National Sports Governance (National Sports Board) Rules, 2026

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Why in News?

Recently, the Union Government notified the National Sports Governance (National Sports Board) Rules, 2026.

- **National Sports Board (NSB)** – A ***central regulatory authority*** to oversee recognition, governance, and financial standards of National Sports Bodies.
- **Aim** –To lay down the *structure, appointment process, powers and service conditions for the two new bodies* that will oversee governance standards and adjudicate sports-related disputes.
- **Nodal Ministry** – Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports.
- **Parent Legislation** – National Sports Governance Act, 2025. (Replaced the earlier Sports Code framework)

National Sports Board (NSB) Rules, 2026

- **Composition** – The Board consists of exactly 3 members – *One Chairperson and 2 Members.*
- **Selection Mechanism** – Appointed by the Central Government from a panel of names recommended by the ***Search-cum-Selection Committee***.
- **Declaration of assets –** The Chairperson and each of the Members, before entering his office shall declare his assets, liabilities, financial and other interests, on an annual basis.
- **Term of Office** – Chairman and members can hold office ***maximum for 3 years*** or till they attain the ***age of 65 years,*** whichever is earlier.
- No concurrent positions shall be held by chairperson and members in any international, national, or regional sports bodies and promotion organisations.
- **Resignation of Members –** A Chairperson or Member can resign by giving written notice to the Central Government. Once the Government accepts it, the office is considered vacant.
- **Removal of Members –** The central government shall remove Chairperson or any Member if they are
    - Insolvent
    - Convicted of a crime involving moral turpitude.
    - Physically or mentally unfit, or have conflicting financial interests.
    - The Member must be given a chance to explain before action is taken.

- **Residuary provisions** – Matters with respect to which no express provision has been made in these rules shall be referred to the Central Government for its decision.
- **Annual statement of accounts and other relevant records-** The Board prepares annual statement of accounts, sends them to the Comptroller and Auditor General (CAG), and the CAG-certified accounts become official for laying before each House of Parliament.
- **Functions of the Board**
    - **Election Panel Roster** – Keep a roster of the National Sports Election Panel (as per Rules, 2026).
    - **Affiliate Register** – Maintain a register of affiliate units of National Sports Bodies.
    - **Public Documents** – Both roster and register are public documents under Section 74 of *Bharatiya Sakshya Adhiniyam, 2023*.
    - A roster refers to a systematic list or register used to allocate jobs, tasks, or resources.
- **Powers of the Board**
    - **Model Guidelines** – Frame guidelines/regulations on sports governance (committees' constitution, operation, procedures).
    - **Stakeholder Consultations** – Hold consultations with stakeholders on sports governance in India.
    - **International Best Practices** – Recommend adoption of international covenants and practices in sports governance.
    - **Capacity Building** – Conduct training programmes, workshops, seminars, conferences, including collaborations with international sports bodies.

References

1. PIB | National Sports Governance Rules
2. The Gazette of India | National Sports Governance Rules

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