

**Policy for The Selection of National
Shooting Teams in All Disciplines of
Olympic
Shotgun Shooting Sports.
w.e.f:11th November 2016**



**Prepared by the Technical Committee of the
NRAI
The National Team Selection Criterion
ascertained by the
National Rifle Association of India.**

Policy Statement.

The NRAI firmly believes in Shooters earning their place in the national team. The Intention is to ensure through this policy of the NRAI, a level, just, & fair playing field for those sportspersons who wish to enter the fray in team or individual events for all shooting disciplines. It is also to be ensured that the NRAI continuously upgrades the wealth of talent available to it for the selection of those deemed fit for & selected by the NRAI to represent it under national colors. It is in this context, that this select committee specifically seeks to urge the President of the NRAI to frame a specific policy for the recruitment, training, & nurturing of children between the ages of 12 up to 18 at the National level for all shotgun shooting Olympic events. After the federation appends its approval to the proposed National Junior Shotgun Shooting Policy; this new policy may then be put forward by the federation, for perusal & its approval by the Governing Body of the NRAI, so that national shotgun shooting “treasures” may be discovered, provided facilities, & sent forth through this national policy w.e.f.11th November 2016.

Scope of the Policy

1. The scope of this shooting policy is up to the 61st NSCC 2017 and including the Olympic Games scheduled in Tokyo in 2020. (Selection policy for Tokyo Olympics will be notified later and well in time before the scheduled Olympics)
2. It will come into effect w.e.f.11th November 2016, and shall cover all events and shooting disciplines for shotgun shooters.
3. It shall be binding on all sportspersons who seek to represent for the National team in these events.
4. In keeping with the principal of selecting the best from the best, junior men & junior women, shall also be deemed to be included for eligibility to team selection under this policy.
5. It shall be effective for and drafted for the benefit of shooters who at the time of their selection shall be determined to be eligible for representing the country in the International arena as per the prevailing policy of the Government of India (GOI).

Basis of policy

1. The base of the policy shall be the score of the top 12 shooters in the National Shooting Championships held by the NRAI (subject to them having achieved ISSF MQS in the respective event in the NSCC). It shall henceforth be mandatory for every shooter, regardless of personal sporting achievement to participate in the National Shooting Championships. There shall be no review of this criterion at any forum.
2. The annual selection pool shall be reconstituted from the above-mentioned results of top 12 shooters and shall form the basis of team selection.
3. The policy is based on each shooter being awarded points totaling the average performance of two scores recorded and deemed to be eligible under this policy as illustrated in subsequent pages.
4. These points shall be ascertained based on performance, achievement & the current sporting efficiency of the sportsmen under consideration as detailed further in the criterion.
5. The selection of the venue for the National Shooting Championship and team selection trials is the sole prerogative of the NRAI. Such venue once identified by NRAI shall be chosen & it shall then be binding on all shooter regardless of their personal profile, to present themselves to the test of selection trials per the provisions of this policy.
6. It is desired that as many different venues in the country be utilized as may be possible & deemed fit by the NRAI.
7. The NRAI is committed to ensuring that at all times standard ISSF rules are followed.
8. Should a shooter be unable to submit himself to the National Shooting Championship he or she cannot and shall not be permitted to be covered under the ambit of this policy.
9. In case a shooter has fired a single shot as a competitor in the NSC, & he/she for reasons best known to himself, then subsequently withdraws

from the NSC & does not complete the competition, his or her score shall be deemed for purposes of selection under this policy to be the exact arithmetical total that exists at the point of his or her withdrawal.

