



ROWING FEDERATION OF INDIA

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Balaji Maradapa

President

ROWING FEDERATION OF INDIA

SELECTION POLICY

(Effective from 15th January 2026)

Preamble

This Selection Policy has been framed in alignment with the directions and guidelines issued by the Ministry of Youth Affairs & Sports (MYAS) and Sports Authority of India (SAI), ensuring transparency, fairness, merit-based assessment, and holistic development of rowing athletes in India. The policy applies to the selection of Indian rowing teams across Senior, Junior, and Sub-Junior categories (Men & Women), for all international competitions (Exceptions if done will be published 4 weeks before selection) .

Objectives

- To select the best possible teams to represent India based on performance, potential, and merit.
- To ensure consistency and transparency in the selection process.
- To encourage long-term athlete development and identify promising talents early.
- To comply with MYAS-SAI guidelines.

Selection Mechanism

The selection process shall be conducted in **three stages**:

STEP 1 – Selection of Rowers for National Coaching Camps (NCC)

Selection Basis:

Rowers shall be shortlisted from performances at the following recognized competitions:

- Senior National Rowing Championships.
- Junior National Rowing Championships
- National Games (2000m events only)
- Khelo India Youth Games
- Indoor National Rowing Championship (2000m events only)



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Process:

- A Selection Committee duly constituted and notified by RFI shall select the **Probables** for the National Coaching Camps based on performance metrics (timings, placement, technique, and fitness) at the above competitions.
- Wherever RFI finds it fit, the Federation may conduct an **additional assessment procedure** to determine the **final list of campers**, focusing specifically on evaluating the **fitness, health, and physical readiness** of the shortlisted rowers.

STEP 2 – Selection Procedure for Final Rowing Team to Represent India

At National Coaching Camps:

1. **Performance Monitoring Cycles:**
Trials will be held regularly as per the trial schedule of the National Coach. Athletes will be monitored for continuous improvement through ergometer results, water performance, fitness tests, and technical evaluation.
2. **Weeding Out Policy:**
Athletes failing to demonstrate progress or maintain required standards may be removed from the camp after thorough evaluation.
3. **Seat Trials and Final Testing:**
 - **Extensive seat trials** shall be conducted as per the schedule of National Coach to evaluate boat speed and compatibility among rowers.
 - Final selection shall be based on combinations yielding the best performance, aligning with targets and international benchmarks.
4. **Event Selection:**
 - Based on performance indicators and international standards, the Selection Committee shall finalize events where India has podium potential.
 - Final recommendations will consider athlete health, preparedness, and potential for success.
5. **Final Team Announcement:**
The final Indian Rowing Team shall be announced **no earlier than 6 weeks before departure** for the event, barring exceptions related to multi-discipline games (see Step 4).
6. **The Trial Schedule:**

The Schedule of the trials which will be held during the camp should be formulated by The Selection Committee within one week of the initiation of NCC and be intimated to the Rowers, SAI and MYAS where SAI is funding the said Camp.



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STEP 3 – Ineligibility Conditions

Rowers will not be eligible for final selection trials or representation under the following conditions:

- If they are not part of the National Coaching Camps (unless otherwise exempted for valid and documented reasons).
- If they are absent from camps due to personal choice or not released by employer/guardian (for minors).
- If they fail to meet minimum required fitness or performance benchmarks.

STEP 4 – Selection for Multi-Discipline Games (Asian Games, Olympics, etc.)

- Final selections shall be made in accordance with the timelines and submission deadlines notified by **Indian Olympic Association (IOA)** and the respective **Organizing Committees**.
- The **methodology and selection dates** shall be published on the RFI website and notified to athletes and stakeholders in advance.

Special Provision – Inclusion of Exceptional Talents

In keeping with the vision of talent development and future podium preparedness, **the Selection Committee may include up to a maximum of two rowers, outside of the standard selection procedures**, under the following conditions:

- The rower(s) must have demonstrated **extraordinary potential** or past international performance.
- Justification for inclusion must be submitted in writing by the rower to the Selection Committee, detailing training data, performance indicators, and projected contribution to the team.
- Final approval will rest with the Selection Committee after due scrutiny and recording of minutes.

Transparency and Dispute Redressal

- All selection decisions shall be documented with minutes and published on the RFI website.
- Athletes may appeal against selection decisions by writing to the designated **Selection Grievance Officer**, whose contact will be published annually.



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- The final appellate authority shall be the **President of RFI**, whose decision will be binding and final.

Supersession Clause

This policy supersedes all previous selection criteria and notifications on the subject and shall remain in effect until revised or withdrawn by RFI with due notification.

Place: Chennai

Date: 15th January 2026

Balaji Maradappa

President

Rowing Federation of India

Ombudsman and Selection Grievance Officer :

Mr Rajiv Jayraj

Contact: 9872556765

mrajivjayraj@gmail.com