

**MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL GENERAL BODY MEETING OF GYMNASTICS FEDERATION OF INDIA (GFI) HELD ON 27<sup>TH</sup> NOVEMBER 2022, AT 06.45 PM, AT THE CABBANA RESORTS, NATIONAL HIGH WAY -1, PHAGWARA, PUNJAB 144401**

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The Annual General Body Meeting of Gymnastics Federation of India was convened in accordance with the provisions of Rule-15 of the Constitution of Gymnastics Federation of India (GFI) at The Cabbana Resorts & Spa, National High Way 1, Phagwara, Punjab 144401.

The President, Sh. Sudhir Mital, assumed the Chair.

Sh. Kulwinder Singh Thiara, General Secretary, Punjab Gymnastics Association, General Secretary Sh. Shantikumar Singh and Treasurer Sh. Kaushik Bidiwala were also present on the dais.

Sh. Kulwinder Singh Thiara, General Secretary, Punjab Gymnastics Association, the host State gave a warm welcome to all the Members of the State Associations, Union Territories and affiliated Units from all over the Country and handed over the proceedings of the Annual General Body Meeting to the President of Gymnastic Federation of India, Sh. Sudhir Mital.

Roll call was conducted while reconfirming the names of representatives attending the Annual General Meeting along with their State/Unit. The list of attendance is as per annexure 1.

After verifying that the requisite quorum was present and other requirements, the President declared the house in order and proceeded to discuss and decide on the agenda of the meeting.

## **1. Confirmation of the proceedings/minutes of the last Annual General Meeting**

The last Meeting of the Annual General Body was held at Hotel Grand Mercure, Gopalan Signature Mall, Bengaluru, Karnataka 560093 on 26/03/2022. The minutes of the above meeting had already been circulated to the members of the General Council by the President.

Sh. Sudhir Mital, President GFI, placed the above minutes before this Annual General Body Meeting (hereinafter called as AGM) for approval. All the members except Mr. Ram Dulare from the Delhi Gymnastics Association, approved the minutes as circulated in toto.

At this juncture Mr. Shantikumar Singh, the General Secretary, GFI raised an objection with regard to inclusion of certain statements in the minutes by citing his email that was circulated to the members today at 16.46 hrs. The President explained that his remarks had been dealt with and clarified at length in the minutes already circulated to the members and there were no objection or remarks on the same. Thereafter there was no further objection or comment by Sh. Shanti Kumar on the minutes of the last AGM dated 26/03/2022. Except for Mr. Ram Dulare, General Secretary, Delhi Gymnastics Association, the entire house once again confirmed the said minutes of the said meeting in toto. Accordingly, the following resolution was passed,

**RESOLVED THAT** the minutes of the Annual General Meeting held at Bengaluru, Karnataka 560093 on 26/03/2022 as placed before this Annual General Meeting be and is hereby **“Confirmed”**.

## **2. Presentation and Adoption of Annual Report**

Mr. Shantikumar Singh, the General Secretary was unable to prepare and submit the Annual Report of GFI, the President took the responsibility to prepare and submit the Annual Report. The house appreciated the Presidents' voluntary initiative for preparation of the annual report. Since the report is not made ready the same was not placed before the house. Accordingly, no resolution was passed by the house in this regard.

## **3. Review the status of Financials and reconciliation of previous accounts**

The Treasurer Sh. Kausik Bidiwala submitted the Financial statements with updates on the financial Status of GFI. At this juncture the President had informed the house that Mr. Kausik Bidiwala (Treasurer) and Mr. Dilip Sarvaiya (Finance Committee) have taken steps to clear all reconciliation of GFI accounts. As on date the GFI account is fully functional and there are no financial liabilities to government. The ministry is also satisfied with the progress in relation to GFI funds management. The house appreciated the earnest steps taken by Mr. Dilip Sarvaiya and Mr. Kaushik Bidiwala for compiling the accounts for the last 12 years. After discussions and clarifications, the house approved the financial statements submitted by the Treasurer Mr. Kaushik Bidiwala. Accordingly, the following resolution was passed in this regard.

