DECISION ON THE VOTING STATUS OF, AND OBJECTIONS CONCERNING, THE INDIAN FOOTBALL ASSOCIATION, WEST BENGAL (AIFF EC ELECTION, 20.12.2026)

Ref No:

ORDER

(24.11.2026)

The Draft Electoral College for the election to the Executive Committee of All India Football Federation (AIFF) was published on the website on 15.11.2026 and a window of 7 days was provided for sending objections to the same till 3:00 PM on 21.11.2026. The undersigned has received the representation and objections set out below concerning the Indian Football Association, West Bengal ("**IFA**"), whose voting status, the Draft Electoral College also records, has to be decided by the undersigned. The said question along with the objections regarding IFA are dealt with through this Order.

With regard to preparation of the Electoral College, the following provisions of the Constitution of AIFF ("**the Constitution**") along with its amendments and resolutions, the National Sports Governance (National Sports Bodies) Rules, 2026 ("**the NSBR**") and the National Sports Governance Act, 2025 ("**the Act**") are material:

NATIONAL SPORTS GOVERNANCE ACT, 2025

The only relevant provision in this regard is Section 4(2) of the Act. However, it is seen that Section 4(2) pertains to eligibility for contesting elections or seeking nominations. It does not apply to inclusion in electoral college. The opening line of Section 4(2) reads:

> "*(2) A person shall not be qualified to contest for election or seek nomination to, the Executive Committee, unless. ...*
>
> *...or to the Executive Committee after a mandatory cooling off period of one term*"

NATIONAL SPORTS GOVERNANCE (NATIONAL SPORTS BODIES) RULES, 2026

Rule 10(3) provides for who are the eligible voters are for the elections of EC and Rule 10(4) states that the Electoral College shall consist of only such members or their representatives that have voting rights as per Rule 10(3) and are not otherwise disqualified as per the provision of the Act or the NSBR. Relevant extract from Rule 10 reads as follows:

> ***10. Election to the Executive Committee. —***
>
> ...
>
> *(3) Members of the General Body of a National Sports Body other than the National Olympic Committee, as specified under sub-rule (1) of rule 7, shall be eligible to vote for the election to its Executive Committee as specified below, namely:-*
>
> *(a) every individual sportsperson of outstanding merit shall have one vote;*

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(b) every State level affiliate unit of the National Sports Body that is registered with the National Sports Board, shall have a maximum of two votes, to be exercised by separate individual representatives of such affiliate unit; and

(c) for any category of persons specified under clause (e) of sub-rule (1) of rule 7, one vote for each such person.

(4) The electoral roll for an election to the Executive Committee shall consist of only such members or their representatives in the General Body of the relevant National Sports Body that have voting rights as per subrule (2) or sub-rule (3), as the case may be, and are not otherwise disqualified under the provisions of the Act or these rules."

Further, Rule 10(5) provides that the draft electoral roll shall be prepared and released by the Electoral Officer, and its proviso states that

"Provided that the Electoral Officer's decision shall be final and binding in respect of the inclusion or non-inclusion, as the case may be, of any person on the electoral roll".

Rule 10(6) requires the Electoral Officer to provide at least seven days from the release of the draft electoral roll to receive and respond to any objections regarding the composition of the final electoral roll.

Further, Rule 11 outlines the disqualifications from being a member of the General Body, of AIFF ("**GB**") or of any committee of AIFF, which disqualifications are also attracted for contesting for election to the Executive Committee or the Athletes Committee of AIFF. The same reads as follows:

11. Disqualifications. *— (1) A person shall be disqualified from being a member of the General Body, or of any committee of a National Sports Body, and shall not be eligible for contesting for election to the Executive Committee or the Athletes Committee, if such person is-*

(a) declared insolvent under applicable law; or

(b) subject to a conviction by a court of competent jurisdiction in India for an offence, followed by a sentence of imprisonment; or

(c) subject to a ban from holding any such position by an order of the Ethics Committee of such National Sports Body:

Provided that the disqualification in respect of -

(i) clause (a) shall be for the period of insolvency as applicable;

(ii) clause (b) shall be for a period of one full term of the Executive Committee after the completion of such sentence; and

(iii) clause (c) shall be for the duration of such ban.

