



FENCING ASSOCIATION OF INDIA
Selection Policy for Asian Games 2026

Purpose:

To enhance India's medal prospects at the 2026 Asian Games by establishing a structured and merit-based Core Group system, the Fencing Association of India (FAI) introduces this revised selection policy. This policy focuses on early identification, targeted preparation, and final selection of elite athletes.

1. Identification of Core Group

The core group of athletes will be identified based on performance in national championships:

- **Top 32 fencers** from the previous year's **Senior National Championships**
- **Top 8 fencers** from the previous year's **Junior National Championships**

These athletes will be invited to the **Core Group Selection Trials**, which will determine the **top 12 fencers in each weapon (foil, epee, and sabre) per gender**.

2. Core Group Selection Trials

- The selection trials for identifying the Core Group will be held over **3 days** during the **last week of August or the first week of September 2025**.
- **Venue (tentative):**
 - **Foil:** NCOE Aurangabad
 - **Epee:** NCOE Patiala
 - **Sabre:** ASI Pune

3. Senior National Championship

- The **Senior National Championship** will tentatively be conducted in the **last week of October or the first week of November 2025**.
- Post Nationals, the **top 12 fencers per gender per weapon** finalized through these Nationals and Core Group trials will form the **official training pool** till the Asian Games 2026.
- The Senior National Championship, tentatively scheduled for the last week of October or the first week of November 2025, will serve as the final evaluation event for the Core Group.
- **Purpose of the Nationals** - This championship will be the last opportunity to assess and finalize the top 12 fencers per gender per weapon.
- Performance, injury status, and other relevant aspects of Core Group athletes will be closely reviewed during this event.

- Based on this comprehensive evaluation, minor changes to the Top 12 may be made if deemed necessary by the selection committee.
- **Training Pool Formation** - The finalized Top 12 will constitute the official training pool for preparation leading up to the Asian Championship.
- **Participation Clause** - Any selected fencer who fails to appear or participate in national camps or events may be replaced based on rankings from the Senior Nationals.

4. Final Selection Trials

The final trials to select the Indian team for the **2026 Asian Games** and **World Championship** will be held **4–5 weeks prior to the 2026 Asian Championship**.

Selection Outcome:

- **The top 4 athletes** per event will be selected for the **main team**.
- **2 athletes** per event will be selected as **reserves**.

5. Applicability

This revised policy is applicable **exclusively for the selection of athletes for the Asian Games 2026**.