot paper with the article specifically provided by the Electoral Officer for the purpose. Any ballot paper marked with any other pen, ball point pen, etc., shall render your ballot paper liable for rejection.

Name:

Electoral Officer, Indian Olympic Association

Date:

Place:

Form 8 – Result of Counting of Votes

Indian Olympic Association

Indian Olympic Association Elections on [*Insert Date*]

Name of Post	Total Votes Polled	Total Votes Rejected	Name of Candidate	Valid Votes Polled
President (1)				
Senior Vice President (1)				
Vice President (2)				
Treasurer (1)				
Joint Secretary (2)				
Male SOM (1)				
Female SOM (1)				

Executive Council member(s)				

Name:

Electoral Officer, Indian Olympic Association

Date:

Place:

Name:

Observer (if present)

Form 9 – Declaration of Result

Indian Olympic Association

Indian Olympic Association Elections on [*Insert Date*]

I, the Electoral Officer for the above elections, hereby declare the following Candidates as duly elected to the Elected Post(s) mentioned against their name.

Elected Post	**Name of Candidate**
President (1)	
Senior Vice President (1)	
Vice President (1)	
Vice President (1)	
Treasurer (1)	
Joint Secretary (1)	
Joint Secretary (1)	
MALE SOM (1)	
FEMALE SOM (1)	
Executive Council member(s)	

Name:

Electoral Officer, Indian Olympic Association

Date:

Place:

Name:

Observer (if present)

18.09.2026

NOTIFICATION

Publication of Sportspersons of Merit ("SOMs") Application Form

1. The Indian Olympic Association through this notification dated 18th September 2026 officially publishes the application forms for Sportspersons of Merit (SOMs) ("Application Form"). The application form is to be filled and submitted to the Indian Olympic Association via email (elections@olympic.ind.in) on or before 18th October 2026 i.e., within a period of one month.

2. The Application Form is to be filed by persons who satisfy the General Eligibility Criteria as stated in Schedule 1 of the National Sports Governance Rules 2026 including but not limited to the applicant being:

   a. an Indian citizen;

   b. of sound mind;

   c. not less than 25 years of age;

   d. retired from active sports and have not participated in any competitive events which leads to selection to represent a district, State or India for at least one (1) year prior to date of application.

3. The Roster of SOMS will then be prepared from the submitted applications in accordance with Rule 6 and the Tier Eligibility Criteria described in Schedule 1 of the National Sports Governance Rules 2026.

4. The Application Form is attached herewith as Annexure 1.

ANNEXURE 1

Application for inclusion in the Roster of Sportspersons of Outstanding Merit Under *Rule 5 read with Schedule I of the National Sports Governance (National Sports Bodies) Rules, 2026*

INSTRUCTIONS TO APPLICANTS

1. All sections must be completed in BLOCK LETTERS or typed electronically.
2. Any incomplete applications or applications submitted after the deadline will not be considered.
3. Applicants may append additional sheets where necessary.
4. Submission of this Application Form does not, of itself, guarantee inclusion in the Rosters of Sportspersons of Outstanding Merit.
5. The Indian Olympic Association reserves the right to verify all information and supporting documents submitted and seek additional information or documentation.

PART I
ACKNOWLEDGMENTS AND DECLARATIONS

1. Acknowledgment of Declarations and Annexures

I hereby confirm that I have carefully read, understood and accepted all declarations, undertakings and annexures forming part of this Application Form. I further confirm that the said annexures shall be treated as an integral part of this Application Form and shall be binding upon me.

2. Right to Modify or Cancel Process

The Indian Olympic Association reserves the right, at its sole discretion, to amend, modify, supplement, extend, defer, suspend, cancel or withdraw the present process or any part thereof, including this Application Form, at any stage. The Indian Olympic Association may also call for fresh applications or initiate a fresh process, in line with Article 7.3.10 of the IOA - Sportspersons of Outstanding Merit Rules 2026.

3. Incomplete, Incorrect or False Applications

Any Application Form which is incomplete, unsigned, unsupported by the required documents, submitted after the prescribed time, or found at any stage to contain false, incorrect, misleading information or any material suppression of facts, may be rejected without any further notice. Where any election, appointment or inclusion has already been made on the basis of such application, declaration or document, the Indian Olympic Association shall be entitled to cancel the same forthwith, without prejudice to any other action available under applicable law.

4. Mode of Submission

The duly completed Application Form, along with all required annexures and supporting documents, shall be submitted to the IOA on *elections@olympic.ind.in*.

