

Judo Federation of India (JFI) National Selection Policy (2025-2026)

Preamble:

This **Selection Policy** outlines the criteria for selecting Indian Judo Teams for international events from 2025-2026. It aims to promote transparency, fairness, and excellence, aligning with the long-term vision for Indian Judo's success in the **Asian/ Commonwealth Games 2026**, and beyond, with a focus on the **2028 and 2032 Olympics**.

1. Cadets (Boys & Girls):

A. National Ranking:

- JFI will conduct Open National Selection Trials and National Judo Championships to rank Cadet Judokas.
- A robust Indian Ranking System is already established, based on National Championships, National Ranking Championships, and Selection Trials.
- The latest national rankings must be transparent and displayed on the JFI website.

B. Eligibility for International Events:

- The National Ranking 1 and 2 are eligible to participate in international events at Government Cost.
- The 3rd and 4th ranking are allowed to participate in recognized international events at their Own Cost, following **JFI Guidelines**.
- Judoka are required to participate in World ranking tournaments provided one month's notice is given; exceptions will not be granted.

C. World Ranking:

- Top 2 Cadet World Ranking Judokas of respective weight categories can also be considered to participate in international events at Government Cost/Own Cost on recommendations of the Selection Committee.

D. Final Selection:

- The final selection for Indian Judo Teams recommended at Government Cost will be finalized by the **JFI Selection Committee**, appointed from time to time.
- Selection policy will focus on promoting Cadet athlete development to ensure a sustainable talent pipeline.
- Providing international exposure for young judokas will be ensured in preparing future senior athletes.

2. Junior (Men & Women):

A. National Ranking:

- JFI will conduct Open National Selection Trials and National Judo Championships to rank Junior Judokas.
- A robust Indian Ranking System is already established, based on National Championships, National Ranking Championships, and Selection Trials.

B. Eligibility for International Events:

- The National Ranking 1 and 2 are eligible to participate in international events at Government Cost.
- The 3rd and 4th ranking are allowed to participate in recognized international events at their Own Cost, following **JFI Guidelines**.
- Judoka are required to participate in ranking tournaments provided one month's notice is given; exceptions will not be granted.

C. World Ranking:

- Top 2 Cadet World Ranking Judokas of respective weight categories can also be considered to participate in international events at Government Cost/Own Cost on recommendations of the Selection Committee.

D. Final Selection:

- The final selection for Indian Judo Teams recommended at Government Cost will be finalized by the JFI Selection Committee, appointed from time to time.
- Selection should also factor in athletes with **long-term potential for Olympic and World Championship success.**
- While leniency regarding age classes in junior competitions may yield more medals, maintaining strict adherence to senior age class regulations is crucial for consistent senior-level success.

3. Senior (Men & Women):

A. National Ranking:

- JFI will conduct Open National Selection Trials and National Judo Championships to rank Senior Judokas.
- A robust Indian Ranking System is already established, based on National Championships, National Ranking Championships, and Selection Trials.
- The latest national rankings will be transparent and displayed on the JFI website.

B. Eligibility for International Events:

- The National Ranking 1 and 2 are eligible to participate in international events at Government Cost.
- The 3rd and 4th ranking are allowed to participate in recognized international events at their Own Cost, following **JFI Guidelines.**
- Judoka are required to participate in ranking tournaments provided one month's notice is given; exceptions will not be granted.

C. World Ranking (WRL):

- The WRL should be a primary selection criterion, giving priority to higher-ranked athletes, especially for the Asian Games and Commonwealth Games post winning the Selection trials in India.
- Athletes must demonstrate consistent participation and results in World Judo Tour events.
- Top 2 World Ranking Judokas of respective weight categories are also eligible to participate in international events at Government Cost/Own Cost.
- Selection should incentivize athletes to achieve top-30 WRL rankings by the start of the Olympic qualification period.

D. Final Selection:

- The final selection for Indian Judo Teams recommended at Government Cost will be finalized by the JFI Selection Committee, appointed from time to time.
- Selection should reflect an athlete's ability to perform under high-pressure competitive environments.
- Historical data suggests that certain weight categories have shown stronger performances internationally. The Selection Policy should strategically prioritize these categories.
- Selection should also factor in athletes with long-term potential for Olympic and World Championship success.
- If, for any reason, trials cannot be conducted before the final roster is submitted for the Commonwealth/Asian Games, the judoka currently ranked number one in India will represent the country.

E. Additional Criteria:

- Athletes actively participating in international training camps and competitions should be prioritized.

- Athlete performance data (WRL, competition results, training progress, etc.) should be systematically tracked and analyzed.
- Selection Committee can also take call on physical condition of the athlete in the event as base to cut the particular weight for the event if the conditions seems below the required level to compete at international level.
- Athletes attained the age of **30 years** will only received govt grant for the official events i.e Asian /World championships or they are in **top 75 in the World Ranking List**. *For own cost participation Criteria mentioned in point B. will be applied.*
- Nada will be informed and uodate before the events spl. before any event used to select the team for international events.

4. Selection of Coaches/Support Staff:

- The selection of Coaches and Support staff will be as recommended by the JFI Selection Committee, considering the coaching qualifications, experience of the Coaches and the performance of the athletes of the coaches in the particular selections trials or events used as the base of selecting the team or the WRL of the athletes training under the coach.

5. Commonwealth and Asian Games Specifics:

- The goal should be to maximize India's representation with **14 judokas (7 men, 7 women) + Mixed Team event for Commonwealth Games**.
- Weight category participation should be finalized based on WRL standings and an analysis of potential medal-winning categories based on the 2025-26 international performance and the top position in the selection trials.
- Selection for CWG should be **finalized by March 2026** to allow proper preparation.
- ***Asian Games 2026 & the WRL will be used as a performance evaluation tool to assess India's readiness for the 2028 and 2032 Olympics.***

6. Transparency:

- The final Selection Policy will be published on the JFI website for complete transparency.
- Selection criteria will be clearly communicated well in advance to all stakeholders, including athletes, coaches, and support staff.
- This compiled policy aims to provide a clear, fair, and effective framework for selecting Indian Judo Teams for international events, while aligning with the long-term development goals of Indian Judo.

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