National Team

Selection Criteria for 2027

For

RIFLE, PISTOL AND SHOTGUN

Promulgated By

The National Rifle Association of India

Approved by Governing Body of the NRAI
on 31st October 2026

SELECTION CRITERIA 2027

Objectives, Criteria Statement and General Rules Applicable to Rifle, Pistol and Shotgun Disciplines

A. OBJECTIVES OF THE SELECTION CRITERIA

1. Merit-Based Selection

To ensure that athletes selected to represent India at international competitions are selected on merit, based on their performance under the prescribed selection criteria, subject to applicable eligibility requirements, fitness standards and competition regulations.

2. Transparency and Accountability

To establish a clearly defined, structured and properly documented selection process, enabling athletes and other stakeholders to understand the criteria, procedures and basis on which selection decisions are made.

3. Fair and Equal Opportunity

To provide all eligible athletes with a fair and unbiased opportunity to compete for selection, without discrimination, favouritism or preferential treatment, and in accordance with the applicable rules and eligibility conditions.

4. Objective and Measurable Assessment

To adopt standardised and measurable performance benchmarks that assess an athlete's competitive performance, consistency, current form and preparedness in accordance with the prescribed selection criteria.

5. Identification and Development of Talent

To identify, nurture and support emerging and established athletes, thereby strengthening the national talent pool and ensuring a sustainable pipeline of athletes capable of representing India at the highest level.

6. Maximising India's Competitive Potential

To select athletes and teams that offer the strongest competitive prospects for India at international competitions, considering the published selection criteria, applicable eligibility requirements and the permitted composition of teams.

7. Integrity and Confidence in the Selection Process

To uphold the principles of fairness, meritocracy, consistency and accountability, thereby promoting confidence among athletes, coaches, affiliated units and other stakeholders in the integrity of the selection system.

B. CRITERIA STATEMENT ON FAIR AND TRANSPARENT SELECTION OF TEAMS

The National Rifle Association of India (NRAI), as the national sports federation and governing body for the sport of shooting in India, is committed to maintaining a fair, transparent, consistent and merit-based system for selecting athletes to represent India at international competitions.

The NRAI recognises that selection to the national team is a matter of considerable importance to athletes and shall, therefore, conduct the selection process in accordance with the published selection criteria, applicable eligibility requirements and the rules and regulations governing the relevant competition.

Every eligible athlete shall be afforded a fair opportunity to qualify for selection based on the prescribed performance benchmarks and other expressly stated conditions. The selection process shall be implemented uniformly, without arbitrary discrimination or favouritism, and decisions shall be supported by the applicable criteria and relevant records.

The NRAI also recognises its responsibility to identify, develop and support shooting talent across the country. Through a structured and performance-oriented selection system, it seeks to maintain a competitive national team capable of achieving excellence at international competitions.

Accordingly, the NRAI is committed to the following principles:

Merit-based selection: Selection shall be based on performance under the prescribed selection criteria, together with applicable eligibility and other expressly stated requirements.

Transparency: The selection criteria, applicable procedures, performance assessments and selection decisions shall be documented and communicated in accordance with the prescribed process.

Fair opportunity: All eligible athletes shall be assessed impartially and in accordance with the same applicable standards.

Consistency: The published criteria shall be applied consistently, and any permitted departure shall be justified in writing and dealt with in accordance with this criteria.

Competitive excellence: Selection shall seek to identify athletes and teams best placed to represent India successfully at the relevant international competition.

Accountability: Selection decisions and any exceptions permitted under this criteria shall be appropriately recorded and capable of being reviewed in accordance with the applicable rules.

Through this criterion, the NRAI seeks to maintain a selection system that rewards performance, encourages excellence and sustains confidence in the fairness and integrity of the process.

C. GENERAL RULES APPLICABLE TO RIFLE, PISTOL AND SHOTGUN

1. PURPOSE

1.1. The purpose of the Selection Criteria 2027 is to notify athletes, in advance, of the standards and procedures governing their assessment and selection for national squads and international competitions, thereby enabling them to plan their training and competitive schedules accordingly.

1.2. The NRAI shall use a transparent and standardised performance-assessment system for evaluating athletes for national squad positions, selection trials and participation in international competitions, as applicable under these criteria.

1.3. The Moving Average Method (MAM) shall be used as the prescribed method for calculating athlete rankings wherever specified in this document. The applicable scores, number of scores, assessment period, exclusions and other parameters shall be determined in accordance with the relevant provisions of these criteria.

1.4. The MAM ranking shall constitute the basis of performance assessment under this criterion. Ranking shall not, by itself, dispense with any applicable eligibility, fitness, anti-doping, disciplinary or other requirements expressly prescribed for participation or selection.

2. APPLICABILITY AND COMMENCEMENT OF SELECTION CRITERIA

2.1. These Selection Criteria shall govern the assessment and selection of athletes for national squads, selection trials and international competitions in the Rifle, Pistol and Shotgun disciplines, subject to the specific provisions applicable to each discipline and event.

2.2. Shotgun: The selection cycle under these criteria shall commence from the 69th National Shooting Championship Competitions (NSCC).

2.3. Rifle and Pistol: The selection process shall operate on a continuous basis. Scores recorded during 2026 shall carry forward into 2027 to the extent and in the manner prescribed under the applicable MAM provisions of this document.

2.4. The scores and rankings generated under these criteria shall be used, as applicable, for determining eligibility for national squads, allocation to the relevant selection-trial groups and consideration for selection to international competitions.

2.5. These criteria shall be read together with the applicable NRAI Constitution, rules and regulations, ISSF Rules, competition regulations and other binding requirements. In the event of a conflict, the applicable binding legal or regulatory requirement shall prevail to the extent of such conflict.

3. TEAM COMPOSITION

3.1. Subject to the entry limits and regulations of the relevant competition, the NRAI may select up to three athletes per event for individual events.

3.2. Where a competition provides for a team event comprising athletes participating in the corresponding individual event, the team shall ordinarily be constituted from the athletes selected for that event, subject to the applicable competition rules.

3.3. Where the competition organisers restrict the number of entries permitted per country or impose other entry limitations, the NRAI Selection Committee may determine the athlete or athletes to be entered in more than one event, or otherwise adjust the proposed entries, in accordance with the published selection criteria, the applicable competition rules and the interests of fair and effective representation.

3.4. No athlete shall acquire an automatic right to participation merely by virtue of a provisional ranking or proposed team composition. Final entries shall remain subject to the applicable selection criteria, eligibility requirements and competition regulations.

4. MIXED TEAM EVENTS

4.1. Selection for Mixed Team events shall ordinarily be based on the rankings of eligible male and female athletes under the applicable selection criteria.

4.2. Where one Mixed Team is permitted, the highest-ranked eligible male athlete and the highest-ranked eligible female athlete shall ordinarily constitute the team.

4.3. Where two Mixed Teams are permitted, the first team shall ordinarily comprise the highest-ranked eligible male and female athletes, and the second team shall ordinarily comprise the next-highest-ranked eligible male and female athletes, respectively.

4.4. Notwithstanding Clauses 4.2 and 4.3, the composition or pairing of athletes may be reconsidered in exceptional circumstances, where permitted by the applicable ISSF Rules and competition regulations. Any such reconsideration shall be based on recorded performance, relevant technical assessments and the legitimate competitive requirements of the event.

4.5. A written recommendation from the relevant Head Coach and/or Foreign Coach may be considered by the President or Secretary General of the NRAI, as authorised under the applicable NRAI rules, for a change in the previously announced pairing or permutation of athletes. Any change shall be made no later than 24 hours before the commencement of the relevant competition, or within such other period as may be permitted by the applicable ISSF Rules and competition regulations.

4.6. Any change under Clause 4.5 shall be supported by written reasons, appropriately recorded and communicated to the affected athletes. No change shall be made contrary to the applicable competition rules or solely based on an undisclosed or arbitrary preference.

5. DISCIPLINE AND CODE OF CONDUCT

5.1. All athletes selected to represent India at international competitions shall comply with the NRAI's applicable Code of Conduct, team instructions, safety requirements, competition regulations and other lawful directions issued by authorised team officials.

5.2. Athletes shall conduct themselves professionally and respectfully and shall uphold the standards expected of representatives of India and the sport of shooting.

5.3. Coaches and team officials accompanying the Indian team shall report incidents of misconduct, ethical violations or breaches of team discipline to the NRAI. Following completion of each tour, the concerned coaches'/team officials shall submit a report in the prescribed manner, including any material disciplinary issues, if applicable.

5.4. Where an alleged breach is reported, the NRAI may initiate proceedings under its applicable disciplinary rules. Depending on the nature and gravity of the established violation, and subject to the applicable procedure, the competent authority may impose an appropriate sanction, including a warning, suspension from one or more subsequent international competitions, or any other penalty authorised by the applicable rules.

5.5. No disciplinary penalty shall be imposed solely based on an unsubstantiated allegation. The concerned athlete shall be informed of the allegation and afforded an opportunity to respond, except where an interim measure is lawfully warranted under the applicable rules. Any interim measure shall be subject to the prescribed review process.

5.6. Personal coaches and support staff may be permitted to attend national coaching camps only in accordance with the eligibility conditions and approval procedures set out in this document.

5.7. Parents, relatives and other unauthorised persons shall not enter the Field of Play (FOP), restricted training areas or other designated restricted areas during coaching camps, training sessions or competitions. Access to spectator areas shall be subject to the venue regulations and instructions of the competent authorities.

6. WITHDRAWAL FROM COMPETITIONS

6.1. Withdrawal after commencement of a competition

Where an athlete withdraws from an event after commencing the competition, including after commencing the sighters where applicable, the score attributable to that competition for MAM purposes shall be determined in accordance with the following:

a. Where the applicable competition rules record the athlete's completed shots as the official score, that score shall be used for MAM purposes, subject to these criteria.
b. Where the athlete abandons the event without completing it and the applicable rules or these criteria prescribe a zero score for the uncompleted event, zero shall be used for MAM purposes.
c. A withdrawal shall not, by itself, entitle an athlete to exclude the relevant competition from the MAM calculation.
d. The foregoing provisions may be relaxed where the withdrawal results from a serious medical emergency or another exceptional circumstance beyond the athlete's reasonable control, provided that the circumstances are adequately substantiated and accepted by the competent NRAI authority in accordance with the applicable rules.

e. In a medical emergency, the relevant report of the Chief Range Officer and supporting medical documentation shall be submitted wherever reasonably practicable. In an emergency where such documentation cannot immediately be obtained, the athlete shall be permitted to submit it subsequently within the period specified by the NRAI.

6.2. Inability to participate after selection

An athlete who is unable to participate in an international competition after being officially selected shall inform the NRAI by email, stating the reasons for the inability to participate, within three days of the official announcement of the athlete's selection.

Failure to provide timely intimation without sufficient cause may be referred for consideration under the applicable disciplinary rules. Any penalty shall be imposed only after following the prescribed procedure.

Where an athlete is unable to participate, the NRAI may consider the next eligible and appropriately ranked athlete, subject to the published selection criteria, entry deadlines, applicable competition regulations and approval of the competent authority.

6.3. Withdrawal after arrival at the competition venue

Where an athlete withdraws from an international competition after arriving at the competition venue, the athlete shall promptly notify the Team Leader and the NRAI, stating the reasons for withdrawal and providing supporting documentation where applicable.

The consequences for MAM calculations shall be determined under Clause 6.1 and the applicable competition rules. Where the athlete has not commenced the event, a zero score shall be applied only where expressly prescribed under these criteria or the applicable rules.

An unexplained withdrawal or a withdrawal without sufficient cause may be referred for disciplinary consideration. Any sanction shall be proportionate to the established circumstances and imposed in accordance with the applicable procedure.

6.4. Exceptional circumstances

The NRAI shall consider genuine medical emergencies, force majeure events and other substantiated circumstances beyond an athlete's reasonable control on their merits. Any exception affecting the MAM calculation or the athlete's selection status shall be supported by written reasons and recorded by the competent authority.

