

ALL INDIA TENNIS ASSOCIATION

NOTICE

CALL FOR APPLICATIONS FOR PREPARATION OF THE ROSTERS OF SPORTSPERSONS OF OUTSTANDING MERIT (SOM)

Issued in terms of Annexure-III - Sportspersons of Outstanding Merit Bye-Laws of the Constitution/Rules & Regulations of the All India Tennis Association (as amended on 26.07.2026), Section 4 of the National Sports Governance Act, 2025 and Rules 3 and 4 of the National Sports Governance (National Sports Bodies) Rules, 2026

The All India Tennis Association (AITA), hereby invites applications from eligible retired tennis sportspersons for consideration for inclusion in the Roster of Sportspersons of Outstanding Merit (“SOM Roster”), in accordance with the provisions of **the Constitution/Rules & Regulations of the AITA, Annexure III - Sportspersons of Outstanding Merit Bye-Laws (as amended on 26.07.2026) (“the Regulations”); the National Sports Governance Act, 2025 (“the Act”); and the National Sports Governance (National Sports Bodies) Rules, 2026 (“the Rules”)**.

1. PURPOSE OF THE CALL FOR APPLICATIONS

- 1.1 The Call for Applications is to invite applications from eligible persons seeking consideration for inclusion in the SOM Rosters to be maintained by the AITA.
- 1.2 In terms of Clause 3 of Annexure III to the Regulations and Rule 6 of the Rules is required to maintain two separate rosters of SOM comprising 20 male sportspersons and 20 female sportspersons, respectively.
- 1.3 The aforesaid rosters shall be populated in accordance with the procedure prescribed under Clause 4 of Annexure III to the Regulations, and Rule 6 of the Rules, as set out in greater detail below.

2. WHO MAY APPLY

- 2.1 Any individual seeking consideration for inclusion in the SOM Roster of AITA must satisfy all of the General Eligibility Criteria prescribed in Clause 4(e) of Annexure III to the Regulations and Schedule I to the Rules, which are as under:

- (a) be an Indian citizen;
- (b) be of sound mind;
- (c) be not less than 25 years of age; and (d) have retired from active sports and must not have participated, for at least one year prior to the date of application, in any competitive sporting event which leads to selection to represent a district, State or India.

2.2 All the aforesaid eligibility conditions must be necessarily satisfied by every applicant.

3. TIERED ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA

In terms of Clause 4(f) of Annexure-III of the Regulations an applicant must indicate in the application form the Tier under which he/she seeks consideration and must furnish documentary evidence in support of the achievement or participation relied upon. The tiers prescribed under the Regulations and the Act are detailed hereunder:

Tier 1: Applicants who have won at least one gold, silver or bronze medal in the Summer Olympic Games or Winter Olympic Games, provided that any medal which has been rescinded shall not be considered.

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 the Major Dhyan Chand Khel Ratna Award or the Arjuna Award by the Central Government, provided that any award which has been rescinded or returned shall not be considered.

Tier 5: Applicants who have won at least one gold, silver or bronze medal, or obtained an equivalent placing, in a World Championship or equivalent competition, provided that any medal which has been rescinded shall not be considered.

Tier 6: Applicants who have won at least one gold, silver or bronze medal, or obtained an equivalent placing, in the Commonwealth Games, Asian Games or Asian Winter Games, provided that any medal which has been rescinded shall not be considered.

Tier 7: Applicants who have won at least one gold, silver or bronze medal, or obtained an equivalent placing, in an Asian Championship or equivalent competition, provided that any medal which has been rescinded shall not be considered.

Tier 8: Applicants who have participated in at least five sanctioned international events, in the case of an individual sport.

Tier 9: Applicants who have participated in at least one sanctioned international event, in the case of an individual sport.

Tier 10: Applicants who have won at least one gold, silver or bronze medal, or obtained an equivalent placing, in the National Games, a National Championship or equivalent competition.

The aforesaid criteria shall be read with the provisions of **Annexure-III of the Regulations** and **Schedule I to the Rules**.

4. APPLICATION PERIOD

4.1 In terms of Clauses 4(b) and (c) of Annexure-III of the Regulations as well as Rule 5(2) of the Rules, an application must be submitted to AITA **within sixty (60) days** from the date of issuance of this Notice inviting Applications.

4.2 Applications received after the expiry of the aforesaid period shall not ordinarily be considered.

4.3 Applicants are, therefore, advised to ensure that their applications, together with all requisite supporting documents and certificates, are submitted well before the expiry of the prescribed period.

5. MANNER OF SUBMISSION OF APPLICATION

5.1 Applications shall be submitted in the Application Format annexed to this Notice for the Roster of Sportspersons of Outstanding Merit (SOM).

5.2 The application form must be duly completed and accompanied by all supporting documents and certificates necessary to establish the applicant's eligibility and the sporting achievements relied upon.

5.3 The completed application, together with the supporting documents, shall be sent by email to: somappl@aitatennis.com

5.4 The subject line of the email should read: “*APPLICATION FOR SOM ROSTER – [NAME OF APPLICANT]*”.

5.5 Applicants should retain the original documents and certificates submitted with the application and may be required by AITA to produce the originals or such additional documents as may be necessary for verification.

