The Indian Golf Union

Date: 31 October 2026

NOTICE

Subject: Call for Applications for preparation of the Rosters of Male and Female Sportspersons of Outstanding Merit (SOM) under Rules 5 and 6 of the National Sports Governance (National Sports Bodies) Rules, 2026

Dear All,

The Indian Golf Union (IGU) is inviting applications from eligible retired golf players for inclusion in its (i) roster of male Sportspersons of Outstanding Merit (SOMs) ("Roster of Male SOMs"); and (ii) roster of female SOMs ("Roster of Female SOMs" and together with the Roster of Male SOMs, the "SOM Rosters") maintained in accordance with the National Sports Governance Act, 2025 (25 of 2025) (the "NSG Act") and the National Sports Governance (National Sports Bodies) Rules, 2026, notified vide G.S.R. 18(E) (the "NSG Rules", and together with the NSG Act, the "NSG Act and Rules"). The Roster of Male SOMs shall comprise a total of twenty (20) male SOMs and the Roster of Female SOMs shall comprise a total of twenty (20) female SOMs, being ten (10) times the two (2) male SOMs and two (2) female SOMs, respectively, in the General Body of IGU, as required under Rule 6(2) of the NSG Rules. This Notice constitutes the call for applications under Rule 5(1) of the NSG Rules.

For applicants to be considered for inclusion in the SOM Rosters, they must satisfy the General Eligibility Criteria and at least one of the Tier Eligibility Criteria set out in the Schedule to this Notice. Preference for inclusion in the SOM Rosters will be given to applicants tier-wise, commencing with Tier 1 and proceeding sequentially to each next Tier, among eligible applicants, in the manner set out in Part C of the Schedule to this Notice and in terms of Rule 6(3) of the NSG Rules. Where the number of eligible applicants within a particular tier exceeds the number of positions available in the SOM Rosters, the eldest applicant by age shall receive preference and priority in selection from amongst such applicants.

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Eligibility Criteria

As on the date of submitting their application, the applicants must:

- be a citizen of India;
- be at least twenty-five (25) years of age;
- be of sound mind;
- have retired from active competition and not have participated in any competitive event leading to selection for district, state or national representation for at least one (1) year immediately preceding the date of application; and
- satisfy at least one of the Tier Eligibility Criteria, the relevant milestone having been achieved in golf while representing India (or, in the case of Tier 10, while representing a State), as set out in the Schedule to this Notice.

1. Application Process

Applicants that satisfy the eligibility criteria described in paragraph 1 above shall be required to submit the following in physical or digital formats:

- a completed application form (as set out in Annexure 2 hereto);
- proof of age (for example, Elector's Photo Identity Card (commonly known as Voter ID), Aadhaar Card issued by the Unique Identification Authority of India, valid Passport issued by the Ministry of External Affairs);
- proof of citizenship (valid Indian Passport, or registered birth certificate (along with parents' birth certificate if the applicant was born after 01 July 1987) or Certificate of Registration / Certificate of Naturalisation, issued by the Government of India);
- documentary evidence of satisfaction of tier criteria as set out in the Schedule to this Notice; and
- any additional documents specified in the application form.

No nomination, recommendation or endorsement from any State Golf Association or other affiliate unit of IGU is required.

2. Applications must be submitted directly to IGU on or before 30th December 2026, being the sixtieth (60th) day from the date of this Notice in terms of Rule 5(2) of the NSG Rules, via:

3.1 email at info@indiangolfunion.org with the subject line: "Application - Sportsperson of Outstanding Merit - [Applicant Name]"

[OR]

3.2 by post or by hand at the office of IGU at 2nd Floor, 14 Anand Lok, August Kranti Marg, New Delhi - 110049, India

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3. The detailed guidelines (Annexure 1), the application form (Annexure 2) and the Schedule setting out the tier-wise eligibility criteria are annexed hereto and form an integral part of this Notice.

For any clarification, please contact the IGU by way of email at info@indiangolfunion.org

We appreciate your support and cooperation in the process.