7. DRESS CODE

7.1. All athletes shall comply with the dress-code requirements prescribed by the ISSF, the relevant competition organisers and the NRAI.

7.2. At official ceremonies, including opening ceremonies, medal ceremonies and prize-distribution ceremonies:

a. At multi-sport Games, athletes shall wear the official uniform prescribed or provided by the Indian Olympic Association (IOA) or the competent Games authority, as applicable.

b. At other international championships and competitions, athletes shall wear the official uniform prescribed or provided by the NRAI, subject to the applicable competition regulations.

7.3. Athletes shall comply with all applicable uniform, branding, identification and presentation requirements throughout the period specified by the competition organisers.

8. SAFETY AND RANGE RULES

8.1. Compliance with all applicable ISSF safety rules, NRAI safety instructions, range regulations and directions issued by authorised range officials is always mandatory.

8.2. Safety requirements apply within the shooting arena and throughout the range premises, including designated training, preparation, equipment-handling and dry-firing areas.

8.3. Any safety violation shall be dealt with in accordance with the applicable ISSF Rules, range regulations and NRAI disciplinary procedures. Depending on the nature and gravity of the violation, the consequences may include a warning, penalty, disqualification or further disciplinary action, where authorised under the applicable rules.

8.4. Illustrative safety violations

The following are examples of serious safety violations and are not intended to be an exhaustive list:

a. Unauthorised handling of firearms: Firearms shall be handled only in the areas and under the conditions permitted by the applicable safety rules. In a designated dry-firing area, the athlete shall ensure that the firearm is unloaded and pointed only towards the designated safe direction or dry-firing wall. The athlete shall also ensure that no person is within the line of fire.

b. Pointing a firearm towards another person: Deliberately or negligently pointing a firearm towards another person constitutes a serious safety concern, irrespective of whether the firearm is loaded or unloaded or the act is momentary. Such conduct shall be dealt with under the applicable safety and disciplinary rules, having regard to the circumstances and gravity of the violation.

c. Safe handling at all times: All firearms shall be treated as loaded until their unloaded condition has been verified in accordance with the applicable safety procedures.

8.5. NRAI officials and authorised range officials may take immediate safety measures, including stopping an athlete's participation where necessary to prevent risk to persons or property. Any penalty, disqualification or further sanction shall be imposed by the competent authority in accordance with the applicable rules and procedures.

8.6. Safety violations may be established through direct observation, official reports, video recordings or other reliable evidence, subject to the applicable rules and a fair opportunity for the concerned athlete to respond where disciplinary action is contemplated.

8.7. Serious or repeated violations may result in further disciplinary action, including suspension or debarment, only where such sanction is authorised under the applicable rules and imposed through the prescribed procedure.

9. ANTI-DOPING REQUIREMENTS

9.1. All athletes shall comply with the applicable World Anti-Doping Code, the rules and regulations of the World Anti-Doping Agency (WADA), the National Anti-Doping Agency (NADA), the ISSF and any other competent anti-doping authority.

9.2. An athlete who is subject to a valid provisional suspension or period of ineligibility under the applicable anti-doping rules shall not be selected or permitted to participate to the extent prohibited by such suspension or ineligibility.

9.3. Any alleged anti-doping violation shall be dealt with by the competent anti-doping authority in accordance with the applicable anti-doping rules. The NRAI shall give effect to any binding decision or order of such authority.

9.4. The consequences of an anti-doping violation, including eligibility for selection, shall be determined in accordance with the applicable anti-doping rules and any binding decision of the competent authority. The NRAI shall not treat an allegation alone as a final finding of an anti-doping violation.

10. NORMS FOR PERSONAL COACHES

10.1. Eligibility of athletes to engage personal coaches

a. Following completion of the 69th NSCC, athletes ranked 1 to 6 under the applicable MAM in the Open Senior or Open Junior category of an event may be permitted to engage a personal coach and/or support staff during coaching camps and competitions in India, subject to the approval and conditions prescribed by the NRAI.

b. Athletes who have represented India in Senior International Rifle, Pistol or Shotgun competitions at Government expense during the preceding two years shall also be eligible to apply for permission to engage a personal coach and/or support staff in India, subject to the applicable approval procedure.

c. Eligibility to engage a personal coach or support staff shall not confer an automatic right to access a national coaching camp, the FOP, restricted competition areas or international team facilities.

d. Personal coaches and support staff shall not accompany the national team to international competitions unless expressly authorised by the President, NRAI, or another competent

authority under the applicable NRAI rules. Exceptional medical circumstances shall be considered on a case-by-case basis, subject to appropriate supporting documentation and any applicable approval requirements.

10.2. Eligibility for nomination as a personal coach

A. Senior athletes

An athlete seeking permission to engage a personal coach may nominate a person who satisfies one or more of the following conditions:

a. The person has won a medal at the Olympic Games, Asian Games, Commonwealth Games, Commonwealth Championships or Asian Championships in the Senior category; or

b. The person has demonstrably trained and developed athletes who have achieved international-level success.

The NRAI may verify the qualifications, achievements and experience of the nominated person before granting permission. Approval shall be subject to the NRAI's assessment of the person's suitability, professional conduct and compliance with the applicable coaching requirements.

B. Junior athletes

An athlete seeking permission to engage a personal coach may nominate a person who satisfies at least one of the following conditions:

a. The person has participated in at least two ISSF World Cups as a member of the Indian team at Government expense; or

b. The person has won an individual medal in the Open Senior category at the NSCC; or

c. The person has been recognised as a renowned shooter in the Open Senior category for at least five years and has a minimum of ten years' coaching experience; or

d. The person has successfully completed an ISSF Coaches' Course at Level A or Level B.

The NRAI may verify the credentials and suitability of the nominated person before granting approval. Meeting an eligibility condition shall not, by itself, create an automatic entitlement to approval.

10.3. Responsibilities of personal coaches

a. Personal coaches shall cooperate professionally with the Indian Core Group Coaches, Foreign Coaches and other coaches appointed by the NRAI or the Sports Authority of India (SAI).

b. Personal coaches shall work within the training framework prescribed by the authorised national coaching staff and shall not obstruct or undermine the implementation of approved training programmes.

c. Personal coaches shall submit periodic written progress reports to the relevant Foreign Coach, NRAI Section Head Coach, High-Performance Coach, High-Performance Director or another designated official, as directed by the NRAI.

d. At recognised competitions, personal coaches shall not enter the FOP, Final Reporting Area or Athletes' Preparation Area before a final-hall competition, or any other restricted area, unless expressly permitted under the applicable competition rules.

e. Decisions relating to national-team athlete preparation, competition management and official post-competition debriefings shall be taken by the authorised Head Coach and national coaching staff in accordance with the NRAI's approved technical and operational framework.

f. Personal coaches shall not interfere with the lawful duties of national coaches, team officials, technical officials or competition organisers.

g. Alleged violations of these requirements may be referred to the NRAI Disciplinary and Ethics Committee or other competent authority. Any sanction against a personal coach or athlete shall be imposed in accordance with the applicable rules and after following the prescribed procedure.

11. NORMS FOR SUPPORT STAFF

11.1. A professional with a minimum of five years' relevant experience in sports may apply to serve as support staff for an athlete eligible to engage personal coaches, subject to the approval of the NRAI.

11.2. Support staff shall comply with the same applicable conduct, access, safety and operational requirements as personal coaches.

11.3. Unless expressly permitted by the applicable competition regulations or authorised by the NRAI, support staff shall not enter the FOP, Final Reporting Area, Athletes' Preparation Area or other restricted competition areas.

11.4. During international competitions, personal coaches and support staff shall not travel with or stay at the same hotel or residence as the national-team athletes unless prior written approval has been granted by the NRAI's competent authority. Any such approval shall be subject to applicable safeguarding, security, accommodation and competition requirements.

11.5. The NRAI may withdraw approval granted to a personal coach or support staff member for a substantiated breach of the applicable conditions, subject to the relevant procedure.

12. GENERAL CONDITIONS RELATING TO COACHES AND SELECTION

12.1. The primary responsibility of Indian and Foreign Coaches shall be to provide technical guidance, training and performance-related assessments in accordance with the training programmes approved by the NRAI.

12.2. The views and recommendations of Indian and Foreign Coaches may be considered during the periodic review of the Selection Criteria and in the technical assessment of athletes, where relevant under these criteria.

12.3. The role of coaches in team selection shall be advisory, unless a specific authority has been expressly delegated to them under the applicable NRAI rules. Final selection decisions shall be taken by the competent NRAI authority in accordance with the published selection criteria.

12.4. An athlete wishing to train with a personal coach during a national coaching camp shall obtain prior approval from the Chief Coach and/or Foreign Coach, as applicable. Such training shall be consistent with the approved training plan and shall not interfere with the programme of the national squad.

12.5. No personal coach shall travel abroad with an athlete as part of, or in connection with, the national team without prior written approval of the President, NRAI, or such other competent authority as may be authorised under the applicable NRAI rules.

12.6. Any approval granted to a personal coach or support staff member shall remain subject to the applicable conduct, safeguarding, security and competition requirements and may be reviewed or withdrawn in accordance with the relevant rules.

13. UNDERTAKING

13.1. Every athlete selected for the National Squad or participating in an international competition, together with the athlete's personal coach and support staff, where applicable, shall execute and comply with the undertaking prescribed by the NRAI in Annexure B.

13.2. In the case of an athlete below 18 years of age, the undertaking shall also be signed by the parent or lawful guardian, as applicable.

13.3. The undertaking shall cover compliance with the applicable selection criteria, Code of Conduct, safety requirements, training and competition instructions, safeguarding requirements and other applicable NRAI rules.

13.4. Execution of the undertaking shall be a condition of participation wherever prescribed by the NRAI, subject to applicable law and the rights of the concerned individual under the relevant rules.

13.5. Any breach of the undertaking may be referred to the competent authority for action in accordance with the applicable rules and prescribed procedure.

14. ADVISORY REGARDING COMMUNICATION WITH PARENTS, COACHES AND RELATIVES

14.1. Official communication

a. Athletes shall ordinarily communicate directly with the NRAI regarding their selection, training, participation and other individual sporting matters.

b. Parents or lawful guardians may communicate with the NRAI on behalf of athletes below 18 years of age, particularly where safeguarding, welfare or other legitimate concerns arise. Such communication shall ordinarily be made through the official email channel, unless another channel is specifically authorised.

c. The NRAI may communicate with parents, lawful guardians or authorised representatives where required by law, safeguarding considerations or the athlete's age or circumstances.

d. Personal coaches, relatives, friends and other associates shall not represent an athlete in official matters unless authorised by the athlete and accepted by the NRAI, subject to applicable law and the relevant rules.

14.2. Access to training and competition areas:

a. Parents, relatives, friends and personal coaches shall not enter the FOP, restricted training areas, team preparation areas or other restricted zones during coaching camps, selection trials or competitions unless specifically authorised under the applicable rules.

b. Parents and other accompanying persons may use designated spectator areas, subject to the access rules and directions of the venue authorities.

c. During national coaching camps and international competitions, athletes shall comply with the arrangements made by the NRAI for supervision, team management, safeguarding and training.

14.3. Travel and accommodation

a. Parents and relatives shall not travel as members of the official national team or occupy accommodation reserved for the national team unless expressly authorised by the NRAI or the competent organising authority.

b. Any restrictions concerning interaction between athletes and parents or relatives during official travel, training or competitions shall be reasonable, communicated in advance and consistent with applicable safeguarding requirements, the athlete's age and welfare, and the rules of the relevant competition.

c. Nothing in this criterion shall prevent an athlete from receiving necessary parental or guardian support where required for safeguarding, medical, disability-related or other legitimate welfare reasons, subject to appropriate arrangements.

14.4. Conduct towards officials and coaches

a. Parents, relatives, personal coaches and support staff shall treat NRAI officials, coaches, technical officials, organisers and other participants with respect.

b. They shall not intimidate, harass, threaten, obstruct or improperly influence coaches, officials, selection-trial personnel or competition organisers.

c. Any grievance concerning selection, training, athlete welfare or competition administration shall be raised through the prescribed NRAI channel and shall not be pursued through intimidation, disruption or unauthorised interference with the conduct of official activities.

