



BRIDGE FEDERATION OF INDIA

ANNUAL REPORT 2025–26
(April'25 – March'26)

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Brief Summary of BFI Journey:

Dear All Members and Players,

It gives me immense pleasure to present the Annual Report of the Bridge Federation of India for the year **2025–26**. The past year has been one of steady progress for Indian bridge, marked by encouraging international performances, an active domestic calendar and several important initiatives aimed at strengthening the future of our sport.

During the year, the Indian contingent performed commendably at the **Bridge Federation of Asia and Middle East (BFAME) Championships** held in Dubai, winning **three Gold Medals and one Silver Medal**. I congratulate all the players, coaches and officials whose dedication and teamwork contributed to this achievement.

Another proud moment for Indian bridge came at the **19th World Youth Bridge Championships, Salsomaggiore Italy**, where our Junior Team secured a **Bronze Medal**. This achievement reflects the Federation's continued emphasis on junior development through coaching camps, structured training and international exposure.

The Federation successfully conducted National Championships, Ranking Events and recognised tournaments across the country during the year. The increasing participation in domestic competitions, particularly among women and young players, is an encouraging sign for the future of Indian bridge. Coaching and selection camps for the Men, Women, Mixed, Seniors and Junior categories were organised to ensure systematic preparation of our national teams.

I am also pleased to inform that the Federation's bridge education initiatives continue to expand across the country. Dedicated training centres have now been established at the **Delhi Bridge Association**, in **Kolkata** under the aegis of the **Corporate Bridge Association of India**, and in several other States including **Karnataka, Tamil Nadu, Gujarat and Maharashtra**. These centres will play a significant role in strengthening bridge education, creating greater awareness of the game and supporting the Federation's long-term grassroots development programme across India.

I express my sincere gratitude to **Ms. Kavita Singhanian** and her team for their continued support in expanding bridge activities in Chennai and for providing regular, well-organised, high-quality tournaments with attractive prize money for men and women players. I also place on record my deep appreciation to **Ms. Kiran Nadar, Mr. H. M. Bangur, Mr. Atul Ruia**, and all our patrons and supporters for their continued encouragement towards the growth of Indian bridge.

Looking ahead, the Bridge Federation of India is committed to significantly strengthening the sport through **Grassroots Development and Capacity Building Programmes**, with the support of the **Sports Authority of India**. Beginning this year, BFI will launch a nationwide Grassroots Development Programme aimed at introducing bridge to newcomers and providing structured coaching for beginners through live coaching camps across the country. I request all our affiliated State Associations and their office bearers to actively support this dream project by identifying participants and facilitating its implementation in their respective States.

Our Hon'ble President, **Mr. Prasad Keni**, has envisioned **Mission Million**, an ambitious initiative to make bridge accessible to every section of society thereby spreading awareness of bridge as well as maintaining a dedicated system for tracking the progress of new players of bridge progress for newcomers. Through online registration and structured teaching based on the educational modules of the **World Bridge Federation**, the Federation aims to establish a nationwide learning network and spread bridge Salsomaggiore e awareness across all age groups.

Alongside this initiative, the Federation will implement a comprehensive **Capacity Building Programme** to develop more coaches, tournament directors, technical officials and bridge administrators. Structured certification and diploma courses at different levels will be introduced, and I seek the active support of all State Associations in identifying suitable candidates to participate in these programmes.

Alongside our achievements, we remember with deep sorrow the distinguished members of our bridge fraternity who passed away during the year. We were deeply shocked by the untimely demise of **Mr. Abhijit Chakraborty**, a promising star of Indian bridge. We also fondly remember **Mr. Sunil Varghese**, veteran bridge administrator and coach; **Mrs. Bimal Sicka**, one of India's senior-most women bridge players; **Mr. Ravi Raman**, whose Bridge Pathshala Academy trained numerous bridge enthusiasts, particularly during the COVID period; **Mr. Ian Albuquerque**, one of our oldest and most respected players; and **Mr. Finton Lewis**, Commonwealth Bridge Championships Gold Medallist and former Indian international who represented India at the Asian Games. We also pay tribute to all other players, officials, patrons and supporters of Indian bridge whose contributions will always be remembered with gratitude.

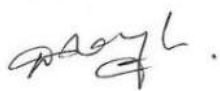
A major upcoming highlight this year was the successful hosting of the **5th Asia Cup Bridge Championships** from **21st to 27th June 2026** in Goa. The championship brought together **more than fourteen countries**, and for the first time India fielded **two teams in every category**, reflecting the growing depth of Indian bridge. The successful conduct of this prestigious championship has further enhanced India's reputation as a capable host of major international bridge events.

As we move forward, our focus remains on expanding the reach of bridge, strengthening grassroots participation, developing future champions and enhancing technical excellence. With the continued support of the Ministry of Youth Affairs & Sports, the Sports Authority of India, our sponsors, State Associations and the entire bridge fraternity, I am confident that Indian bridge will continue to achieve greater success in the years ahead.

I express my sincere gratitude to our Hon'ble President **Mr. Prasad Keni**, the Executive Committee, Technical Committee, Tournament Directors, coaches, volunteers, State Associations and every member of the Bridge Federation of India for their unwavering support and commitment.

Together, let us continue to build a stronger future for Indian bridge.