10. The provisions of (9) above shall also be applicable to selection trials.

Selection & Eligibility Criterion

1. Mandatory Base Score.

- a. The base or first score & participation in the National Shooting Championship (NSCC) shall be mandatory for all sportspersons as per schedule fixed by NRAI and all athletes have to shoot their competition on stipulated dates, no leave of absence or change in schedule will be permitted for any reason whatsoever. It shall henceforth normally be held in the November-December period every year during the validity of this policy, or as desired by the NRAI.
- b. The score of the NSCC shall be so considered as the contestants first recorded score to commence his mathematical average contribution towards team selection.
- c. The rankings arrived from this single competition shall be construed as the official NRAI national rankings at the start of the 2017 Indian shooting calendar & shall be carried forward up to the next NSCC to be held after adjustments to scores if so required (i.e. Trials).
- d. With immediate effect, within 10 days of the NSCC's completion, the scores shall be made available to the public through the website of the NRAI. This website shall be updated after mathematical adjustments that are made to encompass any changes after the completion of trials or privileged substitution scores, as submitted by athletes. Hence, in essence providing a fully up to date national ranking for the public & the Indian shooting community.
- e. No overlapping privilege shall be afforded any shooter based upon the previous years ending position, and in essence every shooter regardless of his personal profile shall start this year subject to a

clean slate of scores, unless so specified elsewhere within this policy document.

2.Selection Trials

It is desirable that annually, only two selection trials are undertaken. The exact number of trials shall be notified by the NRAI every year vide its publication of the National Shooting Calendar on its website on the 31st of December of the preceding year. Only the top 12 shooters (at end of NSCC) will be allowed to participate in selection trials subject to them having achieved ISSF MQS at the NSCC. If a shooter is ranked amongst the top 12 in his/her event but has not achieved ISSF MQS in the NSCC will not be allowed to participate in any selection trials. Any athlete who was part of the Core group in 2016 and fails to achieve ISSF MQS in his/her event at the 60th NSCC will also be eligible to participate in the 1st set of trials irrespective of his score and rank at the end of 60th NSCC. However, their actual scores at the 60th NSCC and trials will be considered for a place in the Core Group and team selection.

Semi Finals and medal matches will form part of the selection trials.

It is mandatory for all athletes to participate in the selection trials as per schedule. No one will be permitted to participate in selection trials at a different date for any reason whatsoever.

At the end of Selection Trial 1 only 09 (nine) athletes as per their ranking will be retained in the Core Group for the year 2017. Team selection shall be done only from the Core Group.

In Skeet Men and Women (only) while the team will consist of 03 athletes on the basis of their ranking, the foreign coach reserves the right to replace any one athlete with an athlete of his choice to form the team. The foreign coach shall inform NRAI in writing if he desires to replace any team member 2 days prior to every team selection meeting.

Once so decided by NRAI the trials shall hold the following relevance:

- I. The first set of selection trials shall be held within the month of December 2016 (termed as Trial 1) and shall necessitate the shooter to subject themselves to shooting two full scores. The two trial qualification scores shall be added to the NSCC qualification score and

divided by three to arrive at his aggregate score (SCORE 'A') on the basis of which he/she shall be graded at this stage for selecting the National Core Group.

- II. The first nine shooters so ranked at this stage (subject to having shot the MQS score for their discipline as their aggregate score at the end of Trial 1) shall be treated as the "Core Group" from which teams National Excellence, National A, & National B; shall be selected by the selection committee of the NRAI
- III. Apart from the nine shooters who comprise the core group, the Foreign Coaches shall have the discretion to suggest two shooters per discipline to the NRAI selection committee for inclusion in the core group solely for attending Core group coaching camps in India only. These nominated shooters shall however have no right of claim for shooting selection trials, no right to be included in the National team and shall not be allowed to participate in selection trials, overseas camps/competitions. The decision to include such nominated shooters in the core group rests solely with the foreign coach. In case there is no foreign coach the decision rests with a panel comprising three shotgun section coaches, whose decision shall be final and binding. These nominated shooters will not be permitted to participate in any team training camps prior to any competition or otherwise.
- IV. Of these 9 shooters, the top three ranked shooters shall represent the National Excellence Team (NET), ranks 4 to 6 shall represent National A Team (NAT) in the designated competition & ranks 7 to 9 shall represent National B Team (NBT).
- V. It is clarified here that should a particular competition only demand the attendance of less than those three shooters so identified, then only the prevalent order of merit as on that date shall prevail.