14.5. Misconduct and consequences

a. Any allegation of misconduct by a parent, guardian, relative, personal coach or support staff member may be referred to the competent NRAI authority for examination under the applicable rules.

b. The NRAI may take appropriate action against the person responsible for the misconduct, including restricting access to official activities where such restriction is authorised and reasonably necessary.

c. Where the conduct of a parent, guardian, personal coach or other associate materially affects the safety, welfare or orderly conduct of a training camp or competition, the NRAI may take proportionate interim measures to protect the athlete and other participants.

d. No athlete shall automatically be penalised solely because of misconduct by a parent, guardian, relative, personal coach or other associate. Any proposed adverse action affecting the athlete's selection, participation or eligibility must be based on the athlete's own conduct or another lawful and relevant ground and must be imposed by the competent authority in accordance with the applicable rules and after affording the athlete an opportunity to respond.

e. Where disciplinary action is warranted, the competent authority may impose a proportionate sanction, including suspension from a competition, selection trial or coaching camp, but only to the extent permitted by the applicable rules and following the prescribed procedure.

14.6. Notice to parents, guardians and personal coaches

Parents, guardians, personal coaches and support staff are expected to comply with this criterion and cooperate with the NRAI's authorised officials. Misconduct shall be addressed in accordance with the applicable rules, considering the nature and gravity of the conduct, its effect on athlete welfare and competition integrity, and the circumstances of the case.

15. NATIONAL SHOOTING CHAMPIONSHIP COMPETITIONS (NSCC)

15.1. The NRAI shall publish an annual domestic shooting calendar, including the tentative dates and venues of national championships, selection trials and other designated competitions.

15.2. The NSCC shall ordinarily be scheduled in November/December each year. However, the NRAI may alter the dates or venue where necessary due to circumstances beyond its reasonable control, venue availability, directions or requirements of the Government or competent sports authorities, or the scheduling of the National Games, Khelo India Games or international competitions.

15.3. For the purposes of these selection criteria, the Shooting Calendar Year shall commence on the first day of an NSCC and conclude on the day preceding the commencement of the next NSCC, unless a different period is expressly specified for a particular selection cycle.

15.4. Any change affecting the selection cycle, MAM calculation or eligibility of athletes shall be communicated through the official NRAI website or another designated official channel as early as reasonably practicable.

16. TRANSPARENCY AND PUBLICATION OF SCORES

16.1. The NRAI shall publish, on its official website or designated platform, the competition scores and corresponding athlete rankings used for the purposes of these criteria, subject to applicable data-protection, confidentiality and competition requirements.

16.2. Scores and rankings shall be published after verification and completion of the relevant competition or assessment process, within a reasonable period determined by the NRAI.

16.3. An athlete who identifies any discrepancy in a published score, ranking or MAM calculation shall submit a written representation to the NRAI within three days of publication, specifying the disputed entry and providing relevant supporting information.

16.4. The NRAI shall examine the representation and correct any verified clerical, computational or recording error in accordance with the applicable rules. Where the representation raises a substantive selection dispute, it shall be dealt with under the applicable grievance or review procedure.

16.5. Failure to submit a representation within the specified period may be taken into account when considering the matter but shall not prevent correction of a demonstrable error where correction is warranted under the applicable rules.

17. SHOOTING CALENDAR AND CHANGES

17.1. The NRAI shall publish a calendar containing tentative dates and venues for selection trials and competitions on its official website.

17.2. The NRAI reserves the right to revise the dates, venues and schedules of selection trials or competitions where necessary due to venue availability, operational requirements, Government directions, competition scheduling or other relevant circumstances.

17.3. Any change affecting athlete participation, eligibility or the application of the selection criteria shall be notified through the official NRAI communication channels as early as reasonably practicable.

17.4. Selection and entry decisions shall be made by the competent NRAI authority in accordance with these criteria, applicable competition regulations and other binding requirements.

17.5. Decisions taken under this clause shall be reasoned and documented wherever they materially affect an athlete's eligibility or selection status. Any available grievance or review mechanism under the applicable rules shall remain unaffected.

18. INTERPRETATION, EXCEPTIONAL CIRCUMSTANCES AND FINAL PROVISIONS

18.1. These criteria have been framed to provide a clear and comprehensive framework for athlete assessment and selection. However, circumstances may arise that are not expressly addressed or that require clarification for the consistent implementation of the criteria.

18.2. Any question concerning the interpretation or application of these criteria shall be referred to the competent NRAI authority for a reasoned determination, in accordance with the NRAI Constitution, applicable rules and governing regulations.

18.3. The Selection Committee shall ordinarily select athletes in accordance with the published rankings and selection criteria. A departure from the ranking or other prescribed criterion shall be permitted only in exceptional circumstances, where such departure is authorised under the applicable rules and is necessary for a legitimate selection-related purpose.

18.4. Any such departure shall:

a. Be based on relevant and verifiable circumstances;

b. Be consistent with applicable law, the NRAI Constitution, ISSF Rules and other binding competition regulations;

c. Be supported by written reasons, including the material considerations relied upon;

d. Be recorded in the relevant selection proceedings; and

e. Be communicated to the affected athlete or athletes, subject to applicable confidentiality requirements.

18.5. A departure shall not be made arbitrarily, for an undisclosed purpose or in a manner that is inconsistent with the principles of fairness, equal treatment and procedural propriety.

18.6. The President shall retain the powers conferred upon it under the NRAI Constitution and applicable rules. Nothing in this document shall be construed as excluding any remedy, appeal, grievance mechanism or review available to an affected person under applicable law or binding regulations.

18.7. Subject to the foregoing provisions, the decisions of the Selection Committee shall be implemented in accordance with the applicable rules and shall be final within the internal selection process, without prejudice to any review or remedy available under applicable law or the governing regulations.

19. CONCLUSION

The NRAI is committed to maintaining a transparent, fair, consistent and merit-based selection system that provides eligible athletes with a genuine opportunity to represent India at international competitions.

These Selection Criteria shall be applied in accordance with their stated terms, the applicable NRAI rules, ISSF Rules and other binding requirements. The NRAI shall endeavour to ensure that selection decisions are based on relevant performance data, documented assessments and the legitimate requirements of the competition.

Any ambiguity, exceptional circumstance or issue arising during implementation shall be addressed by the Selection Committee through a reasoned and documented decision, consistent with the principles of fairness, accountability and procedural propriety.

The objective of this criterion is to ensure that athletes are selected through a credible and consistent process that promotes sporting excellence, protects the integrity of competition and strengthens confidence in the representation of India at the international level.

NATIONAL RIFLE ASSOCIATION OF INDIA

SELECTION CRITERIA – 2027

RIFLE AND PISTOL EVENT

For selection of teams at international competitions and for the purpose of internal assessment, the NRAI would rank the athletes by applying the ranking criteria – the Moving Average Method (MAM). This is a continuous Criteria (which may be subject to amendments/additions), whereby all the scores of 2026 will flow into 2027 for performance evaluation of the athlete as stated within this document. The salient features of the Selection Criteria 2027 are:

a. Athletes to be divided into 2 Groups – "A" and "B"
b. Group "A" would consist of the top-ranking athletes in Olympic Events ONLY. There will only be a senior category in this Group.
c. Group "B" would consist of seniors, juniors'/youth athletes, eligible to shoot Open Selection Trials and those athletes who choose not to be a part of Group "A".
d. National Squad and selection of athletes/teams for international competitions in Olympic Events - to be selected from Group "A" Only.
e. Group "A" athletes will not be permitted to shoot in ANY Group "B" Selection Trials. Exception to this rule is mentioned within.
f. Athletes who accept Group "A" will not be permitted to change Groups unless they have dropped in ranking and / or have specifically been permitted to do so.
g. There will be no junior/youth category in Group "A" and trials for selection of teams for juniors/youth international events will be conducted under Group "B" – junior category.
h. On the conclusion of KSS, the rankings of both Groups will be merged and a revised ranking in order of merit will be announced. NSQ Member/s may be replaced by other better performing athletes from Group A or B. Also, the Group A and B will be revised in order of merit after this assessment.
i. Method of ranking for both Groups shall be the same -LOGS FOR BOTH GROUPS TO BE MAINTAINED SEPARATELY and to be consolidated twice in a year 1) after the National Championship and 2) after KSS or 180 days after the National Championship, whichever is earlier.
j. MAM to be applied for ranking of athletes.
k. Latest four scores to be placed for consideration. The lowest score to be deleted. Average of highest three scores (of these four scores) will form the Average Score [AvS].
l. The latest four scores must not be older than 165 days.
m. No computation of Average Score without a minimum of three scores, within the mentioned time frame. Exception to this rule is mentioned within.
n. Formation of Group A & Group B will be based on the Ranking after the completion of the 69th National Championship (NSCC).
o. National Squad (NSQ) to be constituted from amongst the group A members after Selection Trial 2 (2027).
p. Finals shall be conducted during the selection trials for Group A and Group B. However, bonus points will be applicable only for the selection of teams for Junior International Competitions and shall not be considered while merging of Group A & Group B
q. Eligibility for Quota Competitions: To be eligible for selection for an Olympic Quota Competition, an athlete must have participated in at least one international

competition or have won an individual medal at a junior international competition during the two-year period preceding the date of selection. Additionally, the athlete must be a member of Group "A". Athletes who do not fulfil the above eligibility criteria shall be selected to participate in Ranking Points Only (RPO) category, irrespective of their ranking.

r. Participation By Quota Holders: A quota holder shall not be eligible to enter any further ISSF quota events until India has secured the maximum permitted quotas in the relevant discipline. A quota holder shall, however, be automatically included in every World Cup in RPO category in which the Indian team participates during the year 2027.

s. In the event of the ISSF making radical changes, affecting this Selection Criteria (post this document coming into force), the NRAI will have the right to make requisite changes, without any announcement.

t. In Competitions / Games where the organizers place a cap on the total number of participants; the Selection Committee would have the absolute right to select a "common Athlete /s" and its decision would be final and binding on all.

1. MOVING AVERAGE METHOD (MAM)

a. General Rule

The ranking of an athlete shall be determined on the basis of the Average Score (AvS), computed from the best thee scores out of the latest four scores achieved within the last 165 days. No score shall be bypassed, omitted, or disregarded, unless expressly permitted under this selection criteria.

b. Method of Computation of AvS

The AvS shall be computed as follows:

- From the athlete's latest four scores, the lowest score will be deleted.
- The remaining three scores will be added and the total divided by 3.

Formula: Average Score (AvS) = (Total of Latest 4 scores−Lowest score) / 3

c. Definition of Scores

For each athlete, the latest four scores will be listed as S1 … S4 **(with** S1 being the most recent**).**

Individual four latest score (S1…..S4 (S1 being the newest score)

Score (S) =QS (Qualification Score) + AP (Ancillary points, if any) =QS+AP

d. Ancillary Points

Ancillary Points earned in the Finals (Chart X below) shall be added to the specific qualification score and shall NOT be added to the Final Average Score (AvS).

e. Minimum Score Requirement

i. An athlete must have a minimum of four scores within the stipulated time to avail the benefit of deleting the lowest score.
ii. If only three scores are available, all three shall be counted (no deletion permitted).
iii. Athletes with fewer than three scores in the stipulated period shall not be considered for ranking, except in extraordinary cases, at the discretion of the Selection Committee.

f. Identical Lowest Scores

Of the Latest 4 scores – if an athlete has two or more identical lowest scores , only one shall be deleted.

g. Elimination rounds at World Cups / International Competitions – RIFLE EVENTS

Higher of the 2 scores, shot by an athlete in the elimination and qualification of an RC will be considered for the purpose of MAM.

h. Tie-Breaking

i. Ties shall be resolved as per ISSF Rules.
ii. If averages are identical, the most recent score shall serve as the first tie-breaker.
iii. If the last score is also identical, the preceding scores shall be compared sequentially until the tie is broken.

i. Announcement of Rankings

i. Revised rankings shall be announced after the completion of any recognized domestic or international competition where NRAI has fielded a team.

ii. If multiple competitions are scheduled successively, the updated rankings shall be announced only after completion of the full set.

