



Criteria for The Selection of Shotgun Shooting Teams (Seniors & Juniors) to represent India at International competitions 2022-23

**(Approved by the Governing Body of NRAI on 28<sup>th</sup> October 2022)**

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## **Statement**

The NRAI firmly believes in Shooters earning their place in the national team. The intention is to ensure through this Criteria of the NRAI, a level, just, & fair playing field for those sportspersons who wish to enter the fray in team or individual events for all shooting disciplines. It is also to be ensured that the NRAI continuously upgrades the wealth of talent available to it for the selection of those deemed fit for & selected by the NRAI to represent it under national colors.

The current Selection Criteria is for a period till beginning of 65<sup>th</sup> NSCC, as approved by the Governing Body of NRAI.

### **A. Scope of the Criteria**

1. The scope of this Criteria is extended till beginning of 65<sup>th</sup> NSCC and would be based on a “rolling” ranking performance system basis for senior and junior shotgun shooters.
2. The Selection Criteria in all sections will commence from the first day of 65<sup>th</sup> NSCC and no previous score or any other performance shall be considered. All shooters shall start from Zero – with a clean slate.
3. These rules shall be applicable to all seniors/juniors’ shooters unless specified for juniors.
4. The principal of “Best Foot Forward” shall be applied to select the best team to represent the Country.
5. It shall be binding on all sportspersons who seek to represent the country in international events.
6. 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.
7. It shall be effective for the benefit of shooters, 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).

## **B. Basis of Criteria**

1. The Criteria is based on shooters receiving Final Ranking Points, which will be the aggregate of their top 3 “Event points” over the previous four nominated ranking events.
2. All scores shot during the nominated ranking events, i.e., Selection trials and any other national event deemed to be a nominated ranking event shall be considered for calculating the Final Ranking Points.
3. The teams for juniors shall also be selected following the “rolling” ranking system. If a separate Junior Selection trial is conducted, then the performance shall have no bearing on selection of senior NSQ/international teams and shall only be valid for the calculation of ranking points for juniors.
4. Junior competitors will be allowed to play in the “open” finals, but junior rankings are based solely on qualification points.
5. There will not be a separate log sheet for juniors. Junior shooters shall be selected for international competitions by lifting their rankings from main log and subject to their eligibility to participate in junior competition (age criteria of ISSF to be followed).
6. The selection of the venue for the National Shooting Championship and team selection trials is the sole prerogative of the NRAI. Such venue once identified by NRAI shall be chosen & it shall then be binding on all shooter regardless of their personal profile, to present themselves to the test of selection trials per the provisions of this Criteria.
7. It is desired that as many different venues in the country be utilized as may be possible & deemed fit by the NRAI.
8. The NRAI is always committed to ensuring that standard ISSF rules are followed.
9. In case a competitor chooses to skip any event, regardless of their reason, they will be able to drop that score. The highest three results of the last four nominated domestic NRAI Trials will be the scores exclusively used for team selection. A competitor can opt not to participate in any trial, but their score for their non-attendance will be counted for selection purposes as - 125 points.

10. Shooters achieving the following scores during 65 NSCC, 2<sup>nd</sup> Digvijay Singh Memorial Shooting Championship or any other competition, as approved by the Governing Body of NRAI will be allowed to participate in Nominated Ranking Events.

EVENT	SENIOR	JUNIOR
Trap Men	110	100
Skeet Men	110	100
Trap Women	95	90
Skeet Women	95	90

11. Transit Shooter is that shooter whose category would change in the middle of one shooting calendar year. In the case of a transit shooter who is a part of the Junior National Squad [NSQ] – such shooter will continue as a member of the NSQ of the same category. until the advent of the next National Championship (66<sup>th</sup> NSCC).

12. For the purpose of this Criteria those shooters who do not complete the age of 21 (Jnr) until 31<sup>st</sup> March 2023 will be considered for inclusion in the Junior NSQ. Those shooters who will complete 21 years prior to 31.03.2023 will be considered for inclusion in the NSQ in the higher category provided s / he has the required ranking in the higher category.

### **C. Selection & Eligibility Criterion**

#### **1. Nominated Ranking Events**

- a. For the purpose of rendering points for the above ranking system, scores of nominated ranking events, i.e., Selection Trials & the 65<sup>th</sup> NSCC will be considered.