Trial1:

Shall be held within the month of December 2016 on dates determined by the NRAI, wherein these nine shooters shall subjugate themselves to shooting two full scores which shall be added to their NSCC Score (BASE SCORE) and divided by three to arrive at the new aggregate (SCORE 'A'). The team for the ISSF

World Cup New Delhi, ISSF World Cup Mexico and ISSF World Cup Cyprus shall be selected as per rankings arrived at end of Trial 1.

Trial 2:

Shall be held within the month of July on dates determined by the NRAI, wherein these nine shooters shall once again subjugate themselves to shooting two full scores which shall be added to their aggregate of Trial 1(SCORE 'A') and divided by three to arrive at the new aggregate (SCORE 'B').The team for the ISSF World Shotgun Championship in Russia and Asian Shotgun Championship shall be selected as per rankings arrived at end of Trial 2

Trial 3:

Shall be held in the month of September (or any other month as necessitated by the ISSF/ASC Calendar) on dates determined by the NRAI, wherein these nine shooters shall once again subjugate them self's to shooting two full scores which shall be added to their aggregate of Trial 2 (SCORE 'B') and divided by three to arrive at the new aggregate (SCORE 'C'). The team for the remaining International competitions for the year 2017 shall be selected as per rankings arrived at end of Trial 3. The aggregate score at the end of Trial 3 shall be the final score to be considered for team selection.

However, the selection committee of NRAI reserves the right to hold more selection trials if warranted by the International calendar.

It shall be mandatory for all shooters vying for a spot in the national team to participate in all trials. (in addition to mandatorily competing in the National Shooting Championship). This rule shall apply to all shooters regardless of rank or achievement and there shall be no review of this criterion at any forum.The scores in NSCC and all the trials mentioned above will be taken from the qualifying scores for determining the ranking.

4.Merit & Service recognition

- i. It has been decided to give due recognition for extraordinary achievements & land mark sporting victories in select competitions of an extraordinary standard. The benefits of such achievements shall be

available to such extraordinary sportspersons who may be covered under it.

- ii. Such merit points shall be added to the aggregate score of the shooters who qualify to get such points by virtue of their achievement. The merit points available to eligible shooters is given below:

a) Olympic Games

- i. Gold: 3
- ii. Silver: 2
- iii. Bronze: 1
- iv. 4th to 6th position: 0.75

b) ISSF World Shooting Championship

- i. Gold: 3
- ii. Silver: 2
- iii. Bronze: 1
- iv. 4th to 6th position: 0.75

c) World Cup Finals

- i. Gold: 3
- ii. Silver: 2
- iii. Bronze: 1
- iv. 4th to 6th position: 0.75

d) ISSF World Cups/ ISSF World Shotgun Championship

- i. Gold: 2
- ii. Silver: 1.5
- iii. Bronze: 1
- iv. 4th to 6th position: 0.75

e) World Record

- i. World Record Score/Equal World Record Score: 3

f) Selection Trials

- i. 1st Rank 0.2
- ii. 2nd Rank 0.15
- iii. 3rd Rank 0.10

1. In case a shooter qualifies in more than one above to get merit points, only one out of (a), (b), (c) above will be considered. This facility shall however only be available to a claimant from the event where he has won, to the immediate next similar event. For (d) above the facility shall be available to the claimant only in the next immediate selection trial. For (f) above the facility will be available only for that particular set of selection trials in which it has been achieved and shall not be valid for consideration in the next selection trial.
2. However, bonus points attained for 4th to 6th position shall be valid and availed by the shooter only in the immediate next selection trial and these bonus points shall not be valid for consideration after that. A shooter can avail these bonus points only once.
3. In the event of a world record holder, these points shall be exclusive of a, b, c & d above. A shooter shall naturally only be able to avail such points as long as he/she continues to hold such a coveted position per the listing so described on the web site of the ISSF. No retrospective facilitation of such points shall be available once this mark has been improved by another at any venue in the world & so corrected on the web site of the ISSF.
4. In the event that this World record score has not been bettered, the privilege of counting on these points shall be carried forward until that time that it is bettered & this privilege shall be the bonus that such competitor shall commence his annual score sheet with for team selection from the next NSCC onwards.
5. This facility shall also be available for juniors, but shall be limited to the possible selection in the junior category only. Hence a junior world record holder shall not be able to avail this facility whilst competing for a slot as a senior.

