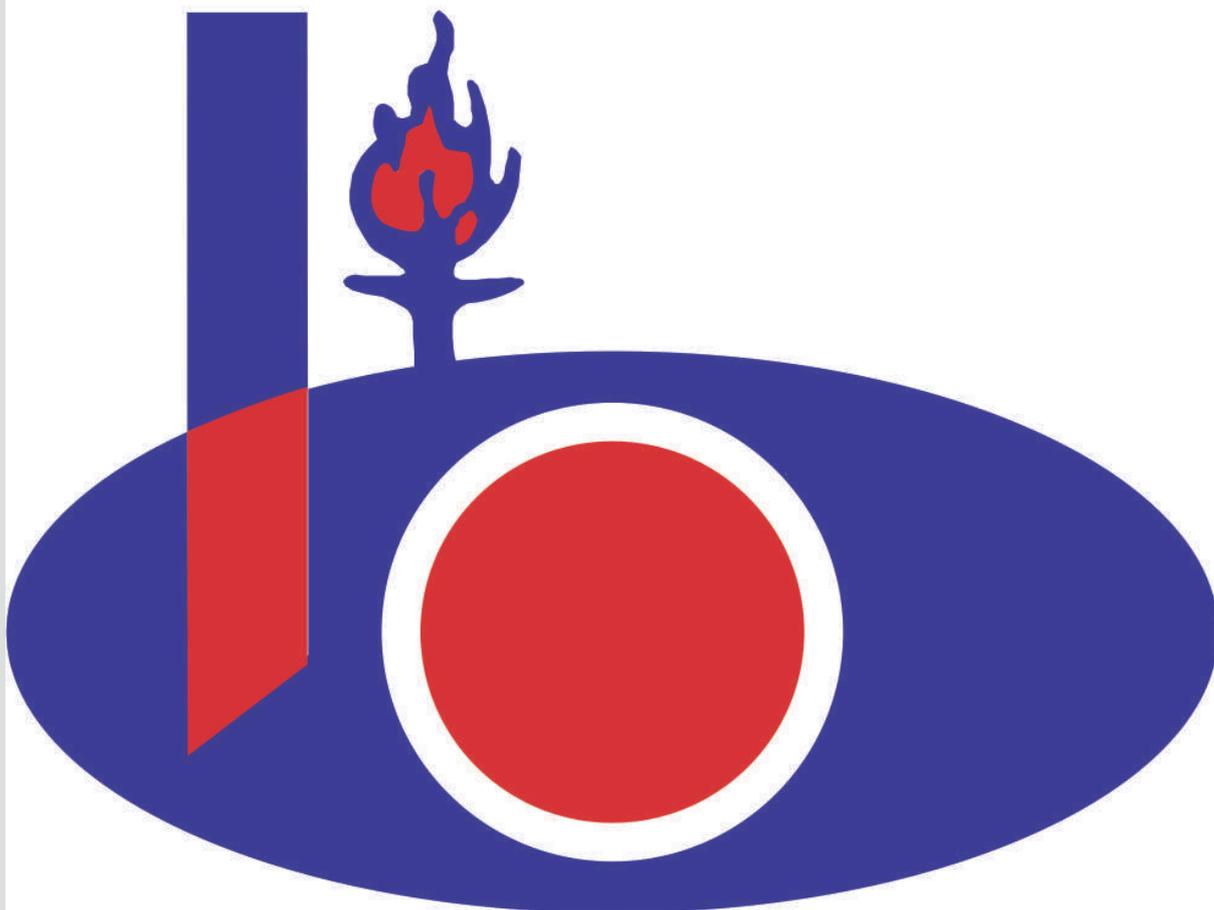


# ANNUAL REPORT

# IBSA



INDIAN BLIND SPORTS ASSOCIATION  
(IBSA)

2023-24

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# Introduction

Indian Blind Sports Association (IBSA) was founded in 1986 as an outcome of the pioneering initiatives taken by the Blind Relief Association, Delhi, to develop and promote sports for visually impaired youngsters. At present, IBSA has around 20 state bodies with 4 sports specific federations as its members. It is the sole Indian Affiliate of the International Blind Sports Federation, the apex sports organization for blind sports in the world. It is also affiliated with the Paralympic Committee of India.



# MEMBERSHIP & STATE FEDERATIONS

As of 31st March 2024, the Indian Blind Sports Association (IBSA) had a total of 268 members/affiliates spanning across 28 states and union territories in India.

IBSA continues to expand its reach year by year. This year, two new affiliates were granted provisional membership:

1. Cricket Association for the Blind of Maharashtra, Mumbai
2. Mizoram Blind Sports Association, Aizawl

In light of the election and formation of a new governing body in the Paralympic Committee of India (PCI), the IBSA Annual General Meeting (AGM) held on 12th March 2024 resolved to temporarily hold the acceptance of new memberships. All existing members and affiliates are expected to work collaboratively and adhere to the guidelines of PCI, ensuring that state bodies are structured in accordance with the National Sports Code 2012.

The following state federations have been identified to promote sports for the visually impaired within their respective states in coordination with IBSA:

1. Blind Sports Association, Vishakhapatnam, Andhra Pradesh
2. Institute for the Blind and Society for the Care of Blind, Chandigarh, Chandigarh
3. Para Sports Association of Gujarat, Ahmedabad, Gujarat
4. St Michael's School for the Blind, Ranchi, Jharkhand
5. Karnataka Federation for the Blind, Chikmagalur, Karnataka
6. Blind Sports Association, Bhopal, Madhya Pradesh
7. Mizoram Blind Sports Association, Aizawl, Mizoram
8. Punjab Sports Association for the Blind, Ludhiana, Punjab
9. Tamil Nadu Blind Sports Association, Madurai, Tamilnadu
10. Telangana Blind Sports Association, Hyderabad, Telangana
11. Uttar Pradesh Blind Sports Association, Lucknow, Uttar Pradesh

# Football Tournament

To foster inclusivity, a blind football match was organized on 24 June 2023 at Jayshree Periwal International School, Jaipur. This special event was co-organized by Scout Me and Indian Blind Football Federation along with partners such as the Rajasthan Football Association, Paralympic Committee India, Jayshree Periwal International School, and Indian Blind Sports Association.