6. DOCUMENTS AND EVIDENCE

6.1 Every applicant shall furnish sufficient documentary evidence to establish:

- (a) Proof of age (Aadhar Card/ Voter ID card/ any other Govt. issued identification);
- (b) Government recognised Proof of Indian citizenship
- (c) One recent passport size photograph
- (d) Certificate of retirement from active sports;
- (e) Certificate of satisfaction of the one-year non-participation requirement prescribed under Schedule I;
- (f) the sporting achievement or participation relied upon for the Tier to which inclusion is sought; and
- (g) such other information or documentation as may reasonably be required by AITA for verification.

7. SCRUTINY AND VERIFICATION

7.1 All applications received pursuant to this Notice shall be scrutinised by AITA for compliance with the General Eligibility Criteria and the applicable Tiered Eligibility Criteria prescribed under Annexure-III of the Regulations of AITA, as amended on 26.07.2026, the Act and the Rules.

7.2 AITA may seek clarification or additional documents from an applicant where considered necessary for verification.

7.3 Submission of an application only gives the right to consideration for inclusion in the roster and does not confer any right upon an applicant to inclusion in the SOM Roster.

- 7.4 AITA reserves the right to verify any information, achievement, award, participation or other material relied upon by an applicant from the concerned sports authority, International Sports Body, tournament organiser, State Association, government authority or any other appropriate source.
- 7.5 AITA reserves the right to reject any application which is incomplete or unsupported by adequate documentary evidence or if the information furnished in the application is found to be false, inaccurate or misleading.

8. MANNER OF POPULATING THE SOM ROSTERS

- 8.1 The male and female SOM Rosters shall be populated separately in accordance with Clause 5 of Annexure-III of the Regulations as well as Rule 6(3) of the Rules.
- 8.2 In the first instance, all applicants who satisfy the General Eligibility Criteria and Tier 1 shall be included in the relevant roster.
- 8.3 If the relevant roster is not thereby populated to the required strength, applicants satisfying the General Eligibility Criteria and the next applicable Tier shall be considered sequentially, proceeding from one Tier to the next, until the requisite number of persons is included in the relevant roster.
- 8.4 Where the number of eligible applicants qualifying under a particular Tier exceeds the number of places available in the relevant roster, preference and priority shall be given to the eldest applicants by age, in accordance with Clause 5(c) of Annexure-III of the Regulations as well as Rule 6(3)(c) of the Rules.
- 8.5 Where the relevant roster cannot be populated to the prescribed strength even after application of the aforesaid procedure, AITA may issue a further Call for Applications or formulate and adopt additional tiered criteria in accordance with Clause 5(d) of Annexure-III of the Regulations as well as Rule 6(3)(d) of the Rules.
- 8.6 Applicants are accordingly advised that qualification under a particular Tier does not, by itself, guarantee inclusion in the final SOM Roster. Inclusion shall be determined in

accordance with the sequential roster-population mechanism prescribed under Clause 5(b) of Annexure-III of the Regulations as well as Rule 6.

9. FINALISATION AND PUBLICATION OF ROSTERS

- 9.1 Upon completion of the scrutiny and selection process in accordance with Clause 5 of Annexure-III of the Regulations as well as Rule 6, AITA shall finalise both the Male and female SOM Rosters.
- 9.2 The final rosters shall be published on the official website of AITA and submitted to the National Sports Board, in accordance with Clause 5(e) of Annexure-III of the Regulations as well as Rule 6(4) of the Rules.
- 9.3 In terms of Clause 5 (f) of Annexure-III of the Regulations as well as Rule 6(5), a person whose name appears on the final SOM Roster shall be considered a Sportsperson of Outstanding Merit in respect of AITA for the purposes of the Act and the Rules thereunder.

10. IMPORTANT INFORMATION FOR APPLICANTS

Applicants are advised to carefully read this Notice; Annexure III - Sportspersons of Outstanding Merit Bye-Laws to the regulations, the applicable provisions of the Act and Rules, including Schedule I to the Rules, and the annexed Application Form before submitting their applications.

11. PUBLICATION OF NOTICE

No individual notice shall be given to any sportsperson. However, this Notice, together with the Application Form, shall be made available on the official website of AITA and shall be circulated through such other channels as may be considered appropriate to ensure wide dissemination amongst eligible retired tennis sportspersons.

12. ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

- 12.1 The Constitution and Bye-Laws of AITA as amended on 26.07.2026 (including Annexure III) stands posted and are available in the official website of AITA.
- 12.2 An application being submitted beyond the notified last date shall not be accepted. Eligible sportspersons are encouraged to submit their applications within the prescribed

period and to ensure that all supporting documentation is furnished along with the application.

13. CONTACT

All India Tennis Association
R.K. Khanna Tennis Stadium
New Delhi
Email: somappl@aitatennis.com

Date of Issue: August 15, 2026

Last Date for Submission of Applications: October 15, 2026

Enclosure: Application Form for the Roster of Sportspersons of Outstanding Merit (SOM)