#### **Nominated Ranking Events**

65<sup>th</sup> NSCC 2022

2<sup>nd</sup> Digvijay Singh Memorial Shooting Championship at Jaipur (Trial 2)

Selection Trials (2022-23)

- b. It is desired that all athletes participate in the nominated ranking events as per schedule, which would be notified on the website of NRAI from time to time.

## **D. National Squad (NSQ) 2023**

1. 09 athletes will be included in the National Squad in each event using the “Ranking Period”. The National squad is “dynamic” and it can and certainly will change throughout the year and those competitors who will be selected off of each series of 4 events will get the opportunity to be a part of the squad.
2. In the case of juniors, 09 athletes will be included in the NSQ in each event.
3. NSQ camps will be conducted round the year withstanding the compulsion of having them during breaks in international competition schedule. The Coaching Camps shall be of a length of 7 to 10 days each held within every 90 days.
4. The Mandatory Medical checkup for all NSQ athletes under the supervision of SAI doctors will be carried out at the beginning of first NSQ Coaching camp/Trial. All athletes must present themselves for medical checkup as and when required. Absence from medical checkup will lead to expulsion from the NSQ/Selection of teams.

## **E. The “rolling” Ranking Performance system**

1. ***Qualification Selection Points***
  - 1.1.0 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.
  - 1.2. For example: - if 120/125 is the highest qualification score then 0 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.

2. ***Final Selection Points & Total Event Points***

2.1 The **final selection points** as appended below will be added to the Qualification Selection Points: -

6 points	1 <sup>st</sup> place
4 points	2 <sup>nd</sup> place
2 points	3 <sup>rd</sup> place
1 point	4 <sup>th</sup> Place
0 points	5 <sup>th</sup> place
0 points	6 <sup>th</sup> place
0 points	7 <sup>th</sup> place
0 points	8 <sup>th</sup> place

The **total event points** will be the combined aggregate points, i.e., ***Qualification Selection Points + Final Selection Points = Total Event Points.***

For example: - a competitor shooting 117/125 and is 3 points behind the highest qualifier (120/125), finished in 2<sup>nd</sup> place, will finish the event with 1 point ( -3 points from qualification plus 4 points from the final).

Total event points will be calculated independently for the four Olympic Selection trials, i.e., total of qualification selection points and final selection points.

The table below demonstrates the ranking system explained above:

<b>Highest Qualification Score-119</b>						
<b>S.No</b>	<b>Name</b>	<b>Qualification Score</b>	<b>Qualification Selection Points</b>	<b>Finals Position</b>	<b>Final Selection Points</b>	<b>Total Event Points</b>
1	Athlete A	117	-2	1 <sup>st</sup>	6	4
2	Athlete B	117	-2	2 <sup>nd</sup>	4	2
3	Athlete C	119	0	4 <sup>th</sup>	1	1
4	Athlete D	116	-3	3 <sup>rd</sup>	2	-1
5	Athlete E	114	-5		0	-5
6	Athlete F	113	-6		0	-6
7	Athlete G	109	-10		0	-10
8	Athlete H	108	-11		0	-11

## **F. 2023 Indian Shotgun Team Qualification Timeline**

1. First 6 ranked shooters, after conclusion of Trials 1,2, 3,4, will be considered for selection of teams for World Cup Doha, Asian Shotgun Cup\*, World Cup Cairo and World Cup Larnaca- Shooters ranked 1,2,3 will form the team to participate in World Cup Doha, Asian Shotgun Cup Kuwait\*, and World Cup, Cairo. Shooters ranked 4,5,6 will form the team to participate in World Cup, Larnaca. RPO places will be decided by the President/Secretary General NRAI to athletes down the rankings.
2. Best 3 results from Trials 2,3, 4,5 will be considered to select the team for World Cup Almaty & World Cup Lonato- Shooters ranked 1,2,3 will form the team to participate in World Cup Almaty and Cairo. Shooters ranked 4 & 5 can be invited to participate as RPO competitors for World Cup Lonato.
3. Best 3 results from Trials 2,3, 4,5 (Junior Selection Trial) will select team for Junior World Cup and Junior World Championships
4. Best 3 results from Trials 3,4,5,6 will be considered to select the team for World Championships, Baku, Asian Games, and Asian Championships.
5. **PARTICIPATION BY QUOTA HOLDERS**
  - 5.1. Notwithstanding the above, the quota holder will be ineligible to enter any further ISSF Quota Events until India has won the maximum allowable quotas in the relevant discipline.
  - 5.2. However, for the purpose of providing experience of Finals, the quota holders will automatically be included in first three positions in every World Cup competition where the “A” team will participate in 2023 and 2024.