With Best regards,



Debasish Ray
(Hon. Secretary)
31st March, 2026



Indian Performance at International Level:



23rd Bridge Federation of Asia & Middle East Championships:

The **23rd Bridge Federation of Asia & Middle East (BFAME) Championships** were held at the **Media Rotana Hotel, Dubai, UAE, from 10–18 April 2025**. India produced one of its finest performances in the history of the championship, capturing **three Gold Medals and one Silver Medal**, with all four Indian teams qualifying for the **47th World Bridge Team Championships** in Herning, Denmark.

The Indian teams dominated the championship throughout the round-robin and knockout stages, consistently finishing amongst the top-ranked teams in every category before advancing to the finals. In the final round of the **23rd Bridge Federation of Asia & Middle East (BFAME) Championships 2025**, the Indian teams delivered an outstanding performance, winning **three of the four championship titles**.

The **Open Team** defeated **Bangladesh** by **104.5–51 IMPs**, securing the title with a convincing **53.5 IMP** margin. The **Women's Team** produced the most dominant performance of the finals, overwhelming **Pakistan** by **116.5–37 IMPs** to claim the championship with an impressive **79.5 IMP** victory. The **Senior Team** also displayed complete superiority, defeating **Bangladesh** by **81.5–19 IMPs**, winning the title by **62.5 IMPs**.

The **Mixed Team** put up a spirited fight against the host nation **UAE** in the final but finished runners-up, losing **71–96.5 IMPs** by **25.5 IMPs** and earning the **Silver Medal**.

Final Results

Event	Result
Open Teams	🥇 Gold – India
Women's Teams	🥇 Gold – India
Seniors Teams	🥇 Gold – India
Mixed Teams	🥈 Silver – India

54th Asia Pacific Bridge Federation (APBF) Championships 2025



The Bridge Federation of India participated in the **54th Asia Pacific Bridge Federation (APBF) Championships** held in Hefei, China, from **17 to 25 May 2025**. India fielded a team in the **Open Teams (Rebullida Cup)**, the premier event of the championship, which attracted **13 leading bridge-playing nations** from the Asia-Pacific region.

The Indian team comprised **Sayantan Kushari, Kaustabh Nandi, Sagnik Roy, Kaustubh Bendre, Priya Ranjan Sinha, and Koushik Mukherjee**, with **Mr. Vinay Desai** serving as both **Captain and Coach**.

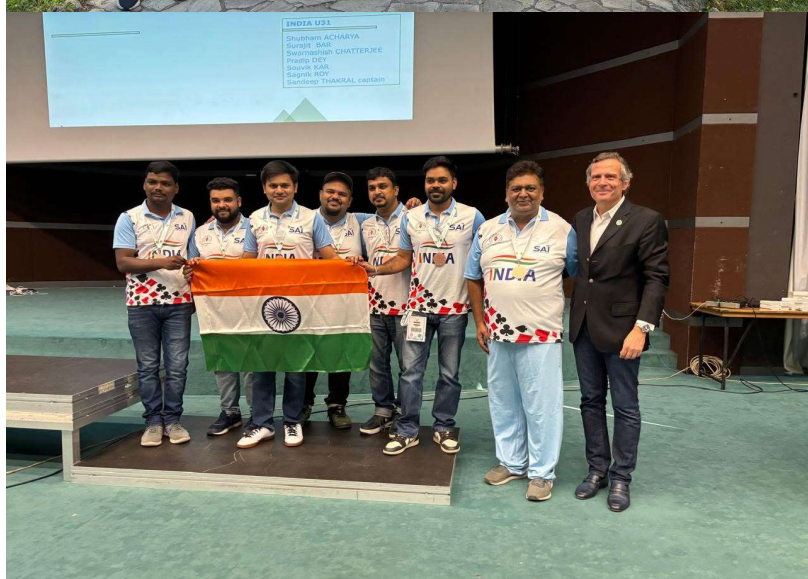
The team delivered an excellent performance throughout the championship, finishing **4th overall** with **302.55 Victory Points (VPs)**. India remained in contention with the leading teams throughout the event and secured an impressive fourth-place finish behind **China (345.50 VPs)**, **Chinese Taipei (330.38 VPs)**, and **Australia (314.99 VPs)**. India finished ahead of several strong bridge nations, including **Korea, Thailand, Japan, New Zealand, Singapore, Indonesia, Hong Kong China, Macau China, and the Philippines**.

19th World Youth Bridge Championships, Salsomaggiore, Italy

The Bridge Federation of India fielded teams in the **Under-16, Under-21, Under-26 and Under-31** categories at the **19th World Youth Bridge Championships, Salsomaggiore, Italy** organized by the World Bridge Federation. India's young players competed against the strongest bridge-playing nations and delivered one of the country's finest performances in World Youth Championship history.



The **Under-16 Team** created history by becoming the **first Indian Under-16 team to qualify for the knockout stage and reach the semi-finals** of the World Youth Championships. In the quarter-finals, India defeated **Chinese Taipei** by **6 IMPs** in a thrilling contest to secure a place in the last four. The team subsequently lost to eventual finalists **USA1** in the semi-finals, finishing **4th overall**—the best-ever performance by an Indian Under-16 team at the World Youth Championships. The team comprised **Prakhar Bansal, Viha Gahrotra, Ananya Mehta, Jashith Narang, Adhiyaman Zodypache and Agilan Zodypache**.