Signature of the Applicant: _____

PART II
PARTICULARS OF THE APPLICANT

A. Applicant Details



Full Name of Applicant (As per Government ID):	
Date of Birth [DD/MM/YYYY]:	
Age as on date of application:	
Gender:	
Father's Name:	
Mother's Name:	
Gender: Male / Female	
Nationality:	
Permanent Address:	
Correspondence Address:	
Mobile Number:	
Email ID:	
Government-issued photo ID proof submitted: Passport / Voter ID / PAN / Other:	
Sport:	
Discipline:	

Note: *The date of birth must match the details mentioned in the Government ID, failing which the same application will not be taken into consideration.*

Part III
SPORTING CAREER DETAILS

B. Achievements

For the purpose of this section, the term "sanctioned" shall mean:

a. a competitive international event or match conducted under the aegis, approval or sanction of the relevant International Sports Body.

b. a competitive national event or match conducted under the aegis, approval or sanction of the relevant National Sports Federation/ national sports body.

Details of Achievements (Insert all applicable achievements for all tiers, highest achievement to lowest)

S. No.	Event / Competition	Year & Date	Discipline	Country / State Represented	Medal / Position / Participation	Organising / Sanctioning Body	Proof Attached
1							
2							
3							
4							
5							

C. Please select the eligibility tier based on your achievements

The applicant shall tick the highest applicable tier and provide documentary proof, for each claim separately

Tier	Eligibility Claimed	Tick
Tier 1	Won at least one of any gold, silver or bronze medal in the Summer Olympic Games or Winter Olympic Games.	
Tier 2	Participated in two or more editions of the Summer Olympic Games or Winter Olympic Games.	
Tier 3	Participated in at least one edition of the Summer Olympic Games or Winter Olympic Games.	
Tier 4	Awarded a Major Dhyan Chand Khel Ratna Award or Arjuna Award by the Central Government.	

Tier 5	Won at least one gold, silver or bronze medal, or equivalent placing, in a World Championship or equivalent competition.
Tier 6	Won at least one of any gold, silver or bronze medal, or equivalent placing, in the Commonwealth Games, Asian Games or Asian Winter Games.
Tier 7	Won at least one of any gold, silver or bronze medal, or equivalent placing, in an Asian Championship or equivalent competition.
Tier 8	Participated in at least five sanctioned international events, in case of an individual sport, or five sanctioned international matches, in case of a team sport.
Tier 9	Participated in at least one sanctioned international event, in case of an individual sport, or one sanctioned international match, in case of a team sport.
Tier 10	Won at least one gold, silver or bronze medal, or equivalent position, in the National Games, National Championship or equivalent competition.

NOTE: Please attach

□ *Award Certificate, where Tier 4 is claimed*

□ *Proof that the event was sanctioned by the relevant International Sports Body, where Tier 5,7,8, 9 and/or 10 is claimed.*

D. Retirement and Last Participation Details

1. Date of retirement from active sport:

2. Whether any formal retirement communication was issued: Yes / No

3. Details of last competitive event participated in:

(a) Name of the Competition:

_____

(b) Venue of the Competition:

_____

(c) Date:

_____

(d) Position Secured, if any:

_____

(e) Organised By:

_____

4. Confirmation that you have not participated in any competitive sporting event leading to selection to represent a district, state or India for at least one year before the date of application: Yes / No

Details:

_____

_____

_____

_____

E. Documents to be Attached

The applicant shall attach self-attested copies of the following:

□ Proof of date of birth

(Aadhar Card/ Voter ID/ Passport/ Others): _____

□ Proof of Citizenship*

(birth certificate/ certificate of registration/ certification of naturalisation):

_____

□ Proof of retirement from active sport, if available.

□ Certificates / official results / participation records for the achievement claimed.

□ Additional supporting documents

Document details: _____

*Note: *For Applicants born after 01 July 1987, the registered birth certificate MUST be accompanied by the parents' birth certificate. Should the parents not have a registered birth certificate, only then, the following documents may be submitted for each of the parent of the Applicant:*

- ✓ *Any identity card/Pension Payment Order issued to a regular employee/pensioner of any Central Government/State Government/Public Sector Undertaking (PSU); or*
- ✓ *Any identity card/certificate/document issued in India by the Government/local authorities/Banks/Post Office/LIC/PSUs prior to 01.07.1987; or*
- ✓ *Passport; or*
- ✓ *Matriculation/Educational certificate issued by recognized Boards/Universities; or*
- ✓ *Permanent Residence certificate issued by the competent State authority; or*
- ✓ *Forest Right Certificate; or*

- ✓ *OBC/SC/ST or any caste certificate issued by the competent authority; or*
- ✓ *National Register of Citizens (wherever it exists); or*
- ✓ *Family Register, prepared by State/local authorities; or*
- ✓ *Any land/house allotment certificate by the Government.*

SCHEDULE A - GENERAL ELIGIBILITY DECLARATION

I hereby declare that:

(i) I am an Indian citizen.