5. Recognition of ISSF ranking by category & event.

- i. It has been decided that due recognition shall be afforded to a sportsman if he/she stands adjudged to have been ranked in the top 15 of the ISSF world ranking table.

- ii. The ranking table to be taken into consideration shall be deemed to be that available on the ISSF website on the date of team selection by the selection committee of the NRAI.
- iii. No retrospective benefit shall be available to any shooter under this heading and it shall remain a real-time achievement benefit only.
- iv. Such merit points shall be added to the aggregate score of the shooters who qualify to get such points by virtue of their achievement.

The merit points available to eligible shooters is given below:

- a) World Ranking 1 to 5 – 02 points.
- b) World Ranking 6 to 10 – 01 point.

6. Other eligibility criterion.

- i. It is further clarified that strict compliance to WADA, IOA, ISSF, & NRAI rules shall be maintained. Should a shooter be in violation of the rules he shall not be considered for the selection of teams & shall be deemed to have been suspended pending ruling by the established norm of appeal in the above forum.
- ii. Any shooter who voluntarily or un-voluntarily does not compete in a selection trial and is hence one score short of the required number of scores shall not be eligible for consideration to the selection committee for consideration of team selection.
- iii. It may also be clarified that in the event of a tie for team or individual positioning between two shooters, the principle of count back based upon the ISSF rule pertaining to the count back system of assessment shall be employed to the last score submitted for consideration.
- iv. In the event of illness or injury to a selected athlete as determined by the competition jury &/or the selection committee of the NRAI, the next eligible athlete from the Olympic event selection process shall be added to the team, purely on arithmetical merit alone.

v. All athletes need to achieve a minimum travelling score (MTS) irrespective of ranking achieved at the conclusion of NSCC or selection trials to be considered eligible for team selection and participation in International competitions.

a. The MTS has to be actual score recorded without addition of bonus/merit points.

b. The MTS should be valid on date of selection committee meeting and should not be more than 4 months old. The MTS is to be achieved in either the NSCC/Selection Trial/ISSF competitions/ASC competitions/Sardar Sajjan Singh Sethi Memorial Masters Championship or any competition conducted by NRAI commencing with the 60th NSCC.

c. There will be no retrospective validity afforded to any score(s) achieved by any athlete in any competition held prior to the commencement of the 60th NSCC.

d. MTS attained in any other competition (except as specified above in (b)) will not be considered.

e. MTS to be attained by shooters is listed below:

Trap Men 117/125
Trap Women 67/75
Double Trap Men 133/150
Skeet Men 118/125
Skeet Women 67/75

It is mandatory for all selected athletes to attend National coaching/training Camps. The minimum attendance required per camp is 85%. Any athlete with an attendance less than the aforementioned percentage will automatically stand dropped from the team (for the competition for which camp is being held).

7. Discipline

It is mandatory for all athletes to adhere to all norms of discipline as laid down by the NRAI and coaches travelling with the team for International Competitions. At all times the athletes will behave in a manner befitting ambassadors of the sport and country. Coaches travelling with the team will be responsible to ensure strict adherence of discipline and ethics and shall submit a joint report to the NRAI upon completion of every tour regarding the ethical, professional and disciplinary behavior of an athlete. On the basis of this report the NRAI has a right to suspend an athlete from the immediate next International competition/competitions depending upon the severity of breach of code of conduct. There will be no replacement for an athlete so suspended.

Teams & their constitution.

