

**RULES AND REGULATIONS
OF
ALL INDIA TENNIS ASSOCIATION**

(As amended on 26/07/2026)

Registered with
The Registrar of Societies Kolkata

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**MEMORANDUM OF
ASSOCIATION OF
ALL INDIA TENNIS ASSOCIATION**

1. NAME OF THE ORGANISATION

The name of the organization is:

“ALL INDIA TENNIS ASSOCIATION.”

2. REGISTERED OFFICE ADDRESS

The Registered Office of All India Tennis Association is in Kolkata in the State of West Bengal. The working headquarters of the Association shall be located at a venue as decided by the Executive Committee from time to time.

3. AREA OF OPERATIONS

The jurisdiction of the All-India Tennis Association extends all over India and the territories of India.

4. AIMS AND OBJECTIVES FOR WHICH THE ORGANISATION IS ESTABLISHED ARE AS UNDER

The Association shall be the governing body of the game of tennis (hereinafter called “The Game”) in India and its objects shall be to advance and safeguard the interests of the game, the players, the coaches and all other stakeholders involved with the game and those of the Association and particularly:

- a) To promote and develop the game of tennis within its jurisdiction.
- b) To promote major competitions, tournaments and team championships and to regulate, arrange and manage all matches in connection therewith, to frame and publish rules and regulations for the same and to fix dates and places where such matches and tournaments are to be arranged or held.
- c) To promote international championships or international matches and to regulate, arrange and manage all matches in connection herewith when held in India.
- d) To make, vary, alter, maintain and enforce rules and regulations for the control and governance of the game in India.
- e) To uphold and maintain rules and regulations for the time being in force namely rules of tennis, the rules and regulations of the International Tennis Federation and the Regulations of the International Tennis Federation Championships.
- f) To enter and manage teams to represent India in International Team competitions and to arrange and/or manage ties held in India.
- g) To collect funds for the Association and to employ the same in such manner as the General Body considers desirable to achieve the objects of the Association.
- h) To invest any part of such funds not required immediately for the said purposes and objects in such manner as may be considered advisable from time to time subject to such condition that Income Tax Act exemption is available.
- i) To build stadia and tennis courts, to buy, acquire or take on lease any property necessary for the

furtherance of the objects of the Association.

- j) To make and maintain annual ranking list of players within its jurisdiction.
- k) To promote the teaching of the game and to encourage those recognized as coaches and teachers.
- l) To encourage talent and in deserving cases help the players in obtaining scholarships, sponsorship, employment and monetary benefits etc.
- m) To promote the training of referees and umpires “for conducting the National and International Championships” and other tournaments.
- n) To decide all doubtful and disputed points in connection with the game and the Rules and Regulations thereof.
- o) Generally do all such acts, matters and things in connection with or incidental to the effective carrying out of any of the objects mentioned in the previous sub-clauses thereof.
- p) To preserve the independence of the Association in all matters concerning the game of tennis and in its relation with its affiliated Organisations without the intervention of any outside authority.
- q) To preserve the integrity and independence of tennis as a sport.
- r) The general and fundamental principles of the Olympic Charter are applicable and no provisions of this Constitution (Codes, Statute Book Rules and Standing Orders etc.) which relate to participation in the Olympic Games and other events approved by or held under the auspices of the International Olympic Committee shall be deemed to conflict with or derogate from these principles.
- s) In furtherance of its objects, AITA may enter into an agreement with any firm, organisation or concern in which the members of Executive Committee may or may not be financially interested as Director or partner.

5. DISCLAIMER CLAUSE

All the income earnings, movable, immovable properties of the Association shall be solely utilized and applied towards the promotion of its aims and objects only, as set forth in the Memorandum of Association and no profit earned thereof, shall be paid or transferred, directly or indirectly, by way of dividends, bonus, profits, or in any manner whatsoever to the present or past members of the Organisation or to any persons, claiming through any one or more of the present or past members. No member of the Organisation shall have any personal claim on any movable or immovable properties of the Organisation or make any profit, whatsoever by virtue of his Membership.

RULES AND REGULATIONS OF THE ALL INDIA TENNIS ASSOCIATION
(REGISTERED UNDER SOCIETIES REGISTRATION ACT XXI OF 1860)

1. NAME:

These rules shall be called the All India Tennis Association Rules.

2. APPLICABILITY

- (1) These shall be applicable throughout the country.
- (2) These Rules will come into operation from August 1, 2026.

3. DEFINITIONS

In these Rules, unless the context indicates otherwise the following shall have the meanings attributed to them:

- (a) **Act:** means the National Sports Governance Act, 2025 as amended from time to time.
- (b) **AITA:** means the All India Tennis Association (hereinafter referred to as '**The Association**').
- (c) **Board:** means the National Sports Board established under sub-section (1) of section 5 of the National Sports Governance Act, 2025.
- (d) **General Body:** means that general body of the Association constituted under Rule 6(a).
- (e) **Executive Committee:** Means the Executive Committee of the AITA duly elected at Annual General Meeting.
- (f) **India:** means and includes all territories under the administrative control of the Government of India.
- (g) **ITF:** means the International Tennis Federation.
- (h) **International Charter:** means the Rules & Regulations, policies, codes and other such governance documents of the International Tennis Federation.
- (i) **National of India:** Shall mean and include a person as defined in Chapter II of the Constitution of India and/or as defined in the standing orders of the ITF under Qualification of a player to represent a country, provided that persons of Indian origin holding a foreign passport, i.e., OCI (*Overseas Citizen of India*) card holders, shall be eligible to participate, subject to the prior explicit permission of the Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports ("**MYAS**").
- (j) **President:** means the President of the AITA duly elected by the General Body.
- (k) **Vice President:** means the Vice President duly elected by the General Body.
- (l) **Secretary General:** shall mean the Secretary General duly elected by the General Body.
- (m) **Joint Secretaries:** shall mean the Joint Secretaries duly elected by the General Body.
- (n) **Treasurer:** shall mean the Treasurer duly elected by the General Body.
- (o) **Affiliation year or financial year:** means the period of twelve months from 1st April to the following 31st March.
- (p) **Jurisdiction:** means that the jurisdiction of the Association extends all over India and the territories of India.
- (q) **Tennis:** means the game of Tennis, Wheelchair Tennis, Beach Tennis or any other form of Tennis.
- (r) **State Affiliate:** means an affiliate organisation from any state and shall include Union Territory Affiliates as well.
- (s) **Sports Rules:** means the National Sports Governance (National Sports Bodies) Rules, 2026 as amended from time to time.

- (t) **Sportsperson of Outstanding Merit:** means a person whose name appears on a roster prepared in accordance with the Sportspersons of Outstanding Merit (SOM) Bye-laws (*Annexure III to these Rules*).
- (u) **Tribunal:** means the National Sports Tribunal constituted under sub-section (1) of section 17 of the National Sports Governance Act, 2025.

4. CONSTITUTION

The Association shall comprise of:

- a. The General Body; and
- b. The Executive Committee.

5. OBJECTS

The Association shall be the governing body of the game of Tennis (hereinafter referred to as “**The Game**”) in India and its objects shall be to advance and safeguard the interests of the game, the players, the coaches and all other stakeholders involved with the game and those of the Association and particularly as defined in Clause 4 of the Memorandum of Association.

6. GENERAL BODY

- a. The General Body shall supervise and control the administration of the AITA and game in India through the Executive Committee and other sub-committees.
- b. General Body shall mean and include:
 - i. State Affiliates, each of which shall be represented by two representatives each nominated by the Executive Committee of the State Affiliate;
 - ii. Associate Affiliates, each of which shall be represented by one representative, provided that Associate Affiliates shall be entitled to participate in proceedings of the General Body without voting rights;
 - iii. Four (4) Sportspersons of Outstanding Merit (2 males and 2 females), who shall be elected by the retired sportspersons included in the Sportspersons of Outstanding Merit Roster of the Association from amongst themselves as outlined in Annexure III to these Rules;
 - iv. 2 Para-tennis players (1 Male + 1 Female) to be nominated by the Executive Committee.
 - v. Institution or any other organisation to which the AITA has granted affiliation, and which satisfies the conditions laid down in Rule 18 of the Rules, such as Railway Sports Promotion Board, Services Sports Control Board, etc without voting rights.
- c. Voting: Only the State Affiliates (2 votes per State Affiliate), Para Athletes (1 vote each) and Sportsperson of Outstanding Merit representatives (1 vote each) shall have voting rights in meetings of General Body.
- d. The members of the Executive Committee of AITA can attend the meeting of General Body, but cannot vote in their capacity as member of the Executive Committee unless they are nominated by a State Affiliate as one of their representatives.

7. EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

(a) Executive Committee:

- i. The Executive Committee shall consist of the following members:

Sr.No.	Post	Number
1.	President	1
2.	Vice-President	1
3.	Secretary General	1
4.	Joint Secretary (Male)	1
5.	Joint Secretary (Post Reserved for Female))	1
6.	Treasurer	1
7.	Executive Member (Minimum 1 post reserved for female)	5
8.	Sportsperson of Outstanding Merit (1 male and 1 female) who shall be elected by the retired sportspersons included in the Sportspersons of Outstanding Merit Roster of the Association from amongst themselves [<i>as prescribed in Annexure III to these Rules</i>]	2
9.	Athletes Commission Representatives (1 male and 1 female) who shall be elected by the members of the Athletes Committee from amongst themselves.	2
	Total:	15

- ii. The Executive Committee shall not have more than 15 members.
- iii. The term of the Executive Committee shall be of four (4) years.
- iv. At least (4) members of the Executive Committee shall be women. This shall include (a) 1 Joint Secretary, (b) 1 Executive Member, (c) 1 representative of the Athletes Committee, and (d) 1 female Sportsperson of Outstanding Merit.
- v. Two (2) members of the Executive Committee shall be Sportspersons of Outstanding Merit out of whom 1 shall be male 1 shall be female.
- vi. Two (2) members of the Executive Committee shall be representatives from the Athletes Committee out of whom 1 shall be male 1 shall be female and these representatives shall have voting rights except where they have a conflict of interest vis-à-vis the agenda being taken up.
- vii. The Executive Committee shall exercise the powers as defined in these Regulations and entrusted upon by the General Body.