**RESOLVED THAT** the previous year's accounts and the financial statements for the financial years from 2010-11 to 2020-21 as tabled in the house by the Treasurer Mr. Kaushik Bidiwala were accepted as approved.

RESOLVED FURTHER THAT the Treasurer Mr Kaushik Bidiwala and Finance Committee member Mr Dilip Sarvaiya be and are hereby authorized to take necessary steps to get the financials audited and relevant financials to be uploaded on the Website of GFI.

It was further informed to the house that since the GFI was recognized by the Government with effect from February 2021, it has started receiving assistance from the Government and is bound by the relevant rules and regulations of the Government concerning audit of financials one of which was that the GFI needs to appoint a CAG empanelled auditor for audit of its financials. Mr Kaushik Bidiwala informed that the GFI has been getting utilization certificates for Government Grants audited from Narender Singh & Co., Chartered Accountants based in New Delhi which is CAG empanelled and it was recommended that Narender Singh & Co. be appointed as GFI's auditors for FY 2021-22 and 2022-23. The matter was put for consideration of the house and the following resolution was passed unanimously:

RESOLVED THAT Narender Singh & Co., Chartered Accountants be are hereby appointed as the Statutory Auditor of the Federation for the Financial Years 2021-22 and 2022-23.

RESOLVED FURTHER THAT the President and Treasurer, GFI be and are hereby authorized severally to communicate with Narender Singh & Co. regarding their appointment and regarding the audit of GFI financials for 2021-22 and 2022-23.

#### **4. To pass the Annual Budget for the Year 2022-23**

The annual budget proposal for the year 2022-23 was presented by Treasurer Kaushik Bidiwala. The House discussed the proposed budget and sought clarity from the Treasurer on issue of raising funds to the Federation. The Treasurer Mr. Kaushik Bidiwala suggested the following sources of income for consideration of the House.

1. GFI Licence fee for a gymnast up to Rs.500/- per head
2. FIG licence fee up to Rs.5000/- per head
3. Judges fee for Nationals up to Rs.5000/- per head
4. International Judges fee up to Rs.10,000/- per head
5. Coach Training Camp Level 1,2,3 – up to Rs.10,000/- per head
6. International training camp up to Rs.10,000/- per head
7. And hosting International or National event up to 10% of grant

At this juncture the senior member of GFI Dr. U. K. Misha raised a serious concern over the fees that are to be paid by the Gymnasts to get their Licence, Certificates., etc., The house gave attention to the points raised by Dr. U. K. Mishra. However at this stage Sh. Kiran Wattal and Sh. Sanjay Shete clarified that the fees proposed by the Treasurer is not exorbitant and the same can be paid by them, and if any difficulty arose the concerned State Association has to part with the charges. The house accepted the clarifications and unanimously approved the proposal submitted by the Treasurer Mr. Kausik Bidiwala.

The following resolution was passed

**RESOLVED THAT** the budget proposal for 2023-24 as submitted by the Treasurer Mr. Kaushik Bidiwala be and is hereby approved.

## **5. To consider the actions of the Executive Committee**

The President updated the house about the relevant actions/proceedings of the Executive Committee at the meeting held on the previous day and wherever applicable sought approval from the General body

### **a. Filling up the vacancy in the Executive Committee**

The president informed that the vacancy to the post of Vice President arose consequent to the resignation by Mr. Digvijay Singh, it was decided to fill up the vacancy by the Executive Committee. Dr. Prabakar had proposed the name of Dr. Satpal Kaur, Joint-Secretary of Chandigarh Gymnastics Association to the vacant Vice President post within GFI. All the members of the Executive Committee present had accepted the proposal, hence Dr. Satpal Kaur was accordingly co-opted as Vice-President of the Gymnastics Federation of India unanimously by the GFI Executive Committee. The General body noted the same.