2. LIST OF RECOGNIZED COMPETITIONS

a. IRC – INTERNATIONAL RECOGNIZED COMPETITIONS

IRC's will include only those international competitions where NRAI fields it's team. Scores of these competitions shall be considered for MAM.

b. DRC – DOMESTIC RECOGNIZED COMPETITIONS

- DRC would include the following Championships and Selection Trials and Scores achieved in the following DRCs will be considered for the purpose of MAM:-
  i. National Shooting Championship Competition [NSCC]
  ii. National Games [NGs]
  iii. Sardar Sajjan Singh Memorial Masters Shooting Championship.
  iv. Kumar Surendra Singh Memorial Shooting Championship [KSS] and any other

competition of this level declared by the Governing Body of the NRAI.

v. Selection Trials [ST] – the NRAI will hold a minimum of 4 ST's and as many as would be required in the year.

Any other Championship, which is a National / International Competition-and the NRAI announces that competition as an IRC/DRC- would be considered for the purpose of the MAM.

3. CHART X- ANCILLARY POINTS FOR THE "FINALS"

a. Chart X indicates the ancillary points that an athlete would gain on entering the 'Finals' corresponding to his/ her ranking and the type of competition (for example: nationals, STs, other DRC, World Championship and other IRC etc.). Athletes would gain points of Chart X only in Finals conducted in an RC and these points would be added to the specific category (senior, junior or youth) in which the Finals are shot.

b. The points indicated in the Chart X, would be added to the athlete's qualification score.

c. The qualification score and the additional points accrued in the 'Finals' – as per chart X, would be added to the Qualification Score ONLY and the total would be the 'Score' of the athlete, solely for calculating the AvS - this total score attributed to the athlete would not be recognized for any other purpose but only for arriving at the ranking of the athlete by the MAM.

d. Consequently, the additional advantage [points from Chart X] that the athlete gets for participating in the Finals of an RC lasts until that qualification score forms a part of the table of scores being considered for the calculation of AvS.

e. For IRC's which have 8 teams or fewer than 8 teams participating in the event [for example SAF Games/ championship] - the ancillary points of Chart X – "International Competitions" will NOT be applied. These International Competitions will be treated as '**Other Domestic Competition**" and hence - the ancillary points corresponding to the 'other Domestic Competitions' will be applied. ALL JUNIOR INTERNATIONAL COMPETITIONS WILL GET THE BENFIT OF ANCILLARY POINTS corresponding to Other IRC's.and for their specific category.

f. **Chart X – RIFLE AND PISTOL:** Ancillary Points available for each position in the corresponding RC FINAL

EVENT	COMPETITION	RANK 1	RANK 2	RANK 3
50M	World Championship	4	3	2
	ASC/World Cup/Other Quota Competition	3	2	1
	NSCC/Other Domestic Competition	2	1	0.5
25M	World Championship	4	3	2
	ASC/World Cup/Other Quota Competition	3	2	1
	NSCC/Other Domestic Competition	2	1	0.5
10M	World Championship	2	1.5	1
	ASC/World Cup/Other Quota Competition	1.5	1	0.5
	NSCC/Other Domestic Competition	1	0.5	0.25

4. RULES ON WEAPON BREAKAGE, EQUIPMENT FAILURE

a. WEAPON FAILURE

i. RIFLE

Weapon Breakage: In the event of a weapon breakage that renders the rifle incapable of firing, the athlete may be permitted to bypass the affected score, provided that the inability to fire one or more shots due to the breakage is established and certified by the Range Officer immediately upon completion of the relevant RC. The Range Officer shall record the details of the weapon breakage in the Incident Report, specifying the nature of the breakage and its impact on the athlete's ability to complete the required shots. The affected score shall be treated as Did Not Shoot (DNS) and excluded from the calculation of the athlete's MAM. In the event of such weapon breakage during an IRC, the athlete and coach shall obtain a certificate confirming the incident from the Range Officer, Jury, or Organising Committee. If obtaining such certification from these authorities is not feasible, the Rifle Coach or any responsible NRAI official shall certify the incident and inform the NRAI within three (3) days of the occurrence. Upon acceptance of the request, the affected score shall be bypassed, and the athlete's average shall be calculated using the last four (4) eligible scores, provided that such scores fall within the prescribed time frame under the MAM criteria.

No request for bypassing a score on account of weapon breakage shall be accepted if received after three (3) days from the date of the incident.

ii. PISTOL

For the purposes of these Rules and this Selection Criteria, the term "Pistol" shall include revolvers and all other handguns.

1. Pistol Breakage

Where a pistol becomes incapable of firing due to a breakage, and the athlete is consequently unable to fire one or more shots in a Ranking Competition (RC), the affected score may be bypassed, subject to the following conditions:

a. The breakage must be verified and certified by the Range Officer immediately upon completion of the relay. The Range Officer shall record the nature and details of the breakage in the official Incident Report.
b. Upon acceptance of the Incident Report, the affected score shall be disregarded and treated as Did Not Start (DNS) for the purpose of calculating the athlete's MAM.
c. Where the breakage occurs during an International Ranking Competition (IRC), the athlete and coach shall obtain a certificate or Incident Report from the Range Officer, Jury or Organising Committee, as applicable. If obtaining such documentation is not reasonably possible, the pistol coach or a responsible NRAI official shall certify the incident and notify the NRAI in writing within three (3) days of its occurrence.

d. For the purpose of calculating the athlete's average, the affected score shall be bypassed, and the preceding scores shall be considered, provided that such scores fall within the applicable time frame prescribed under this Selection Criteria.
e. No request for bypassing a score under this provision shall be accepted if received by the NRAI after three (3) days from the date of the incident.

2. Malfunction in 25m Time Fire Events

In 25m Time Fire events, an athlete may be permitted to bypass one score where the athlete is unable to fire one or more shots due to a pistol malfunction after having exhausted the maximum number of malfunctions permitted under the applicable competition rules, and is consequently unable to claim the malfunction allowance that would otherwise have been available.

The following conditions shall apply:

a. The athlete must immediately report the malfunction to the Range Officer. The Range Officer must be satisfied that, had the athlete not exhausted the permissible number of malfunctions, the malfunction would otherwise have qualified for an allowable malfunction under the applicable competition rules.
b. The Range Officer shall verify the incident and record the details in the official Incident Report immediately upon completion of the RC. This provision shall be invoked only on the basis of a duly recorded Incident Report.
c. Once the incident is duly certified, the affected score shall be disregarded and treated as Did Not Start (DNS) for the purpose of calculating the athlete's MAM.
d. Where the malfunction occurs during an IRC, the athlete and coach shall make reasonable efforts to obtain a certificate or Incident Report from the Range Officer, Jury or Organising Committee, as applicable. If obtaining such documentation is not reasonably possible, the pistol coach or a responsible NRAI official shall certify the incident and notify the NRAI in writing within three (3) days of its occurrence.
e. For calculating the athlete's average, the affected score shall be bypassed, and the preceding scores shall be considered, provided that such scores fall within the applicable time frame prescribed under this Selection Criteria.
f. No request for bypassing a score under this provision shall be accepted if received by the NRAI after three (3) days from the date of the incident.

Note: The benefit of this provision shall be available irrespective of whether the athlete continues the match after the malfunction or withdraws from the competition. However, the athlete must report the malfunction to the Range Officer, and the Range Officer must be satisfied that the malfunction would otherwise have qualified as an allowable malfunction but for the athlete having exhausted the permissible number of malfunctions. If the incident is not certified through the prescribed Incident Report or other documentation expressly permitted under this provision, the benefit of this clause shall not be available.

b. Rifle and Pistol

a. Norms for bypass

An athlete can bypass a score for any of the above reasons **ONLY ONCE** in one Shooting Calendar year. At no point, will the athlete be allowed to bypass more than one score in one calendar year even if the different clauses can be invoked. For example, an athlete requests the bypassing of a score due to weapon breakage, then even if he/she has another episode-in the same shooting year, which falls under another clause, it would not be permitted as the limit of bypassing a score-is only once in a shooting calendar . For bypassing a score, the Athlete must apply to the NRAI **within 3 days of the incident** and letting the NRAI know that this is the first and only time that s / he has claimed the bypass of a score in an event, in the relevant shooting calendar. **APPLICATION RECEIVED AFTER 3 DAYS OF THE INCIDENT SHALL NOT BE ACCEPTED.**

c. FAILURE of equipment in "Random Check"

In the case of an athlete who is disqualified due to his / her equipment not passing equipment control test in a 'random check' after the match, and it is established that this failure to pass the equipment control was beyond his / her control then the athlete's score of that match will be considered as DNS and this score will be bypassed. This rule will apply ONLY when the equipment is examined and 'passed' by Equipment Control [EC] prior to the commencement of the match, and it can be established that the athlete has not tampered with the equipment. On the request of an athlete - the EC official will state the reason for failure of equipment in writing. The athlete along with the national coach must make an application to the NRAI within 3 days of the incident, requesting that s / he be allowed to bypass that score. The approval for this bypass will be permitted only after thorough evaluation by RTS/ NRAI.

In the case of Pistol events - this rule shall not apply if the failure is due to Trigger Weight.

Procedure to get the copy of Incident Report:

Submit a written request to the relevant Range Official immediately upon conclusion of the relay and obtain a copy of the Incident Report from the RTS Office.

5. TIME FRAME

Calculation of the Moving Average Method (MAM) – Time Frame Clause

1. Validity of Scores

ii. The four scores of an athlete [S1…S4] must not be older than **165 days**.
iii. The score will be calculated backwards from the last day of the latest competition.
iv. Example: If a competition begins on 21.12.2000 and ends on 30.12.2000, counting will start from 30.12.2000.

v. If the 165th day coincides with the last day of the oldest competition, the score will be considered valid, even if the event was actually shot a few days earlier.
vi. If, within this 165th day period, an athlete has only three scores, then he/she will not get the benefit of deducting the lowest score.

2. Applicability of the Time Frame Clause

The time frame clause shall be applicable to all athletes and shall not apply to the NRAI. In an event that an athlete opts to skip a Domestic Recognised Competition (DRC), only those scores falling within the prescribed timeframe of 165 days shall be considered for evaluation.

3. Relaxation under Time Frame Clause

a. Insufficient Non-Restrictive DRCs

If NRAI has not conducted an adequate number of non-restrictive DRCs, the 165-day limit will be extended by the NRAI for the calculation of the Average Score (AvS)

b. Extraordinary Cases

a. NRAI may extend the time frame in cases of exceptional athletes who have consistently proven themselves at major international competitions in the last 2 years but are unable to participate in the current Recognised competition/s. The NRAI would extend the time frame to a maximum of 200 days.
b. Such athletes must have obtained advance consent from the NRAI by explaining; in writing; their compelling contingency.
c. In these cases, the Selection Committee will record its reasons in writing while justifying the decision.

c. Purpose of the Clause

i. The clause ensures that athletes present their most recent performances and discourages reliance on old results.
ii. It applies only when NRAI organizes a DRC and an athlete seeks to skip it, provided s /he already has the required number of scores within the time frame.
iii. NRAI retains the discretion to extend the time frame whenever necessary.