(b) Conflict of Interest:

No member of the Executive Committee shall be eligible to vote on an agenda in an Executive Committee meeting where they have a conflict of interest vis-à-vis the agenda being taken up,

however they can still present their view points before the meeting, but no direct participation and voting.

(c) Committees and Sub-committees:

The Following Committees as mentioned below shall be appointed at the Executive Committee Meeting held any time after the Annual General Meeting. These committees will continue to function till the new committees are appointed.

- i. Ethics Committee
- ii. Dispute Resolution Committee
- iii. Athletes Committee

The following Sub-committees shall be appointed at the Executive Committee Meeting held any time after the Annual General Meeting. These sub-committees will continue to function till the new sub-committees are appointed.

- iv. Finance and Legal Sub-committee
- v. Internal Complaints Sub-committee (under POSH act)
- vi. Tournament Sub-committee
- vii. Senior Selection Sub-committee
- viii. Junior Selection Sub-committee
- ix. Coaching and Development Sub-committee
- x. Any other committee as may be appointed by the Executive Committee

ETHICS COMMITTEE

- (i) A 5-Member Ethics Committee consisting of One (1) Chairman, preferably retired High Court judge and Four (4) Members (2 male and 2 female) will be appointed by the General Body upon nomination by the Executive Committee for a term of 4 years.
- (ii) The Ethics Committee shall have at least:
 - a person with legal knowledge, preferably retired High Court judge for the post of Chairman
 - a person of eminence and repute
 - SOM from the AITA SOM Roster
 - a person who has in the past been a part of the AITA Executive Committee
 - a person with expertise in finance and accounting
- (iii) No person from the incumbent Executive Committee or the General Body of AITA shall be appointed to the Ethics Committee.
- (iv) The Ethics Committee shall exercise the powers, perform the functions and follow the procedure which is applicable to the ITF Ethics Commission as per the ITF's Rules & Regulations, ITF's Code of Ethics, ITF's Ethics Commission Conflict of Interest Guidance and ethical guidelines of the Association.
- (v) The purpose of the Ethics Committee is to help ensure that the sport of tennis is governed ethically and in accordance with the highest standards of honesty and integrity.
- (vi) The Executive Committee may formulate an AITA Code of Ethics and publish it on the website of AITA.
- (vii) The ITF Code of Ethics and the AITA Code of Ethics shall apply to the Executive Committee, members of the Sub-Committees, and each person who is a candidate for election or is appointed or is seeking appointment in AITA in any capacity.

- (viii) The Ethics Committee shall function entirely independent of the Executive Committee and General Body. However, the Ethics Committee shall have the liberty to take assistance from AITA staff for administrative support and the proper functioning of the Ethics Committee.
- (ix) The Ethics Committee shall depute an observer for the elections of AITA Executive Committee for ensuring that no unethical practices are being adopted during the process.

DISPUTE RESOLUTION COMMITTEE

- (i) A 5-Member Dispute Resolution Committee consisting of One (1) Chairman and (4) Members will be appointed by the General Body upon nomination by the Executive Committee for a term of 4 years.
- (ii) The Dispute Resolution Committee shall have the following composition:
 - Chairman - a retired judge of a High Court
 - Member - advocate
 - Member - a person who has in the past been a part of the AITA Executive Committee
 - Member - SOM
 - Member - a person with expertise in finance and accounting
- (iii) The Chairman shall decide the composition and the number of members hearing the dispute depending on the subject matter of the dispute. However, for matters under sub-section iv(a) and iv(b) below, the composition of the members hearing will be of all the 5 members.
- (iv) The Dispute Resolution Committee shall be responsible for hearing and deciding any and all disputes:
 - a. Regarding elections of AITA or its affiliates;
 - b. Regarding matters involving AITA's affairs;
 - c. Regarding matters involving AITA's affiliates;
 - d. Regarding matters involving affiliates of AITA's affiliates;
 - e. Pertaining to any action against a player;
 - f. Pertaining to selections;
 - g. Pertaining to age fraud;
 - h. Pertaining to any tournament conducted by AITA its affiliates, or affiliates of AITA's affiliates;
 - i. Pertaining to disciplinary action taken by AITA or its affiliates; and
 - j. Arising out of the field of play.

Provided the complaint regarding or pertaining to the internal matter within the State Affiliate shall at first instance be instituted before that State Affiliate's dispute resolution committee. In such cases, the AITA Dispute Resolution Committee shall hear appeals against the decision of the dispute resolution committee of the State Affiliates.

- (v) The decision of the Dispute Resolution Committee shall be final and binding.
- (vi) Before any dispute is referred to the Dispute Resolution Committee, it shall first be referred to a Mediation Panel consisting of 3 members (who shall be persons with past experience of conducting mediation) which shall be appointed by the General Body of AITA in the Annual General Meeting in which the election for the Executive Committee is conducted. Only once the said Mediation Panel gives a certificate that there is no scope for amicable settlement in the dispute, then the aggrieved party may file a complaint before the Dispute Resolution Committee.
- (vii) The AITA Dispute Resolution Committee shall follow the procedure as deemed appropriate by it. The Dispute Resolution Committee in consultation with the Executive Committee shall

duly formulate the forms and procedures for filing complaints before the Dispute Resolution Committee and the same shall be published on the website of AITA.

- (viii) The AITA Dispute Resolution Committee shall act independent of AITA Executive Committee and General Body.
- (ix) AITA's members, coaches, players, staff, or any other person or entity which has any dispute with AITA shall not approach any court of law for any grievance with AITA or any of its state/district units. All disputes shall be brought before AITA's Dispute Resolution Committee. Recourse to ordinary and constitutional courts of law shall be barred.
- (x) The Chairman of the Dispute Resolution Committee may, from time to time, lay down nominal fees for filing complaints after approval from the Executive Committee.
- (xi) AITA shall extend all assistance to the Dispute Resolution Committee in order to ensure that its operations run smoothly and in an efficient manner.

AITA ATHLETES COMMITTEE

AITA will have an elected Athletes Committee. The Committee shall be formed with the following criteria:

- (i) The Athletes Committee will have 2 members (1 male and 1 female) who shall be ex officio members of the Executive Committee of AITA.
- (ii) Term: The Athletes Committee shall have a term of 4 years from the date of their election.
- (iii) Tenure: A member can serve a maximum of three (3) consecutive terms, i.e. 12 years, and after that they must undergo a cooling off period of one term i.e. 4 years, before again seeking election to the Athletes Committee.
- (iv) Eligibility: To be eligible to be elected as a member of the Athletes Committee an athlete must have satisfied the following criteria:
 - (a) Must be an Indian citizen,
 - (b) Must be above 18 years of age on the day of announcement of election, and
 - (c) Be in good standing with AITA, meaning not currently suspended or otherwise ineligible to participate in AITA-recognised tournaments pursuant to any applicable rules or regulations, and
 - (d) Not have previously served a suspension period of three (3) months or longer, unless AITA approves their eligibility taking into account all relevant factors, and
 - (e) Must never have received any sanction in relation to World Anti-Doping Code, and
 - (f) Must never have received any sanction from ITF, AITA or any of its State/UT Affiliate.
- (v) Election would be conducted in the presence of an AITA appointed election observer.
- (vi) The Athletes Committee shall perform the functions and shall be elected as per the Athletes Committee bye-laws appended to this Constitution as Annexure II.

FINANCE AND LEGAL SUB-COMMITTEE

A Five (5) Member Finance and Legal Committee shall be appointed by the Executive Committee (which shall include the Secretary General and the Treasurer as ex officio members) to advise the Association on matters pertaining to:

- Control of Legal Matters
- Control of the finances and accounts of the Association.
- Decisions on immovable or movable property of the Association.

- Consideration of the accounts and scrutinization of proposals for expenditure.
- Ways and means of raising funds for the Association.
- Review of internal audit and statutory audit reports, verification and confirmation of the Annual Accounts and financial estimates of income and expenditure of the Association prepared by the Treasurer.
- Budget for the total recurring and non-recurring expenditure for the year, based on the income resources of the Association and steps to ensure that all procedures, processes, statutory obligations and systems are followed and implemented properly.

Approval of expenditures above Rs. 50,000/- subject to ratification by the Executive Committee in its next meeting.

INTERNAL COMPLAINTS SUB-COMMITTEE

The Executive Committee shall constitute an Internal Complaints Committee to prevent and address 'Sexual Harassment of women' (Under POSH act)

TOURNAMENT SUB-COMMITTEE

A Tournament Committee shall be appointed to advice on matters relating to Tournaments structuring, scheduling and other related matters.

SENIOR SELECTION SUB-COMMITTEE

A Senior Selection Committee shall be appointed and would be responsible for selection of teams for all domestic as well as international team events in the senior Men's and Ladies Category.

JUNIOR SELECTION SUB-COMMITTEE

A Junior Selection Committee shall be appointed and would be responsible for selection of Junior teams for all domestic as well as international team events in all Junior age groups.

COACHING AND DEVELOPMENT SUB-COMMITTEE

A Coaching Committee shall be appointed and would be responsible for all matters relating to coaches, certification & education in the country.