### **b. Resolutions for Banking Operations**

Resolutions were passed on the following matter of Banking operations

- i. For New Bank Accounts required for Government Grants
- ii. For availing Internet Banking facility across bank accounts of GFI

### **c. Proposals from various committees**

The GFI Executive Committee had approved the adoption of Age Group Rules for MAG and WAG. The Women's Technical Committee had submitted the Age Group Rules for WAG. The same were approved subject to certain charges required to align them with the competition format and age groups. For MAG, Shri Kulvinder Singh had reported that the MAG Age Group Rules were under preparation and will be finalized very soon.

The Committee authorized Shri Kulvinder Singh to finalize the Age Group Rules for MAG and resolved that such rules so finalized shall be treated as originally approved by this Executive Committee.

d. Finalization of National Event Calendar for 2023-24

The president informed the house that, though the situation after Covid-19 pandemic has substantially improved, some championships were unable to be conducted as per schedule. He further explained that all the National Level championships should be conducted for the year 2022-23. The President sought revised proposal from the member units to conduct the National Championships.

The following proposal for hosting National Championships were received:

**Calendar Events - 2022-23**

- a. Junior Artistic – Kerala – Dec 2022
- b. Sub-Junior Artistic – West Bengal – February 2023
- c. Rhythmic Senior and Junior – Karnataka – December - 2022
- d. Aerobics – Karnataka – March - 2023
- e. Acrobatics & Tumbling – Kerala – February 2023

**Calendar Events - 2023-24**

- a. Senior Artistic – Odisha – August 2023
- b. Junior Artistic – Maharashtra – September 2023
- c. Sub-Junior Artistic – Uttar Pradesh – November - 2023
- d. Aerobics – Karnataka – August - 2023
- e. Acrobatics & Tumbling – Haryana – October 2023

The following resolutions were passed.

RESOLVED THAT the Calendar for National Championships as detailed above be and is hereby approved.

RESOLVED FURTHER THAT the President, GFI be and is hereby authorized to change the aforementioned allocation in case any of the State/unit is unable to host as committed.

e. Proposal on ACTC and development plans/policies for 2023-24

President also informed that, Mr. Ashok Kumar Mishra, would take responsibility to prepare the ACTC for 2023-24. The EC approved the proposal and authorized the President to allocate the task and finalize the ACTC for submission to SAI.

f. Discussion and decision on the numbering of National Championships

The President further informed the house that during the year 2019 a Committee called Numbering Committee was formed under the Chairmanship of Mr. P. Prabu with a specific task to finalise the numbering of previous National Championships within a period of 3 months therein and to submit a report. Though more than 3 years have lapsed nothing has happened with regard to the numbering of the National Championships, moreover a complaint has been received from Tamilnadu Gymnastics Association to the effect that Mr. P. Prabu himself has involved in conducting several unauthorised National Championships and had issued Bogus Certificates. Therefore, a conflict of interest would arise if Mr. P. Prabu continues to remain in the chairmanship of numbering committee. The Complaint was placed before the committee and has been sent to Mr P Prabu seeking clarification especially with respect to allegations on Conflict of Interest.

Meanwhile this matter needs to be decided with a guiding principle of ensure no loss to Gymnasts giving the situation in recent years in the previous terms.

Further the Sports Ministry and SAI has given assent that National Championships can be conducted year wise. Therefore, the present Senior Artistic National Championship is being conducted for the year 2022-23 at Phagwara, Punjab.

Accordingly, the committee authorized the President to dissolve the earlier committee and decide on this matter with the aforementioned guiding principle in the interest of the Gymnasts.

The decision of the Executive Committee was discussed in the house and the General Council unanimously accepted the decision of the Executive Committee on this matter.

- g. Disciplinary action against any member for misconduct or any undesirable behaviour and place the matter for consideration of the General Council

The President further informed that, the Delhi Gymnastics Association (DGA) had said to have conducted an Election without sending the mandatory information to GFI and didn't provide information sought by Gymnastics Federation of India (GFI) as required under the GFI Constitution. In spite of specific letters to DGA to provide the Schedule of the Election, Members of DGA etc., the DGA had miserably failed to provide the information and thereby committed an improper and undemocratic Elections. Accordingly, the matter of gross indiscipline of DGA was referred to the Disciplinary Committee of GFI for alleged violation of Clause 2 (b) (vii) and (viii) of the GFI Rules and Regulations.