Best Regards.



Acting Director General

The Indian Golf Union

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ANNEXURE 1

THE INDIAN GOLF UNION

SPORTSPERSONS OF OUTSTANDING MERIT (SOM)- GUIDELINES FOR ELIGIBILITY AND APPLICATION

1. BACKGROUND

Pursuant to the National Sports Governance Act, 2025 and rules thereunder ("NSG Act and Rules"), the Indian Golf Union (IGU) is required to maintain a roster of: (i) male Sportspersons of Outstanding Merit (SOM) ("Roster of Male SOMs"); (ii) roster of female SOMs ("Roster of Female SOMs" and together with the Roster of Male SOMs, the "SOM Rosters"). Accordingly, IGU invites applications for the inclusion of eligible retired golf players in the SOM Rosters.

An applicant, once included in the SOM Rosters, shall be eligible to be nominated or elected as:

- one of the four (4) SOM members forming part of the IGU General Body (two (2) SOMs being male and two (2) SOMs being female); and/or
- one of the two (2) SOM members of the Executive Committee of IGU (one (1) SOM being male and one (1) SOM being female).

2. WHO CAN APPLY

2.1 General Eligibility Criteria

To be eligible for consideration, an applicant must satisfy each of the following, as on date of application:

(a) be a citizen of India;
(b) be at least twenty-five (25) years of age;
(c) be of sound mind;
(d) have retired from active competition; and
(e) not have participated in any competitive event leading to selection for district, state or national representation for at least one (1) year immediately preceding the date of application.

2.2 Tier Eligibility Criteria

In addition to the general criteria set out above, an applicant must satisfy at least one of the Tier Eligibility Criteria under Clause 2 of Schedule I to the NSG Rules. The Tier Eligibility Criteria, the conditions applicable to them and the manner in which the SOM Rosters shall be populated tier-wise are set out in the Schedule to the Notice, which shall be read as part of these Guidelines.

3. DOCUMENTS TO BE SUBMITTED

3.1 Applicants must submit the following documents along with the completed application form:

Sl.No.	Document	Category
1.	Completed and signed SOM Application Form of IGU	Mandatory
2.	Proof of age (any one of the below): Passport, Aadhaar Card, Voter ID Card, or any other government-issued identification document	Mandatory
3.	Proof of citizenship (whichever applicable): valid Indian Passport, or registered birth certificate (along with parents' birth certificate if the applicant was born after 01 July 1987) or Certificate of Registration or Certificate of Naturalisation	Mandatory
4.	One recent passport-size photograph	Mandatory
5.	Documentary evidence of the applicant satisfying tier criteria as set out in the Schedule to the Notice	Mandatory

4. APPLICATION PROCESS

4.1 Applications must be submitted directly to IGU. No nomination, recommendation or endorsement from any state-level association or federation affiliated to IGU is required.

4.2 Applications, together with the documents listed in Section 3, must be submitted via email to info@indiangolfunion.org, with the subject line: 'Application – Sportsperson of Outstanding Merit – [Applicant Name]'

or via post on Postal Address:

2nd Floor, 14 Anand Lok, August Kranti Marg, New Delhi - 110049, India

4.3 Applications must be submitted on or before 30th December 2026, being the sixtieth (60th) day from the date of the Notice. Applications received after that date shall not be considered.

4.4 Queries relating to the application process may be addressed to info@indiangolfunion.org.

4.5 Applicants to note that:

(a) Incomplete applications may not be considered.
(b) IGU reserves the right to seek additional information or documentation from any applicant.
(c) Any false declaration or misrepresentation may result in rejection of the application. In case such false declaration or misrepresentation is identified after an applicant is included in either of the SOM Rosters, then such person shall be removed from the relevant SOM Roster with immediate effect.
(d) IGU reserves the right to verify all information submitted.

5. REVIEW OF APPLICATIONS AND POPULATION OF SOM ROSTERS

5.1 IGU will verify and review all applications received against the criteria set out under Section 2 and in the Schedule to the Notice.

