

Circular No. 24/02-2026  
February 27, 2026

**To,  
All Affiliated Units-AFI  
and  
Individual Athletes meeting criteria for selection**

**Subject:- Participation of Ultra Runners in the 24 HOUR IAU ASIA OCEANIA CHAMPIONSHIPS 23rd & 24th MAY 2026 – HIROSAKI, JAPAN**

The AFI proposes to send a team comprising up to 6 men and 6 women meeting the qualification standards set by AFI for the 24-Hour IAU ASIA OCEANIA Championships to be held from 23-24 May 2026 at HIROSAKI, JAPAN. The detailed guidelines/instructions/eligibility criteria for selection and participation of ultra runners are placed as Annexure 'A' to this letter. Interested Ultra Runners, meeting the selection criteria, **may apply online through the link which will be available on the AFI website from 28<sup>th</sup> FEBRUARY 2026 to 5<sup>th</sup> MARCH 2026 (1700 hrs IST)**. Requests to accept applications beyond the stipulated date and time will not be entertained. The details required to be filled in the online form are placed as Annexure 'B' of this letter.

**AFI is only facilitating the participation** of Indian Ultra Runners who meet **the** qualification standard. The participation is **Athlete Funded** and **selected athletes will have to bear all expenses** of training, travel, boarding and lodging, and any other related expenses.

Regards



G. Srinibas Patnaik  
Officiating Secretary  
Athletics Federation of India

**24 HOUR IAU ASIA OCEANIA CHAMPIONSHIPS**  
**23 - 24 MAY 2026 – HIROSAKI, JAPAN**

**INVITATION OF APPLICATIONS**

**Introduction**

1. ‘2026 IAU 24 Hour ASIA OCEANIA Championships’, is to be held on 23rd – 24th May 2026 at HIROSAKI, JAPAN. This is an International Association of Ultrarunners (IAU) Competition.

**The Course**

2. The course will be a standard 1-2km route with a combination of 400 m stadium track and a road.

**Sélection Critéria**

3. **Race Specific Benchmark** - The race specific benchmark and qualifying period mentioned therein is as given in the table below:

	<b>Race</b>	<b>Gender</b>	<b>Specific Benchmark</b>	<b>Qualifying Period</b>
(a)	24 Hour Race	M	230 Km	05 April 2024 to 31 January 2026
(b)	24 Hour Race	F	190 Km	05 April 2024 to 31 January 2026

4. **Sélection Process**

- (a) Only Indian Citizens will be considered and the athlete must be holding a valid Indian passport.
- (b) Qualifying period. As specified in the table above at para 3.

(c) Race Results. The results of the races run by the athlete must be available on the website of the organizer as on the date of submission of the application. Results, which are made available after the last date for submission of the application, may not be considered.

(d) Proof of Fitness. The athlete must have run a 12 hour or 100 Km any time from 01 June 2025 to 31 January 2026. If the Race Specific Benchmark has been achieved more than five months before the last date of submission of application i.e. 31 January 2026, the athletes will be required to provide a proof of fitness. If not available, the athlete may not be considered for the selection process solely on the basis of having met the Race Specific Benchmarks and Qualifying Period. Races and timings / distances which will be considered as proof of fitness are as given next:

- (i) 100 Km Race : Men 9 h; Women 12 h
- (ii) 12 Hour Race : Men 125 Km; Women 100 Km

(e) Team Composition. Up to 06 Men and 06 Women, meeting the standards set by AFI could be selected to represent India.

(f) Selection Trials. No selection trials are envisaged for the Championships. However, if there is a tie between athletes meeting the criteria, the selection of the athlete would be solely at the discretion of the selection committee.

5. **Participation in races after selection.** Once selected for the races mentioned in this document, the restrictions given below will be applicable. Athletes are not permitted to participate in races/sporting tournaments without explicit permission of the selection committee.