## **G. Selection Criteria for Mixed Trap/Skeet Teams**

### **1. MIXED EVENTS**

- 1.1. The selection of Mixed event team will be done on the basis ranking under this Selection Criteria.
- 1.2. Under the normal circumstances, the first rank shooter (male) with first rank shooter (female) will be selected on merit. In case two teams are permitted, the second rank shooter (male) will team with second rank shooter (female).

- 1.3. On the written recommendations of the foreign coaches, the President/Secretary General, NRAI may consider to alter any Permutation & Combination of the four (04) athletes (in case two Mix Teams are permitted) that may have been announced earlier, up to 24 hours before the start of the competition, as permitted under ISSF rules.
- 1.4. The NRAI reserves the right for final composition of the team.

#### **H. Other eligibility criterion**

1. It is further clarified that strict compliance to WADA, IOA, ISSF, & NRAI rules shall be maintained. Should a shooter be in violation of the rules he shall not be considered for the selection of teams & shall deemed to have been suspended pending ruling by the established norm of appeal in the above forum.
2. There is no minimum travelling score (MTS) requirement with this policy.
3. Following the team announcement, the opportunity will be provided to the National Squad in ranking order. If Top 3 shooters (“A” or “B” team) are being sent, the shooters down the ranking will be permitted to participate as RPO at their own expense. The decision of the President/Secretary General shall be final to allow a shooter to participate in RPO category.
4. Ties for overall ranking positions after 4 events will be split by the highest qualification score from the best 3 scores from the competitors last 4 events. If a tie still occurs for overall ranking positions, then this will be split by the best individual result in points from the last 4 events.

For example: Athletes A and B have an aggregate “total event points” of 13 as under:

#### **Total Event Points of Athlete “A”- 13**

Trial 1- 04, Trial 2- 04, Trial 3 – 05

#### **Total Event Points of Athlete “B”- 13**

Trial 1- 06, Trial 2- 05, Trial 3- 02

In the above scenario, out of the two athletes since Athlete “B” has the best single result in Trial 1, he/she will be ranked higher than Athlete “B”. If there is still a tie, then the second-best individual result will be used to split the tie.

If after these 3 situations, a tie still can't be separated, then the competitors will compete in a head-to-head round of 25 targets until the tie is split at a date and venue determined by NRAI.

5. In the event of illness or injury to a selected athlete as determined by the competition jury &/or the selection committee of the NRAI, the next eligible athlete from the selection process shall be added to the team, purely on arithmetical merit alone.
6. It is mandatory for all selected athletes to attend National coaching/training camps. The absence from the coaching camps shall be with prior approval from NRAI/SAI/MOYS.

## **I. Discipline**

1. It is mandatory for all athletes, travelling with the team for International Competitions, to adhere to all norms of discipline as laid down by the NRAI. At all times, the athletes will behave in a manner that is befitting ambassadors of the sport and country. Coaches travelling with the team will be responsible to ensure strict adherence of discipline and ethics and shall submit a joint report to the NRAI upon completion of every tour regarding the ethical, professional and disciplinary behavior of an athlete. Based on this report, the NRAI has a right to suspend an athlete from the immediate next international competition/competitions depending upon the severity of breach of code of conduct.
2. Only personal coaches (as defined below) would be permitted to join the selected shooters at the coaching camps, Parents and other relatives would not be allowed to enter the shooting arena during coaching camps/domestic/international training/competitions.

3. Special Advisory for Parents: Parents are advised to leave the shooters in the care of the Team officials and coaches assigned by NRAI during coaching camps/participation in international competitions. They will not be permitted to enter the Field of Play (FOP) during the training and may be present in the spectator gallery during the coaching camps/competitions. Parents are not permitted to travel with the teams or share room with their wards. They will also not be permitted to be in the vicinity of their ward during travel/competition arenas/FOP. The Parents/personal coaches will not deal directly with the organizers, or any person involved in conduct of international competitions/coaching camps/selection trials. Parents will not interfere in the functioning of the coaches/team officials and will not misbehave with them.
4. In the case of any parent/personal coach not adhering to norms framed by the NRAI or misbehaving with the officials/coaches, the NRAI would be within its right not to consider such a shooter for the next two competitions/selection trials/coaching camps. **PARENTS, PLEASE NOTE THAT YOU ARE BEING INFORMED THROUGH THIS PUBLIC DOCUMENT THAT YOUR WARD WILL BEAR THE CONSEQUENCES OF YOUR TRANSGRESSIONS** and the NRAI would be fully within its rights to take the harshest steps.
5. Shooters participating in international competitions at own cost would also be obliged to strictly follow the instructions of the coaches / managers/officials failing which disciplinary action would be initiated against them.
6. The shooters eligible for financial assistance through TOPS must submit their proposal through NRAI for scrutiny. Such proposals, which are submitted to Govt. agencies by the shooters directly, shall not be supported by NRAI.