(2) The bye-laws of a National Sports Body may provide that, in addition to the criteria specified under sub-rule (1), a person shall be disqualified from -

(a) being a member of the General Body or of any committee of such National Sports Body, or shall not be eligible for contesting elections to the Executive Committee or the Athletes Committee, if such person is a member of any other National Sports Body other than the National Olympic Committee; and



(b) being a member of the General Body or of any committee of such National Sports Body, where such person has not completed the cooling off period of one term after having held the position of President, Secretary General or Treasurer in any other National Sports Body."

CONSTITUTION OF AIFF

Entitlement to vote.

As per Article 13.3(a) of the Constitution, every Member Association which is a Full Member is entitled to 2 votes in the elections of the EC of AIFF. The procedure for admission as Full Member is outlined in Schedule I of the AIFF Constitution. Article 4.1 of Schedule III provides that each State Association, which is a Full Member, shall have up to 2 votes, to be cast by separate individuals eligible to represent such Full Member.

Intimation, scrutiny and objections.

Article 4.2 of Schedule III provides that each Full Member shall intimate the names of its 2 representatives / delegates for inclusion in the Electoral College to the Electoral Officer on its letter head duly signed by its President / Secretary, as per the timelines prescribed by the Electoral Officer, and that such representatives shall not be subject to any Disqualification Event. Any change in the name of the representatives / delegates after the last date, or any intimation received thereafter, is permitted only with the approval of the Electoral Officer. Under Article 4.3 of Schedule III, the Electoral Officer scrutinizes the names, prepares the Electoral College List in Form 1, and takes up and decides objections within 7 days.

Loss of voting right.

As per Articles 17, 18 and other such provisions of the Constitution, the voting right of a Full Member extinguishes if its membership is suspended or it is expelled by AIFF. Under Article 17.1, the authority to suspend a member vests in the General Body (including where the Member has been derecognised or suspended under the NSGA), and the procedure under Article 17.3 has to be followed. Under Article 17.2, the Executive Committee may also suspend a member with immediate effect, which suspension lasts until the following General Body meeting unless lifted earlier. Article 17.4 provides:

"17.4 A suspended Member shall lose its membership rights. Other Members shall not entertain sporting contact with a suspended Member."

For expulsion, the detailed procedure under Article 18.2 has to be followed by AIFF. Article 17.6 also provides for loss of rights in the circumstances stated therein.

Disqualification of representatives.

Another bar for being a representative of a Full Member is laid down in Article 20.7, which in turn relies on the Disqualification Events defined in Article 1.17. This interpretation is

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supported when Article 20.7 is read with Article 1.11, the latter mandating that to be a candidate for elections of the EC of AIFF, the concerned individual must be a voting member of the General Body of AIFF. Of the Disqualification Events, the following are relevant to the objections:

"b) Attainment of the age of 70 (seventy) years; …

c) Conviction followed by a sentence of imprisonment; …

g) Being or becoming a minister or a government servant (unless such government servant has necessary approvals from the relevant government in order to not be considered disqualified);

h) Completion of the maximum term of office of any particular office-bearer as specified in Article 26.3, without serving the specified cooling-off period of 4 (four) years where applicable; …"

Article 26.3 provides that the President, Vice-Presidents and Treasurer of AIFF may continuously hold their positions for up to 3 consecutive terms and shall be eligible for re-election to such posts after having served a mandatory cooling-off period.

Disputes between rival groups.

Article 51.6 provides:

"51.6 In addition to the above, any dispute arising on account of claims by 2 (two) different executive/managing committees or sets of individuals claiming to be the duly elected committee representing the Member Association in a State, or of two different groups claiming to constitute the official Member Association of a State, such dispute shall be referred by the AIFF in the first instance for hearing and redressal by the NDRC. Till the time, the NDRC has not been constituted by AIFF, such disputes shall be referred to a sub-committee of the Executive Committee, which sub-committee shall not include any person from the State relating to which the dispute has arisen."