(ii) I am of sound mind and capable of discharging responsibilities connected with sports governance.

(iii) I am not less than 25 years of age on the date of this application.

(iv) I have not participated, for at least one (1) year prior to the date of this application, in any competitive sporting event for which selection is made to represent a district, State or India.

(v) I confirm that I satisfy the Tier Eligibility Criteria under Tier(s) _____ and have furnished relevant details and documents in proof of the same.

(vi) My last competitive sporting event was:

  (a) Name of event:

  (b) Date:

  (c) Level: District / State / National / International

  (d) Organising body:

(vii) The information provided in this Application Form, and in all accompanying documents, is true, complete, and correct to the best of my knowledge and belief.

Place:_____

Date: (DD/MM/YYYY)_____

Signature of Applicant:_____

Name:_____

SCHEDULE B - DISQUALIFICATION AND INTEGRITY DISCLOSURE

I hereby declare that:

(i) I have not been adjudged insolvent under any applicable law.

(ii) I have not been convicted by a court of competent jurisdiction in India for an offence resulting in a sentence of imprisonment, or, where such conviction existed, the period of disqualification as per Rule 11 (c) (ii) of the National Sports Governance (National Sports Bodies) Rules, 2026 has expired.

(iii) I have not been barred from holding office by an order of the Ethics Committee of the concerned National Sports Federation/ national sports body, or, where such a bar existed, the period of such a bar has expired.

(iv) No medal, position or award relied upon by me for this application has been withdrawn, cancelled or returned.

(v) I am not otherwise disqualified under the National Sports Governance Act, 2025, the National Sports Governance (National Sports Bodies) Rules, 2026, or the bye-laws of the concerned National Sports Federation/ national sports body or Indian Olympic Association.

(vi) I shall inform the Indian Olympic Association of any change in the information provided with this application, within a period of three (3) days from such change.

(vii) I have not been declared ineligible, suspended, or disqualified under the applicable anti-doping rules of World Anti-Doping Agency (WADA) and /or National Anti-Doping Agency (NADA).

Additional disclosure:

□ Whether presently a member of the General Body or any committee of respective National Sports Federation/ national sports body: Yes / No

Details:

_____

_____

_____

_____

□ Whether presently holding or previously held the office of President / Secretary General / Treasurer in any National Sports Federation/ national sports body: Yes / No

Details:

_____

_____

_____

_____

□ Whether the applicant is presently a member of the General Body or any committee of the Indian Olympic Association, or is presently holding / has previously held the office of President, Secretary General or Treasurer in the Indian Olympic Association: Yes / No

_____

If yes, provide details including date of election/appointment and tenure of the term thereof:

Details:

_____

_____

_____

_____

Place:

Date:

Signature of Applicant:

Name:

SCHEDULE C- APPLICANT'S SELF DECLARATION

(i) I, _____, understand that submission of this application does not automatically confer the status of Sportspersons of Outstanding Merit, nor does it create any automatic right to be elected to the General Body or Executive Committee of the Indian Olympic Association.

(ii) I further understand that the Indian Olympic Association may verify the information submitted by me from the relevant authorities, including Government departments, the concerned National Sports Federation/ national sports body, State associations, International Sports Bodies, event organisers, or any other competent body, as deemed fit and appropriate.

(iii) I hereby declare and confirm that all information, documents, records, certificates and particulars furnished by me to the Indian Olympic Association are true, correct and complete to the best of my knowledge and belief, and that no information, document, record or certificate submitted by me is forged, fabricated, false, misleading or fraudulent.

(iv) I understand and agree that if any information, document, record or certificate furnished by me is found to be false, incorrect, forged, fabricated, misleading or fraudulent at any stage, my inclusion in the Sportspersons of Outstanding Merit roster and/or any election to the General Body or Executive Committee of the Indian Olympic Association shall be liable to be cancelled forthwith, without assigning any further reasons.

(v) I further understand that in such circumstances, the Indian Olympic Association shall be at liberty to initiate appropriate legal action, including filing of a First Information Report and/or criminal complaint under applicable laws. I also understand that I may be debarred from future participation, election conducted by the Indian Olympic Association as applicable under these Rules and applicable law.

(vi) I consent to the use of my information for the purpose of verification, preparation of the Sportspersons of Outstanding Merit roster, and publication of the final roster on the

official website of the Indian Olympic Association, as required under the National Sports Governance (National Sports Bodies) Rules, 2026.

Place:
Date:

Signature of Applicant:
Name: