



Amateur Kabaddi Federation of India

Registered Under Societies Registration Act (723/1975)

Recognised by the Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports – Government of India

Affiliated to: Indian Olympic Association, Asian Kabaddi Federation & International Kabaddi Federation

Delhi Office: - E-386 (Basement), Cabin – B Greater Kailash Part 1 New Delhi – 110 048

Jaipur Office: - 33, Bhriugu Nagar, Ajmer Road, Jaipur – 302 021

E-mail : presidentakfi@gmail.com, aakfihq@gmail.com

President
Vibhor V. Jain

General Secretary
Jitendra P. Thakur

20th Asian Games 2026- Nagoya, Japan-2026

(19th September-04th October 2026)

Selection Policy for Indian Kabaddi Team

1. OBJECTIVE:

Asian Games are one of the prestigious international events and participation of Indian Sports Contingent hold significant amount of importance on the platform of Asian Games. Kabaddi has been one of India's most dominant sports at the Asian Games, with India winning the majority of gold medals since its inclusion in 1990.

Amateur Kabaddi Federation of India (AKFI) is committed to sustain the medal position of the Country thereby bringing the pride to the Nation once again, followed by remarkably outstanding performances of Indian Kabaddi Contingent securing three Gold Medal Positions in the recent past from 3rd Youth Asian Games 2025 (Boys and Girls) and 2nd Women Kabaddi World Cup 2025 (Senior Women) respectively.

The Federation is progressing with a streamlined approach to build up a victorious team to participate in the upcoming **Asian Games 2026**.

2. PERFORMANCE IN LAST THREE ASIAN GAMES:

Asian Games Edition	No. of Athletes participated		Medals won				Remarks
	M	W	G	S	B	Total	
Incheon Asian Games 2014	12	12	2	-	-	2	Indian Kabaddi Team Men and Women Team both won Gold Medals.
Jakarta Asian Games 2018	12	12	-	1	1	2	1. Indian Kabaddi Team Men won Bronze Medal and 2. Indian Kabaddi Team Women won Silver Medal.
Hangzhou Asian Games 2022	12	12	2	-	-	2	Indian Kabaddi Team Men and Women Team both won Gold Medals.



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3. PERFORMANCE IN MAJOR INTERNATIONAL EVENTS POST-ASIAN GAMES 2022:

Event	Date & Venue	No. of Participants	Medals Won				Remarks, if any
			G	S	B	Total	
World Championship	26-02-2023 to 05-03-2023 in Urmia, Iran	12	1	-	-	1	2nd Junior World Kabaddi Championship (Boys).
Asian Championship	04-03-2025 to 09-03-2025 in Tehran, Iran	12	1	-	-	1	6th Senior Asian Kabaddi Championship 2025 (Women).

4. STEPS FOR THE SELECTION OF FINAL INDIAN ASIAN KABADDI TEAM MEN AND WOMEN (MENS PROBLE LIST IS SELECTED FROM SENIOR NATIONAL 71ST FEDERATION CUP AND PKL 12 .WOMENS PROBABLE LIST will be SELECTED FROM 72ND SENIOR NATIONAL , participated 6TH ASIAN SENIOR WOMEN KABADDI CHAMPIONSHIP AND participated 2ND WOMENS WORLD CUP)

Pls note due to paucity of deadlines for submission of longlist to the ASIAN Games the mens list has been shortlisted from previous conducted tournaments.

- (i) **Identification of Probable Players-** The probable players are identified primarily from the Senior National Kabaddi Championship and Senior Federation Cup conducted by Federation in both senior Men and Women categories and The competitive Pro-Kabaddi League (PKL-12 for the current year) for the inclusion in the list of Probable players of Indian Kabaddi Team.
 - This ensures elite performers from all possible sources.
 - It is ensured that all players must comply with **NADA & WADA Anti-Doping Regulations.**
- (ii) **Constitution of Selection Committee-** President AKFI constitutes a Selection Committee for each Championship/Tournament. Selection committee headed by the president complies with the norms and comprises of the Selection Committee members who are the prestigious sports awards recipients and /or eminent ex-Kabaddi Players etc.