6. SCORE LOG AND NORMS FOR MAINTENANCE OF LOGS FOR DIFFERENT CATEGORIES

a. Score logs for the two Groups “A” and “B” would be maintained separately and consolidated twice in one shooting calendar.

b. Ranking of all athletes, would be maintained as per Group selected by them. Once a Group “B” junior athlete selects a category [senior or junior], the scores in trials/competitions shall be considered under that particular category only. Scores of Athletes opting for Junior category will be logged in the Junior category log.

c. There will only be one Log sheet for Juniors and Youth athletes, and no separate Log sheet will be prepared for Youth athletes. For the purpose of selection of Youth Athletes (for international competitions in Air weapon events), the scores of eligible youth athletes will be lifted from Junior Log sheet for the purpose for selection of Youth athletes.

d. After every National Championship "B" Group - junior / youth athlete's qualification scores will be transferred to the main Log [senior category] of that event so that s / he may be evaluated along all with all other athletes giving him / her the opportunity to reconsider his Group / category at the time of consolidation of scores. Scores of athletes that are participating in the newly introduced "Youth category" for firearm events" in domestic competitions will be treated as junior athletes for the purpose of MAM and their scores will be inserted in the Junior Log.

e. All scores achieved by an athlete in an RC [DRC and /or IRC] would be considered for the purpose of this Method – No score achieved in an RC will be overlooked or bypassed. Qualification Scores achieved in an RC - in any category – (Open/Junior/Youth) will be considered for the MAM. Qualification Scores of all recognized competitions would be recorded in the Main Log and in respective categories and no score that has been achieved by the athlete in any recognized competition can be ignored /bypassed or evaded.

f. FINALS in restricted competitions: Junior/Youth Athletes or any other category of athletes who shoot 'Finals' in restricted competitions [where the competition is not a senior open men or women's competition] will get restricted benefit of Chart X, as the points will be added, ONLY to the Log maintained for that category. For example, an athlete who shoots 580 in the qualification round of a Junior IRC and wins the Finals in that competition will record 580 in the Main Log, 580 + 1.5 = 581.5 in the Junior Log. The advantage of Chart X in a restricted RC will be registered in the specific Log only.

7. ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA FOR PARTICIPATION IN SELECTION TRIALS GROUP "A"

a. The Group A Selection Trials [STs] will be conducted for Olympic Events Only and for limited number of athletes, as mentioned below.

b. Group A will consist of the senior category ONLY. For International competitions, athletes of Group A would shoot only in senior category, irrespective of their age. It would be mandatory for Junior /Youth Athletes who are top rankers in the senior category to make their choice of "Category" (whether they wish to opt for Senior Category or Junior category) and once such choice is made – the athlete would not be permitted to change the category before 70 NSCC and would shoot under the same category throughout the calendar year. **IN CASE ANY JUNIOR / YOUTH ATHLETE FAILS TO INFORM HIS/HER DECISION WITHIN STIPULATED TIME FIXED BY NRAI, THE NRAI SHALL INCLUDE THE ATHLETE IN ACCORDANCE WITH HIS/HER RANKING AFTER 69th NSCC.**

c. On Conclusion of the 69th NSCC moving average score of both Group “A” and “B” will be calculated and these average scores of both Groups will be merged / consolidated in the order of merit. The consolidated ranking would be the criteria for forming Group “A”.

d. **The total number of slots in Group “A” for each Olympic event will be as follows:**

20 athletes in each event of 50M Rifle 3P
20 athletes for 25M Pistol Women
12 athletes for 25M Rapid Fire Pistol
25 athletes in each event of 10M Rifle and 10M Pistol

e. Once the ranking is announced – those athletes, who are eligible to join Group “A” in one or more events, would inform the NRAI [within 3 days of the announcement - if they are not desirous of being a part of Group “A”]. If any one or more athletes opt to join Group “B” then NRAI would fill the vacant slots with the next athlete. **However, the NRAI would not permit athletes below the ranking of 25 in the 25 M Pistol Women and 50M Rifle 3P events; 30 in the 10M events and for the Rapid-Fire Pistol event there will be no inclusion below the ranking of 12.**

f. EXAMPLE – Only top 20 ranking athletes in 25 M Pistol category will be included in Group “A”. In case the top 20 rankings include some senior / juniors’ /youth athletes, who opt for Group “B”, then these vacant slots will be allotted to the next athlete in order of merit but will not include any athlete below the rank of 25 irrespective of any vacant spots.

g. If an athlete belongs to Group “A” in one event but does not have the within mentioned ranking for the other Olympic event, then s /he may shoot the trial under Group “A” for the other event- subject to achieving MQS in that even - as per Annexure “A”.

h. (Example – If athlete X is placed in Group “A” for Air Pistol Women and is also eligible for Group “B” Open Trials in 25M Pistol Women, she will be permitted to compete in the 25 M Pistol Women Selection Trials under Group “A”, provided she has achieved the MQS / is otherwise eligible to participate in the Open Trials.)

i. Once the Groups are formed then eligible athletes who have opted for Group A – would have to shoot selection trials of Group A only and would not be permitted participation in any trials of Group B. Exception to this rule – is stated within.

j. For competitions like NSCC, KSS- Finals will be conducted irrespective of the Athletes Group [athlete from Group A or B]. While calculating the ranking of Group B - points accruing from FINALS in competitions like NSCC and KSS would be allocated to the athlete [Chart X].

k. The President /Secretary General may allow two athletes in each event, irrespective of their ranking, to be a part of group A and participate in Selection Trials of Group A.

8. INTERNAL ASSESSMENT CONSOLIDATION AND EVALUATION

a. There will be an evaluation of all athletes twice in a calendar year – after the National Championship and after KSS or 180 days, after the completion of the National Championship – whichever is earlier. In both these periods of consolidation; the Averages of both Groups will be merged and then ranked in order of Merit and based on the revised ranking; the following may be affected. In 2027, Consolidation of AvS of both groups to be done after the 69th NSCC and KSS. Based on the consolidated scores – after the 69th NSCC – group A and B will be formed. NSQ 2027 will be constituted from amongst group A athletes – on completion of ST 2 and re-evaluated after KSS.
   1. NSQ Member/s may be replaced by other better performing athletes from Group "A" or "B".
   2. Group "A" and "B" will be re-organized in order of Merit after this assessment.

b. The junior / youth athlete will have to select a category – whether senior or junior, under Group "B", and will be considered for selection accordingly. It is clarified that once an athlete opts for junior category, s/he will not be considered for the team selection in senior category under Group "B".

c. It is clarified that the senior athletes of Group "B" will only be selected in non- Olympic events for international competitions.

9. ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA FOR PARTICIPATION IN SELECTION TRIALS – GROUP B:

a. The athlete has achieved the MQS as per Annexure "A" during 69th NSCC in that event or in during KSS 2027.

b. The athlete's highest three scores in RCs in the previous year are equal/more than the MQS as stated in Annexure "A" for that event. A Junior / Youth athlete / Master / Sr. Master who achieves the MQS of his/her category would be eligible to shoot the Selection Trials.

c. An Arjuna Awardee would be eligible to participate in the STs in all events of the stream in which s/he has received the Award.

d. A Transit athlete who is qualified to shoot Junior Trials by virtue of having shot the requisite MQS in the 69th NSCC or has achieved the Senior MQS at least once in the previous year in any RC-would be eligible to shoot all the Senior STs for the year 2027.

e. Junior / youth athletes, who are eligible to be a part of Group "A" would be required to inform NRAI within 3 days of the announcement of the rankings – whether they wish to be a part of Group "A" or Group "B" and if they select Group "B" then whether they wish to be considered in the Junior category or the Senior category.

f. For selection of teams [at competitions where NRAI is fielding teams] in the non-Olympic events – only top ranking 12 athletes – in order of merit - would be eligible to

participate at own cost. Hence athletes ranking 1 to 12 would inform NRAI of their desire to participate in the international event at own cost and the NRAI will select the team from those athletes who desire participating at own cost – IN ORDER OF MERIT. Athletes ranked 13th and above would not be permitted to represent the country in any event.

10. CRITERIA FOR SELECTION OF NATIONAL SQUAD [NSQ] - 2027

a. The athletes for National Squad – 2027 will be selected as per their ranking after the conduct of the Selection Trial 2 (ST 2 January 2027); from amongst the athletes of Group A.

b. The NSQ 2027 shall be constituted for Olympic events ONLY – There will only be a senior category.

c. Number of athletes in each event: 10 athletes per Olympic event for Rifle/Pistol (M/W)

d. The National Squad Program will be implemented by the National Coaches along with their coaching team. An athlete who is part of the National Squad – NSQ, s/he- would be obliged to attend National Coaching Camps and ensure a minimum attendance of 85% - failing which s/he would not be SELECTED for the next international competition. In case of any contingency, the President with the recommendation of HPD & HPM in consultation with the coaches, may grant leave of absence to an athlete from attending a particular coaching camp / part of a coaching camp. **It would be mandatory for all athletes, selected for an international competition, to attend the pre-departure coaching camp.**

11. CRITERIA FOR SELECTION IN INTERNATIONAL COMPETITIONS – SENIORS AND JUNIORS

a. SENIOR COMPETITIONS

i. Selection of athletes/teams for international competitions for Olympic Events, would be in order of merit and would be selected from Group "A" only.

ii. NSQ 2027 will be constituted after the conduct of the Selection Trial 2 (ST 2).

iii. For international competitions in Olympic events, where 5 participants per country are permitted, - the top athletes in order of merit would participate at Govt cost. For the RPO (Ranking Points Only) - the highest-ranking athlete (in order of merit – within ranking of 1-12), who are willing to participate at own cost; subject to the rules within this article and its sub clauses. These athletes would be permitted to participate in that international competition in the RPO category at own cost.

iv. In Competitions / Games where the organizers place a cap on the total number of participants; the selection committee would have the absolute right to select a "common Athlete /s" and its decision would be final and binding on all.

b. JUNIOR/YOUTH COMPETITIONS

i. Age Criteria

The age criteria, as defined under ISSF rules shall be determined for juniors and youth athletes.

ii. Participation in international competitions:

Junior/Youth athletes of Group "B" can only participate in one category i.e. **Senior or Junior** and the athlete will continue to shoot in the selected category in all International Competitions during the year 2027. If a Junior/Youth athlete elects to be a part of senior 'B' category, s / he must i inform the NRAI by email ONLY - within 3 days of the rankings being announced or else s / he will be regarded as a Junior / Youth category athlete. Junior/Youth athletes will shoot in international competition under category selected by them and will not be allowed to change it in the shooting calendar year of 2027.

c. Participation at own cost in World Cups/other Recognized International Championships/Competitions:

i. No athlete ranked above 1-12 [Group "A"] would be permitted to represent the country at an IRC at own cost.

ii. Athletes who are ranked in the top 12 in Group "A", will be permitted to represent the country in a recognized international competition [IRC], at Own Cost subject to the following conditions:

a. Any International Competition becomes an IRC (recognized competition for the purpose of MAM) if the NRAI is fielding a team in the competition or if it has specifically given a particular competition recognition and subject to the athlete having sought permission from the NRAI in writing.

b. Athlete from Group "A" who is not selected in the team but is ranked in the top 12 may apply to the NRAI for permission to participate in that IRC at own cost. The NRAI may permit "at own cost " participation to any desirous athlete in the order of merit only.

iii. All scores shot in an IRC whether by selection or at 'own cost' will be considered for ranking. This will also be applicable in competitions for junior's and youth.

iv. Notwithstanding the above, on the recommendations of the President, the Selection Committee of NRAI, may allow any athlete, irrespective of the ranking, to participate in international competitions at own cost subject to their being an explanation in writing for the inclusion of that athlete.