Articles 51.7 and 51.8 further empower the Executive Committee to derecognise or de-affiliate, and to appoint an ad hoc committee for a period not exceeding 6 months, while such a dispute is pending.

Twin test.

Thus, broadly, the twin test which needs to be applied is (i) whether a state association is a Full Member of AIFF or not, and (ii) whether the Full Member or its representatives are disqualified as per the Act, the NSBR, or the Constitution of AIFF. In applying this test, the following principles are kept in mind:

a. A Full Member's voting right is lost only on suspension or expulsion in accordance with Articles 17 and 18, or by an operative order of a competent court. The pendency of litigation, without such an order, does not by itself suspend or extinguish it. While a Member remains suspended, it does not have a voting right.

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b. Disqualification Events attach to individuals. They do not take away the status or the votes of the Member Association.

c. The task of the Electoral Officer under Rule 10 and Article 4 of Schedule III is confined to preparing the roll and deciding objections to it. The Electoral Officer does not adjudicate the validity of elections of a Member Association, its internal governance, the validity of its suspension, or disputes between rival groups, which are for the competent forum or, under Article 51.6, for AIFF to refer to the NDRC. Likewise, whether the governing body of a Member Association has been elected or appointed in compliance with Article 15.7, and is to be recognised, is a matter of recognition by AIFF and not one for the Electoral Officer while preparing the roll.

d. Where a Full Member is entitled to vote, exclusion of both its representatives would leave a State or Union Territory without representation, which is contrary to the objective of preserving broad-based and democratic representation in the electoral process.

e. Every decision is subject to any order that may be passed by a competent court or forum.

f. Under Article 4.2 of Schedule III, read with Circular No. 1 (Ref. No. 2/EC/Election/2026/1) dated 06.11.2026, the names of representatives are to be intimated on the letterhead of the Full Member signed by its President / Secretary by 6:00 PM on 13.11.2026. Where separate or conflicting nominations are received from the same Member Association, the names nominated by its President prevail. An intimation received after that time, or a change in the names, is permitted only with the approval of the Electoral Officer, which is exercised case by case so as to secure broad-based representation of the Full Members.

g. Every representative must be free of any Disqualification Event on the date of the election. The undersigned verifies this, including the age of each representative under Article 1.17(b), from the Government-issued photo identity documents furnished with the nomination.

Further, the draft Minutes of the Special General Body Meeting of AIFF held on 01.11.2026 ("**SGBM**"), which the undersigned is informed are yet to be approved, record that the House deliberated upon the challenges faced by certain Member Associations in completing their constitutional alignment and electoral processes within the stipulated timelines, recalling the general sense of the House in the SGM held on 23rd May 2026 in Kolkata that Member Associations facing genuine difficulties should not be penalised. The draft Minutes further record that Mr. Praful Patel, Mr. N.A. Haris and Mr. B.S. Mehra pointed out that, since the AIFF election process was underway and an independent Electoral Officer had been appointed for the AIFF Elections, any decision regarding eligibility for inclusion in the Electoral College rests strictly with the Electoral Officer. These draft Minutes are referred to only as recording the understanding of the House. The power of the undersigned to decide the inclusion or non-inclusion of any person in the Electoral College flows from Rule 10(5) of the NSBR and Article 4.3 of Schedule III, and not from those Minutes. A resolution or observation of a general meeting, whether approved or not, neither confers nor takes away the

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voting right of any Member, which can be lost only in the manner provided in Articles 17 and 18 of the Constitution.