India's other major success came in the **Youth Board-a-Match (BAM) Championship**, where the **Under-31 Team won the Bronze Medal**, finishing behind France and the Netherlands. The medal-winning team consisted of **Shubham Acharya, Surajit Bar, Swarnashish Chatterjee, Pradip Dey, Souvik Kar and Sagnik Roy**, under the captaincy and coaching of **Sandeep Thakral**.

Although the **Under-21** and **Under-26** teams did not qualify for the knockout stage, they gained valuable experience competing against the world's strongest youth teams, reinforcing India's growing depth in youth bridge.

Overall, India's performance at the 2025 World Youth programme was highly encouraging. The historic **Under-16 semi-final appearance** and the **Under-31 World Bronze Medal** demonstrated the success of the Bridge Federation of India's sustained emphasis on youth development, coaching camps and international exposure, and reaffirmed India's emergence as one of the promising nations in world youth bridge.

Federation and National-Level Competitions

The Bridge Federation of India (BFI) administers a comprehensive national tournament calendar that provides a structured pathway for players from the grassroots level to international representation. The competition framework is designed to promote competitive bridge across the country while ensuring a transparent and merit-based selection process through the National Ranking Policy 2025–26.

The annual calendar comprises Federation Championships, National Ranking Events, Recognised Ranking Events and State & Club Competitions, each playing an important role in the development of bridge in India.

1. Federation Championships

Federation Championships are the premier domestic events organized directly by the Bridge Federation of India. These championships attract participation from the country's leading players and carry the highest National Ranking Points. Performance in these events forms the primary basis for qualification to National Coaching Camps, Selection Trials and the selection of Indian teams for major international championships including the BFAME Championships, World Championships, Asian Games and other international events.

The major Federation Championships include:

- Summer National Bridge Championships
- National Interstate Bridge Championships (Open, Women, Seniors and Juniors)
- Winter National Bridge Championships
- National Masters Championship
- National Mixed Championship
- National Women's Championship
- National Coaching Camps conducted in accordance with the international competition calendar.

These championships are conducted under the Laws of Duplicate Bridge, the World Bridge Federation regulations and the Bridge Federation of India Conditions of Contest.

2. National Ranking Events

Under the National Ranking Policy 2025–26, the Bridge Federation of India has accorded National Ranking Event status to selected tournaments organized by affiliated State Associations, clubs, corporate organizations and other recognised institutions. These events are conducted under the aegis of BFI and award National Ranking Points as prescribed under the Ranking Policy.

The recognised National Ranking Events include:

Open Events

- Yeshwant Rao Holkar Memorial National Bridge Championship, Indore
- Mohanlal Bhartia Memorial Bridge Tournament, New Delhi
- HCL International Bridge Championship, New Delhi
- Shree Cement National Bridge Championship, Kolkata
- EA Bridge International Championship, Chennai
- Tolani National Masters Championship, Chennai
- Open Nagpur National Event

Mixed Events

- Prime National Mixed Championship
- Smt. Vijya Jajoo Memorial National Mixed Championship
- HCL National Mixed Championship

Women's Events

- EA Bridge National Women's Championship

- Interstate National Teams

In addition to the above National Ranking Events, the Federation recognises a number of **Category 'B' Ranking Events**, which provide additional opportunities for players to earn National Ranking Points. These include:

- VK Agrawal Mixed Championship
- ALBA Women's Championship
- Prime Ladies Pairs
- K.K. Bhatnagar Mixed Event conducted during the Summer Nationals
- Phoenix Mixed Pairs conducted during the Winter Nationals
- Gouri Rao Women's Pairs conducted during the Summer Nationals
- Amla Ruia Women's Pairs conducted during the Winter Nationals
- Interstate Women Pairs
- MGC Annual Open
- Bareilly Annual Open
- Balrampur Chini East Zone Championship
- Other Category 'B' Ranking Events approved by the Bridge Federation of India from time to time.

These events significantly strengthen the national competition structure by providing multiple opportunities for players across the country to improve their National Ranking and qualify for national coaching camps and selection trials.

3. State and Club Competitions

State Associations, District Associations, Institutional Units and affiliated clubs organise numerous bridge tournaments throughout the year. These competitions serve as the foundation of the Indian bridge structure by promoting participation at the grassroots level and providing competitive opportunities for new and aspiring players.

Many State Associations also maintain their own State Ranking systems and conduct annual State Championships, Inter-District Championships and Club Leagues to identify and nurture talented players who can progress to National Ranking Events and Federation Championships.

National Ranking Policy 2025–26

The National Ranking Policy introduced by the Bridge Federation of India has established a transparent, objective and merit-based system for selecting Indian representative teams.

National Ranking Points are awarded only through approved Federation Championships and National Ranking Events, with rankings published periodically by the Federation.

Under the policy:

- In the **Open** and **Mixed** categories, the **Top 12 ranked partnerships**, together with the **next four ranked partnerships on a self-funded basis**, qualify for the National Selection Trials.
- In the **Women's** category, the **Top 8 ranked partnerships**, together with the **next four ranked partnerships on a self-funded basis**, qualify for the National Selection Trials.
- To be eligible for selection, a partnership must have earned National Ranking Points together in **at least two recognised National Ranking Events** during the ranking period.
- National Rankings are updated periodically based on performances in approved events, thereby encouraging consistent participation throughout the season.