12. CRITERIA FOR SELECTION OF TEAMS FOR PARTICIPATION IN NON-OLYMPIC INTERNATIONAL EVENTS

a. Selection Trials for Non- Olympic Pistol events will be conducted in Group B – Senior category ONLY.

b. For International Competitions which include non - Olympic events in their program, [e.g. the World Championship, Asian shooting championship etc.] the NRAI may permit its athletes to participate at own cost.

c. When a Shooting calendar comprises an IRC [in which NRAI intends to field its team] which includes non- Olympic events in its program, Pistol athletes of Group "A" will be permitted to participate in STs of Group "B" in Non-Olympic Events. Their selection in non-Olympic events would be subject to condition under Clause (e & f) below. Group A Pistol athlete - desirous of participating in these selection trials - must keep themselves informed of the selection trial program for Group B. The NRAI will not be responsible for keeping them informed.

d. The NRAI will announce the Selection Trials in which Group "A" athletes may participate in Group "B" selection trials for non-Olympic events. This will be permitted for a specific Championship/ Competition.

e. A Pistol Athlete of Group "A" would be permitted to shoot the selection trials of Group B for non-Olympic events only in the specific years as mentioned in clause 'c'. **These trials would be held ONLY in the program for Group B**. When the international event is being held within the 1st half of the calendar year – **for the A Group athlete;** the following 3 scores - NSCC + ST1 + ST2 / (divided by) / 3, will be considered for arriving at his / her Average Score. All three scores will be considered for the AvS and no deletion would be permitted. This rule of 3 scores applies to Group A athletes only. The AvS of group A athletes would be merged with AvS of group B athletes to arrive at the ranking.

f. A Pistol Athlete who is selected in the Indian team for an Olympic event for a particular championship /competition; would not be permitted to participate in the non-Olympic event /s, in that championship / competition. The athlete who is selected for an Olympic event; would automatically be dropped from the non-Olympic event and the athlete next in ranking in the non-Olympic event would be selected.

g. For the Rifle Athletes of Group A – the trials for the one and only non-Olympic event – the 50 M Rifle Prone - will be conducted within the program of the group A trials. These trials will be held during the program of Group A, irrespective of there being any international event as mentioned in clause 'c' There will be no restrictions on a selected athlete of 50M 3 P event from participating in the prone position events in an IRC.

h. The above restrictions – clause (f) - will only apply to pistol shooting.

13. ZERO ATHLETE [ZS]

a. A TOP athlete, who desires to shoot a selection trial for examining/ experimenting /testing of new /changed technique / equipment - under competition conditions, may shoot as a ZERO ATHLETE and such scores shot for experimental purpose would not be considered in the calculation of MAM. Provided that the athlete requests in writing, prior to the competition, stating that s/he wishes to shoot as a Zero Athlete**. This provision will be available only to the top 8 ranking athletes of that event and ONLY IF the athlete has sent an email application BEFORE 5 PM ON PREVIOUS DAY OF THE TRIAL. APPLICATION RECEIVED AFTER THIS TIME WILL NOT BE CONSIDERED AND SCORE SHALL BE CONSIDERED FOR MAM, IF THE ATHLETES OPTS FOR SHOOTING THE TRIAL.**

b. **The athlete is not permitted to shoot as Zero Athlete in any IRC or DRC except Selection Trials**.

14. CONCLUSION

i. The calendar with tentative dates and venue is published on the website. The NRAI reserves the right to revise the dates of trials/competitions, selection of team or change the venue of trials/competitions subject to venue availability or with Government guidelines for seniors and juniors.

ii. The decision of the NRAI/Selection Committee shall be final and binding in all matters**.**

NATIONAL RIFLE ASSOCIATION OF INDIA

Annexure "A"

QUALIFYING SCORES FOR TRIALS for 2027

S.NO.	EVENT.	SENIORS	JUNIORS	YOUTH
1.	50M RIFLE 3 POSITION MEN	565	545	-
2.	50M RIFLE PRONE MEN	610*	600*	-
3.	10M RIFLE MEN	615*	610*	605*
4.	50M PISTOL MEN/W	530/520	515/505	
5.	25M RAPID FIRE PISTOL	550	535	-
6.	25M CENTRE FIRE PISTOL	555	-	-
7.	25M STANDARD PISTOL	540	520	-
8.	10M PISTOL MEN	565	560	555
9.	25M PISTOL JUNIOR MEN	-	550	-
10.	50M RIFLE PRONE WOMEN	605*	595*	-
11.	50M RIFLE 3 POSITION WOMEN	560	540	-
12.	10M RIFLE WOMEN	612*	607*	602
13.	25M PISTOL WOMEN	545	525	-
14.	10M PISTOL WOMEN	550	540	530

***Decimal Score**

All junior scores will be the MQS applicable for Masters and Youth scores (in air gun events) for Sr. Masters. Decimal Scores for Air Rifle and Prone Men and Women events.

NATIONAL RIFLE ASSOCIATION OF INDIA

SELECTION CRITERIA – 2027

SHOTGUN EVENT

For selection of teams at international competitions and for the purpose of internal assessment, the NRAI would rank the athletes by applying the ranking criteria – the Relative Ranking Performance System. This is a continuous Criteria (which may be subject to amendments/additions), whereby all the scores of 2026 will flow into 2027 for performance evaluation of the athlete as stated within this document. The salient features of the Selection Criteria 2027 are:

a. The scope of this Criteria would be based on Relative Ranking Performance system for senior and junior shotgun athletes. The ranking of an athlete shall be determined based on receiving Final Ranking Points, which will be aggregate of their top 3 "Event Points" over latest four nominated ranking events.
b. This Criteria would come into effect from 1st November 2026 and shall cover all events and shooting disciplines for shotgun athletes. No previous score or any other performance shall be considered. All athletes shall start from Zero – with a clean slate. This approach has been designed to allow every athlete to start afresh, thereby creating a fair and level playing field where performance alone will determine ranking and future opportunities.
c. These rules shall be applicable to all seniors'/juniors' athletes unless specified for juniors.
d. It shall be binding on all sportspersons who seek to represent the country in international events.
e. Super squadding to be followed for all senior/junior's athletes which shall be as per rankings/scores.
f. In keeping with the principal of selecting the best from the best junior men & junior women, shall also be deemed to be included for eligibility to team selection under this Criteria.
g. The latest four scores to be placed for consideration. The lowest "total event points" to be deleted.
h. The latest four scores must not be older than 180 days
i. No computation will be done without a minimum of three scores, within the mentioned timeframe.
j. Finals shall be conducted in both senior and junior events. Bonus points shall be added to the qualifying score and shall be treated as Qualification Score.
k. Two separate log sheets shall be made for Senior & Junior events.
l. Junior athletes are required to select one age category – senior or junior. Participation in both categories simultaneously will not be permitted.
m. It shall be effective for the benefit of athletes, who at the time of their selection, shall be determined to be eligible for representing the country in the international arena as per the prevailing Criteria of the Government of India (GOI).
n. Final Event Points – Final Event Points are the points accumulated by an athlete for their ranking in Finals of a particular event. For example, if an athlete wins a Gold in the Domestic Selection Trials, his Final Event Points will be three (3), and if an athlete wins Gold in the ISSF Championship, his Final Event Points will be six (6).

1. ELIGIBILITY FOR PARTICIPATION IN SELECTION TRIALS (SHOTGUN)

Athletes who achieve Minimum Qualification Scores, as per Selection Criteria during 69th National Shooting Championship Competitions 2026 or Digvijay Singh Memorial Shooting Championship (DSMSC) 2026 shall be eligible to participate in designated selection trials for selection of teams for international competitions.

EVENT	SENIOR	JUNIOR
Trap Men	112	102
Skeet Men	112	102
Trap Women	100	95
Skeet Women	100	95

2. ELEGIBILITY FOR PARTICIPATION IN QUOTA COMPETITIONS

To be eligible for selection for an Olympic Quota Competition, an athlete must have participated in atleast one International competition during the two-year period preceding the date of selection. Athletes who do not fulfil the above eligibility criteria shall be selected to participate in Ranking Points Only (RPO) category, irrespective of their ranking.

3. THE RELATIVE RANKING PERFORMANCE SYSTEM

Domestic Ranking Competitions

a) Zero points will be awarded to highest scoring competitor. For every target a competitor will finish behind the highest scoring competitor, one negative point will be awarded.
b) For example – if 120/125 is the highest qualification score then zero will be awarded to the highest scorer, -2 (negative 2 points) will be awarded to a competitor scoring 118/125, -6 (negative 6 points) will be awarded to a competitor scoring 114/125, and so on.
c) Final Bonus Points – The final bonus points will be added to the qualification score as appended below:

3 Points	1st Place
2 Points	2nd Place
1 Point	3rd Place

d) For example – if a competitor shoots 117/125 and is 3 points behind the highest qualifier (120/125), finished finals at 1st place, s/he will finish the event with 0 (zero) points. (-3 from qualification and +3 from finals)

The table below demonstrates the domestic ranking system explained above:

Highest Qualification Score in Domestic Ranking Competitions - 122						
S. No.	Name	Qualification score	Qualification Points	Finals Position	Final Points	Total Event Points
1	Athlete A	121	-1	1st Place	3	2
2	Athlete B	122	0			0
3	Athlete C	119	-3	2nd Place	2	-1

4	Athlete D	118	-4			-4
5	Athlete E	117	-5			-5
6	Athlete F	115	-7	3rd Place	1	-6

International Ranking Competitions

a) Zero points will be awarded to eight ranked athlete for an event, which will act as the benchmark. For every target a competitor will finish behind the eight ranked competitor, one negative point will be awarded. However, for every target a competitor will finish ahead the eight ranked competitor, one positive point will be awarded.
b) For example – if 118/125 is the eight ranked qualification score then zero will be awarded this score and will act as the benchmark, +2 (positive 2 points) will be awarded to a competitor scoring 120/125, -2 (negative 2 points) will be awarded to a competitor scoring 116/125, -6 (negative 6 points) will be awarded to a competitor scoring 112/125, and so on.
c) Final Event Points – The following final event points will be added to the qualification score as appended below of a particular event:

ISSF World Championship / ISSF World Cup - 2026/2027

6 Points	1st Place
4 Points	2nd Place
2 Points	3rd Place

Asian Championship - 2027/2028

4 Points	1st Place
3 Points	2nd Place
2 Points	3rd Place

d) For example – if a competitor shoots 117/125 and is 1 point behind the benchmark score (Eighth ranked qualifier) (118/125), finished finals at 1st place in ISSF Championship, s/he will finish the event with 5 (five) points. (-1 from qualification and +6 from finals)

The table below demonstrates the international ranking system explained above:

Eighth Rank Qualification Score in ISSF Ranking Competitions - 120						
S. No.	Name	Qualification score	Qualification Points	Finals Position	Final Points	Total Event Points
1	Athlete A	121	1	2nd Place	4	5
2	Athlete B	118	-2			-2
3	Athlete C	115	-5			-5

Eighth Rank Qualification Score in Asian Ranking Competitions - 120						
S. No.	Name	Qualification score	Qualification Points	Finals Position	Final Points	Total Event Points
1	Athlete A	121	1	2nd Place	3	4
2	Athlete B	118	-2			-2
3	Athlete C	115	-5			-5

Minimum Score Requirement

a) An athlete must have a minimum of four scores within the stipulated time to avail the benefit of deleting the lowest score.
b) If only three scores are available, all three shall be counted (no deletion permitted).
c) Athletes with fewer than three scores in the stipulated period shall not be considered for ranking, except in extraordinary cases, at the discretion of the Selection Committee.

4. BASIS OF SELECTION

Best three results from the latest four results will be considered including Domestic Ranking Competitions and International Ranking Competitions

(1) National Squad (NSQ)

a. NSQ shall consist of ten athletes, including the juniors, who opt for senior category for the purpose of participation only in senior category.

b. First 10 athletes, based on the performance after Selection Trial 2 in 2027, will be selected for National Squad 2027

(2) ISSF World Championship / ISSF World Cup / Asian Championships

a. The ranking of athletes will be determined on the basis of the Relative Ranking Performance System computed from their qualifying scores plus bonus points, if any.

b. For first two World Cups at Acapulco, Mexico and New Delhi, India, the teams will be selected based on the performance after Selection Trial 2 in 2027

c. For World Cup at Lonato, Italy, the team will be selected based on the performance after Selection Trial 3 in 2027

d. For World Cup at Hangzhou, China and World Championship, Cairo, Egypt, the teams will be selected based on the performance after Selection Trial 5

e. For Asian Shotgun Championship, Xian, China, the team will be selected based on the performance after World Cup, Hangzhou, China 2027

(3) Participation By Quota Holders

a) A quota holder shall not be eligible to enter any further ISSF quota events until India has secured the maximum permitted quotas in the relevant discipline.

b) A quota holder shall, however, be automatically included in every World Cup in RPO category in which the Indian team participates during the year 2027.