DECISION

With regard to the inclusion of IFA and its representatives, the following objections were received by the undersigned:

a. **Representation dt. 07.11.2026 from IFA (received by e-mail on 08.11.2026):**

- This representation seeks that IFA, a Full Member of AIFF, be allowed to vote and participate in the AIFF Executive Committee elections 2026.
- On receiving this representation, the undersigned asked AIFF for its comments, which were submitted by AIFF on 21.11.2026. The comments read as follows:

> *"**1. Chronology of Circulars and Timelines Issued by AIFF:** Following the enactment of the National Sports Governance Act, 2025 ("NSGA") and the notification of the National Sports Governance (National Sports Bodies) Rules, 2026 ("NSG Rules") on 12th January 2026, AIFF issued Circular No. 06 dated 6th February 2026, which informed all Member Associations of the new statutory framework and annexed the advisory dated 22nd December 2025 of the Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports ("MYAS") on deferment of elections. Subsequently, vide Circular No. 13 dated 3rd April 2026, AIFF informed all Member Associations that, to remain in good standing and exercise their voting rights in the forthcoming AIFF elections, they were required to align their governing documents with the NSGA, the NSG Rules and the directions of the Hon'ble Supreme Court of India in All India Football Federation v. Rahul Mehra & Ors. Further, vide Circular No. 18 dated 18th May 2026, AIFF issued a guidance setting out the governance requirements for Member Associations, including the timelines under Rules 5(2) and 6(1) of the NSG Rules for inviting applications for Sportspersons of Outstanding Merit ("SOM") (60-day window) and for finalising the roster of SOM at least 90 days prior to the expiry of the term of the Executive Committee (Appendix E thereto). Thereafter, AIFF issued Circular No. 30 dated 29th June 2026, specifying that Member Associations whose elections were due on or before December 2026 were required to complete their constitutional amendments and conduct their elections on or before 20th October 2026. In AIFF's special general body meeting held on 4th October 2026, the house resolved that the time for completion of elections of the Member Associations shall be extended until 4th November 2026.*
>
> *Subsequent to such advisories issued by the AIFF to its Member Associations, the following Member Associations that had elections due, issued notifications for elections on or before 4th November 2026, completed their election process, or are in the process of completing the election process:*

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[...] 18. Indian Football Association – Election Due.

On 1st November 2026, the AIFF special general body meeting was held by digital means. During this meeting, the representative of IFA sought clarity on whether IFA will be allowed to be a part of the electoral college for the elections to the Executive Committee of the AIFF. The representative further clarified that a notification for election was issued to conduct elections to the executive committee of the IFA. However, the representative of IFA stated that electoral officer stayed the election process in West Bengal due to the state players association, not having been formed, and that such process takes sixty (60) days. The state players association represents the athletes commission for each Member Association. The state players association is an organ of each Member Association and not an independent legal body to be registered with any statutory or regulatory authority. For instance, the AIFF National Player's Association which represents the athletes commission for AIFF was constituted by way of a notice dated 16th October 2026, and players were given a deadline of 31st October 2026, to submit applications to be a part of the AIFF National Player's Association.

***2. Statutory and Constitutional Position:** Under Section 15 of the NSGA, Article 15.1 of the AIFF Constitution and the directions of the Hon'ble Supreme Court in All India Football Federation v. Rahul Mehra & Ors., AIFF is required to ensure that its voting members conform to the prevailing statutory governance framework. The one-time transitional deferment of elections permitted by MYAS vide letter dated 22nd December 2025 is capped up to 31st December 2026.*

***3. Objection relating to office-bearers:** Further, the objection relates to certain people holding office that is not in accordance with the constitution of the IFA and seeks AIFF's investigation into governance matters in relation to the state of West Bengal itself. Such matters and the validity of communication issued by such people are to be taken up in accordance with the constitution of the IFA and are not matters concerned with whether IFA should remain on the electoral roll or not.*

- It is noted that admittedly, IFA is a Full Member of AIFF and hence, as per Article 13.3(a) of the Constitution and Article 4.1 of Schedule III, it is entitled to 2 votes. No suspension under Article 17.3 or expulsion under Article 18.2 of the Constitution has been placed on record, and AIFF has not stated that IFA stands suspended or that its voting right has been withdrawn. The circulars and the resolution of the special general body meeting of 04.10.2026 referred to by AIFF, requiring Member Associations to align their documents and complete their elections, do not themselves provide for any suspension of a Member under Article 17 or for loss of its voting right. The undersigned has also not found any provision in the Constitution which provides that a Full Member whose election is due or yet to be completed ceases to be entitled to vote or to constitute a part of the Electoral College. Therefore, IFA shall continue in the Electoral College with 2 votes.