FEDERATION EVENTS:

3rd MAVERICKS SUMMER NATIONALS:



The **3rd Mavericks Summer National Bridge Championships 2025**, organized by the Bridge Federation of India in association with the Gujarat Bridge Association at Karnavati Club, Ahmedabad, witnessed enthusiastic participation from across the country.

A total of **54 teams** competed in the Team Championships, comprising **28 teams in the Mavericks Open Gold Teams** and **26 teams in the Mavericks Open Silver Teams**.

GOLD TEAMS RESULTS:

Winner: Team Mavericks: Subodh Maskara, Boye Brogeland, Keyzad Anklesaria, Ami Zamir, Oren Torlendo, Aniruddh Bhattacharya

Runner Up: Team Magnum: Puja Batra, Sunit Chokshi, Jaggy Shivdasani, B Satya, Subhash Gupta

Sumit Mukherjee Matchpoint Pairs:

Winner: Sayantan Kushari – Kaustubh Bendre

Runner Up: Oren Toledano – Ami Zamir

All Detailed results on: <https://www.bridgewebs.com/summernationals/>

Interstate Bridge Senior Men and Women Championships:



Seniors Category:

The **2nd Shree Cement Inter-State National Bridge Championships** were successfully organized by the Bridge Federation of India from **1st to 5th August 2025** at the **Mysore Race Club, Mysuru, Karnataka**.

The event comprised the prestigious **Inter-State Team Championship** and the **Subhas Agarwala IMP Pairs Championship**, besides introducing dedicated national events for women.

A landmark achievement of the championship was the **inaugural National Women Teams Championship** and the **Women's Pairs Championship**, which were conducted

alongside the traditional Men's Team and IMP Pairs Championships for the first time in the history of the Inter-State Championships. This initiative marked a significant milestone in the Bridge Federation of India's continued commitment towards promoting women's participation in competitive bridge and providing equal opportunities for women players at the national level.

Results:

Shree Cement Men Teams:

Winner : Indian Railways, represented by Sumit Mukherjee, Debabrata Majumdar, Sayantan Kushari, Gopinath Manna, Sandip Datta, Sagnik Roy and Shouvik Kar.

The Runners-up were Tamil Nadu, represented by P. Sridhar, Uma Rajesh, M.J.R. Vasu, S.R.C. Sekhar, S. Vijayraghavan and R. Kannan.

Subhas Agarwala IMP Pairs Championship (Men)

- **Champions:** Rana Roy & Abhijit Chakraborty
- **Runners-up:** Shubham Acharya & Arvind Vaidya

Women Teams:

1st National Women's Inter-State Team Championship:



The inaugural National Women's Inter-State Team Championship, introduced alongside the Men's Inter-State Championship to promote women's bridge in India, was won by **Team Delhi** (Puja Batra, Asha Sharma, Gopika Tandon, Alka Jain, Devi Bhatnagar and Nikita Kamal), while **Team Tamil Nadu** finished runners-up with Maya Iyer, Sumathi Iyer, Varalakshmi, Santhalakshmi, Sumitra and Nalini

Women Pairs:

Winner: - Puja Batra & Asha Sharma

Runner up: Kapana Gurjar & Vidhya Patel

All Detailed results on: <https://www.bridgewebs.com/interstate/>

TOLANI OPEN NATIONAL MASTERS:



The **Tolani Open National Masters & Non-Masters Championship 2025** was organized by the Tolani Group in association with the **Bridge Federation of India** from 22nd to 26th January 2025 at Lokmanya Seva Sangh, Mumbai. One of the major National Ranking Point events on the BFI calendar, the championship attracted leading players from across the country

A unique feature of the championship was the **Non-Masters Team Championship**, which was conducted in a **hybrid format**. The qualifying stage was held **online on the RealBridge platform over two days**, enabling teams from across the country to participate. The **top eight teams** from the online qualifiers advanced to the knockout stage, from which the **top four teams** qualified for the **live semi-finals and final** conducted at Lokmanya Seva Sangh, Mumbai. The hybrid format significantly enhanced participation while preserving the competitive atmosphere of a live national championship.

Championship Results

National Masters Team Championship

- **Champions – Formidables:** Sumit Mukherjee, Rajeshwar Tewari, Sagnik Roy, Sayantan Kushari, Kaustabh Nandi and Kaustubh Bendre.
- **Runners-up – Dhampur Sugar Mills:** Ashok Kumar Goel, K. R. V. Venkataraman, Vinay Desai, Raju Tolani, Arun M. Bapat and Ajay P. Khare.

Matchpoint Pairs:

Winner: Debabrata Majumdar – Swarnendu Banerji

Runner Up: Soham Sarkar – Sukamal Das

67th Ashok Ruia Memorial Winter National Bridge Championships 2025



The **67th Ashok Ruia Memorial Winter National Bridge Championships**, one of the premier national bridge events in India, was held under the aegis of the **Bridge Federation of India (BFI)** organized by **Corporate Bridge Association of India (CBAI)** in association with **West Bengal Bridge Association (WBBA)**.

The championship was held from **1st to 11th December 2025** at the **Biswa Bangla Convention Centre, New Town, Kolkata, West Bengal**.