- i. At the end of the NSCC the national pool of the top twelve shooters in each category & event shall be considered for the 1st set of team selection trials.
- ii. After the first set of trials, of these 12 shooters, 3 shall be dropped and the remaining 9 shall be accredited for inclusion in the Core group as described herein. (Subject to the scores achieved by them in the qualifying competition/NSCC/trials being over the ISSF stipulated MQS scores). The national team will be selected only from the Core group. The nominated shooters in the core group shall not be considered for team selection. The core group will not be changed during the entire shooting year.
- iii. Each shooter from the above-mentioned pool shall be assessed based upon the above criterion for each and every selection process. Hence an official national ranking in real-time and on a rolling basis shall be maintained vide his/her scores so available at all times.
- iv. On the basis of this, it has been decided that the categorization of shooters teams shall be in three broad categories as under:

a. National Excellence Team (NET)

Shooters ranked 1, 2, & 3.

b. National A Team (NAT)

Shooters ranked 4, 5, & 6.

c. National B Team (NBT)

Shooters ranked 7, 8, & 9.

- v. It has been decided that shooters who are graded by the selection committee to be under any of the above categories shall be required to participate in predetermined competitive arena. This has been necessitated by the recognition that athletes competing in the top echelons of shooting competitions are required to peak in performance in a controlled & correct manner.
- vi. It has been found that in many cases, shooters have been found to be shooting in too many competitions of a varied nature, and far too often. It is also been found that while some shooters may face an abundance of excess competitive events, others suffer the opposite malady. Therefore, in a bid to address this issue & in the effort to constantly upgrade the competitive experience of the real time ranked shooters pool, the table where each of these ranked shooters shall be eligible to shoot per category is given below:
- **NET** - ISSF World Championship, ISSF World Cups, Asian Championships, Asian Games, Commonwealth Games
 - **NAT** - MQS Shooter, Afro – Asian Games, SAF Games, CWFSC
 - **NBT** - MQS Shooters, ISSF Grand Prix or ISSF recognized competitions
- vii. If any athlete, for any reason whatsoever, is unable to travel as a team member for a competition in which he/she has been selected to participate must inform NRAI in writing at least 02 days prior to team selection so that he/she can be replaced. Any athlete failing to inform NRAI of his/ her inability to travel as a team member prior to selection committee meeting will have to bear all costs (such as entry cancellation fee, hotel booking cancellation, ticket cancellation etc.). There will be no review of this at any level whatsoever.

MQS Slots

1. The qualification and assignment of shooters to fill MQS slots in any championship that affords such competitors participation shall be the sole right of the NRAI, subject to the following:
2. That the shooter is in the Core group and has achieved ISSF MQS in his/her event at the conclusion of the 60th NSCC.
3. That the shooter in question has two valid scores of performances that are deemed to be eligible.
4. That the shooter submits his/her willingness to participate in the said event at least 30 days before the entry deadline of such competition.
5. Though the NRAI shall make all endeavors to seek GOI's financial approval for MQS category, in the event that this is not extended, the shooter shall have to deposit the requisite amount of money with the NRAI at the same time as the athlete makes his/her availability known to NRAI.
6. Junior men & women shall be eligible for consideration to this category for their respective male/female sporting categories subject to them being part of the senior core group and the same terms & conditions highlighted above for those of the open category.
7. Should the performance of some shooter who is not part of the "Core Group" in quality international or Open Domestic competitions suitably impress the NRAI, then at its initiative, upon the receipt of advance payment covering such costs from such prospective shooters, the NRAI may hold a special trial for such person(s), and on merits consider such shooters for this category only
8. To give importance to youth and junior shooters, athletes up to and including the age of 25 years who are part of the senior core group will be given preference for consideration to the MQS slots.
9. The NRAI selection committee reserves the right to nominate any person (senior or junior) to shoot as MQS. The decision of the NRAI selection committee shall be final and binding.