- The undersigned has also considered the grounds that may be urged for denying IFA a vote, namely: (i) that under Article 15.7 of the Constitution, bodies not elected in compliance with it are not to be recognised and their decisions are void, so that, the term of the Executive Committee of IFA having expired on 20.06.2026, its nomination of delegates after the extended deadline of 04.11.2026 has no standing; (ii) that Rule 9 of the NSBR requires elections at least once every four years and Article 15.1 of the Constitution requires Member Associations to align with the Constitution and the Act, so that allowing a unit whose term has expired to vote would defeat the scheme of the Act, IFA having failed to complete its elections despite the extensions to 20.10.2026 and 04.11.2026; and (iii) that accepting nominations from a committee whose term has expired may expose the Electoral College, and the election of 20.12.2026, to challenge.

- As to (i), Article 15.7 provides that bodies of a Member Association "that have not been elected or appointed in compliance with the provisions of this Article, even on an interim basis, shall not be recognised by the AIFF" and that their decisions "will not be recognised by the AIFF". The Executive Committee of IFA was elected; the complaint is not that it was never elected but that its term has run out and its successor has not yet been elected. Whether such a committee is to continue to be recognised is, under Article 15.7 itself, a matter for AIFF. AIFF has neither withdrawn its recognition of the committee nor appointed an ad hoc committee under Article 51.8; on the contrary, its comments treat IFA as a Member whose election is due. The undersigned therefore cannot treat the nomination made on behalf of IFA as void on this ground.

- As to (ii), Rule 9 of the NSBR governs the election to the Executive Committee of the National Sports Body itself, that is, AIFF, and not the internal elections of its State units. Article 15.1 requires Member Associations to frame their constitutions in accordance with the Constitution and the Act and to have them verified by AIFF; it does not provide that a Member loses its vote if it fails to complete its election within a given time. The deadlines of 20.10.2026 and 04.11.2026 were fixed by circular and by the resolution of the special general body meeting held on 04.10.2026, and neither states that a Member which misses them shall lose its vote. A voting right under Article 13.3(a) cannot be taken away by a circular or by a resolution of a special general meeting extending time; it is lost only by suspension or expulsion after following the procedure prescribed in Articles 17.3 and 18.2, which has not been done. Article 13.5, which makes the rights of Members subject to the Constitution and the Regulations, does not supply that consequence either.

- As to (iii), the validity of the Electoral College is secured by deciding the claims and objections in accordance with the Constitution, the Act and the NSBR, and not by excluding a Full Member on a ground for which none of them provides. An exclusion without such a basis would itself be open to challenge.

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- The undersigned has also kept in view that the elections of IFA were delayed in the course of aligning its constitution with the new Constitution of AIFF and the Act, an exercise for which the elections of AIFF itself were deferred, and that AIFF itself recorded at the special general body meeting of 01.11.2026 that the election process of IFA had been stayed by its Electoral Officer pending the formation of the State players' association. It has also been suggested that, under the West Bengal Societies Registration Act, 1961, the outgoing committee of a society continues in a caretaker capacity until its successor is elected. The undersigned does not rest this decision on these considerations, and it is not necessary to decide the effect of that Act, which is a matter for the competent forum; they are noted only as showing that the delay has not been shown to be wilful. The decision rests on the absence of any suspension, expulsion or other operative bar to the voting right of IFA.

- Accordingly, this representation of IFA for its inclusion stands disposed off as **allowed**.

b. Objection dt. 12.11.2026 from Chandney Sporting Club (Sk. Nazrul Islam, General Secretary):

- This representation, made in continuation of a letter dated 05.11.2026 addressed to AIFF (which has not been placed before the undersigned, but whose relevant contents, particularly as regards Shri Subrata Dutta, are restated in this representation), states that persons who hold no recognised post under the new Constitution of IFA adopted on 24.10.2026 (described as Assistant Joint Secretaries) continue to act on behalf of IFA, that Shri Subrata Dutta, the former Chairman of IFA, is undergoing a mandatory cooling-off period under the Act and yet attended the AIFF Special General Meeting of 01.11.2026 as a representative of IFA, and that certain office-bearers are above the age limit. The objector calls upon AIFF to issue directions to IFA in respect of the aforesaid persons, to furnish a list of its office-bearers with their dates of birth, to verify the cooling-off status of Shri Subrata Dutta and ensure that he does not represent or vote for IFA, and to initiate an inquiry.