8. POWERS AND DUTIES OF GENERAL BODY

The General Body shall have the following powers :-

- a. To elect the President, Vice Presidents, Secretary General, the Joint Secretaries, Treasurer and other members of Executive Committee. In particular and without prejudice to the generality of the powers mentioned above, the General Body shall have the power to convene a general body meeting of any of its affiliated organisations to resolve any dispute which impedes the normal functioning of its affiliated organisations that may have arisen in the management, elections, in conduct of tournaments etc. and to conduct elections by issuing required notice and complying with the formalities as enjoined by the rules. All decisions taken and elections held at meetings convened by the General Body shall be absolutely binding on affiliated organisations. The General Body may also depute such persons according to its own decisions for convening such meeting and for presiding over

- such meetings and for conduct of such meeting and all decisions taken by these representatives shall be absolutely binding on the affiliated organisation and its members.
- b. To carry out the objects of the Association and to make, maintain and publish all necessary Rules and Regulations in connection therewith.
 - c. To prohibit any act or practice by affiliated members and clubs or Tournament Committees affiliated to such members or by any person which in the opinion of the General Body is detrimental to the interests of the Game and of the Association and to deal with any such member, club or Tournament Committee or person, in such manner as Council may think proper.
 - d. To adopt for any player the status deemed adequate or appropriate as per the International Charters or rules framed by the Association.
 - e. To impose penalty on affiliated organisations and on such members and/or players for any infringement of the Rules and Regulations of the Association.
 - f. To consider and deal with all applications for affiliation and decide all questions as to the right of representation at the meetings of the General Body.
 - g. To decide all questions of eligibility of persons nominated or elected as members of the Executive Committee and the General Body and to annul any election if through non-attendance or any other course, continuation as a member of the General Body is not considered to be in the interest of the Association.
 - h. To delegate all or any of its powers to its duly appointed committees.
 - i. To enlist by co-option or invitation for any special purpose the services of any person who is not a member of the Executive Committee.
 - j. To establish and maintain office premises, to appoint staff and to appoint auditors.
 - k. To disaffiliate any organisation which has not complied with any of the rules and which has not resulted in an automatic disaffiliation. The General Body shall also have the power to readmit such organisation that is disaffiliated under these rules on being satisfied that the noncompliance was not intentional and the circumstances indicated sufficient cause for condoning the noncompliance.
 - l. To build stadia and tennis courts on the land belonging to the Association or on land owned by any other body or on land taken on lease from any other body, on its own or jointly or in partnership with that body.
 - m. Affiliated Units of AITA will ensure that any unit affiliated to an Affiliate / Associate Affiliate of AITA will not engage AITA in direct legal proceedings and will always go through the Affiliate / Associate Affiliate of AITA. In case this procedure is not followed, AITA Executive Committee has the power to inform its Affiliate / Associate Affiliate to disaffiliate the said affiliated unit or expel/suspend any office bearer of such an affiliated unit.
 - n. To provide interpretation to these rules and regulations, whenever required.

9. POWERS AND DUTIES OF MEMBERS OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

- a. The President
 - i. The President shall preside over all meetings of the General Body and the Executive Committee.
 - ii. He shall guide the AITA in all its activities and shall exercise superintendence over members of the Executive Committee and other Sub-Committees in the discharge of

their duties.

- iii. The President may call a meeting of the Executive Committee at a shorter notice for urgent purpose(s).

b. The Vice President

- i. In the absence of the President, the Vice President preside over all the meetings of the Executive Committee and the General Body.
- ii. The Vice President may perform any other specific tasks/functions as directed by the President, the Executive Committee or the General Body.

c. The Secretary General

- i. Will oversee all the administrative functions and Human Resource matters with the help of executives and other staff as may be required from time to time for efficient running of the office, matters of routine nature relating to the Association and support functions like IT, Website, Social Media, Registrations, Rankings, Meetings.
- ii. Will oversee and be responsible for tennis development activities including Coaching and Officiating and for Beach tennis, Wheelchair Tennis, Paralympics, Competitions for differently abled and Senior Tennis. Will also be responsible for sponsorships for AITA and other efforts of AITA to raise financial resources.
- iii. Will perform such other duties as may be necessary for the proper and efficient working of the Association.
- iv. Will cause minutes of all meetings of the Executive Committee and the General Body to be correctly recorded, confirmed and kept.
- v. Will issue the notices for convening of the meetings of the General Body and Executive Committee as per these Rules. However, on instruction from the President, Executive Committee Meeting can be called at short notice. As and when required, the Secretary General, with the permission of the President may call the Executive Committee meeting, through virtual/video conference, provided such meetings are fully recorded.;
- vi. In case of urgency, will obtain the views of the General Body or members of the Executive Committee by circulation or by any other manner as directed by the President.

d. The Joint Secretaries

- i. All the duties & powers of the Joint Secretaries shall be entrusted to them by the Executive Committee.
- ii. In the absence of the Secretary General the Executive Committee shall appoint one of the Joint Secretaries to discharge the functions of the Secretary General.

e. The Treasurer

- i. Within a reasonable time after the close of the financial year, the Treasurer shall furnish the Executive Committee with a statement of accounts, copies of which shall be forwarded to all members of the Executive Committee.
- ii. All accounts shall be maintained by the Treasurer and he shall be entitled to pay all bills unless previously countermanded by the Executive Committee or the General

Body.

- iii. All cheques shall be issued under the joint signatures of the Treasurer and the Secretary General or the President
- iv. The above will be subject to the condition that any payment in excess of Rs 50,000/-can be made only when authorized by the Finance and Legal Committee. All amounts received by the Treasurer shall be deposited with the bankers of the Association forthwith.
- v. The Treasurer shall ensure that the accounts of the Association are audited at the end of each financial year by the auditors of the Association.
- vi. All amounts received by the Treasurer shall be deposited with the bankers of the Association forthwith.
- vii. Collect all moneys and dues payable to the Association and report to the Executive Committee on all financial matters.
- viii. Make an annual statement of accounts and place it before the Annual General Meeting of the General Body.
- ix. Submit to the President quarterly statements of income and expenditure.
- x. Disburse the funds of the Association according to the directions of the Executive Committee.
- xi. Keep a roll of all members and from time to time amend and correct the same as circumstances require.
- xii. Employ such clerical and other assistants as may be authorized by the Executive Committee.

10. POWERS AND DUTIES OF THE SUB-COMMITTEES

- a. All sub-committees shall carry out such duties as may be authorized by the General Body. Such duties shall be discharged in accordance with these rules and regulations of the Association.
- b. All sub-committees are recommendatory. Final decisions shall rest with the Executive Committee.
- c. Normal business of all sub-committees can also be done by post or virtual meetings.
- d. Executive Committee may appoint ex-officio members to the sub-committee.
- e. Every sub-committee must meet quarterly and submit their report to the Executive Committee.

11. ELECTIONS OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

The elections of the Executive Committee of AITA shall be held in strict compliance with the Act and the Sports Rules, as amended from time to time (*as specifically outlined in the Annexure I to these Rules*).

12. QUALIFICATIONS FOR ELECTION TO EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

- a. A person shall not be qualified to contest for election or seek nomination to, the Executive Committee, unless:
 - i. such person is a citizen of India who has attained at least twenty-five years (25) of age and is not more than seventy (70) of age on the last date of nomination for election;

Once a person is eligible for the election, if elected, he will continue for the whole term of 4 years.

- ii. the nomination of such person is duly proposed and seconded by a voting member of the General Body;
 - iii. such person is not declared to be of unsound mind;
 - iv. such person, if he is a government servant, has necessary approvals from the Government, as applicable.
- b. A person shall not be qualified to contest for election or seek nomination to, the posts of the President or the Secretary General or the Treasurer, unless such person is (i) a SOM GB Representative, or (ii) has previously served as a member for at least one full term in the Executive Committee of AITA on any post, or (iii) has previously served as the President, or the Secretary General or the Treasurer in any of its State Affiliate units.
- c. A person may continuously hold the position of either the President or the Secretary General or the Treasurer, as the case may be, for up to three consecutive terms separately, or in combination thereof and shall be eligible for election to such posts or to the Executive Committee after a mandatory cooling off period of one term.

13. DISQUALIFICATIONS FOR GENERAL BODY, EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE AND SUB-COMMITTEES

- a. A person shall be disqualified from being a member of the General Body, or of any committee of a AITA, and shall not be eligible for contesting for election to the Executive Committee or the Athletes Committee, if such person:
- i. is declared insolvent under applicable law; or
 - ii. is subject to a conviction by a court of competent jurisdiction in India for an offence, followed by a sentence of imprisonment; or
 - iii. is subject to a ban from holding any such position by an order of the Ethics Committee of AITA; or
 - iv. is a member of the general body or of any committee of any other National Sports Body which is registered with the National Sports Board under the Act, except the Indian Olympic Association; or
 - v. has not completed the cooling off period of one term after having held the position of President, Secretary General or Treasurer in any other National Sports Body which is registered with the National Sports Board under the Act, except the Indian Olympic Association; or
- b. The period of disqualification under Clause 13(a)(i) shall be for the period of insolvency.
- c. The period of disqualification under Clause 13(a)(ii) shall be for a period of one full term of the Executive Committee after the completion of such sentence.
- d. The period of disqualification under Clause 13(a)(iii) shall be for the duration of such ban.

14. CONFLICT OF INTEREST

All “Conflict of Interest” matters shall be decided as per International Tennis Federation guidelines. If any member/s of the Executive Committee, has an actual or perceived conflict of interest in a matter that relates to the affairs of AITA, the President may request the relevant member/s of the Executive Committee to excuse himself/herself/themselves from the meeting or to refrain from voting or participating in discussion on the matter. If there is an objection to the

President's ruling or the conflict is with respect to the President, the Executive Committee (excluding the relevant member/s or President as the case may be) shall vote on the issue and a simple majority vote that a conflict exists or may exist is sufficient for the meeting to request the President or the Member/s concerned to excuse himself/herself/themselves from the meeting or refrain from participating in discussion on the matter. The applicable position may vary from time to time in accordance with the ITF Rules.

15. CASUAL VACANCIES

- a. Any one of the members of the Executive Committee going out of India for more than three continuous months. Any circumstances which may prevent them from carrying out their duties.
- b. Any members of the Executive Committee who is prevented due to any circumstances from attending to or carrying out his duties for a period of more than 30 days, shall inform the President of this fact who shall appoint one of the elected Executive Committee Members to carry on these duties during the absence of the member concerned. If such Executive Committee Member fails to do so, then the President shall take such action as he / she may consider necessary in the circumstances. In case any of the members of the Executive Committee goes out of India on business of the Association, then his absences will not be considered as Casual Vacancy. A Casual Vacancy arising in any sub-committee may be filled up by the President of the Association. Any casual vacancy in the Executive Committee shall be filled in from Secretaries or representatives of the affiliated organization.
- c. In the case of vacancies arising under clause (a) and (b), the same shall be filled in by the President in consultation with the Executive Committee. Interim arrangements may, however, be made as provided above.
- d. It is not obligatory to fill in casual vacancies caused in the Executive Committee or sub-committees. Decision in this matter shall rest with the Executive Committee.

16. PERMANENT VACANCIES

Permanent vacancies can be caused by death or circumstances which may prevent any member of the Executive Committee from attending to his duties for more than 3 months.

- a. President:

Vice President will fill the permanent vacancy of the post of President till 3 months or the next AGM, whichever is less, in which the election shall be conducted.