The championship attracted **over 700 players** from across the country and featured the country's leading bridge players representing state associations, public sector undertakings, institutional teams, corporate sponsors and club teams. The championship included the prestigious **Ashok Ruia Gold Trophy, Ashok Ruia Silver Trophy, Ashok Ruia Senior Teams, Amla Ruia Women's Pairs, Phoenix Mixed Pairs, Mall of the Millennium Match Point Pairs, IMP Pairs**, and other side events.

A total of **28 teams** participated in the **Ashok Ruia Gold Trophy**, while **26 teams** competed in the **Ashok Ruia Silver Trophy**.

Gold Teams:

- **Champions:** Mohota – Anurag Mohota, Basant K. Mohota, Biswajit Poddar, Sambhu Nath Ghosh
- **Runners-up:** Hemant Jalan – Hemant Jalan, Ashish Malhotra, Sandeep Thakral, Subhash Gupta, Vikrant Mehta

Matchpoint Pairs:

- **Champions:** Sayantan Kushari & Sagnik Roy
- **Runners-up:** Joyrup Mullick & Pranab Roy

Results are available at www.bridgewebs.com/winternationals

Sports Authority of India National Camps and Competitions:

The Affiliation with Sports Authority of India (SAI) has been very supportive following the success of the Asian Games 2018 and Asian Games 2023 and the medals received at World Championships. The plans of the federation are to provide more international exposure to our Indian Players. With the exclusion of bridge in the Asian Games 2026, it has been a setback for our players to aim for the highest honor. However, the preparations for the World Championships and Asia Cup are in line with the long-term development plans and BFI aims to train its athletes for the Asian Games 2030.

Building on the achievements at the BFAME, World Championships, and Asian Games, the Bridge Federation of India has been actively collaborating with SAI to prepare athletes according to their guidelines through coaching camps and national competitions. This year, the federation conducted six coaching camps for various categories, including Seniors (Men, Mixed, Women) and Juniors (U31, U26, U21, U16). Bridge Federation of India has been actively working with SAI for preparing the athletes under their guidelines through the medium of coaching camps and national competitions as well participation of its officials at various international workshops like Directors Training course.

In the current year, the federation had conducted two Coaching camps for the Seniors (Men, Mixed, Women) and Juniors (U31, U26, U21, U16) categories.

Junior Camps:

- Junior Camp – 1-5th June at Nashik
- Junior Camp – 21-26th Jan at Mumbai

Senior Camps:

- Men:** 10–16 March 2026
- Mixed:** 16–20 March 2026
- Women:** 21–23 March 2026
- Seniors:** 21–24 March 2026

National Championships:

- Interstate National Championships, Mysore Race Club – 1-5th August
- Juniors/Sub Juniors National Championships, Nashik – 27-30th December

As a result, the following proposals were sanctioned by SAI for the financial year 2025-26

The synopsis of the budget is as under:

Sr no.	Item	Amount (Rs. lacs)	Events conducted by BFI during 25-26
1	National Camps/competitions	56	3 Senior Camps + 1 Junior Camp
2	International Competitions:	190	• 47th World Bridge Teams Championships, Denmark • 19th World Youth Championships. Salsomaggiore, Italy • 54th Asia Pacific Championship, China
3	Conduct of International Competitions in India	Nil	
4	Sports Equipment	Nil	
Total		246.00	

BFI Annual Sports Awards 2025-26



One of the most memorable highlights of the **67th Ashok Ruia International Bridge Championships** was the presentation of the **Bridge Federation of India (BFI) Annual Sports Awards**, held at the **Biswa Bangla Convention Centre, Kolkata**. The ceremony was organized to honour outstanding patrons and players whose exceptional achievements and unwavering commitment have made a lasting contribution to the growth and success of Indian bridge.

The awards were presented in the presence of distinguished guests, senior administrators, international and national players, and members of the bridge fraternity. The ceremony reflected the Federation's continued commitment to recognizing excellence and inspiring future generations of bridge players.

The recipients of the **BFI Annual Sports Awards 2025-26** were:



- **BFI Lifetime Achievement Award: Ms. Kiran Nadar**, in recognition of her extraordinary contribution to the promotion, development, and sustained support of bridge in India. Her patronage and vision have played a pivotal role in elevating the standards of Indian bridge and nurturing talent across all levels.
- **BFI Best Player of the Year (Overall): Mr. Sumit Mukherjee**, for his outstanding performances at both national and international championships during the year, making significant contributions to India's success on the global stage.
- **BFI Best Junior Player of the Year (Girls): Ms. Vidhya Patel**, for her exceptional performances in junior bridge and for emerging as one of the country's brightest young talents.

In addition, **Shri Sukha Ranjan Ghosh**, one of India's most respected veteran bridge players, was accorded a **Special Felicitation** in recognition of his lifelong dedication to the sport and his invaluable contribution to the bridge community. His achievements and enduring passion for the game continue to inspire generations of bridge players.



Coaching cum Selection Camps held for Seniors, Juniors, Women and Mixed Categories

Coaching Camp for 5th Asia Cup 2026

As part of the preparations for the **5th Asia Cup Bridge Championships**, the Bridge Federation of India conducted National Coaching Camps at **Ellisbridge Gymkhana, Ahmedabad**, for the selection of the Indian teams in all four categories—**Men, Mixed, Women and Seniors**. The camps were conducted under the technical supervision of BFI in accordance with the **National Ranking Policy 2025–26**, with only eligible ranked pairs invited to participate.