The Disciplinary Committee concluded its proceedings by affording a reasonable opportunity including personal hearing to the DGA's

representatives. After a detailed enquiry, the Chairman of the GFI Disciplinary Committee submitted the report on the Delhi Gymnastics Association (DGA) on 26/11/2022 covering the proceedings. As per the report, evidently the Delhi Gymnastics Association had not co-operated with GFI with respect to clarifications sought and instead have levied certain allegations on the Federation.

DGA failed to submit the requested documents even after multiple opportunities and attempted to mislead the committee. The documents including the list of members were requested for by GFI within the powers provided under the constitution of GFI and DGA violated the provisions of the GFI Constitution by failing to submit the relevant details. Further DGA also violated the GFI Constitution by admittedly not providing the details of their elections as mandated under GFI Constitution. The misconduct on the part of the DGA was amply proved beyond all reasonable doubt and the disciplinary committee suggested that the DGA be disaffiliated (through expulsion) from GFI on the aforementioned grounds.

The Executive Committee in its meeting the previous day accepted the report of the Disciplinary Committee and decided to recommend the expulsion and consequent disaffiliation of DGA from GFI, to the General Body.

The recommendation of the Executive Committee regarding expulsion of DGA through Disaffiliation was placed before the General Council. The General Council discussed about the procedure adopted by the Disciplinary Committee and satisfied that the principles of natural justice have been followed scrupulously, thereafter the entire house accepted the decision

and recommendation of the Disciplinary Committee except Mr. Ram Dulare, General Secretary of DGA, saying that there is no necessity on the part of the DGA either to give explanation or any details to GFI in relation to their Election or on any other matter. At this juncture several members of GFI stood up to explain to Sh Ram Dulare that being a State Association/UTs, the members are fully bound by the Rules and Regulations of GFI which is very important to maintain good governance and integrity in Sports administration. Unfortunately Mr. Ram Dulare was not prepared to listen to any body or offer any explanation and try to understand the proceedings for dis affiliation and consequent expulsion and after raising his voice and shouting walked out from the AGM. The house thereafter resolved to accept the report of the Disciplinary Committee and Expulsion of DGA and had authorised the President to take suitable action in this regard and to protect the interest of Gymnasts from Delhi. The house unanimously passed the following resolution,

RESOLVED THAT the findings of the disciplinary committee dated 26/11/2022 with regard to the affairs of Delhi Gymnastics Association (DGA) are accepted

RESOLVED FURTHER THAT the decision and recommendation of the Executive Committee of GFI for expulsion and consequent disaffiliation of Delhi Gymnastics Association from GFI be and is hereby accepted and Delhi Gymnastics Association is expelled from GFI with immediate effect in terms of Clause 28 (iv) of GFI Constitution.

RESOLVED FURTHER THAT consequent to the expulsion, Delhi Gymnastics Association stands disaffiliated from GFI and loses all rights

and privileges of affiliation to GFI including the right to register for GFI events and claiming affiliation to GFI. It is now open for any registered State level association including DGA to apply for GFI affiliation after complying with GFI Constitution.

RESOLVED FURTHER THAT the President GFI, be and is hereby authorized to take suitable decisions to protect and safeguard the interest of gymnasts from Delhi consequent to the Expulsion of Delhi Gymnastics Association and co-ordinate with the Delhi Olympic Association to ensure continuous participation of the Gymnasts and other officials from the State of Delhi.

h. Frame and approve required Policies and Rules & Regulations

The President appraised for the need of certain rules and regulations including rules for Domicile, Accreditation, Code of Conduct, Code of Discipline, Safeguarding and rules for hosting of National Championships and events.

The GFI Executive Committee had agreed on the following

That participation can only be through State of Domicile while SSCB/RLY Gymnasts may participate from their state of domicile if not participating from SSCB/RLY subject to the rules of their state of domicile. Same rules for Judges except for SSCB/RLY judges may not participate from any other state even if it is their state of Domicile if SSCB/RLY team is participating at that event.