- b. Secretary General, Vice President, Joint Secretaries and Treasurer:

Permanent vacancy of the posts of Secretary General, Vice President, Jt. Secretaries or Treasurer shall be filled in by the Executive Committee till 3 months or the next AGM, whichever is less, in which the election shall be conducted.

- c. Any member of the Executive Committee who has assumed office by virtue of having filled a permanent vacancy or casual vacancy shall not be deemed to have enjoyed a term of 4 years. He will be entitled to contest election as per rules and if elected, hold office for a further term of 4 years and so on as provided herein above.

17. ACCOUNTS

Within a reasonable time after closure of the financial year, the Treasurer shall furnish to the Executive Committee the statements of accounts of the Association.

- a. All bills shall be passed either by the President, Secretary General or the Treasurer before payment.
- b. All cheques shall be issued under the joint signatures of the Treasurer and the Secretary General or the President.
- c. All amounts received by the AITA shall be deposited with the banks of the Association forthwith.
- d. A maximum sum of Rs. 5000/- shall be allowed to the Treasurer as imprest cash (at one time).
- e. The accounts of the Association shall be audited at the end of each financial year by the auditors of the Association.

18. MEETINGS OF THE GENERAL BODY

- a. Annual General Meeting of the General Body shall be held annually at such time and place as the President shall fix, provided that such meeting shall not be called on a date not later than 30th day of September. The ordinary business of the Annual General Meeting shall be:-
 - i. To receive the report of the Secretary General which will include the tentative programs for the ensuing year as drawn up by the Executive Committee and the Treasurer's statement of account for the previous year, duly audited.
 - ii. To elect, when due, President, Vice Presidents, Secretary General, Joint Secretaries, Treasurer and Executive Committee. Associate Affiliate shall not be entitled to be elected in the Executive Committee.
 - iii. To appoint Auditors for the ensuing year.
- b. An Extra-Ordinary General Meeting may be convened by the
 - i. President, or
 - ii. the Secretary General, anytime as required. An Extra-Ordinary General Meeting can also be convened on receipt of requisition by a minimum of five State Affiliates, by specifying the business for which the meeting is to be convened. A notice of 3 (three) weeks shall be given for such a meeting. If the President or the Secretary General do not issue a notice for such Extra-Ordinary General Meeting within 7 days of the receipt of such requisition as mentioned above, any 3 of the 5 states who have requisitioned, can issue a notice for Extra-Ordinary General Meeting, and such meeting and the business transacted in the meeting shall be considered valid and shall not be legally objected by the Association. No other business shall be transacted at such a meeting, other than that mentioned in the notice.
- c. No business other than the formal adjournment of the meeting shall be transacted at any meeting unless a quorum is present. No quorum will be necessary for an adjourned meeting.
- d. All businesses of the Annual General Meeting or Extraordinary General Meeting shall be decided by a bare majority of votes properly recorded at such meeting. However, any business regarding amendment of these rules and regulations will be decided by two-third majority of the member present and who are eligible to vote.

- e. In the case of an equality of votes, the President or the Chairman of the meeting shall have a casting vote.
- f. Notice of every meeting shall be sent by letter/e-mail/Speed Post/Courier as considered expedient to the office-bearers, Vice Presidents, Joint Secretaries and Members of the General Body at least 3 weeks prior to the date fixed for such meeting. Such notice shall specify the date, time and place of such meeting and the nature of business to be transacted and in case of Annual General Meeting, shall be accompanied by a report of the Secretary General, report of the Treasurer, audited statement of accounts for the past year, provided always that the accidental omission to give any such notice to any person entitled thereto or its non-receipt by him shall not invalidate the proceedings at any meeting.
- g. At a meeting, every question or motion shall be decided by show of hands unless, prior to any vote being taken, ballot is:-
 - i. Directed by the Chairman, or
 - ii. Demanded by not less than 25 (twenty-five) percent of persons present and entitled to vote.
- h. Elections shall be by secret ballot.
- i. All the General Body Meetings shall be always video recorded.
- j. All matters discussed by the Council in a meeting shall be treated as private and confidential. Matters of public interest, may however be released to the press by the Secretary General subject to approval by the Chairman. No other member is permitted to speak to the press or anybody on behalf of the Association without the permission of the President.

19. NO CONFIDENCE

Proposal for no confidence of any member of the Executive Committee (except representatives of the SOM or Athletes Committee) can be taken up only at an EGM convened specially for this purpose. The proposal should be made by at least 25% of the voting members of the General Body. The EGM shall mandatorily be called and convened by the Secretary General on receipt by him of a requisition in writing to the above effect by giving 3 (three) weeks' notice. In the event that such meeting is not called by the Secretary General, then the meeting shall be called by any three state affiliates who shall jointly issue the notice. No other business shall be transacted at such a meeting. A no confidence proposal would be considered as passed if the votes cast in favour of the proposal are passed with at least more than 50% votes properly recorded at the meeting.

20. QUORUM

At the Annual General Meeting or any meeting of the General Body, 10 persons shall form a quorum of which at least eight shall be representatives of affiliated organisations. If the quorum is not met, the meeting shall be adjourned for 30 (thirty) minutes, after which the meeting shall be reconvened where quorum will not be necessary.

21. AFFILIATIONS

- a. All State Affiliates of the All India Tennis Association shall have 2 votes each.
- b. Any state association/union territory association which desires to become an Associate Affiliate shall apply to the Secretary General.

- c. Such applicant state/union territory association must:
 - i. have a legal status as a registered society, not-for-profit company or trust, and
 - ii. must have district or other units affiliated to it.
- d. All new affiliations to AITA will be as 'Associate Affiliate' and they shall have no voting rights in the General Body of AITA.
- e. All such applicants must apply with the following documents:-
 - i. Registration Certificate,
 - ii. List of Office-bearers,
 - iii. List of affiliated district or other units,
 - iv. Minutes of last Annual General Meeting,
 - v. Audited accounts, and
 - vi. Copy of rules & regulations conforming to these rules and regulations.
- f. An Associate Affiliate can apply to the General Body through the Secretary General for promotion as 'State Affiliate with voting rights' and the General Body in its next meeting shall take a decision on such an application on the basis of the tennis promotion activities undertaken by the Associate Affiliate in its State/UT.
- g. If more than one body or organisation in a State/UT claims affiliation to the AITA, which one of the bodies will be entitled to affiliation to the AITA, will be a matter exclusively and entirely within the power and jurisdiction of the Executive Committee of the AITA to decide. If a body/organisation has already been recognized and affiliated to the AITA from a State/UT, no other body/organisation shall be recognized or affiliated to the AITA.
- h. Grant of affiliation shall be a matter of discretion and no applicant shall have a right to get affiliation merely because it meets the aforesaid criteria.

Provided that, upon the National Sports Board being constituted under the Act, all State Affiliates of the Association shall be re-registered as State-level affiliate units with the National Sports Board.

22. OBLIGATIONS OF ORGANISATIONS

- a. Every organisation affiliated under Rule 18 shall pay an annual affiliation fee of Rs. 5000/- plus applicable taxes or the amount of fees as decided by the General Body from time to time.
- b. The annual contribution for each year shall be payable in advance, on or before the 31 st day of March, provided, however, that the first annual contribution shall be payable within one month of the receipt of notice of affiliation.
- c. Every affiliated organisation shall on or before the 30th day of September, in each year, send to the Association a complete list of members of the executive committee, councillors, names of affiliated clubs, district associations and other organizations, minutes of the Annual General Meeting and audited statements of accounts. This provision, however, will not be applicable to Railways Sports Promotion Board and Services Sports Control Board.
- d. Notice of every subsequent addition to such list and of any withdrawal there-from shall be sent to the Association by every such organisation.
- e. Such other information as may be called for by the Association shall be given by the affiliates, including the associated affiliates, within one month of the receipt of the communication.

23. DISAFFILIATION

An affiliated association / organization can stand disaffiliated on the occurrence of any of the following by the Executive Committee before disaffiliation.

- a. Nonpayment of annual subscription and other dues to the All India Tennis Association by 31st March every year.
- b. For non-filing of membership returns as provided for in Rule 23(c).
- c. For electing or keeping in its office as an office-bearer or councillor or as member of any of its sub-committees any person who is suspended by the All India Tennis Association at its General Body Meeting for any reason whatsoever or if he has been convicted by a court of law.
- d. For allowing any tennis event involving foreign players or exhibition matches or any other event requiring Government or AITA permission to be held on the courts of any of its affiliated clubs or institution without prior approval of AITA.
- e. Any affiliated unit which files legal case against AITA in contravention of Rule 8(l) shall stand automatically disaffiliated. In case of existing legal cases, the unit shall stand automatically disaffiliated if it does not withdraw the case within 1 month of the passing of the resolution by the General Body giving effect to this clause.
- f. Non submission of certificate duly approved by the Executive Committee of the affiliated unit stating that as long as a member unit is affiliated to the AITA, it will follow and abide by the constitution of the AITA approved and amended by the General Body from time to time. In case the certificate is not received within 45 days of passing of this resolution, the affiliated unit will be considered automatically disaffiliated.
- g. For non-payment of Royalty or any other amount due to AITA.

24. RE-ADMISSION

- a. The General Body shall have the power to re-admit any organisation, which stood disaffiliated, after it is satisfied that the disqualification has ceased to exist.
- b. An organisation which has stood disqualified shall, on application being made, be normally entitled to re-admission on payment of all its outstanding dues along with a minimum penalty of Rs. 50,000/- on such payment being received by the Treasurer from the said organisation, the Treasurer shall issue a receipt to the organisation. The receipt issued shall be forwarded to the Secretary General of the AITA by the organisation concerned for being placed before the General Body. The General Body, shall as early as possible, re-admit the member unless for reasons to be recorded in writing, the General Body comes to the conclusion that the organisation concerned does not deserve to be re-admitted.

25. VOTING

- a. The following shall have voting rights in the General Body:
 - i. Each State Affiliate will be represented in the General Body by 2 representatives who shall be entitled to a total of 2 votes (1 vote each) at all meetings of the General Body.
 - ii. Each SOM GB Representative out of total 4 (2 Male + 2 Female) shall have 1 vote each at all meetings of the General Body.