Coaches and Support Staff

Upon the publication of this policy, the role of foreign and Indian coaches shall be restricted to that of providing technical training to shooters. The view of all coaches has been sought & considered by NRAI during the review process of the proceeding years' policy, prior to the publication of this policy. Since the tenure of this policy is up to & including the Tokyo Olympic games in 2020, the NRAI shall make all efforts to announce in advance, after seeking governmental approval where necessary, the said coaches.

That since the NRAI follows a policy of shooters earning their slots in teams or individual positions & this entire document is based on the principal of merit as the sole selection criterion, the role of national/foreign coaches shall only be advisory for the purposes of team selection.

Travel of teams to compete abroad

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

1. All travel arrangements of sportsmen who are to compete overseas shall be made through the NRAI office.
2. The National team should travel as a team and not as a group of individuals coming together as a matter of mere coincidence & shall always travel as a single body with the team manager.
3. This is necessary as it shall permit the constant monitoring of the Nationally Accredited Athletes for reasons of security as a body.
4. The designated support staff shall regularly update the office of the NRAI on all relevant issues related to the team's security, transit, performance or disciplinary status of the team.
5. Further it is only on the federation's recommendation that foreign nations provide suitable gun permits & other documentation to our sportsmen, so that they transit to their destination in a hassle free manner & as such it shall remain the responsibility of the NRAI to oversee the timely procurement of such permits/documentation is

procured & handed over to the shooter/teammanager prior to their departure from India for overseas.

While overseas, existing norms of team management shall continue with the following exceptions:

1. That unless the member of the team is actually competing, he or she shall at all times when they are on the way to & from the sports venue, or at the sports venue itself, wear at least the top portion of the apparel that shall be suitably provided by the federation to each competitor at its cost.
2. Suitably, all coaches foreign or national, & all supporting or accompanying staff are also considered an integral part of the team & shall hence also be subject to such provision.
3. Only during official practice or the competitive process its self, shall the athletes retain the privilege of choosing their own apparel in conformity with ISSF standard elucidated on their web site.
4. It shall be the duty of the team manager to report any such transgressions if committed by any member of the team in writing to the NRAI within 15 days of such a transgression if any.
5. Should this be reported it shall lead to an immediate & automatic reduction of 1 point from that particular sportsman's carried forward score.
6. There shall be no exception or appeal to (1), (3) and (5) above

Redressal of Grievances and Appeals Process

1. Since this policy covers merely the selection criterion, the forum of Redressal shall be the NRAI designated jury of appeal so appointed for that particular competition.
2. This Jury shall deal with all matters pertaining to the issue of selection trials, selection criterion, grievances thereof, if any, or any unforeseen circumstances that may arise therein.

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

Scope of Policy Review

1. This policy shall be reviewed on an annual basis upon the completion of the National Shooting Championship of the next year, by a policy review committee to be appointed by the office of the Secretary General of the NRAI.
2. The committee shall at this stage deliberate any further refinements to, or strengthening of this policy that may be required taking into account the experiences of the designated foreign coach, national coaches, team managers, & the governing body of the NRAI.
3. The tenure of the policy review committee shall be limited to a period of 30 days and shall be constituted by the NRAI at its pleasure.

4. It shall however be mandatory for the said committee to present its findings if any within a period of 30 days from the completion of the national shooting championships in the form of an amended national policy, if so required.
5. This, like now, shall be notified to the public vide the web site of the NRAI through its office.
6. Should this process not have been complied with, then till it is done, this policy in its entirety shall be deemed to remain in force.
7. Regardless to anything contained herein the decision of the NRAI selection committee for team selection shall be final and binding.
8. The envisaged Shooting Calendar for the year 2017 is enclosed. The NRAI reserves the right to make changes to this Calendar if so necessitated by changes to the international Calendar by ISSF, ASC, OCA, CSF, IOC or any other reason so necessitating such a change as deemed by NRAI.

Conclusion

This policy is herewith approved by the Technical Committee appointed to prepare this document and sent for notification through the office of the NRAI upon its web site for public scrutiny.

Dated: 5th November 2016
Place: Delhi.