It is ensured that Probable players are identified by the appointed selection committee under all the playing positions. The Selection Committee is committed to recognizing and rewarding individual merit on the basis of

1. Exceptional performance
2. Consistent performance and their
3. Outstanding past performance



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1 . Exceptional Performance refers to elite, match-decisive performances that are significantly above the current national and international benchmark and directly contribute to winning outcomes at the highest level.

Objective Parameters

- An athlete may be considered to have demonstrated Exceptional Performance if they meet any two or more of the following within the last 12 months:
- Top 3 individual performance ranking in a major international tournament (Asian Championship, World Cup, Asian Games, etc.)
- Named Best Player / MVP / Best Raider / Best Defender in an international or top-tier professional league / Cup .

Match-impact metrics placing the athlete in the top 10% among all competitors, such as:

- Raid success rate
- Tackle success rate
- Average points per match
- Delivered match-winning performances in knock-out or medal-deciding matches
- Performance significantly above international average benchmarks for the position/role
- Exceptional Performance reflects current peak form and elite competitive impact.

2. Consistent Performance

Consistent Performance refers to the athlete's ability to maintain a high and reliable level of performance over time, across multiple competitions, without major fluctuations.

Objective Parameters

- An athlete may be considered Consistent if they meet all of the following over the previous 12–24 months:
- Participated in at least 70–80% of eligible matches/tournaments/league matches .
- Performance metrics (points, tackles, success rates) remain within $\pm 15\%$ variation across events
- Ranked within the top 20–30% nationally or internationally in their playing role
- No prolonged decline in form or extended injury-related absence .
- Demonstrated tactical discipline and role execution as assessed by coaching staff
- Consistency indicates reliability, fitness, and sustained competitiveness.

3. Outstanding Past Performance

Outstanding Past Performance refers to historic excellence at the highest competitive level, which demonstrates proven capability, experience, and pressure handling, even if the performance occurred outside the immediate selection window.

Objective Parameters

- An athlete may be considered to have Outstanding Past Performance if they meet any one of the following within the last 4–8 years:



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Medalist (Gold/Silver/Bronze) at: 1.Asian Games
2.World Cup
3.Asian Championship

Pro Kabaddi League - Named Best Player / MVP / Best Raider / Best Defender

- Key contributor to a championship-winning national or international team
- Received national or international awards (Best Player, Arjuna Award, continental honours)
- Ranked among the top 5 players nationally for at least two consecutive seasons
- Served as team captain or vice-captain in major international events
- Outstanding Past Performance supports selection when combined with acceptable current fitness and form.

To ensure fairness and transparency, selectors may apply the following indicative weightage:

Performance Category

Suggested Weightage not a compulsive breakage

Exceptional Performance -40%

Consistent Performance - 35%

Outstanding Past Performance- 15%

Fitness & Discipline-10%

5. Important Safeguard Clause

Outstanding Past Performance shall not override poor current fitness or form, unless supported by medical clearance and recent competitive exposure.

General Kabaddi Player Selection consideration Parameters

1. Weightage for Key Competitions

(Senior National Kabaddi Championship, Senior Federation Cup, Pro Kabaddi League)

To ensure balanced assessment across domestic federation, and professional platforms, the following weightage system shall be adopted for selection of national probable's:

- Competition Weightage
- Competition
- Weightage
- Rationale
- Pro Kabaddi League (PKL)

Highest competitive intensity; international players; advanced analytics; elite match exposure

Senior National Kabaddi Championship / Senior Federation Cup

-Nationwide representation; performance under state/team systems ,talent depth

Assessment Parameters Across Competitions



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Performance evaluation shall include:

- Role-specific match statistics (raid points, tackle points, success rates)
- Match impact index (contribution in close and knockout matches)
- Consistency across matches
- Discipline and adherence to rules

Note: Only performances within the preceding 12 months of the final selection date shall be considered while considering the performance in the above mentioned SNKC, Federation Cup & PKL

2. Evaluation Methodology During Extensive Coaching Camps

National coaching camps for shortlisted probable players shall serve as the final performance verification stage prior to team selection.

