

SOB/Circ./2026-II/states

30th January 2026

CIRCULAR

To,
All Affiliated State Associations / Units

SUBJECT: Selection of SO Bharat Teams for SO International Competitions in 2026

Dear All,

This is to inform you that SO Bharat is planning to participate in 6 international competitions in 2026.
(Subject to approval from SAI)

As per the Annual Calendar planned for 2026, the following National Championships and National Coaching camps shall be considered as Selection Tournament/Selection Camps for the respective international competitions as mentioned below:

#	Competition Name	Competition Dates	Selection Competition / Camp
1.	Unified Football World Cup 2026, Paris, France	5 - 11 July 2026	Futsal NCC I (Mar 1-10, 2026)
2.	Gothia Cup 2026, Sweden	12 – 18 July 2026	SKF - Meet the World
3.	Unified 3x3 Basketball World Cup 2026, Philippines	TBA	Basketball NCC II (June 1-10, 2026)
4.	Unified Cricket World Cup 2026	(Expected Nov/Dec 2026)	Cricket National Championship (Mar 9-13, 2026)
5.	1st FIH Para Hockey World Cup 2026, Belgium & Netherlands (Hockey ID)	19 – 24 August 2026	Hockey National Championship (Feb 22-26, 2026)
6.	East Asia Regional Bowling Competition 2026, Hong Kong	4 – 9 September 2026	Bowling National Championship (Apr 20-25, 2026)

As per the information received from the respective Local Organising Committee (LOC), the following is the information for team composition, player eligibility, and the events:

EVENT	INFORMATION
Unified Football World Cup 2026, Paris, France	<p>Delegation composition:</p> <p>1) Men's Unified Team (11a side) - total of 20 delegation members</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. 9 Athletes b. 7 Unified Partners c. 1 Head Coach d. 1 Assistant Coach e. 1 Medical Staff f. 1 Head of Delegation <p>2) Women's Unified Team (7a side) - total of 15 delegation members</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. 6 Athletes b. 5 Unified Partners c. 1 Head Coach d. 1 Assistant Coach e. 1 Medical Staff f. 1 Head of Delegation. <p>Age requirements: All athletes and unified partners must be between 15 and 23 years old as of July 5, 2026, the opening date of the Unified World Cup.</p>
Gothia Cup 2026, Sweden	TBD
Unified 3x3 Basketball World Cup 2026, Philippines	TBD
Unified Cricket World Cup 2026	TBD
1st FIH Para Hockey World Cup 2026, Belgium & Netherlands (Hockey ID)	<p>Team Composition & Rules</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Teams are mixed gender, with up to 10 players and 5 staff. • At least 2 players of the minority gender must be on the field at all times (one may be the goalkeeper). <p>Player Eligibility</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Players must be listed on the IPC/Virtus National Eligibility list, which requires: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> o IQ of 75 or below o Limitations in adaptive behaviour o Onset before age 22
East Asia Regional Bowling Competition 2026, Hong Kong	<p>Events Offered</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Singles (Male/Female) • Doubles (Male/Female) • Unified Doubles (Mixed) • Team (Mixed) • Unified Team (Mixed) <p>Number of Players/Team Official:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 10 players (athletes: 4 male and 4 female; unified partners: 1 male and 1 female), 2 coaches, and 1 HOD per Program.

Special Olympics Bharat

Muskaan-PAEPID, 2nd Floor, Plot No. 3, Rocket 2, Sector B
Vasant Kunj, New Delhi-110070, India
Tel: +91 11 29841362 | E-mail: info@specialolympicsbharat.org
website: www.specialolympicsbharat.org

President- Dr Mallika Nadda
Created by Joseph P. Kennedy Jr. Foundation. Authorized and accredited by
Special Olympics, Inc. for the benefit of Persons with Intellectual Disabilities
Recognized as a National Sports Federation for Persons with Intellectual
Disabilities by the Ministry of Youth Affairs & Sports, Govt. of India

	Each athlete can be entered in a maximum of THREE events - ONE Singles event, ONE Doubles event and ONE Team event, where unified partners can be entered into both Unified Doubles and Unified Team.
--	--

The quotas mentioned above are indicative, and the actual quotas received from LOC may differ. SO Bharat National Office shall reserve the right to exercise the actual number of quotas as received.

All affiliated State associations / Units are requested to inform their respective players accordingly.

Warm regards,



Dr D.G. Chaudhary
General Secretary
Special Olympics Bharat



Special Olympics Bharat

Muskaan-PAEPID, 2nd Floor, Plot No. 3, Rocket 2, Sector B
Vasant Kunj, New Delhi-110070, India
Tel: +91 11 29841362 | E-mail: info@specialolympicsbharat.org
website: www.specialolympicsbharat.org

President- Dr Mallika Nadda
Created by Joseph P. Kennedy Jr. Foundation. Authorized and accredited by
Special Olympics, Inc. for the benefit of Persons with Intellectual Disabilities
**Recognized as a National Sports Federation for Persons with Intellectual
Disabilities by the Ministry of Youth Affairs & Sports, Govt. of India**