The camps were held as follows:

- **Men:** 10–16 March 2026
- **Mixed:** 16–20 March 2026
- **Women:** 21–23 March 2026
- **Seniors:** 21–24 March 2026

The coaching camps comprised intensive round-robin matches, performance evaluation sessions and technical reviews. Performance in the camp, together with the prescribed ranking-point weightage, was used to determine the final standings and select the Indian teams for the Asia Cup.

Based on the final results of the coaching camps, **two Indian teams each** were selected in the **Men, Mixed, Women and Seniors** categories to represent India at the Asia Cup. Since **India was the host nation**, it was permitted to field **two teams in each category**, enabling the country to utilize the additional host entries alongside the teams selected through the coaching camps.



INDIA MEN TEAM A



INDIA MEN TEAM B



INDIA MIXED TEAM A



INDIA MIXED TEAM B



INDIA WOMEN TEAM A



INDIA WOMEN TEAM B



INDIA SENIOR TEAM A



INDIA SENIOR TEAM B

Juniors National Championship and Camps

The federation conducted various online coaching sessions under the Juniors Training Program led by **Mr. Kaustubh Bendre, Mr. Anil Padhye, Mr. Keshav Samant and Mr. Sandeep Thakral**. These sessions were open for the categories (U31/U26/U21/U16).



The Tolani Junior and Sub Junior Nationals commenced from 29-31 May at Gupta Gardens, Nashik under the auspices of Bridge Federation of India organized by Maharashtra Bridge Association along with Nashik District Bridge Association. Registrations for this event were taken online through BFI website wherein 120 kids had enrolled for the national championship

All the Juniors were provided free accommodation, breakfast, lunch, hi tea and



dinner. All the Juniors had reported at Gupta Gardens on 28th May where they were provided the accommodation facilities.

Following the completion of the Swiss qualifying rounds, the top teams in each category progressed to the knockout stage. The championship concluded with the following results:

Under-16 Teams

- **Champions:**– Prakhar Bansal, Viha Gahrotra, Jashith Narayan, Ananya Mehta
- **Runners-up:**– Agilan, Adhiyaman, Rashee Mohana, Saikarthick Satish
- **Third Place:**– Krishanth S., Roshand S., Sundarm L., Ananthitan S.
- **Fourth Place:**– Harrita R., Anushree R., Theeyasri S., Karthika S.

Under-21 Teams

- **Champions:** – Rashi Jahagirdar, Nachiketa Karthikeyan Muthuswamy, Tirtharaj Chowdhury, Madhav Prakash
- **Runners-up:** – Vignesh Waran B., Bhavnesh Waran B., Bharat Kopulolu, Samir Shende
- **Third Place:** – Vineet Nandu, Kunj Chheda, Gia Gupta, Khushal Brahmankar
- **Fourth Place:** – Udhav C., Abhishek R., Heena Kumari, Simran Kumari



Under-26 Teams

- **Champions:** – Tilakraj Chowdhury, Taral Rodrigues, Vidhya Patel, Shyam Gurjar
- **Runners-up:**– Anas H., Allen T. Mathew, Johann Jose Pinto, Aryan Mehta, Kanishk, Deepak Kumar

Under-31 Teams

- **Champions:**– Sai Manju, Dinesh Babu S., Souvik Saha, Monu Kumar
- **Runners-up:** – Subham Acharya, Kalpana Gurjar, Pradip Dey, Swarnashish Chatterjee, Souvik Kar, Surajit Bar
- **Third Place:**– Amit Akarsh, Tarun, Mukil Kumar, Vijay Kumar Ranjan

The championship once again demonstrated the strength of India's junior bridge development programme, with outstanding performances across all age groups. The event also served as an important benchmark for identifying promising players for future national coaching camps and international youth championships.

Pair Championships

In addition to the Team Championship, **Match Point (MP) Pairs** events were conducted in all four age categories, while **IMP Pairs** events were organized for the **Under-26** and **Under-31** categories. The Pair Championships provided an excellent opportunity for the young players to showcase their technical skills in different formats of the game.

Pair Championship Results

Under-16 Match Point Pairs

Champions: Jashith Narang – Ananya Mehta

Runners-up: Prakhar Bansal – Viha Gahrotra

Third Place: Adhiyaman – Agilan

Under-21 Match Point Pairs

Champions: Gia Gupta – Nachiketa Karthikeyan

Runners-up: Tirtharaj Chowdhury – Madhav Prakash

Third Place: Vigneshwaran B. – Bhavneshwaran B.

Under-26 Match Point Pairs

Champions: Tilakraj Chowdhury – Taral Rodrigues

Runners-up: Vidhya Patel – Shyam Gurjar

Third Place: Johann Jose Pinto – Aryan Mehta

Under-31 Match Point Pairs

Champions: Pradip Dey – Swarnashish Chatterjee

Runners-up: Kalpana Gurjar – Subham Acharya

Third Place: Monu Kumar – Souvik Saha

Under-26 IMP Pairs

Champions: Sashwata Ballab – Dattatreya Banerjee

Runners-up: Vidhya Patel – Shyam Gurjar

Third Place: Tilakraj Chowdhury – Taral Rodrigues

Under-31 IMP Pairs

Champions: Pradip Dey – Swarnashish Chatterjee

Runners-up: Kalpana Gurjar – Subham Acharya

Third Place: Souvik Kar – Surajit Bar

The **Tolani Junior / Sub-Junior National Bridge Championship** was held at **Gupta Gardens, Nashik**, from **27–29 December**, featuring Team, IMP Pairs and Matchpoint Pairs events across the Junior and Sub-Junior categories. The championship witnessed enthusiastic participation from the country's emerging bridge talent and provided an important platform for identifying future national players.