- iii. Each Para-tennis member out of total 2 (1 Male + 1 Female) nominated by the Executive Committee shall have 1 vote each at all meetings of the General Body.
- b. No person, representing an Associate Affiliate without voting rights, shall have any right to vote on any matter or subject or issue in discussion before the General Body, but such a person may take part in discussions and express his/her views in the General Body Meeting and all the decisions taken by the General Body shall be binding and enforceable irrespective of such person's views expressed in the meeting.

26. NOTICE, RESOLUTION AND MOTION:

The General Body or any affiliated organisation may bring forward any resolution or motion at the Annual General Meeting provided in the case of an affiliated organization, the resolution/motion is seconded in writing by another affiliated organization and due notice thereof is given to the Secretary General on or before the 30th day of April in each year. The Executive Committee can bring forward any resolution/motion at any time before the AGM/EGM.

27. WITHDRAWALS

An affiliated organisation desiring to withdraw from the Association must give notice in writing to the Secretary General prior to the 1st day of March in any year, and in default will be liable to pay its subscription for the ensuing year.

28. TRAVELLING AND HALTING EXPENSES

The members of the Executive Committee and members of the various sub-committees shall be entitled to such travelling and halting allowances as may be approved by the Executive Committee.

29. SANCTION FOR OPEN TOURNAMENT

Sanction to hold an open tournament, invitation or international tournament shall only be granted to affiliated organisations and to clubs affiliated to such organisations. No tournament shall be held in India without the permission of the AITA. The penalty for both players and the club which has conducted the unauthorized tournament shall be as may be decided by the AITA.

30. RULES OF THE GAME

The rules of tennis as adopted and amended from time to time by the International Tennis Federation and the Rules and Regulations of the Association for the time being in force, and the decisions of the General Body on all matters in issue and points arising in connection therewith, shall be binding on all the affiliated organisations, clubs and tournament committees affiliated to such organisations in India.

31. RIGHT OF APPEAL

Any club or player affiliated to any affiliated organisation, or any person being a member of such an organisation or club or player being aggrieved by a decision or ruling of the governing body of such affiliated organisation, may appeal to the concerned affiliate's jurisdictional state dispute

resolution committee and in the absence thereof, to the AITA Dispute Resolution Committee.

32. INTERPRETATION

Except where otherwise stated, every reference in these rules to the masculine includes the feminine gender.

33. OBLIGATIONS OF PLAYERS

Executive Committee has full powers to suspend any player who fails to comply with any of the following:

- a. Registration:
 - i. It is compulsory for players of all categories, i.e. amateurs and professionals including juniors and veterans to register with AITA. Registered players shall pay the registration charges as fixed by AITA. No affiliated organisation shall accept entry of any player who is not registered with AITA in any tournament conducted under its jurisdiction.
 - ii. A player must at all times accept the authority of the Association. He shall place himself at the disposal of the Association when required to prepare for and take part in events for which he may be selected to represent his State or Country. If he declines without good reason to place himself at the disposal of the Association, he shall render himself to be suspended.
 - iii. When playing in any event under the jurisdiction of another National Association, a Player is required to comply with the rules of that National Association as well as those of his own Association. A player shall not play in a tournament match, exhibition match or other competition with or against a person who is under suspension.
 - iv. A player shall not play in a tournament match, exhibition match or other competition in public, which is not controlled by an authority approved by the National Association of the Country in which the event is held.
 - v. A player shall not enter or signify the intention to enter for more than one tournament, match or competition advertised to take place during the same period.
 - vi. A player shall not play for stake declared for, or wager.
 - vii. A player shall not contribute under his own name to the press, broadcast or television in regard to and during the time of any tournament match or competition, which is held under the jurisdiction of National Association and in which he is entered as or is a competitor, except with the previous consent of the National Association of the country concerned and under the direct control of the Chairman of the committee or other authorized management of the event to which the attribution relates. In no such case may a player receive any pecuniary advantage.
 - viii. A player shall not advertise in any way within the precincts of tournament match or competition in which he is entered as or is a competitor.
 - ix. A player shall in no circumstances participate in the profit or gross receipts of a tournament, match, exhibition match or other competition.
 - x. No junior player shall, in any way or manner, accept prizes in money.
- b. Junior players - who have not attained their 14th birthday, shall not compete in professional events.
- c. Any sports person and / or support personnel aggrieved by any decision or action of an

International Sports Association / Federation imposing any penalty or punishment by way of disciplinary action or otherwise may raise that dispute before the Court of Arbitration for Sports (CAS) and/or the International Council of Arbitration for Sports (ICAS) either by himself / herself or through the NSF concerned.

34. EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

The Executive committee, as defined in Rule 7(a) of the AITA Rules, shall exercise the following powers. An appeal against the decision of the Executive Committee shall rest with the General Body.

- a. All affairs of the association shall be conducted by the Executive Committee and it shall be the duty of the Executive Committee to see that the general provisions of the constitution and the Regulations and bye-laws of the Association are complied with by all the members.
- b. The Executive Committee shall have supervisory powers over all the tournaments conducted under the auspices of the AITA and may assume the conduct of such tournament, as it may deem advisable.
- c. Executive Committee shall, from time to time, frame rules for the conduct of tournaments.
- d. The Executive Committee shall have exclusive power to add alter, amend, delete and modify any of the Rules of the tournament from time to time and the same are binding on all the participants from the date Executive Committee has given effect to come in force.
- e. The Executive Committee shall have general charge of the funds of the association. It shall sanction and control expenditure, where necessary, and shall generally supervise and conduct the business of the Association.
- f. The Executive Committee shall hear and decide all questions submitted to it by the members for decision. All its decisions shall be complied with forthwith. But an appeal there-from may be filed with the General Body by any member who is dissatisfied with the decision of the Executive Committee.
- g. The Executive Committee shall meet as and when the work so requires. At a Central Place (where all members could easily assemble) in order to dispose of urgent business of the Association.
- h. The time and the place for such meetings shall be fixed by the President and a notice shall be issued by the Secretary General to each member of the Executive Committee at least 15 days before the date fixed for such meeting. The agenda for the meeting shall also be circulated along with the notice of the meeting.
- i. The President may decide to call any Executive Committee Meeting virtually instead of a meeting where the members are required to attend the meeting physically. If an Executive Committee is called with physical presence of the members by the President, an Executive Committee member can attend such meeting virtually with a prior permission of the President and also can vote virtually. However, to give such permission will be at the discretion of the President depending upon the nature of the agenda. Any issue arising due to a failed video or audio connection, shall be treated as absence of such a member.
- j. All the Executive Committee meetings, physical or virtual shall be video recorded.
- k. The Executive Committee may also arrive at decisions on points referred to them by circulation. All matters circulated must be voted on within a period of 5 days from the date of dispatch of the Circular.
- l. The Executive Committee shall have authority to appoint sub-committees not provided for in the Rules.

- m. A meeting of the Executive Committee shall be convened by the Secretary General within 15 (fifteen) days of the receipt by him of a requisition in writing from three members of the Executive Committee.
- n. The Executive committee shall take decision regarding the Davis Cup, foreign tours and international matches or competitions taking into consideration the recommendation of the relevant sub-committee(s).
- o. Quorum: At all meetings of the Executive Committee, 5 persons shall form a quorum of which at least 2 (two) shall be who are not SOM representatives or Athletes Committee representatives. If the quorum is not met, the meeting shall be adjourned for 30 (thirty) minutes, after which the meeting shall be reconvened where quorum will not be necessary.
- p. All business of a meeting shall be decided by a bare majority of the votes properly recorded. In case of equality of votes, the President or the Chairman shall have a Casting vote.
- q. All matters discussed by the Executive Committee or any Subcommittee in a meeting shall be treated as private and confidential. Matters of public interest may, however, be released to the press by the Secretary General. No other member is permitted to speak to the press or anybody on behalf of the Association without the permission of Secretary General.
- r. The Executive Committee shall ensure that the participants in the teams representing the Affiliates or the national teams representing India/Association in sports events do not indulge in any age fraud or impersonation or any other sports fraud. Such matter shall be dealt with the applicable Government guidelines/ Law.
- s. The Executive Committee shall always have the powers to ratify or change any action or decision taken by its members or any sub-committee.

35. ALTERATIONS TO THE MOA OR RULES AND REGULATIONS

The memorandum of association and the Rules of the All India Tennis Association shall be altered, modified, rescinded or added to by special resolution passed by 3/4th of the members in the general meeting called for the purpose. The governing body shall have powers to make, alter, modify or rescind such bye laws & rules as may be considered necessary in the interest of smooth functioning of the society. Any alteration or amendment to the Rules and Regulations must be either proposed by the Executive Committee or by a minimum of 2 Affiliates of the Association.

36. ANNUAL LIST OF GENERAL BODY MEMBERS

Once in every year a list of the members of the General Body and the Executive Committee shall be filed with the Registrar of Societies, West Bengal as required under Section 17 of the West Bengal Societies Registration Act, 1961.

37. SUIT & LEGAL PROCEEDINGS

The Society may sue or be sued in the name of the President/Secretary/Treasurer as per the provisions of West Bengal Societies Registration Act, 1961 as applicable to the society. In all such cases, the President/Secretary General/Treasurer shall not be personally liable.

38. DISSOLUTION OF THE ORGANISATION

Subject to the provisions of the Sections 24 & 27 of the West Bengal Societies Registration Act, 1961 or any statutory modifications thereof, the society may be dissolved by a resolution to that effect passed by 3/4th members of the society at a general meeting. The said meeting shall also decide the manner of disbursement of the funds & assets of the association, if any after dissolution.

39. APPLICABLE STATUTES

The provisions under the following statutes and rules and regulations thereunder shall apply to AITA:

- a. The West Bengal Societies Registration Act, 1961 and Rules and Regulations thereunder as applicable to the Societies registered in West Bengal, and
- b. The notified provisions of the National Sports Governance Act, 2025 and the rules and regulations made thereunder.

40. ESSENTIAL CERTIFICATE

We the undersigned members of the governing body of the Society do hereby certify that the above is a true copy of the Rules & Regulations of the society.