5.2 In accordance with the NSG Act and Rules, the SOM Rosters shall each comprise ten (10) times the number of male or female SOMs, as the case may be, in the IGU General Body i.e., a total of forty (40) applicants (with the Roster of Male SOMs consisting of twenty (20) male SOMs and the Roster of Female SOMs consisting of twenty (20) female SOMs). Preference for inclusion in the SOM Rosters will be given to applicants tier-wise, commencing with Tier 1 and proceeding sequentially to each next Tier, in the manner set out in Part C of the Schedule to the Notice, among applicants who otherwise satisfy all the general eligibility criteria under Section 2 herein. Where the number of eligible applicants within a particular tier exceeds the number of positions available in the SOM Rosters, the eldest applicant by age shall receive preference and priority in selection from amongst such applicants.

5.3 Where the SOM Rosters cannot be populated to the required number after all Tiers have been considered, IGU may issue a further call for applications, or frame and adopt additional tiered criteria based on the principles used in Schedule I to the NSG Rules, in terms of Rule 6(3)(d) of the NSG Rules.

5.4 The SOM Rosters, as finalised, shall be published on the official website of IGU and submitted to the National Sports Board in terms of Rule 6(4) of the NSG Rules. Every person appearing on a SOM Roster shall be considered a SOM in respect of IGU for the purposes of the NSG Act and Rules.

6. FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

6.1 What is the Sportspersons of Outstanding Merit (SOM) category?

The SOM category comprises eligible retired athletes who are included in IGU's SOM Rosters in accordance with the NSG Act and Rules.

Only those SOMs that are included in the IGU SOM Rosters are eligible to be elected/nominated to the General Body of the IGU as members and/or to the Executive Committee of IGU, for the slots/posts reserved for SOMs in accordance with the IGU Constitution.

6.2 Who is eligible to apply?

Any retired golfer satisfying the General Eligibility Criteria and at least one of the Tier Eligibility Criteria set out in the Schedule to the Notice may submit an application.

6.3 Can current players apply?

No. Applicants must have retired from active competition and must not have participated in any competitive event leading to selection for district, state or national representation for at least one (1) year immediately preceding the date of application.

6.4 How long will the application window remain open?

Applications must be submitted within sixty (60) days from the date of issuance of the call for applications, i.e., on or before 30th December 2026. Applications received after the prescribed deadline will not be considered.

6.5 Will IGU acknowledge receipt of my application?

Yes. Applicants will receive an acknowledgment upon successful receipt of their application

6.6 Can achievements in a sport other than golf be relied upon?

No. In terms of Clause 2(3) of Schedule I to the NSG Rules, the milestone under the relevant Tier must have been achieved in golf while representing India.

6.7 What if I satisfy more than one Tier?

Applicants should indicate, and furnish proof of, every Tier satisfied. An applicant shall be considered under the highest Tier satisfied, Tier 1 being the highest.

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ANNEXURE 2

THE INDIAN GOLF UNION

APPLICATION FORM FOR INCLUSION IN THE ROSTERS OF SPORTSPERSONS OF OUTSTANDING MERIT

INSTRUCTIONS TO APPLICANTS

1. Applicants are advised to read the 'IGU SOM Guidelines for Eligibility and Application' issued in accordance with the National Sports Governance Act, 2025 and the National Sports Governance (National Sports Bodies) Rules, 2026, and the Schedule to the Notice setting out the tier-wise eligibility criteria, carefully before completing this Application Form.

2. All sections must be completed in BLOCK LETTERS or typed electronically.

3. Any incomplete applications or applications submitted after the deadline will not be considered.

4. Applicants may append additional sheets where necessary.

5. Submission of this Application Form does not, of itself, guarantee inclusion in the Rosters of Sportspersons of Outstanding Merit.

6. The Indian Golf Union reserves the right to verify all information and supporting documents submitted and seek additional information or documentation.