5. TIE BREAKING

- In case of tie for overall ranking positions, the most recent "Final event points" will be used as the first tie-breaker.
- If still tied, the second-most recent "Final event points" will be considered, and so on.

6. TIME FRAME

Calculation of the Relative Ranking Performance System – Time Frame Clause

1. Validity of Scores

   i. The four scores of an athlete [S1…S4] must not be older than **180 days**.
   ii. The score will be calculated backwards from the last day of the latest competition**.**
   iii. Example: If a competition begins on 21.12.2000 and ends on 30.12.2000, counting will start from 30.12.2000.
   iv. If the 180th day coincides with the last day of the oldest competition, the score will be considered valid, even if the event was actually shot a few days earlier.
   v. If, within this 180th day period, an athlete has only three scores, then he/she will not get the benefit of deducting the lowest score.

2. Applicability of the Time Frame Clause

The time frame clause shall be applicable to all athletes and shall not apply to the NRAI. In an event that an athlete opts to skip a Domestic Recognised Competition (DRC), only those scores falling within the prescribed timeframe of 180 days shall be considered for evaluation.

3. Relaxation under Time Frame Clause

a. Insufficient Non-Restrictive DRCs

If NRAI has not conducted an adequate number of non-restrictive DRCs, the 180-day limit will be extended by the NRAI for the evaluation

b. Extraordinary Cases

   d. NRAI may extend the time frame in cases of exceptional athletes who have consistently proven themselves at major international competitions in the last 2 years but are unable to participate in the current Recognised competition/s. The NRAI would extend the time frame to a maximum of 200 days.
   e. Such athletes must have obtained advance consent from the NRAI by explaining**;** in writing; their compelling contingency.
   f. In these cases, the Selection Committee will record its reasons in writing while justifying the decision.

c. Purpose of the Clause

i. The clause ensures that athletes present their most recent performances and discourages reliance on old results.
ii. It applies only when NRAI organizes a Domestic Recognized Competition and an athlete seeks to skip it, provided s /he already has the required number of scores within the time frame.
iii. NRAI retains the discretion to extend the time frame whenever necessary.

7. SELECTION OF JUNIOR ATHLETES

a. Any junior athlete born in 2006 or afterwards, who has achieved the Selection Trial MQS for the senior category, shall have the option to opt for the senior category. Those who have not achieved the senior Trial MQS shall be permitted to participate only in the junior category. Each athlete may participate in either the senior or the junior category, but not both. Once a category is selected, it shall remain unchanged until the next Selection Criteria is announced.

b. The teams for juniors shall also be selected following the "Relative Ranking Performance System" as per Rule 3 supra. The Selection Trials for juniors may be conducted concurrently with seniors' selection trials.

c. There will be a separate log sheet for juniors and junior athletes shall be selected for international competitions based on their performance and subject to their eligibility to participate in junior competition (age criteria of ISSF to be followed).

d. The NRAI may conduct exclusive selection trials for juniors. Athletes who opted for senior category shall not be permitted to participate in junior selection trials.

e. The selection of junior athletes shall be based on scores available with NRAI at the time of selection of team.

f. On conclusion of 69 NSCC, the junior athletes, who wish to opt for senior category, must inform NRAI through email within 7 days from the day of conclusion of their event (Trap or Skeet). In absence of any response, the junior athlete shall be included in junior category.

8. Participation at own cost in World Cups/other Recognized International Championships/Competitions:

a) No athlete ranked above 1-12 would be permitted to represent the country at own cost.

b) Athletes who are ranked in the top 12 will be permitted to represent the country in a recognized international competition [IRC], at Own Cost subject to the following conditions:
   i. Any International Competition becomes an IRC (recognized competition for the purpose of Relative Ranking Performance System) if the NRAI is fielding a team in the competition or if it has specifically given a particular competition

recognition and subject to the athlete having sought permission from the NRAI in writing.

ii. Athlete who is not selected in the team but is ranked in the top 12 may apply to the NRAI for permission to participate in that IRC at own cost. The NRAI may permit "at own cost" participation to any desirous athlete in the order of merit only.

c) All scores shot in an IRC whether by selection or at 'own cost' will be considered for ranking. This will also be applicable in competitions for junior's and youth.

d) Notwithstanding the above, on the recommendations of the President, the Selection Committee of NRAI, may allow any athlete, irrespective of the ranking, to participate in international competitions at own cost subject to their being an explanation in writing for the inclusion of that athlete. However, the score of that competition will be considered for ranking purposes

9. **CONCLUSION**

i. The calendar with tentative dates and venue is published on the website. The NRAI reserves the right to revise the dates of trials/competitions, selection of team or change the venue of trials/competitions subject to venue availability or with Government guidelines for seniors and juniors.

ii. The decision of the NRAI/Selection Committee shall be final and binding in all matters.

NATIONAL RIFLE ASSOCIATION OF INDIA

ANNEXURE "B'

STANDARD OPERATING PROCEDURE FOR THE NATIONAL SQUAD, PRE-EVENT AND INTERNATIONAL COMPETITIONS

A. **Applicability:** This Standard Operating Procedure cum Code of Conduct ("**SOP**") is issued by the National Rifle Association of India ("**NRAI**"). This SOP applies to all athletes who are members of the National Squad, selected to represent India in international competitions, or otherwise participate in any NRAI-organized or NRAI-sanctioned coaching camps, training programmes, trials, competitions or other official activities. Compliance with this SOP is mandatory for all such athletes throughout the period of their association with the National Squad and participation in NRAI activities.

B. **Objective:** This SOP has been developed to promote professionalism, discipline, accountability, athlete welfare and high-performance excellence in the management of National Squad athletes during NRAI coaching camps, pre-event camps, training programmes and international competitions. It establishes the standards of conduct, responsibilities and expectations applicable to athletes, coaches, support staff and other team officials to ensure that the Indian shooting team operates in a safe, respectful, disciplined and high-performing environment. The primary objective of this SOP is to ensure the effective organization, discipline, and performance of athletes participating in coaching camps and representing India during international competitions, while adhering to the established selection criteria and maintaining a clear criteria on the accommodation of parents and personal coaches.

C. **Code of Conduct:** All athletes are required to adhere to a strict code of conduct at all times, including without limitation when traveling for competitions. This includes punctuality, respectful behavior towards other team members, coaches, officials, and competitors.

D. **Anti-Doping Rules:** All athletes shall strictly comply with the anti-doping rules, regulations and standards prescribed by the World Anti-Doping Agency (**WADA**), the National Anti-Doping Agency, India (**NADA**) and any other applicable anti-doping authority. This includes, without limitation, submitting to in-competition and out-of-competition doping control, remaining informed about the current WADA Prohibited List, ensuring that no prohibited substance or method is used (whether intentionally or unintentionally), applying for a Therapeutic Use Exemption (**TUE**), where applicable, and fully cooperating with all anti-doping education, testing and investigation processes. Athletes included in the Registered Testing Pool or otherwise required by the applicable anti-doping authority shall accurately and timely submit and update their Anti-Doping Administration and Management System (**ADAMS**) whereabouts information and ensure that such information remains current at all times, including prior to leaving their place of residence or travelling for training camps or competitions.

E. **Equipment Care:** Athletes are solely responsible for the proper care, maintenance, security and safe transportation of all their equipment, including firearms, ammunition, shooting apparel, accessories, documents and any other personal sporting equipment. Athletes shall ensure that all equipment is maintained in good working condition, complies with the applicable ISSF, NRAI and host country regulations, and is packed, stored and transported in accordance with all applicable legal and safety requirements. Any loss, theft, damage or delay arising from the athlete's negligence, failure to exercise reasonable care, or non-compliance with applicable laws or regulations shall be the sole responsibility of the athlete. NRAI shall not be liable for any loss of or damage to an athlete's personal equipment, except to the extent directly caused by the gross negligence or willful misconduct of NRAI or its authorized personnel.

F. Communication: Team members shall maintain timely, professional and effective communication with the High-Performance Director ("**HPD**"), High-Performance Manager ("**HPM**"), coaches and other authorized NRAI officials. All official communications relating to training, camps, competitions, logistics, schedules, travel, performance, medical matters or any other team-related matters shall be made only through the designated communication channels and authorized points of contact notified by NRAI.

G. Image Rights, Promotional Obligations and Media Participation:

1) Upon selection to the National Squad and/or becoming eligible to represent India in any international competition, each athlete shall cooperate with the NRAI in relation to promotional, branding, commercial, developmental and public interest initiatives undertaken for the promotion of shooting sports and the development of the Indian shooting team.
2) Such cooperation shall include participation in official photo shoots, video shoots, interviews, awareness campaigns, official sponsor activities, digital campaigns, public appearances and media interactions as may be reasonably required by NRAI.
3) Each athlete shall also undertake all social media and digital promotional obligations, including posting, reposting, sharing and/or publishing NRAI-approved content on their social media and digital platforms, including but not limited to Instagram, Facebook, X (*formerly Twitter*), YouTube, Threads, LinkedIn and similar existing or future platforms, by way of posts, reels, stories, shorts, videos, live sessions, interviews, collaborative content or other digital promotional material, in such frequency and manner as may be communicated by NRAI from time to time, during each calendar year and/or competition cycle. Each athlete hereby grants NRAI a non-exclusive, worldwide, royalty-free right and license to use, reproduce, publish, display and exploit the athlete's name, image, likeness, voice, photograph, video footage, playing records, biographical information, performance statistics and other personality attributes in connection with the promotion, development, broadcasting, publicity, archival, commercialization and marketing of shooting sport, NRAI events, Indian shooting teams, sponsors and partners of NRAI.
4) An athlete shall not unreasonably refuse participation in such activities, provided the same does not materially interfere with training schedules, recovery requirements or competition participation.
5) NRAI shall at all times ensure that the abovementioned participation and activities are carried out as team and/or are perceived as an activity on behalf the team, and shall accordingly not interfere with any individual endorsements of any athlete.

H. Accommodation:

1) Team members shall stay only in the accommodation approved and arranged by the NRAI, unless otherwise expressly authorized by the NRAI.
2) Athletes shall not enter the hotel rooms or accommodation assigned to members of the opposite gender under any circumstances.
3) Parents, guardians and personal coaches shall not reside in the same hotel or accommodation designated for the Indian team.
4) Parents, guardians and personal coaches may support the athletes but shall make their own accommodation arrangements.
5) Parents, guardians and personal coaches shall not interfere with team operations, training schedules, coaching decisions or any official team activities.
6) Parents, guardians and personal coaches shall not access the Field of Play (**FOP**), athlete preparation areas, team areas or any other restricted areas, except with the prior approval of the NRAI and/or the organizers.

I. Coach-Athlete Relationship:

1) "**Chief Coach**" shall mean the coach appointed to lead, supervise and manage the Indian shooting team, or the

relevant discipline, during an NRAI coaching camp, training programme or international competition. The Chief Coach shall have overall authority in relation to the athlete's training, preparation, participation and other team-related matters during such period.

2) Athletes may follow training programmes prepared by their personal coaches, subject to the prior review and approval of the Chief Coach.
3) During NRAI coaching camps, training sessions and international competitions, the Chief Coach shall have overall authority over the athlete's training, preparation, participation and team-related matters.
4) Personal coaches shall not attend or conduct training sessions, access training venues or the Field of Play, or accompany athletes during competitions, unless expressly authorized by the NRAI.
5) Where required, personal coaches may coordinate with the Chief Coach regarding the athletes' training programme, technical inputs and performance objectives, and shall provide all relevant information reasonably requested by the Chief Coach.
6) Personal coaches shall respect the authority and decisions of the Chief Coach and shall not interfere with the training programme, coaching decisions, team management or any official activities during the camp or competition.
7) Athletes shall ensure that all communication between their personal coach and the NRAI or the team management is routed through the designated channels, where applicable.