IMP Pairs Results

Under-26 / Under-31

- **Champions:** Dinesh Babu S. – Sai Manju
- **Runners-up:** Tilakraj Chowdhury – Tirtharaj Chowdhury
- **Third Place:** Souvik Saha – Debjyoti Samanta

Under-21

- **Champions:** Nachiketa K. M. – Aryan Mehta
- **Runners-up:** Bharat Kopulolu – Samir Shende
- **Third Place:** Jashith Narang – Prakhar Bansal

Under-16

- **Champions:** Agilan Z. – Adhiyaman Z.
- **Runners-up:** L. Sundaram – Roshand S.
- **Third Place:** Ananya – Viha

Matchpoint Pairs Results

Under-16

- **Champions:** L. Sundaram – Roshand A.
- **Runners-up:** Harrita – Ananthan
- **Third Place:** Agilan – Adhiyaman

Under-21

- **Champions:** Jashith – Prakhar
- **Runners-up:** Agastya – Gia Gupta
- **Third Place:** Udbhav – Saikritick

Under-26 / Under-31

- **Champions:** Saswata Ballav – Dattatreya Banerjee
- **Runners-up:** Soham Sarkar – Kalpana Gurjar
- **Third Place:** Vigneshwaran B. – Pravin I

JUNIOR NATIONAL CAMPS:

Bridge Federation of India organized the **National Junior & Sub-Junior Coaching Camp** at **Kensington Club, Nashik**, from **1st to 5th June 2025**, as part of the preparations for the **19th World Youth Bridge Championships**.

The camp brought together **31 participants**, comprising **24 junior players**, **4 coaches**—**Sandeep Thakral, Koushik Mukherjee, Girish Bijoor, and Meenal Thakur**—along with **Mr. Srinivasan Iyengar (Scoring), Mr. Chetan Raval (Dealing), and Mr. K.S. Swaminathan (Tournament Director)**, with all expenses borne by the Government.

The programme focused on intensive technical training, partnership development, match practice, and strategic preparation to equip the selected players for international competition. The camp served as an important component of BFI's high-performance programme, ensuring that the selected youth players received systematic coaching and competitive preparation ahead of the **19th World Youth Bridge Championships**.

Junior Camp: 21-26th January at Mumbai



The Bridge Federation of India conducted a **Junior & Sub-Junior Bridge Coaching Camp** from **21–26 January, 2026** at **Lokmanya Seva Sangh, Vile Parle (East), Mumbai**, as part of its long-term athlete development program. A total of **32 junior and sub-junior players**, identified based on their performances at the **Tolani Junior & Sub-Junior National Championships** held at **Gupta Gardens, Nashik (27–29 December 2025)**, participated in the camp towards the preparation of **9th World Youth Transnational Bridge Championship, Hefei, China**

Team of Selectors and Coaches: Anand Samant Anil Padhye Sandeep Thakral Kaustubh Bendre Girish Bijoor

Lady Support Staff: Meenal Thakur

Director Workshops:

Indian Tournament Directors Selected for Prestigious Max Bavin Tournament Director Course

In a significant recognition of India's growing technical expertise in bridge administration, three Tournament Directors from the Bridge Federation of India (BFI) were selected to participate in the prestigious **Max Bavin Tournament Director Course (Level A)** conducted in **Warsaw, Poland**, from **27–30 November 2025**. Organised under the auspices of the **World Bridge Federation (WBF)** and the **European Bridge League (EBL)**, the Max Bavin Course is regarded as one of the highest-level international training and certification programmes for Tournament Directors.

The following BFI Directors were selected for the programme:

- **Mr. Soumadeep Ghosh** – BFI Director
- **Mr. Debabrata Roy Choudhury** – BFI National Director
- **Mr. K. S. Swaminathan** – BFI Assistant National Director

Participation in this prestigious programme provided advanced training in the Laws of Duplicate Bridge, tournament management, appeals procedures, and international best practices in tournament direction. Successful completion of the course enhances the participants' technical capabilities and strengthens their prospects for future induction into the **WBF International Tournament Director Panel**, enabling them to officiate at major international bridge championships.

The selection of three Indian Directors for this elite programme reflects the confidence reposed by the international bridge community in India's technical standards and demonstrates BFI's continued commitment to developing world-class Tournament Directors.

BFI Infrastructure Program Policy:

BFI has procured the sanction for purchase of sports equipment in year 2026-27 towards preparation of 5th Asia Cup

CSR Sponsorships:

BFI immensely expresses its gratitude to all the sponsors who have generously contributed towards the bridge education and training programs – one of them being “**Bridge Pathshala**” center at Mumbai. Bridge being a national priority sport game recognized by Ministry of Sports and Youth Affairs has been eligible for CSR contributions which has been used for promotion of juniors and education teaching programs.