## **J. Teams & their constitution**

1. If any athlete, for any reason whatsoever, is unable to travel as a team member for a competition, must inform NRAI in writing at least 60 days prior to team selection so that he/she can be replaced. Any athlete failing to inform NRAI of his/ her inability to travel as a team member prior to selection committee meeting will have to bear all costs (such as entry cancellation fee, hotel booking cancellation, ticket cancellation etc.).
2. The Selection of Teams, for international competitions, not covered under Selection Criteria, shall be decided by the Selection Committee of NRAI.

## **K. Coaches and Support Staff**

1. Upon the publication of this Criteria, the role of foreign and Indian coaches shall be restricted to that of providing technical training to shooters. The view of all coaches has been sought & considered by NRAI during the review process of the proceeding years' Criteria, prior to the publication of this Criteria.
2. That since the NRAI follows a Criteria of shooters earning their slots in teams or individual positions & this entire document is based on the principal of merit as the sole selection criterion; the role of national/foreign coaches shall only be advisory for the purposes of team selection.
3. The permission to train with personal coaches shall be permitted with the prior permission of the Chief Coach/Foreign Coach during the coaching camps. Shooters may follow the coaching plans prepared by the personal coaches, which are prepared in consultation with the Chief Coach/Foreign Coach. No personal coach is permitted to travel abroad with the shooter unless permitted by the President NRAI.
4. **Norms for Personal Coaches:**
  - a. Coaches, who have attended ISSF Coaches Course are eligible to be nominated as personal coaches if they have been renowned shooters in the senior category.
  - b. Shooters, who had been renowned shots (not active shooter at present), with a coaching experience of minimum 10 years can be considered as personal coach.
5. **Eligibility for shooters to utilize services of personal coaches:**
  - a. Shooters, who have participated in international competitions as a member of the Indian team [at Govt. cost], in the last two years - will only be permitted to utilize the services of a personal coach/support staff during coaching camps/competitions in India and abroad.

## 6. Eligibility for nomination as a Personal Coach

- a. **For Senior Shooters:** Any Shooter who has won a medal in Olympic Games/Asian Games/Commonwealth Games /Commonwealth Championship/Asian Championships would be eligible to be granted recognition by the NRAI as the 'Personal Coach' of a selected shooter.
- b. **For Junior Shooters:** A Shooter who has participated in any two World Cups "At Govt. Cost" or a medalist of NSCC will be eligible to be a personal coach. Shooters who participated at "own cost" in the World Cups will not qualify in the above criteria.
- c. The above coaches will work in a congenial manner with the Indian / Foreign NSQ coaches and must adopt the program of these coaches. Personal Coaches must periodically provide a written progress report to the Foreign Coach / NRAI.
- d. In case of violation of the above, strict disciplinary action will be initiated against the shooter and coach as decided by Disciplinary & Ethics Committee of NRAI.

## Support Staff

Any professional, with an experience of a minimum of five years in sport can perform duties with shooters who are eligible to utilize services of personal coaches/support staff.

## M. Travel of teams to compete abroad

Due to the global response on security fears that are in force throughout the sporting community of nations and given that shooters per force are required to carry arms & ammunition with them & in light of recent experiences that have occurred, it has been decided that:

1. All travel arrangements of sportsmen who are to compete overseas shall be made through the NRAI office.
2. The National team should travel as a team and not as a group of individuals coming together as a matter of mere coincidence & shall always travel as a single body with the team manager.