- As regards the matters relating to office-bearers of IFA, the undersigned agrees with the comments supplied by AIFF that the issues of internal governance of IFA cannot be looked into by the Electoral Officer.

- As regards Mr. Subrata Dutta, the Disqualification Event in Article 1.17(h) of the Constitution is the completion of the maximum term of office of an office-bearer as specified in Article 26.3, without serving the specified cooling-off period. Article 26.3 relates to the President, Vice-Presidents and Treasurer of AIFF. As noted by AIFF, the cooling-off period restricts a person from contesting for election to the office and does not bar the person from being a nominated representative of a Full Member, unless a Disqualification Event has occurred. No Disqualification Event in relation to Mr. Subrata Dutta has been brought to the notice of the undersigned except Article 1.17(h) read with Article 26.3, which as has been found above, only refers to holding of posts in AIFF.

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- It is also noted that, if IFA is not included, there will be no representation in the elections from the State of West Bengal. Such an outcome cannot be countenanced, as it would be contrary to the overarching objective of preserving broad-based and democratic representation in the electoral process and would result in the complete disenfranchisement of the State of West Bengal in the governance of AIFF.

- The names of its representatives shall be subject to scrutiny under Article 4.3 of Schedule III, and this decision is subject to any order that may be passed by a competent court or forum.

- For the reasons recorded in respect of the representation dt. 07.11.2026 from IFA, the posts held or the designations used by persons acting for IFA and the age of its office-bearers pertain to the internal governance of IFA and do not decide whether IFA is to remain in the Electoral College. As regards Shri Subrata Dutta, the cooling-off period does not bar a person from being a nominated representative of a Full Member unless a Disqualification Event has occurred, and no Disqualification Event has been shown in respect of the persons at Sl. Nos. 61 and 62. As regards age, the objector has not named any office-bearer who has attained the age of 70 years. However, since attainment of the age of 70 years is itself a Disqualification Event under Article 1.17(b) of the Constitution, the undersigned shall verify the age of Shri Anirban Dutta and Shri Subrata Dutta from the Government-issued photo identity documents furnished with their nomination. If either of them has attained the age of 70 years, his name shall stand excluded, and IFA may intimate another name through its President / Secretary with the approval of the undersigned under Article 4.2 of Schedule III. The prayers for directions to IFA, for a list of its office-bearers and for an inquiry are not matters for the Electoral Officer in the preparation of the Electoral College.

- Accordingly, this objection stands disposed off as **rejected**.

c. Objection dt. 13.11.2026 from Chandney Sporting Club (Sk. Nazrul Islam, General Secretary):

- This objection challenges the authorisation of Shri Anirban Dutta and Shri Subrata Dutta (Sl. Nos. 61 and 62) as representatives of IFA on the grounds that (i) IFA has not convened its Annual General Meeting for 2025-26 and therefore there is no resolution of the General Body authorising any person to represent IFA before AIFF; (ii) the election for office-bearers of IFA scheduled for 14.11.2026 was cancelled by the Electoral Officer of IFA, Shri Debasis Sen, IAS (Retd.); (iii) the term of the outgoing office-bearers has expired and the outgoing committee is functus officio; and (iv) the names were forwarded without any meeting of the Executive Committee or any resolution. The objector seeks that the authorisation be declared null and void, that the names of the two persons be excluded from the electoral roll, that IFA be directed to produce the minutes and the resolution under which the authorisation was made, and that the two persons be prohibited from voting or representing IFA.