Evaluation Framework

Each athlete shall be evaluated across four key domains, with documented scores:

- Domain
- Weightage
- Evaluation Tools
- Technical & Tactical Skills
- Match simulations, role execution, decision-making
- Physical Fitness & Endurance
- agility tests, strength benchmarks
- Match Performance in Camp Games
- Internal matches, opposition quality, pressure situations
- Discipline & Team Integration
- Attendance, conduct, adaptability, teamwork
- Documentation
- Daily performance reports shall be maintained
- Video analysis and GPS/fitness data (where and if available/possible) shall be used
- Selection committee feedback shall be recorded /documented and signed

3. “Unforeseen Circumstances” Clause — Clarification

Unforeseen circumstances shall be clearly defined to avoid ambiguity and discretionary misuse.

Unforeseen circumstances may include:

- Acute injury or illness certified by the official medical panel
- Force majeure events (natural disasters, travel restrictions)
- Sudden disciplinary ineligibility (anti-doping violations, legal orders)
- Any event rendering a selected player medically or legally unfit to participate

4. Procedure for Replacement Under Unforeseen Circumstances

(Without Affecting Size of Indian Contingent)

To maintain contingent size and ensure fairness, the following replacement protocol shall apply:

A. Creation of Reserve Pool



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- A ranked reserve list (minimum 3–5 players) shall be finalized along with the main team
- Reserves must:
- Have attended final coaching camps
- Meet all eligibility, fitness, and anti-doping requirements
- Be approved by the same selection committee .

B. Injury or Withdrawal Procedure

- Injury/issue must be verified by the official medical committee
- Written recommendation submitted to the Selection Committee members.
- Replacement selected strictly from the pre-approved reserve list
- Replacement must be of same or similar playing role (raider/defender/all-rounder)
- Approval recorded in official minutes and communicated to IOA/Sports Ministry/SAI

C. Timeline

- Replacement allowed up to the deadline specified by event /tournament /Federation/ Association /organizers
- No replacements permitted after final accreditation cutoff unless allowed by event rules

D. Contingent Size Safeguard

- Replacement shall be made on a one-to-one basis
- No additional athlete or support staff shall be added
- Total contingent strength shall remain unchanged

5. Transparency and Safeguards

- All decisions shall be taken keeping best player interest and support to the team event.

Additional important insights –

1. Selections are recorded and minutes are prepared which are shared each time on the AKFI website and are submitted to SAI..
2. Hiring and Engagement of qualified support staff (coaches, physios, masseurs etc.)- It is ensured that the best of the experienced and eminent support staff is only included meeting the minimum eligibility criteria of qualification and experience. Strength & Conditioning Coach, Sports Physiotherapist and Masseuse and Masseur remain deployed with campers until the end.
3. Grievance redressal committee and internal complaint committee- Federation has ensured that these committees are both in place.
4. Selection trails conducted in presence of Observer from SAI- The fair and transparent Selection trails will be ascertained in the presence of SAI observer to finalize the team for participation. It is made sure that only consistent performance driven selections are made thereby creating the medal winning team for future participations.



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The Amateur Kabaddi Federation of India remains fully committed to a **transparent, merit-based and performance-driven selection system** for the **Indian Team's success at the Asian Games 2026**. This policy ensures long-term excellence, elite preparation, and international competitiveness.

Conclusively, it is to be noted that it is a regular method opted by AKFI in the past for all the international participations and the Indian Kabaddi Team have demonstrated the recorded exemplary results and AKFI is committed to follow the same mechanism in an improvised, focussed and streamlined manner.

Warm regards,

(Vibhor Vineet Jain)

President-AKFI