It was also decided to adapt relevant FIG Rules with suitable modifications to provide for situations occurring in our country. Also need to make strong provisions for safeguarding and prevention of sexual harassment in relevant rules. Persons charged with complaints in a court of law on this front to be restrained from representing GFI and accreditations for GFI events.

In terms of Hosting National Championships, it was agreed that organizers may choose to not provide for any Accommodation and Transport for non-grant events.

President Shri Sudhir Mital and VP Dr Prabhakar were authorized to get the rules framed basis the agreed principles which will be treated as originally approved by the Executive Committee.

The house noted and approved the decisions and authorization by the GFI Executive Committee in this regard.

i. Other matters

The President further informed that, to develop the standard of Indian Gymnastics, the under mentioned committee was formed by the Executive Committee to decide the norms to issue Participation Certificates to Senior Gymnasts attending the National Championships,

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|----|-----------------------|---|----------|
| 1. | Shri. Kulwinder Singh | - | Chairman |
| 2. | Dr. Prabakar          | - | Member   |
| 3. | Mr. Anil Mishra       | - | Member   |

## **6. Amendment of Constitution**

The President informed the House the purpose and need of bringing this item before the house for its consideration.

The proposed amendments in the Constitution circulated in advance were taken up one by one. The house unanimously approved for the following amendments to the Constitution of GFI:

i) **At MEMORANDUM OF ASSOCIATION**

**Original:**

**III. OBJECTIVES:**

13. To take disciplinary action against any gymnast for misbehaviour or any other undesirable activity bringing discredit to the Federation or country.

**As modified:**

13. To take disciplinary action against any Gymnast, Coaches, Judges, Officials or Gymnastics Association for misbehaviour or any other undesirable activity bringing discredit to the Federation or country.

ii) **At Rules and Regulations**

**at Rule -5. GENERAL COUNCIL:**

The General Council of the Federation shall consist of the following:

- (a) Patron: A person of high status appointed as Patron by the General Council.

(b) Two accredited representatives of all the affiliated States/Units.

(c) Immediate Past President.

NOTE: All accreditation shall have to be made by the State/Unit authorities, either President or the General Secretary in concurrence with the President of the State/Unit concerned. However, in case President/Secretary nominates different person(s), the person(s) authorized by the President shall be deemed to be the duly authorized person(s) for the purpose of accreditation for the General Council. The person so nominated must be the member of the State/Unit.

**As Modified:**

**Rule -5. GENERAL COUNCIL:**

The General Council of the Federation shall consist of two accredited representatives of all the affiliated States/Units.

NOTE: All accreditation shall have to be made by the State/Unit authorities, either President or the General Secretary in concurrence with the President of the State/Unit concerned. However, in case President/Secretary nominates different person(s), the person(s) authorized by the President shall be deemed to be the duly authorized person(s) for the purpose of accreditation for the General Council. The person so nominated must be the member of the State/Unit.

If not already nominated within the two accredited representatives of an affiliated State/UT, the President, Hon. General Secretary and Hon. Treasurer may participate in the General Council Meeting without voting rights.

**iii) At Rule- 23**

**Original**

23. If on the winding up or dissolution of the Federation there remains after the satisfaction of all its debts and liabilities, any property whatsoever; the same shall not be paid to or distributed among the members of the Federation or any them but shall be dealt with the manner provided by sections 13 & 14 of the Societies Registration Act XXI of 1860.

**As Modified:**

23. If on the winding up or dissolution of the Federation there remains after the satisfaction of all its debts and liabilities, any property whatsoever; the same shall not be paid to or distributed among the members of the Federation or any of them but shall be dealt with the manner provided by sections 13 & 14 of the Societies Registration Act

**iv) At Rule - 27**

**Original:**

27. Settlement of disputes/conflicts in the State Associations/units and Members:

(iii) All unresolved disputes arising within the GFI shall be referred to the General Council. The General Council shall form a Sub-Committee to resolve or decide on the dispute or refer the dispute for settlement by arbitration under the provisions of Arbitration Act, 1940 The arbitration proceedings shall be completed within the period specified under the Arbitration Act or with the time extended by the Arbitrators with the consent of the parties.