Players Masterpoint Grievance Window

BFI Masterpoint Secretariat has created a “**Player Masterpoint Grievance Cell**” in order to enable the current players to check their masterpoint tally as on date as well the previous records and report for any discrepancies or omissions for any of their non-recorded performances in the recognized tournaments played under the auspices of BFI.

ANNUAL CALENDAR:

Annual Calendar of Events (April 2025 – March 2026)

Sl. No.	Dates	Event	Venue
1	10–18 April 2025	23rd BFAME Championships	Media Rotana, Dubai, UAE
2	1–4 May 2025	8th All India Shree Cement Bridge Championship	Biswa Bangla Convention Centre, Kolkata
3	17–25 May 2025	54th Asia Pacific Bridge Championships	Hefei, Anhui, China
4	23–25 May 2025	Steel Strips Tournament	Hotel Mount View, Chandigarh
5	29–31 May 2025	Tolani Junior/Sub Junior Nationals	Gupta Gardens, Nashik
6	1–4 June 2025	Coaching Camps for Juniors/Sub Juniors	Kensington Club, Nashik
7	11–20 June 2025	3rd Mavericks Summer Nationals Bridge Championships	Karnavati Club, Ahmedabad
8	21 June–5 July 2025	11th European Transnational Championships	Poznań Congress Centre, Poznań, Poland
9	10–13 July 2025	All India Madhava Prasad Memorial Bridge Tournament	The Riverview Retreat, Garjia, Ramnagar, Uttarakhand
10	12–17 July 2025	19th World Youth Teams Championships	Salsomaggiore Terme, Italy
11	18–20 July 2025	Goa Bridge Festival	Gaspar Dias Club, Panjim, Goa
12	1–5 August 2025	2nd Shree Cement National Interstate Bridge Championships	Mysore Race Club, Mysuru
13	15–17 August 2025	Harold Vanderbilt Bridge Centenary Celebration	Biswa Bangla Convention Centre, Kolkata
14	19–31 August 2025	47th World Bridge Teams Championships	Herning, Denmark
15	23–24 August 2025	Mohota Swiss Pairs	Shreekunj Celebration, Hinganghat
16	29–31 August 2025	Ambassador Satnam Jit Singh Memorial Bridge Tournament	The Prominence Hotel, Dehradun
17	30 August–1 September 2025	Secunderabad Club Annual Open	Secunderabad, Telangana

Sl. No.	Dates	Event	Venue
18	4–7 September 2025	Kr. Ajay Goel Memorial Bridge Tournament	The Boat House Club, Nainital
19	15–20 September 2025	EA Bridge International Bridge Championships	Express Avenue Mall, Chennai
20	6–14 October 2025	22nd HCL International Bridge Championships	The Leela Ambience Convention Hotel, New Delhi
21	24–26 October 2025	East Zone Bridge Championships – Ranking (Category B)	Biswa Bangla Convention Centre, Kolkata
22	30 October–2 November 2025	3rd Mavericks Premier League	Madhuli Apartments, Mumbai
23	3–8 November 2025	Prime Mixed & Women Events	Bombay Gymkhana, Mumbai
24	13–15 November 2025	Asian Mind Sports Festival	Suntec Singapore Convention & Exhibition Centre, Singapore
25	20–23 November 2025	Delhi Gymkhana Annual Open Tournament	Delhi Gymkhana Club, New Delhi
26	1–11 December 2025	67th Ashok Ruia Winter Nationals	Biswa Bangla Convention Centre, Kolkata
27	13–15 December 2025	Tolani Online Non-Masters Qualifying Event	RealBridge Online Platform
28	19–21 December 2025	CCI Annual Swiss Pairs	CCI Club, Mumbai
29	19–21 December 2025	Waltair Club Annual	Waltair Club, Visakhapatnam
30	27–29 December 2025	Tolani Junior/Sub Junior National Bridge Championships	Gupta Gardens, Nashik
31	6–11 January 2026	21st Yeshwant Rao Holkar National Championships	Yeshwant Club, Indore
32	15–18 January 2026	Madras Gymkhana Open Event	Madras Gymkhana Club, Chennai
33	22–25 January 2026	Tolani Open National Masters & Non-Masters Event	Lokmanya Seva Sangh, Vile Parle, Mumbai
34	26–28 January 2026	Willingdon Swiss Pairs	Willingdon Sports Club, Mumbai
35	5–8 February 2026	VBA National Open Event	Institute of Engineers, Nagpur

Sl. No.	Dates	Event	Venue
36	12–15 February 2026	Kr. Murli Manohar Memorial Bridge Tournament	Bareilly Club, Bareilly
37	20–22 February 2026	Sir Padampat Singhania Memorial Invitational Pairs	Cawnpore Club, Kanpur
38	28 February–2 March 2026	FNCC Bridge Championships	Film Nagar Cultural Center, Hyderabad
39	4–5 March 2026	Smt. Vijya Jajoo Memorial National Mixed Pairs Championship	E-Hotel, Chennai
40	6–7 March 2026	EA Bridge National Women Pairs Championship	E-Hotel, Chennai
41	10–24 March 2026	National Coaching Camp	Ellisbridge Gymkhana, Ahmedabad
42	28–31 March 2026	Mohanlal Bhartia Memorial Grand Prix 2026	ITC Welcome hotel Dwarka, New Delhi