J. Compliance and Accountability:

1) All athletes, personal coaches, coaches, support staff and officials are responsible for understanding and complying with this SOP at all times.
2) Any violation of this SOP may result in disciplinary action, including suspension or removal from coaching camps, the National Squad, future international competitions and/or any other NRAI activities, as may be determined by the NRAI.
3) All athletes, coaches and officials are responsible for reading, understanding and complying with this SOP. Every athlete shall submit to the NRAI a duly executed Code of Conduct cum Undertaking (in the form set out in Annexure A), acknowledging their agreement to abide by the provisions of this SOP.
4) Where an athlete is below eighteen (18) years of age, the Code of Conduct cum Undertaking shall also be signed by the athlete's parent or legal guardian.

K. High-Performance Plan:

1) The NRAI has developed a comprehensive High-Performance Sport Science Plan to support the holistic development of National Squad athletes and to maximize their readiness and performance at international competitions, including the Olympic Games, World Championships, Asian Championships, Asian Games, Commonwealth Games and other recognized international competitions.
2) As part of this High-Performance Plan, athletes shall actively participate in the monitoring, assessment and reporting processes established by the NRAI. Athletes shall, as and when required by the NRAI, accurately maintain, track and submit performance, health and training-related information in accordance with their respective Annual Training Plan, including the following:
   (a) Athlete 's Annual Training Plan
   (b) Athlete's Daily Wellness Profile
   (c) Athlete's Technical KPI's from SCATT
   (d) Athlete's Tactical KPI's from competition
   (e) Athlete's Physical S & C Profile
   (f) Athlete's Nutrition Profile
   (g) Athlete's Physio Profile
   (h) Athlete's Psychological Performance Profile
   (i) Athlete's Rest & Recovery Plans

3) The above information shall be collected, monitored and reviewed throughout the various phases of the Annual Training Plan, including the Preparation, Pre-Competitive, Competitive and Transition phases. Such information may be used by the NRAI, the High Performance Team, coaches and authorized sports science personnel for the purposes of athlete monitoring, performance analysis, training optimization, injury prevention, recovery planning, competition preparation and providing athlete and coach feedback, with the objective of maximizing performance at international competitions.

4) The NRAI shall ensure that all personal and performance-related information collected under the High-Performance Plan is handled in accordance with applicable law and maintained in a secure and confidential manner. Such information shall be accessed and used only by authorized personnel on a need-to-know basis for the purposes set out in this SOP.

L. Disciplinary Action and Suspension:

1) Failure to comply with this SOP, the Code of Conduct or any lawful direction issued by the NRAI, the Chief Coach or other authorized NRAI officials may result in disciplinary action. Depending on the nature and severity of the violation, the NRAI may impose appropriate disciplinary measures, including a warning, suspension from coaching camps, removal from the National Squad, exclusion from competitions, withdrawal of accreditation, or any other action deemed appropriate by the NRAI.

2) Without prejudice to the generality of the foregoing, an athlete may be subject to disciplinary action for any of the following:
   (a) Violation of discipline rules and code of conduct at the Camp or at the shooting competition.
   (b) Violation of training schedule/camp rules.
   (c) Use of alcohol & tobacco during the camp or at the competition
   (d) Use of drugs not permitted under WADA/NADA rules.
   (e) Disrespect towards coaches/support staff and fellow athletes.
   (f) Absence from camp without prior approval from the concerned authority.
   (g) Damage to fellow athlete's equipment or range property.
   (h) Causing mental stress/annoyance to fellow athletes by any act which is violation to the spirit of the shooting sport, rules of NRAI/ISSF.
   (i) Causing physical injury to any athlete or person connected with the camp for training/participation.
   (j) Use of unparliamentarily language/political or religious discussions during the camp/competition or otherwise.
   (k) Hurting sentiments and making any inappropriate or unwanted physical, verbal, or sexual advance towards anyone.
   (l) Use of any print/electric/social media platform to vent your concern/grievance.
   (m) Failure or refusal to comply with reasonable NRAI promotional, media or sponsor engagement obligations.
   (n) Pass disparaging comments that belittle or show lack of respect for any NRAI official, HPD, HPM, Coach, sport science support staff, gender, religious or casteist account, that may be emotionally disturbing or intended to lower the reputation or value of the person or thing being discussed or intended to lower the reputation or value of the person being discussed.
   (o) Any act, which is contrary to the Code of Conduct or otherwise, may lead to disciplinary action.
   (p) The athlete will not leave the city/state or country of the competition without the written permission form the NRAI or unless accompanied by NRAI team/Coach.
   (q) Minimum usage of electronic equipment or mobile during the competition/without the knowledge/consent of NRAI and/or Chief Coach /coach in charge.
   (r) Failure to comply with this SOP or any lawful direction or instruction issued by the NRAI, the HPD, HPM, the Chief Coach or any other authorized NRAI official.
   (s) Providing false, misleading or incomplete information to the NRAI, including in relation to eligibility, age, identity, medical condition, passport details, firearms documentation, anti-doping matters or any other

information required by the NRAI.

(t) Breach of confidentiality, including unauthorized disclosure of team strategies, training plans, performance data, medical information or any confidential information relating to the NRAI, the team or fellow athletes.

(u) Misuse of NRAI accreditation, credentials, facilities, equipment or any other NRAI property.

(v) Conviction for, or commission of, any criminal offence or any conduct which, in the opinion of the NRAI, is likely to bring the NRAI, the Indian shooting team or the sport of shooting into disrepute.

(w) Repeated failure to participate in mandatory training sessions, educational workshops, media activities or other programmes organized by the NRAI without reasonable cause.

(x) Any conduct that compromises the safety, welfare, integrity or reputation of the athlete, the team, the NRAI or the sport of shooting.

For the purpose of this SOP, "**Camp**" shall mean and include the shooting range (including Field of Play), training facilities, accommodation and any other location designated by the NRAI for a coaching camp, pre-event camp or international competition.

Declaration

I hereby acknowledge that I have carefully read and understood the provisions of this SOP, including the Code of Conduct and the disciplinary provisions set out herein. I agree to comply with and be bound by the terms of this SOP at all times during my participation in any NRAI coaching camp, training programme, trial, competition or any other NRAI activity.

I understand that compliance with this SOP is a condition of my continued participation in the National Squad and my eligibility to represent India in international competitions. I further acknowledge that any violation of this SOP or the Code of Conduct may result in disciplinary action by the NRAI in accordance with its applicable rules, policies and procedures.

Name of the Athlete: _____

Name of the parent/Guardian Signature: _____
(*in case minor below the age of 18 years*)

Signed in presence of: _____

Name of the Coach: _____

Date: _____

NATIONAL RIFLE ASSOCIATION OF INDIA

CODE OF CONDUCT CUM UNDERTAKING

I, _____, having been selected as a member of the National Squad and/or to participate in an NRAI coaching camp, pre-event camp, training programme, trial and/or international competition, hereby acknowledge that I have carefully read, understood and agree to abide by the **Standard Operating Procedure** for the National Squad, Pre-Event Camps and International Competitions, as amended from time to time **("SOP")** and this **Code of Conduct cum Undertaking** issued by the National Rifle Association of India ("**NRAI**").

I understand that compliance with the SOP and this Code of Conduct is a condition of my continued participation in NRAI activities and representation of India in international competitions. I further acknowledge that any breach of the SOP or this Code of Conduct may result in disciplinary action by the NRAI, including suspension or removal from the National Squad, coaching camps, competitions or any other NRAI activities.

Unless otherwise defined in this Code of Conduct cum Undertaking, capitalised terms used herein shall have the meanings ascribed to them in the SOP.

Accordingly, I hereby undertake that I shall:

1. Be a responsible individual and a committed sportsperson.
2. Treat the HPD, HPM, coaches, support staff, NRAI officials and fellow athletes with dignity, courtesy and respect.
3. Be punctual, disciplined and diligent during all training sessions, camps and competitions.
4. Comply with all lawful directions issued by the Chief Coach, coaches, support staff and authorized NRAI officials.
5. Wear the prescribed team uniform and carry the official tracksuit for podium ceremonies and other official events.
6. Maintain discipline and conduct myself professionally both on and off the Field of Play.
7. Refrain from any form of verbal abuse, intimidation, harassment, threatening behavior or conduct that distracts or undermines any spectator, athlete, coach, tournament official or team official.
8. Refrain from engaging in political, religious or other divisive discussions or activities that may adversely affect the team or the reputation of the sport.
9. Refrain from making any inappropriate, unwelcome or offensive physical, verbal or sexual advances towards any person.
10. Comply with all applicable laws, regulations and directions issued by the Government of India, Sports Authority of India, NRAI, ISSF and any other competent authority.
11. Abide by the ISSF Code of Ethics and all applicable ISSF rules and regulations.
12. Respect and comply with the laws of India and the laws of every country visited for training camps or competitions.
13. Refrain from consuming alcohol, tobacco or any prohibited substance during coaching camps and competitions.
14. Ensure that my equipment complies with ISSF regulations and that I remain responsible for its maintenance, safekeeping and lawful use.
15. Notify the NRAI, upon joining the National Squad or selection to the Indian Team, of my personal coach and/or any personal support staff.
16. Communicate directly with the NRAI and the designated team officials regarding all official matters and not through my parents, guardian or personal coach.
17. Stay only in the accommodation arranged or approved by the NRAI.
18. Ensure that my parents, guardian or personal coach do not stay in the same hotel or accommodation designated for the Indian Team.
19. Comply with the accommodation protocol, including:
    (a) not entering the hotel room of any member of the opposite gender;
    (b) respecting the privacy, dignity and personal boundaries of all team members;
    (c) using only designated common areas for meetings and interactions;

(d) promptly reporting any inappropriate conduct or concerns to the HPD, HPM, Chief Coach or authorized NRAI official; and

(e) acknowledging that any violation of this protocol may result in disciplinary action.

20. Keep the coaches informed of my whereabouts during camps and competitions and not leave the hotel, accommodation or venue without the prior permission of the HPD, HPM and the Chief Coach or coach in charge.
21. Inform the NRAI and the sports science team of any past or existing medical condition that may affect my performance or require medical attention.
22. Promptly update the NRAI regarding any changes to my passport, firearms or other information required by the NRAI.
23. Provide complete, accurate and truthful information in relation to my age and all other information required for participation in camps and competitions.
24. Comply with all WADA, NADA and ADAMS requirements, including anti-doping obligations, and refrain from using any prohibited substance or prohibited method.
25. Raise any grievance through the HPD, HPM, coaches, support staff or other authorized NRAI officials.
26. Shall not publish any content through print, electronic, digital or social media relating to the team or NRAI without prior approval of the NRAI. I further undertake not to publish any content that is inconsistent with the Olympic Charter, ISSF Rules, the interests of the sport, the NRAI or the Government of India. I shall ensure that any grievance shall be addressed through the NRAI Athlete Commission or other designated internal mechanism.
27. Attend and actively participate in all training programmes, workshops, seminars and educational sessions organized by the NRAI.
28. Refrain from making any public statements or media comments that may bring the sport of shooting, the NRAI, fellow athletes, coaches or officials into disrepute.
29. Conduct myself at all times as a responsible ambassador of India and the sport of shooting.
30. Cooperate with NRAI's promotional, media, sponsor engagement and public outreach activities, including official photo shoots, interviews, campaigns and social media initiatives, and publish or share NRAI-designated promotional content in the manner and frequency communicated by the NRAI.
31. Accept responsibility for any damage caused by me to hotel property, training facilities or any other property and bear the costs, penalties or other consequences imposed by the NRAI or the relevant authority.

Declaration

I hereby declare that I have read and understood the SOP and this Code of Conduct cum Undertaking in its entirety. I agree to comply with all of its provisions and acknowledge that any breach may result in disciplinary action by the NRAI. Where I am below eighteen (18) years of age, my parent/legal guardian confirms that they have read and understood the SOP and this Code of Conduct cum Undertaking and undertake to support and ensure my compliance with its provisions.

Athlete Signature: _____

Athlete Name: _____

Parent / Legal Guardian *(Applicable only if the athlete is below 18 years of age)*

Name: _____

Relationship with the Athlete: _____

Signature: _____

Date: _____