(iv) In the event of dispute within an affiliated unit of the GFI which affects normal working of the unit and prevents preparation and training of the sport team under the charge of the unit GFI will constitute an ad-hoc body from within the members of the General Assembly or associating such persons from outside as may be necessary, to resolve the dispute and in the meantime continue with the work of preparation and training of that particular sport/team until the dispute within the unit is resolved.

(v) All disputes between GFI and the IOA or within the GFI itself will be dealt with in the same manner as laid down in (iii) above.

**As Modified:**

(iii) All unresolved disputes or any other concern arising within a GFI State/Unit shall be referred to GFI. The GFI shall form a Sub-Committee to resolve or decide on the dispute/concern or refer the dispute for settlement by arbitration under the provisions of Arbitration Act, 1940. The arbitration proceedings shall be completed within the period specified under the Arbitration Act or with the time extended by the Arbitrators with the consent of the parties.

(iv) In the event of dispute or any other concern within a State/Unit which affects normal working of the State/Unit and prevents preparation and training of the sport team of the State/Unit, GFI will constitute an ad-hoc body from within the members of the General Assembly or associating such persons from outside as may be necessary, to resolve the dispute or concern and in the meantime continue with the work of

preparation and training of that particular sport/team until the dispute or concern within the State/Unit is resolved.

(v) All disputes between GFI and the IOA or within the GFI itself will be dealt with in the same manner as laid down in (iii) above.

(vi) The President, GFI shall have the power to call for explanation from any person or member unit regarding any matter concerning the Federation, any of its event or member unit and refer the matter to an appropriate committee.

v) **At Rule – 32 Final Provision**

**Original**

The present Constitution has been approved by the General Council on 26th March 2022. It shall come into force with immediate effect.

**As modified**

The present Constitution has been approved by the General Council on 27<sup>th</sup> November 2022. It shall come into force with immediate effect.

vi) **APPENDIX – VARIOUS COMMITTEES**

**After Rule - 6, Rule – 7 has been newly included as follows:**

**7. ETHICS COMMITTEE:**

An Ethics Committee shall be appointed as per the Rules of Federation for a period of 4 years after the General Elections of the Federation. The said Committee shall consist of up to 5 members, one of them being a

chairperson. The Chairperson and majority of the members of the Ethics Committee shall be independent (who are not members of GFI).

**DUTIES:**

- a. To provide opinion and recommendations to the GFI Executive Committee.
- b. To recommend an appropriate Code of Ethics and/or modifications to it.
- c. To investigate and order on cases brought before the Ethics Committee.
- d. To perform such other tasks that are linked to the development of and respect for the ethical principles, assigned to it by the GFI Executive Committee and/or the GFI President.

The following resolutions were formally passed

**RESOLVED THAT** the amendments to the Constitution of Gymnastics Federation of India as be and is hereby approved.

**RESOLVED FURTHER THAT** the President be and is hereby authorised to certify the amended constitution and take necessary steps to register the amended constitution with the Registrar of Societies and take all further steps as may be necessary in this regard.

**RESOLVED FURTHER THAT** the President be and is hereby authorised to submit a copy of the updated Constitution of Gymnastics Federation of India to the Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports, Government of India, Indian Olympic Association, Federation of International Gymnastics, Asian Gymnastics Union and to any other authority as may be required.

**7. To transact any other business, notice of which has been given in writing by any voting member of the GFI at least 7 clear days prior to the meeting**

No notice was received within the given timeline for any other business or agenda and accordingly no other matter was taken up for discussion.

There being no other matter, the meeting concluded with a vote of thanks.

**Vote of Thanks**

President made Vote of Thanks for AGM. And once again he thanked, Mr. Kulwinder Singh Thiara, General Secretary, Punjab Gymnastics Association for the arrangements and for hosting this meeting. And he ended remarking that Federation shall always focus on the benefits/ interest of the gymnasts.

**Enclosures**

1. List of Members that attended the AGM
2. Amended Constitution of GFI