- (a) less than 02 months from the date of Championships races longer than 12 hours /100 km are not permitted.
- (b) less than 01 month from date of Championships, races longer than 21 k are not permitted.
- (c) less than 15 days from date of Championships, racing / participation in any sporting event is not permitted.

6. **Expenditure for participation.** The Championships is an athlete funded event. All expenditure towards the participation is to be borne by individual athletes. If the Championship attracts a sponsor, in which the travel and accommodation is either fully or partly paid by the sponsor, then the athlete would be required to abide by certain conditions laid down by the AFI to meet the requirements of the sponsor. Details would be intimated at the appropriate stage.

7. **Announcement of Results.** Selected athletes will be intimated by e-mail and result of the selection will be posted on the official website of AFI- [www.indianathletics.in](http://www.indianathletics.in) by 5<sup>th</sup> March 2026.

8. **Training Camp** All athletes will need to attend a training camp of 15 days or more duration as intimated by AFI at the appropriate time before the championships

9. **Additional Information.**

(a) The AFI Ultra Running Committee may be contacted at [ultramarathon@indianathletics.in](mailto:ultramarathon@indianathletics.in)

(b) **Training.** Athletes selected will be responsible for their own training under the guidance of Ultra-Running Committee of AFI.

(c) **Injuries sustained prior to the Championships.** If a selected athlete gets injured during the preparation before the event, and his participation in the event is at risk, he / she must inform the Ultra-Running Committee of the AFI at the earliest.

**IMPORTANT DATES**

S No.	ACTIVITY	DATE and TIME
1	Online Application on AFI Website	28 <sup>th</sup> February 2026
2.	Cut off date and time to receive completed online Application Forms	5 <sup>th</sup> March 2026 (1700 h)
3	Announcement of Selection Results	7 <sup>th</sup> March 2026
4.	Payment for Accommodation and miscellaneous expenditure.	Will be intimated later
5.	Arrival at HIROSAKI, JAPAN	Will be intimated later
6.	IAU 24 Hour ASIA OCEANIA Championships	23rd to 24th May 2026

**DETAILS REQUIRED FOR THE ONLINE FORM**

1.	Full Name of the Applicant (as per passport)	
2.	Date of Birth (DD/MM/YYYY)	
3.	Gender	
5.	Nationality	
6.	Do you hold an Indian Passport (Please upload the first and last page of the passport scanned / jpeg file)	Link for uploading passport details will be given here
7	Passport Number	
8	Date of Expiry	
9	Address (As per Passport)	
10	Current Address	
11	Cell Phone Number	

12	E – Mail Id	
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13.	Qualifying race done between 05 April 2024 to 31 January 2026	24 Hour	Please mention the distance achieved	Link for uploading passport details will be given here
14.	Proof of Fitness. Details of Ultra Races Run during the Period from 01 June 2025 to 31 January 2026	Drop Down Menu . Please Select 24 Hour / 12 Hour / 100 km	Please mention the distance / time achieved	Link for uploading passport details will be given here

15.	UNDERTAKING BY ATHLETE	1. If selected, I understand I may be required to bear all expenses towards my participation in the event.
		2. If I am unable to bear my expenses, I will not claim as my right nor will I insist that AFI should bear my expenses.
		3. I undertake to make necessary arrangements for my travel to Chinese Taipei.
		4. If I am injured prior to the event I shall inform the AFI Ultra Running Committee immediately.
		5. Once selected, I undertake not to participate in a race / event without the permission of the Selection Committee, whose decision will be final. I also understand by doing so, I could be dropped from the team.

		<p>6. I will abide by the directions of the AFI Ultra Running Committee with regards to all activities involving my participation in the event.</p>	
		<p>7. If the Championship attracts a sponsor, in which the travel and accommodation is either fully or partly paid by the sponsor, then I agree to abide by certain conditions laid down by the AFI to meet the requirements of the sponsor.</p>	
	<p>Please select the Agree or Disagree button.</p>		