Signature of the three members of the Executive Committee:

(PRESIDENT)

(SECRETARY GENERAL)

(TREASURER)

ELECTION OF MEMBERS OF EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE, AITA

Election Bye-Laws

1. Definitions and Interpretation:

- (i) In these Election Rules (which shall include the Act and the Sports Rules), unless the context otherwise requires:
 - (a) “candidate” shall mean any candidate contesting for Election to an Elected Post;
 - (b) “election” shall mean the election of the Executive Committee of AITA conducted in accordance with these Election Rules for an Elected Post;
 - (c) “general meeting” shall mean a meeting of all members of the General Body of AITA, that is called and conducted in accordance with such AITA’s bye-laws; and
 - (d) “nomination” shall mean the process through which a candidate formally submits such candidate’s interest to contest for an Election to an Elected Post in accordance with these Election Rules.
 - (e) “Form” or “Forms” shall mean the various forms appended to Schedule II - Election Rules appended to the National Sports Governance (National Sports Bodies) Rules, 2026.
- (ii) Any terms used in these Election Rules but not defined herein, shall strictly and literally have the meaning ascribed to them in the Act and the Sports Rules.

2. Election to Executive Committee.

- (i) The Executive Committee shall, by resolution, appoint an Electoral Officer from the National Sports Election Panel, at least sixty days prior to the expiry of such Executive Committee’s term, for the preparation of the electoral roll and conduct of elections to the Executive Committee.
- (ii) The Executive Committee shall, in consultation with the Electoral Officer appointed under sub-rule (i), notify the date for elections, at least fifty days prior to the expiry of such Executive Committee’s term.
- (iii) The Electoral Officer shall be responsible for ensuring smooth conduct of the elections to the Executive Committee of AITA in compliance with these Election Rules.
- (iv) The AITA shall provide the requisite number of administrative staff as specified by the Electoral Officer to assist such officer to conduct the elections to the Executive Committee.
- (v) The timelines for elections of the Executive Committee of AITA shall be as follows:

Event	Timeline
Submission of application to be a sportsperson of outstanding merit	Within sixty days of the call for applications under sub-rule (1) of rule 5.
Preparation of a roster of male sportspersons of outstanding merit and a roster of female sportspersons of outstanding merit	At least ninety days prior to the expiry of the term of the incumbent Executive Committee.
Election or nomination of sportspersons of outstanding merit to the General Body	At least seventy-five days prior to the expiry of the term of the incumbent Executive Committee.

Appointment of an Electoral Officer	At least sixty days prior to the expiry of the term of the incumbent Executive Committee.
Notification of election date	At least fifty days prior to the expiry of the term of the incumbent Executive Committee.
Preparation and release of draft electoral roll	At least forty-five days prior to the expiry of the term of the incumbent Executive Committee.
Call for elections, release of final electoral roll and invitation for nominations	At least thirty days prior to the expiry of the term of the incumbent Executive Committee.

- (vi) any person who meets the eligibility criteria under sub-section (2) of section 4 of the Act and is not subject to disqualification under rule 11 may contest for election to the Executive Committee of AITA. The said provisions shall be construed strictly in their literal sense, and no interpretative exercise shall be permissible.
- (vii) Members of the General Body of AITA, shall be eligible to be included in the electoral college and participate and vote in the election to its Executive Committee as specified below, namely:
 - (a) every individual sportsperson of outstanding merit shall have one vote; and
 - (b) every State Affiliate unit of AITA, shall have a maximum of two votes, to be exercised by separate individual representatives of such State Affiliate (who need not be members of the concerned State Affiliate).
- (viii) The electoral roll for an election to the Executive Committee shall consist of only such members or their representatives in the General Body of AITA that have voting rights as per sub-rule (2) or sub-rule (3), as the case may be, and are not otherwise strictly disqualified under the provisions of the Act, Rule 11 of the Sports Rules or these Election Rules in their literal sense.
- (ix) For the election of the Executive Committee, any disqualification(s) incurred by a voter or a candidate owing to the position held by him/her or his/her involvement in in a State/UT Affiliate unit or their district affiliate units shall not be relevant for the purpose of sub-rule (viii).
- (x) The eligibility of a voter and a candidate shall be tested strictly in accordance with the express and literal provisions of the Act, the rules made thereunder and these Election Rules.
- (xi) The draft electoral roll for the election shall be prepared and released by the Electoral Officer in consultation with the then Executive Committee of AITA, at least forty-five days prior to the expiry of the term of such Executive Committee

Provided that the Electoral Officer's decision shall be final and binding in respect of the inclusion or non-inclusion, as the case may be, of any person on the electoral roll.
- (xii) The Electoral Officer shall provide for at least seven days from the release of the draft electoral roll, to receive and respond to any objections regarding the composition of the final electoral roll.

3. Conduct of Elections

- (i) Elections shall generally take place at the Annual General Meeting of the AITA, where so required may also take place at a specially convened general meeting.
- (ii) Elections shall always be by secret ballot.

4. Calling elections and the electoral roll

- (i) Elections shall be called by the AITA's Executive Committee in consultation with the Electoral Officer, at least thirty days prior to the expiry of such Executive Committee's term, in accordance with the relevant provisions of the AITA's constitutional documents and shall be included in the agenda of the applicable general meeting.
- (ii) The call for elections shall contain, at a minimum, the following:
 - (a) the name of the Electoral Officer;
 - (b) the final electoral roll prepared and released by the Electoral Officer pursuant to sub-rule 2(xii) of these Bye-Laws and in accordance with Form 1;
 - (c) the Elected Posts that are the subject of such Elections and any pre-requisites or qualifications for Candidates to contest such Elected Posts;
 - (d) an invitation to file for nominations for Elected Posts by interested Candidates;
 - (e) the nomination form to be submitted by interested Candidates which shall be in accordance with Form 2; and
 - (f) the electoral calendar which shall be in accordance with the model calendar specified in sub-clause (iii) below.
- (iii) The Electoral Officer shall conduct the Elections in accordance with the following model calendar:

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

- (iv) The Electoral Officer may, only for reasons of practical necessity, modify the model calendar specified in sub-clause (iii), while ensuring that the elections are completed within a maximum period of twenty-one (21) days.

5. Electoral Officer:

- (i) All administrative matters relating to any election shall be ruled upon by the Electoral Officer.
- (ii) The Electoral Officer shall be responsible for supervising the administrative process relating to the elections, including:
 - (a) ensuring the correct application of the Act, and these Rules;

- (b) setting reasonable deadlines for each stage of the elections in accordance with the model calendar provided under clause 5 of these Election Rules, and enforcing such deadlines strictly;
 - (c) determining and distributing the appropriate documentation and forms, including nomination forms and ballot papers, for each stage of the elections and enforcing and verifying their proper use;
 - (d) distributing information to voting members, other members, the media and public;
 - (e) managing relations with government bodies or the National Sports Board and any observers as deputed by the National Sports Board;
 - (f) causing the publication of all notifications and forms concerning the elections on the official websites of the AITA, the National Sports Board and the Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports; and
 - (g) all other tasks necessary to ensure the smooth running of the electoral process.
- (iii) The Electoral Officer may, only for reasons of practical necessity, modify the Forms, while ensuring that the principles of this Schedule are adhered to. This provision shall not entitle the Election Officer to expand the scope of any provision of the Act and the rules made thereunder and the Rules & Regulations of AITA and shall at all times construe the provisions in their literal sense and strictly.

6. National Sports Election Panel

- (i) The National Sports Election Panel shall consist of persons empanelled by the National Sports Board who satisfy the qualifications specified thereunder.
- (ii) The Executive Committee shall appoint the Electoral Officer for the conduct of elections to the Executive Committee from amongst the members of the National Sports Election Panel, and no person outside such Panel shall be eligible for appointment as Electoral Officer.
- (iii) The Electoral Officer so appointed shall hold office only for the purposes of, and till completion of, the election for which such appointment is made, and shall be independent of the Executive Committee, the General Body and the affiliates of AITA in the discharge of duties under these Election Rules.
- (iv) Where the Electoral Officer appointed is unable to continue for any reason, the Executive Committee shall appoint a replacement from the National Sports Election Panel, in consultation with the National Sports Board, within seven days of the vacancy arising.

7. Nominations:

- (i) The nomination of a candidate for election shall be proposed and seconded by persons on the electoral roll.
- (ii) Every nomination form shall be delivered to the Electoral Officer in person by the candidate himself within the deadline specified.
- (iii) No member shall nominate more than one candidate for the same Elected Post, either as proposer or seconder and, if he so does, only the first valid nomination shall be accepted, and all other nominations of such member, shall be deemed to be void and inoperative.
- (iv) No person shall be permitted to withdraw his name as proposer or seconder, once the nomination form endorsed by him has been delivered to the Electoral Officer.
- (v) The Electoral Officer shall prepare a list of all nominations received by him, Elected Post-wise in accordance with Form 3.

8. Scrutiny and Finalisation of Nominations:

- (i) The Electoral Officer shall scrutinise each nomination form received by him and determine its validity or otherwise strictly and literally as per the qualifications and disqualifications stipulated in the Act, rules made thereunder and the AITA's Rules & Regulations.
- (ii) During the scrutiny of nominations under sub-clause (i), each Candidate or one of his authorised representatives shall have the right to be present and raise any objection in relation to nomination of another Candidate for the Elected Post for which he has filed his nomination.
- (iii) Pursuant to the scrutiny of nomination forms, the Electoral Officer shall prepare a list of validly nominated candidates in accordance with Form 4.
- (iv) Every candidate whose nomination has been found valid on scrutiny shall be entitled to withdraw his candidature prior to the commencement of the Election by providing notice to the Electoral Officer in accordance with Form 5, and the Electoral Officer shall accept the notice of withdrawal if he is satisfied as to the genuineness of such notice.
- (v) Any notice of withdrawal of candidature shall be final and shall not be allowed to be cancelled.
- (vi) The Electoral Officer shall prepare the final list of contesting candidates in accordance with Form 6 of these Bye-Laws.
- (vii) The AITA shall produce the ballot papers in accordance with Form 7 under the supervision and charge of the Electoral Officer.
- (viii) The ballot papers shall be printed clearly and legibly, and the names of the contesting candidates shall be arranged, for each Elected Post, in alphabetical order according to the english alphabet.