- As recorded above, IFA is a Full Member entitled to 2 votes, and the Constitution does not provide that a Full Member loses its voting right or its place in the Electoral College because its Annual General Meeting has not been held, the term of its office-bearers has expired, or its election has been postponed or cancelled. The authority of the General Body or the Executive Committee of IFA to authorise its representatives and the validity of the steps taken by IFA are matters of its internal governance. The names at Sl. Nos. 61 and 62 remain subject to scrutiny under Article 4.3 of Schedule III, and the prayer for their exclusion is not accepted.

- Accordingly, this objection stands disposed off as **rejected**.

d. Objection dt. 14.11.2026 from Taltala Ekata Club (Mr. Tarun Neyogi, Honorary Secretary):

- This objection, received by e-mail on 17.11.2026, states that the names of Shri Anirban Dutta and Shri Subrata Dutta have been forwarded to AIFF without any meeting of a competent body or any resolution; that the lawful term of the outgoing committee of IFA expired on 20.06.2026 and its elections notified for 14.11.2026 were cancelled; that Shri Subrata Dutta is within a statutory cooling-off period and continues to be designated "Chairman", a post which does not exist under the new Constitution of IFA; that the two persons are cousins; and that Schedule III of the Constitution of AIFF contains a proviso to the following effect:

  "Provided that for those Full Members of AIFF where the incumbent governing body has completed its tenure but where elections have not been conducted and concluded before the AIFF elections, such Full Members shall render themselves ineligible to constitute a part of the electoral college for the AIFF elections, or to nominate any candidate(s) for the same."

- The objector seeks that the nomination of the two persons be rejected, that their names be excluded from the electoral roll, that IFA be directed to produce the resolution, notice, agenda, attendance sheet and minutes of the meeting by which they were authorised, that voting on behalf of IFA be prohibited until a lawfully elected body authorises its representatives, that IFA be directed to hold elections, and that a personal hearing be granted.

- For the reasons recorded above, the term of the outgoing committee, the cancellation of the election, the designation of Shri Subrata Dutta as "Chairman" and the authority under which the names were forwarded pertain to the internal governance of IFA. Neither the cooling-off period nor the relationship between the two persons is a ground for exclusion, no Disqualification Event having been shown. The undersigned has not found the quoted proviso in Schedule III of the Constitution; Articles 4.1 to 4.3 of Schedule III contain no such provision, and a Full Member loses its voting right only in accordance with Articles 17 and 18. The names remain subject to scrutiny under Article 4.3 of Schedule III.



- Accordingly, this objection stands disposed off as **rejected**.

e. **Objection dt. 16.11.2026 from Chandney Sporting Club (through Ms. Sulekha Biswas, Advocate):**

- This legal notice states that the names of Shri Anirban Dutta and Shri Subrata Dutta were forwarded to AIFF by Shri Anirban Dutta, the Honorary Secretary of IFA, himself, in an act of self-nomination; that under Article 29.7 of the new Constitution of IFA adopted on 24.10.2026 the power to appoint delegates to AIFF vests exclusively in the Executive Committee; that "Article 4.4 of Schedule III" of the Constitution of AIFF requires every authorisation of a delegate to identify the specific meeting resolution or competent authority; and that Rule 10(4) of the NSBR permits inclusion in the electoral roll only of representatives who have been validly nominated. The objector calls upon the undersigned to direct IFA to furnish a certified copy of the resolution, the notice, the agenda and the signed minutes under which the two persons were authorised, and to reject their nomination.

- Article 4.2 of Schedule III requires the names to be intimated on the letterhead of the Full Member signed by its President / Secretary and does not bar a Secretary from being one of the representatives. Article 29.7 of the Constitution of IFA concerns its internal governance, and there is no Article 4.4 in Schedule III of the Constitution of AIFF. Rule 10(4) of the NSBR requires only that the representative belongs to a member with voting rights and is not otherwise disqualified, which has not been shown. The names remain subject to scrutiny under Article 4.3 of Schedule III, and the prayer for rejection of the nomination is not accepted.

- Accordingly, this objection stands disposed off as **rejected**.

Electoral Officer

All India Football Federation

24/11/2026

Place: New Delhi

Date: 24.11.2026

Electoral Officer
All India Football Federation