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PART I

PARTICULARS OF THE APPLICANT

Affix recent Passport- Size Photograph Here

Full Name (as per official records)	
Date of Birth (DD/MM/YYYY)	
Gender	
Nationality	
Current Residential Address	
Permanent Residential Address	Write 'Same as Above' if applicable
Mobile Number / Email Address	

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PART II

SPORTING CAREER AND ACHIEVEMENT DETAILS

State/Union Territory represented at the domestic level: _____

Year of Retirement from Active Competition (District/State/National): _____

Tier Eligibility Criteria as set out in the Schedule to the Notice (please tick the applicable boxes based on satisfaction of relevant criteria, provide details and attach copies of relevant documents):

☐ Tier 1 ☐ Tier 2 ☐ Tier 3 ☐ Tier 4 ☐ Tier 5 ☐ Tier 6 ☐ Tier 7 ☐ Tier 8 ☐ Tier 9 ☐ Tier 10

Details regarding each Tier criterion satisfied: _____

PART III

DOCUMENTATION

Please tick the applicable boxes and attach copies of relevant documents.

☐ Proof of age
Document Details (Voter ID / Passport / Aadhaar Card / others): _____

☐ Proof of citizenship
Document Details (Indian Passport / birth certificate / Certificate of Registration / Certificate of Naturalisation):

_____

☐ Additional supporting documents
Document Details: _____

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PART IV

DECLARATION AND UNDERTAKING

I, _____, hereby declare that, as on date:

1. I am an Indian citizen.
2. I am at least twenty-five (25) years of age.
3. I am of sound mind.
4. I have retired from active competition.
5. I have not participated in any competitive event leading to selection for district, state, or national representation for at least one (1) year immediately preceding the date of this application.
6. I confirm that I satisfy the Tier Eligibility Criteria under Tier(s) _____, the relevant milestone(s) having been achieved in golf while representing India (or, in the case of Tier 10, a State), and have furnished relevant details and documents in proof of the same.
7. 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.
8. I understand that the Indian Golf Union reserves the right to verify the information submitted and may reject this application if any information is found to be false, inaccurate, or misleading.

Name of Applicant: _____
Place: _____
Date (DD/MM/YYYY): _____

Signature of Applicant: _____

SCHEDULE

(See paragraphs 1 and 2 of the Notice and Section 2 of Annexure 1)

TIER-WISE ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA FOR INCLUSION IN THE ROSTERS OF SPORTSPERSONS OF OUTSTANDING MERIT OF THE INDIAN GOLF UNION

[Rules 5 and 6 of, and Schedule I to, the National Sports Governance (National Sports Bodies) Rules, 2026]

PART A: GENERAL ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA

Every applicant shall, as on the date of application, be:

(a) an Indian citizen;

(b) of sound mind;

(c) not less than twenty-five (25) years of age; and

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

An applicant who does not satisfy every one of the General Eligibility Criteria shall not be considered, irrespective of the Tier satisfied.

PART B: TIER ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA

1. Conditions applicable to all Tiers

(a) The milestone under the relevant Tier must have been achieved in golf only, while representing India, except in the case of Tier 10, where the applicant must have represented a particular State [Clause 2(3) of Schedule I].

(b) "Sanctioned" refers to any competitive international event or match organised under the auspices, approval and sanctioning power of the relevant International Sports Body for golf, namely the International Golf Federation (IGF) [Clause 2(4)(b) of Schedule I]. Participation shall be verified by IGU with reference to the official records of the IGF, the Asia-Pacific Golf Confederation (APGC), the organiser of the event and IGU.

(c) Golf being an individual sport, Tiers 8 and 9 shall be reckoned by the number of sanctioned international events in which the applicant participated while representing India.

(d) Any medal or award which has been rescinded or returned shall not be considered for the qualification of having achieved outstanding merit.

(e) References to the Summer Olympic Games, Winter Olympic Games, Commonwealth Games, Asian Games and Asian Winter Games shall apply mutatis mutandis to the corresponding Paralympic and Para events [Clause 2(4)(a) of Schedule I].