The main purpose of the event was to highlight the incredible potential of visually impaired individuals and celebrate their exceptional abilities. The event aimed to break barriers and promote inclusivity and empowerment. It showcased the talents of visually impaired individuals through a friendly blind football match.

5 teams consisting of about 70 visually impaired students from different states of India, including Gujarat, Delhi and Uttarakhand (Dehradun) participated in the match. 15 students from Delhi went as spectators of the match and were accompanied by 8 mentors who guided and supported them throughout. The players were blindfolded and were given a special stat vest, exclusively tailored for the visually impaired, which captured their moves and highlighted their exceptional abilities.



# Panel Discussion

At the event organized by Scout me, a thought-provoking panel discussion brought together a distinguished group of 6 extraordinary individuals who are dedicated to promoting inclusivity and breaking barriers. The speakers were

1. Avani Lekhara, a Paralympian and rifle shooter ranked world number 1.
2. Pradeep Raj, president awardee and the founder of Wheelchair Cricket in Asia.
3. David Absalom, Indian Blind Sports Association's General Secretary
4. Manvendra Singh, president of Rajasthan Football Association
5. Khushi Shah, a national-level footballer, advocates for equality on the field and founder of SuratCityUnited
6. George Abraham, inspirational speaker and CEO of Score Foundation.



# World Games Birmingham

To mark the entry into the World Games 2023, a joint press conference was held by the Cricket Association for the Blind in India (CABI), Samarthanam Trust for the Disabled, and Indian Blind Sports Association (IBSA) on 7 August at the Press Club of India.

With former Indian cricketer Mohammad Kaif as the Chief Guest, the other members who made up the panel were Dr. Mahantesh G Kivadasannvar - Chairperson (CABI), Mr. Shailender Yadav - General Secretary (CABI), Mr. David Absalom - Hony. General Secretary (IBSA), and Mr. Munawar Anwar, General Secretary, Indian Blind and Para Judo Association.

Under the Indian Blind Sports Association, which is the largest national-level sports body devoted to the promotion of sports among the visually challenged in the country, IBSA's sports-specific federations would be participating in the World Games.

The teams' were-

- Judo - The Indian Blind and Para Judo Association
- Football - The Indian Blind Football Federation
- Powerlifting - IBSA

The Indian Blind Sports Association has collaborated with the Cricket Association for the Blind to send the men's and women's cricket teams to the World Games. This is the first time that cricket is introduced at the IBSA World Games.



# Medal for Kapil Parmar

In a ground-breaking achievement for Indian para-sports, Team Usha India has secured its first-ever medal in Judo at the ongoing 2023 IBSA World Games Birmingham organized by the International Blind Sports Federation (IBSA).

The prestigious event, which brings together over 1250 players and officials from 70 countries, has witnessed intense competition across various disciplines including powerlifting and football.

Indian contingent's moment of glory came in the 60 kg weight category, where Mr. Kapil Parmar showcased exceptional skill and determination. Hailing from Bhopal, Madhya Pradesh, Kapil Parmar is a product of rigorous training of the Indian Blind and Para Judo Association, where he has honed his skills under the guidance of the esteemed coach Mr. Munawar Anzar.



# Sight Classification

The Blind Relief Association hosted a sight classification event for para-swimmers on April 9, 2023. Participants from Maharashtra, Odisha, Kolkata, Gujarat, and Karnataka underwent classification during this event.

Following this, on May 28, 2023, a sight classification session for chess players was also conducted at the Blind Relief Association.

Additionally, on June 22, 2023, the International Blind Sports Association (IBSA) organized a sight classification event in collaboration with the Paralympic Committee of Bengal at Salt Lake, Kolkata. During this event, approximately 80 players were classified by the designated team.

These classification initiatives play a crucial role in ensuring fair competition and participation opportunities for visually impaired athletes across different sports.

Additionally, the team of the Indian Blind Sports Association (IBSA) successfully conducted sight classification tests for the following sports and athletes during the year:



S.n	Sports	Organization	Nos	Date
1.	Para Chess Tournament	PCI	15	May 2023
2.	Para Athletes Championship	Bengal Paralympic Association	77	Jun 2023
3.	Para Swimming Championship	PCI	33	Dec 2023
4.	Para Swimming Purple_Fest_Goa	PCI	45	Jan 2024
5.	Para Swimming Championship	PCI	17	Mar 2024

# Obituary & Acknowledgement

The Indian Blind Sports Association family is deeply grieved by the loss of Mr. K. S. Dhiman who passed away on 19 July 2023.

He was a member and was associated with IBSA for more than three decades. He was a very enthusiastic personality in the field of sports, and his contribution to IBSA was immense. His work is celebrated, and his presence is missed.



The Indian Blind Sports Association sincerely expresses its gratitude to its affiliates, members, and the following organizations for their unwavering support and contributions throughout the year. Their dedication has been instrumental in promoting and enhancing opportunities for blind sports in India.

- The Blind Relief Association
- International Blind Sports Federation
- Paralympic Committee of India
- Indian Blind and Para Judo Association
- Indian Blind Football Federation

We deeply appreciate their commitment and collaboration in fostering inclusivity and empowerment through sports.

# Let's Work Together



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