9. Polling

- (i) Where the number of contesting candidates for any Elected Post or category of Elected Post is equal to the number of Elected Posts to be filled, all such contesting candidates shall be deemed to be duly elected unopposed to those Elected Posts, and it shall not be necessary to take a poll for election to such Elected Post.
- (ii) Where the number of contesting candidates for any Elected Post or category of Elected Post is more than the number of Elected Posts to be filled, a poll shall be taken by secret ballot for those Elected Posts remaining unfilled.
- (iii) At the poll, members who are in the electoral roll, shall be entitled to:
 - (a) cast one vote for each of the Elected Posts remaining unfilled, where only one such seat is to be filled; and
 - (b) cast as many votes as are the number of seats to be filled for an Elected Post, where more than one seat is to be filled.
- (iv) The ballot papers shall contain the name(s) of the Candidate(s), and the voters must mark one candidate only.
- (v) Every voter shall be required, before he is supplied with a ballot paper, to give his signature on the authenticated copy of the electoral roll for taking the poll.
- (vi) Except for the circumstance under sub-clause (i), a secret ballot shall always be conducted, regardless of how many candidates there are, and the secrecy of the ballot shall be guaranteed by the provision of a procedure ensuring privacy for the voter, and the Electoral Officer shall conduct the distribution and counting of the ballot papers and be responsible for ensuring that the process is properly documented.
- (vii) Voting members must vote in person where required.

- (viii) The voter shall record his vote on the ballot paper in secrecy in a voting compartment specially provided for the purpose at the polling station.
- (ix) The voter shall record his vote on the ballot paper by placing a tick mark against the name of the candidate of his choice, and the tick mark to indicate the vote shall be placed by the voter only by means of an article (such as a stamp) specifically provided for the purpose by the Electoral Officer.
- (x) The ballot paper marked by a voter shall be deposited by him in a ballot box specially prepared and sealed by the Electoral Officer and placed at such a conspicuous place in the polling station that it shall be constantly visible to all present in the polling station.
- (xi) The Electoral Officer shall close the poll at the designated time of closure, and such voters who are present at the polling station at the appointed closing hour, if any, shall be entitled to vote even if the poll proceedings have to be extended for sportspersons of outstanding merit more time.
- (xii) The number of ballot papers that have been distributed shall be announced by the Electoral Officer before the commencement of the voting, and if the number of ballot papers returned in the poll is equal to or less than the number of ballot papers distributed, the Election shall be declared valid, but if the number returned in the poll exceeds that of the ballot papers distributed, the vote shall be declared null and void and another poll shall be taken immediately.

10. Counting of Votes

- (i) The Electoral Officer shall take up the counting of votes, post-wise and category-wise, as soon as may be, after the polling process is complete.
- (ii) Every contesting candidate can nominate one authorised representative who shall be entitled to be present at the place of counting of votes, and other than such authorised representative, only the Electoral Officer and members of the AITA's executive or administrative team, as specifically approved by the Electoral Officer, may take part in the count.
- (iii) Every ballot paper on which a vote has been recorded shall be treated as one vote for the candidate for whom it has been validly marked.
- (iv) The following ballot papers shall be considered invalid and shall be rejected by the Electoral Officer, namely:-
 - (a) those that do not bear the official distinctive marks defined by the Electoral Officer;
 - (b) those that bear any words other than the names of the candidates;
 - (c) those that are illegible or have been defaced;
 - (d) those that bear identifying marks; and
 - (e) those that include votes for more candidates than permitted in a particular poll.
- (v) The Electoral Officer shall write on the back of any invalid ballot paper, in red, the reasons for its invalidity and confirm with a signature.
- (vi) The votes validly cast for each of the contesting candidates shall be counted post-wise, and category-wise where applicable, and recorded in the descending order of the votes so cast for each candidate in accordance with Form 8.
- (vii) The Electoral Officer shall thereafter ascertain the result of counting and the candidates who have secured the maximum number of votes in the said descending order, post-wise and category wise, where applicable, equal to the number of seats to be filled for each Elected Post or category of Elected Posts, where applicable, shall be deemed to have been duly elected to those Elected Posts.

- (viii) After completing and verifying the count, the Electoral Officer shall put the ballot papers that have been collected and counted into envelopes intended for this purpose and seal them immediately, and the AITA shall keep these envelopes and shall retain them at least until the declaration of results of the immediately subsequent Election of the Executive Committee, or till the pendency of any legal proceedings relating to such Elections, whichever is later.

11. Declaration of Results

- (i) Once the count has been completed and verified, the names of contesting candidates who shall be deemed to have been elected at the Elections shall be declared by the Electoral Officer at the general meeting.
- (ii) The results of the election shall be declared in accordance with Form 9 and published on AITA's official website within twenty-four (24) hours of completion thereof.
- (iii) If, after the counting of the votes, an equality of votes is found to exist between any candidates, and the addition of one vote will entitle any of those candidates to be declared elected, the Electoral Officer shall forthwith decide between those candidates by lot, and proceed as if the candidate on whom the lot falls had received an additional vote.

12. Scope and Applicability

- (i) These Election Rules strictly and literally apply to all elections in the AITA.
- (ii) Any candidate, voting member or other participant in the election shall also be subject to the Act, and the AITA's Code of Ethics if he is not otherwise already bound and covered by the same.

13. Reserved Posts

- (i) At least one of the sportspersons of outstanding merit on the Executive Committee and one of the representatives from the Athletes Committee on the Executive Committee, shall be a woman.
- (ii) At all times, at least 4 members of the AITA Executive Committee shall be women.
- (iii) One of the posts of a Jt. Secretary shall be reserved for a woman.
- (iv) One of the posts of the Executive Committee (over and above the posts mentioned in (i),(ii) and (iii) above) shall be reserved for a woman.

14. Contingency mechanism:

When no female representatives are nominated as representatives by State Affiliates:

- (i) In the event that, prior to the commencement of the nomination process, when no female representatives are nominated by the State Affiliates, a Draw of Lots ("the Mechanism") shall be undertaken.
- (ii) Under the Mechanism, two (2) State Affiliates shall be selected by draw of lots, conducted in a transparent and recorded manner by the Executive Committee.
- (iii) One of the two State Affiliates selected through the Mechanism shall be mandatorily required to nominate one (1) female representative for the purpose of contesting the election for the reserved post for woman Jt. Secretary, and the other shall be mandatorily required to nominate one (1) female representative for the purpose of contesting the election to the reserved post for woman on the Executive Committee. Such State Affiliate shall re-send the names of their representatives within 2 (two) days after they are drawn through the mechanism.

- (iv) Failure of selected State Affiliates to nominate a female representative shall render its nominations invalid and the Affiliate shall be deemed to have forfeited their right to participate, vote and contest in that election.
- (v) Such two State Affiliates selected through the draw of lots in a given election shall be excluded from all subsequent draws in the next elections until every other two State Affiliates have been selected at least once.
- (vi) Once all State Affiliates have been drawn at least once, the rotation cycle shall automatically reset, and all State Affiliates shall again become eligible to be mandated for being drawn in the next draw of lots.
- (vii) A record of selections shall be maintained by the AITA Secretariat and certified by the Electoral Officer.

15. Campaign Practices

- (i) Electoral campaigns shall be carried out by the candidates in a fair manner and, in a spirit of respect for fundamental ethical principles.
- (ii) Candidates shall conduct all campaigns with dignity and moderation and with respect for any other candidates, the AITA and its members.
- (iii) A Candidate shall not produce any spoken word, written text or representation of any nature likely to harm the image of another candidate or cause him prejudice, and criticism of other candidates, if made, shall be confined to their policies and programme, past record and work.
- (iv) No Candidate shall engage in criticism based on unverified allegations or distortion against any other Candidate, and there shall be no appeal to caste or communal feelings for securing votes.
- (v) Every Candidate may present to the members in the electoral roll, his plans and views for the Elected Post, in the form of a written document, which shall be published by the Electoral Officer in accordance with clause 4 (i) (g) of these Election Rules.
- (vi) Candidates shall avoid excessive expenditure in campaigning, recognizing that it could become a factor of inequality amongst the candidates.
- (vii) The promotion of a candidate shall exclude any form of publicity, including the use of new media or social networks, and no public meeting or gathering of any kind may be organised in the process of promoting a candidature, and no use, free of charge or in return for payment, of the services of a journalist or the media may be made in order to place a candidate at an advantage or a disadvantage.
- (viii) All candidates shall scrupulously avoid all activities that are “corrupt practices”, including bribing of voters, intimidation of voters, impersonation of voters.
- (ix) Candidates may, in no case and under no pretext, give presents, offer donations, gifts or grant advantages of whatever nature, directly or indirectly, to voting members.
- (x) The incumbent Executive Committee member, shall ensure that no cause is given for any complaint that they have used their official position for the purposes of their election campaign and in particular shall not –
 - (a) use official transport including, vehicles, machinery and personnel for furtherance of their campaign;
 - (b) issue any advertisement at the cost of the AITA or its members in the newspapers and other media or misuse the AITA’s official media channels during the elections;
 - (c) sanction grants or payments out of discretionary funds from the time elections are announced; and

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

16. Neutrality and Independence

- (i) As the voting is secret, voting members are prohibited individually or collectively, from announcing publicly, in any form whatsoever, their intention to vote or not vote for a candidate.
- (ii) Incumbent Executive Committee members shall refrain from making any public declaration and may in no way support a candidate.
- (iii) Candidates shall not -
 - (a) accept instructions from any person;
 - (b) accept direct or indirect assistance, be it financial, material or in kind, by any third party, or
 - (c) enter into any form of undertaking with any person likely to affect the freedom of decision or action of the Elected Post.
- (iv) The AITA's executive team and administration shall maintain a strict duty of neutrality at all times, and no support or service in relation to a candidature may be requested from any member of the AITA's administration or staff.

17. Sanctions and Complaints

- (i) All administrative matters relating to any election not covered by the Act, these rules or the AITA's bye-laws shall be ruled upon by the Electoral Officer.
- (ii) In the event of a breach of these Election Rules, the Electoral Officer may refer the same to the AITA's Ethics Committee, who may make to the candidate in question:
 - (a) observations, which may be made public; or
 - (b) issue a warning, which will be automatically made public on the AITA's official website.
- (iii) If a candidate or a voting member has any specific complaint or problem regarding the conduct of elections he may bring the same to the notice of the Electoral Officer.
- (iv) Any decision by the Electoral Officer under these rules shall be final and binding, and any petition to the National Sports Tribunal relating to conduct or outcome of election shall be limited to only any violation of the provisions relating to the process of conduct of election under this Schedule.