(f) Whether a competition is an "equivalent competition", or a result is an "equivalent placing", for the purposes of Tiers 5, 6, 7 and 10 shall be determined by IGU on the basis of the official records referred to in sub-paragraph (b) above.

2. Tiers

An applicant must satisfy at least one of the following Tiers. Tier 1 is the highest Tier and Tier 10 the lowest.

Tier	Tier Eligibility Criterion (Clause 2 of Schedule I)	Indicative documentary proof
Tier 1	Won at least one gold, silver or bronze medal in the Summer Olympic Games or Winter Olympic Games. A medal, if rescinded, shall not be considered.	Official results of the Games; medal certificate; communication from the Indian Olympic Association or IGU.
Tier 2	Participated in two or more editions of the Summer Olympic Games or Winter Olympic Games.	Official entry lists or results of each edition; accreditation or selection letters.
Tier 3	Participated in at least one edition of the Summer Olympic Games or Winter Olympic Games.	Official entry list or results; accreditation or selection letter.
Tier 4	Awarded the Major Dhyan Chand Khel Ratna Award or the Arjuna Award by the Central Government. An award, if rescinded or returned, shall not be considered.	Award certificate; notification or press release of the Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports.
Tier 5	Won at least one gold, silver or bronze medal or equivalent placing in a World Championship or equivalent competition. A medal, if rescinded, shall not be considered.	Official results issued by the IGF or the organiser; IGU selection letter.
Tier 6	Won at least one gold, silver or bronze medal or equivalent placing in the Commonwealth Games or Asian Games or Asian Winter Games. A medal, if rescinded, shall not be considered.	Official results of the Games; medal certificate; selection letter.
Tier 7	Won at least one gold, silver or bronze medal or equivalent placing in an Asian Championship or equivalent competition. A medal, if rescinded, shall not be considered.	Official results issued by the APGC or the organiser; IGU selection letter.
Tier 8	Participated in at least five (5) sanctioned international events while representing India.	IGU selection or team letters and official entry lists or results for each event.
Tier 9	Participated in at least one (1) sanctioned international event while representing India.	IGU selection or team letter and official entry list or results.
Tier 10	Won at least one gold, silver or bronze medal or equivalent placing in the National Games or a National Championship or equivalent competition, while representing a State.	Official results; medal or merit certificate; proof of representing the State.

PART C: MANNER OF POPULATING THE SOM ROSTERS

In terms of Rule 6 of the NSG Rules, the Roster of Male SOMs and the Roster of Female SOMs shall each be populated separately, as follows:

(a) Each SOM Roster shall comprise twenty (20) SOMs, being ten (10) times the number of male or female SOMs, as the case may be, in the General Body of IGU [Rule 6(2)].

(b) In the first instance, all applicants who satisfy the General Eligibility Criteria and Tier 1 shall be included in the relevant SOM Roster [Rule 6(3)(a)].

(c) Where the SOM Roster cannot be populated to twenty (20) under clause (b), applicants who satisfy the General Eligibility Criteria and the Tier immediately following the Tier last considered shall be included, in a sequential manner, until the SOM Roster reaches twenty (20) [Rule 6(3)(b)].

(d) Where the number of applicants qualifying under a particular Tier exceeds the number of places remaining in the SOM Roster, the eldest applicant by age shall receive preference and priority in selection from among the applicants qualifying under that Tier [Rule 6(3)(c)].

(e) An applicant who satisfies more than one Tier shall be considered under the highest Tier satisfied.

(f) Where the SOM Roster cannot be populated to twenty (20) after all Tiers have been considered, IGU may issue another call for applications, or frame and adopt additional tiered criteria based on the principles used in Schedule I to the NSG Rules [Rule 6(3)(d)].

(g) The SOM Rosters, as finalised, shall be published on the official website of IGU and submitted to the National Sports Board, and every person appearing on a SOM Roster shall be considered a SOM in respect of IGU [Rules 6(4) and 6(5)].