3. This is necessary as it shall permit the constant monitoring of the Nationally Accredited Athletes for reasons of security as a body.
4. The designated support staff shall regularly update the office of the NRAI on all relevant issues related to the team's security, transit, performance or disciplinary status of the team.
5. Further it is only on the Federation's recommendation that foreign nations provide suitable gun permits & other documentation to our sportsmen, so that they transit to their destination in a hassle-free manner & as such it shall remain the responsibility of the NRAI to oversee the timely procurement of such permits/documentation is procured & handed over to the shooter/team manager prior to their departure from India for overseas.
6. While overseas, existing norms of team management shall continue with the following exceptions:
  - (i) That unless the member of the team is competing, he or she shall at all times when they are on the way to & from the sports venue, or at the sports venue itself, wear at least the top portion of the apparel that shall be suitably provided by the federation to each competitor at its cost.
  - (ii) Suitably, all coaches foreign or national, & all supporting or accompanying staff are also considered an integral part of the team & shall hence also be subject to such provision.
  - (iii) Only during official practice or the competitive process itself, shall the athletes retain the privilege of choosing their own apparel in conformity with ISSF standard elucidated on their web site.
  - (iv) It shall be the duty of the team manager to report any such transgressions if committed by any member of the team in writing to the NRAI within 15 days of such a transgression if any.
  - (v) Should this be reported, it shall lead to an immediate & automatic reduction of 1 point from that particular sportsman's carried forward score.
  - (vi) There shall be no exception or appeal to (i), (iii) and (v) above

## **N. Redressal of Grievances and Appeals Process**

1. Since this Criteria covers merely the selection criterion, the forum of Redressal shall be the NRAI designated jury of appeal so appointed for that particular competition.

2. This Jury shall deal with all matters pertaining to the issue of selection trials, selection criterion, grievances thereof, if any, or any unforeseen circumstances that may arise therein.
3. When a competitor reasonably considers in all the circumstances that his/her non selection or nomination to a team has occurred because the jury of appeal has failed to follow the criterion detailed in this Criteria in dealing with his/her issues raised in writing; the shooter may then appeal to the Governing Body of the NRAI in writing to seek Redressal.
4. The Governing Body of NRAI shall in such a case appoint an Athletes Appeal committee of three members, where in addition to the three members so appointed, Eminent Sports Person, preferably an Arjuna Awardee, shall also be a member and asked to sit in on all such proceedings.
5. The findings so arrived in such a case shall be final & binding. There shall be no further review or appeal against such a decision once arrived at.
6. It has been decided that the practice of shooters petitioning through combined or individual petitions in the form of letters either to offset a recorded performance once complete as per this Criteria; or complaining against coaches foreign/national shall no longer be tolerated under any circumstances. Should such an issue arise, the selection committee shall deduct one merit point from all such petitioning/individual shooter.
7. There shall be no review of any punitive deductions recommended under this Criteria at any venue or forum, the disciplinary committee of the NRAI shall mandatorily make such adjustment.

#### **O. Scope of Criteria Review**

1. This Criteria may be reviewed, if required, on an annual basis upon the completion of the National Shooting Championship of the next year, by a Criteria review committee to be appointed by the office of the Secretary General of the NRAI.
2. The committee shall at this stage deliberate any further refinements to or strengthening of this Criteria that may be required taking into account the experiences of the designated High-Performance Director, High-Performance Managers, Foreign coach, National coaches, team managers, & the governing body of the NRAI.

3. The tenure of the Criteria review committee shall be limited to a period of 30 days and shall be constituted by the NRAI at its pleasure.
4. It shall however be mandatory for the said committee to present its findings if any within a period of 30 days from the completion of the national shooting championships in the form of an amended national Criteria, if so required.
5. This, like now, shall be notified to the public vide the web site of the NRAI through its office.
6. Should this process not have been complied with, then till it is done, this Criteria in its entirety shall be deemed to remain in force.
7. Regardless to anything contained herein the decision of the NRAI selection committee for team selection shall be final and binding.
8. The NRAI reserves the right to make changes to the Calendar if so, necessitated by changes to the international Calendar by ISSF, ASC, OCA, CSF, IOC or any other reason so necessitating such a change as deemed by NRAI. The Shooting Calendar for the year 2022-23 shall be put up on the website of NRAI in due course of time.

#### **P. Conclusion**

1. An effort has been made to make the Criteria exhaustive – however it is possible that in the course of the application of the Criteria anomalies arise. In such a case/s the interpretation of the NRAI of such anomalies would be final and binding on all.
2. The Selection Committee/or any other committee so empowered by the Governing Body of the NRAI would base their selection of individuals /teams for participation in International Competitions, largely on the basis of the rankings derived by the “rolling’ ranking system.
3. However, in extraordinary circumstances, with justification, in writing, the committee would have the authority to deviate from the results of the above ranking system and under all circumstances the decision of the Selection Committee /NRAI would be final and binding on all concerned parties.