Provided that no such petition may be filed after a period of thirty days from the declaration of results of any election.

ALL INDIA TENNIS ASSOCIATION
ATHLETES COMMITTEE BYE-LAWS

1. These Bye-Laws shall be read in addition to the above Rules, and shall be governed by the principles contained therein.
2. The Athletes Committee shall perform the following functions:
 - (a) It shall receive complaints from the athlete's community on all questions of concern to athletes.
 - (b) It shall represent the interests of all athletes competing in ITF and AITA-recognised tournaments.
 - (c) It shall advise and make recommendations to the Executive Committee on all questions of concern to athletes.
 - (d) The Athletes Committee is not a decision-making body. Its role is to advise and make recommendations to the Executive Committee, and on occasion to other committees of AITA, in accordance with these Bye-Laws.
3. The election to the Athletes Committee shall be as follows:
 - (a) The election shall be conducted by the same Electoral Officer who is appointed for conducting the elections of the Executive Committee of AITA.
 - (b) To be eligible for election to the Athletes Committee, a candidate must fulfil the eligibility criteria mentioned in Clause 6(f)(d) of the Rules.
 - (c) Any member of the Athletes' Committee shall be elected by and from among a pool of athletes which shall comprise of a total of upto 50 active athletes whose AITA ranking is as follows:
 - Top 15 men (singles)
 - Top 15 women (singles)
 - Top 10 men (doubles)
 - Top 10 women (doubles)
 - (d) An athlete appearing in more than one category, shall be included as a single person in the pool and will pave the way for an additionally lower ranked player in that category. If there are more than one persons emerge as eligible, a person shall be selected by drawing a lot.
 - (e) The aforesaid rank shall be held by the athlete on the date of publication of the notification of the elections.
 - (f) Anyone from among this pool of athletes seeking election as member of the Athletes' Commission shall submit his/her application as per the process provided in the notice by the Electoral Officer.
 - (g) In the absence of any rules or regulations issued by the Government of India in this regard, the forms, procedure and steps adopted for the election of Executive Committee of AITA shall also be implemented and followed for the elections of the Athletes Committee.
4. Members of the Athletes Committee shall always be bound by the AITA's Rules and all regulations. The age, term, tenure, qualifications, disqualifications etc. applicable for the election to the Executive Committee shall also apply for the election of Athletes Committee Chairperson, Executive Committee Representatives and General Body Representatives.

5. Any dispute or issue relating to the eligibility of a member of the Athletes Committee, or of a candidate to become a member of the Athletes Committee, shall be referred to the Dispute Resolution Committee.

6. Expenses

AITA shall cover meeting costs necessarily incurred by members in attending or participating in Committee meetings, including costs of telephone or video conferencing. Any other expenses must be approved in advance and no other expenses (not-approved) shall be reimbursed.

7. Code of Conduct

The AITA Code of Conduct (or such other code as may be applicable from time to time) shall apply to all members of the Athletes Committee. Members must familiarise themselves with the content of the applicable Code and comply with it at all times.

8. Amendment and Review

These Bye Laws shall be reviewed annually at the commencement of each calendar year, and any amendments must be approved in writing by the AITA Executive Committee. Any matter arising that is not addressed in these Bye Laws shall be determined by the President of AITA in consultation with the AITA Executive Committees.

ALL INDIA TENNIS ASSOCIATION
SPORTSPERSONS OF OUTSTANDING MERIT BYE-LAWS

1. These Bye-Laws shall be read in addition to the above Rules, and shall be governed by the principles contained therein.
2. AITA shall have a category of retired players who shall be termed Sports Persons of Outstanding Merit (“SOMs”). These Bye-Laws outline, inter alia, the reserved positions for SOMs in AITA management, procedure for their selections and also their elections.
3. AITA shall maintain two Rosters of Sportspersons of Outstanding Merit - 1 for male sportspersons (“SOM Roster Male”) and 1 for female sportspersons (“SOM Roster Female”) (collectively “SOM Rosters”) which shall be duly published on the website of AITA. The SOM Rosters shall consist of 20 sportspersons each.
4. Procedure for selection of SOMs:
 - (a) The procedure for selection of SOMs shall be in strict compliance of the Sports Rules, as amended from time to time.
 - (b) The call for applications for inclusion in the SOM Rosters shall be floated by the Executive Committee by issuance of a notice (“SOM Notice”) at least 150 days before the expiry of the term of the Executive Committee of AITA.
 - (c) The SOM Rosters shall be prepared and published on the website of AITA at least 90 days prior to the expiry of the term of the incumbent Executive Committee.
 - (d) The SOM Notice shall specify the General Eligibility Criteria and Tiered Eligibility Criteria (collectively “Eligibility Criteria”).
 - (e) The General Eligibility Criteria for applying for inclusion in the SOM Rosters is outlined in the National Sports Governance (National Sports Bodies) Rules, 2026 as under:
 - i. an Indian citizen;
 - ii. of sound mind;
 - iii. not less than twenty-five years of age;
 - iv. and retired from active sports and should have not participated in any competitive sport event which leads to selection to represent a district, State or India for at least one year prior to date of application under sub-rule (2) of rule 5 of the National Sports Governance (National Sports Bodies) Rules, 2026
 - (f) The SOM Rosters shall be prepared by considering the following tournaments reads with the Tiered Eligibility Criteria stipulated in the Sports Rules:

Tier	Tournament
Tier 1	Applicants who have won at least one of any gold, silver or bronze medal in the Summer Olympic Games, provided that any medal if rescinded, shall not be considered for the qualification of having achieved outstanding merit, under this Tier.
Tier 2	Applicants who have participated in two or more editions of the Summer Olympic Games or Winter Olympic games.

Tier 3	Applicants who have participated in at least one edition of the Summer Olympic Games or Winter Olympic games.
Tier 4	Applicants who have been awarded a Major Dhyan Chand Khel Ratna Award or an Arjuna Award by the Central Government, provided that any award if rescinded or returned, shall not be considered for the qualification of having achieved outstanding merit, under this Tier.
Tier 5	Applicants who have won at least one of any gold, silver or bronze medal or equivalent placing, in a World Championship or equivalent competition, provided that any medal if rescinded, shall not be considered for the qualification of having achieved outstanding merit, under this Tier.
Tier 6	Applicants who have won at least one of any gold, silver or bronze medal or equivalent placing, in the Commonwealth Games or Asian Games or Asian Winter Games, provided that any medal if rescinded, shall not be considered for the qualification of having achieved outstanding merit, under this Tier.
Tier 7	Applicants who have won at least one of any gold, silver or bronze medal or equivalent placing, in an Asian Championship or equivalent competition, provided that any medal if rescinded, shall not be considered for the qualification of having achieved outstanding merit, under this Tier.
Tier 8	Applicants who have participated in at least five sanctioned international events (if individual sport) or five sanctioned international matches (if team sport).
Tier 9	Applicants who have participated in at least one sanctioned international event (if individual sport) or one sanctioned international match (if team sport).
Tier 10	Applicants who have won at least one of any gold, silver or bronze medal or equivalent placing in the National Games or a National Championship or equivalent competition.

(g) The fulfilment of the eligibility criteria shall be checked as on the date on which the SOM Notice is issued by AITA.

5. While populating the SOM Rosters, AITA shall adhere to the following criteria:

- (a) In the first instance, all applicants satisfying the General Eligibility Criteria and Tier 1 of the Tiered Eligibility Criteria shall be included in the relevant gender's SOM Roster.
- (b) In the event the SOM Roster cannot be populated to meet the prescribed threshold, applicants satisfying the General Eligibility Criteria and the immediately succeeding Tier of the Tiered Eligibility Criteria shall be included sequentially until the required threshold is met.
- (c) Where the number of eligible sportspersons under a particular Tier exceeds the prescribed threshold, preference and priority shall be accorded to the eldest applicant by age among such candidates.
- (d) Where the concerned SOM Roster still falls short of the prescribed threshold despite compliance with the above steps, AITA may issue a fresh call for applications or frame and adopt additional tiered criteria, consistent with the principles underlying the existing Tiered Eligibility Criteria.
- (e) The finalised SOM Rosters shall be published on the AITA website.

- (f) Any person whose name appears whose name is reflected in either of the SOM Rosters shall be deemed to be a Sportsperson of Outstanding Merit in respect of AITA for the purposes of the applicable Act and rules framed thereunder.

6. Election of SOM Representatives:

- (a) First, there shall be four (4) sportspersons of outstanding merit who are elected by the members of the SOM Roster from amongst themselves to represent them in the General Body of AITA (“SOM GB Representatives”). Each SOM GB Representative shall have one (1) vote each in the meetings of the General Body of AITA. At all times, 2 SOM GB Representatives shall be males and 2 SOM GB Representatives shall be females.
- (b) After the election of the SOM GB Representatives, there shall be an election for two (2) sportspersons of outstanding merit who are elected by the members of the SOM Roster from amongst themselves to represent them in the Executive Committee of AITA (“SOM EC Representatives”). Each SOM EC Representative shall have one (1) vote each in the meetings of the Executive Committee of AITA. At all times, 1 SOM GB Representatives shall be a male and 1 SOM GB Representative shall be a female.
- (c) Any person who has contested or has been elected for the post of SOM GB Representative can also contest for the election of SOM EC Representative.
- (d) The elections for the SOM GB Representatives and SOM EC Representatives shall be concluded at least 75 days prior to the expiry of the term of the incumbent Executive Committee.
- (e) The elections of SOM Representatives shall be conducted by the Electoral Officer who is appointed for conducting the elections of the Executive Committee.
- (f) The procedure for election of SOM Representatives shall be as per the forms, procedure and rules adopted for the elections of the Executive Committee as specified in the Sports Rules.
- (g) For the elections to the posts in the Executive Committee of AITA (except the SOM EC Representatives), only the SOM GB Representatives shall be eligible to vote and contest. The age, term, tenure, qualifications, disqualifications etc. applicable for the election to the Executive Committee shall also apply for the election of SOM GB Representatives and SOM EC Representatives.
