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AIFF Releases Vision 2047

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Key Developments
February 2023

Welcome to the February edition of '**Inform: Sports Law'** publication. We endeavour to provide a synopsis of key developments in sports, esports, and gaming laws in India, as well as to engage with stakeholders in these fields.

Highlight Story

AIFF Releases Vision 2047



With ambitious goals for the hundredth year of India's independence, the All India Football Federation (AIFF) has released 'Vision 2047' after receiving inputs from key stakeholders, including the AFC (Asian Football Confederation) and FIFA (Federation Internationale de football association). The federation proposes to set up a four-level league pyramid for women's football, carry out grassroots programmes, impart education to coaches, provide training to school PE teachers and youth referees, etc.

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Updates

Law Commission Asks MeitY to Put a Hold on the Draft Online Gaming Rules



In a letter addressed to the Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology (MeitY), the 22nd Law Commission headed by the former Chief Justice of Karnataka High Court, Ritu Raj Awasthi, has asked to put a hold on the draft online gaming rules, i.e., the draft Information Technology (Intermediary Guidelines and Digital Media Ethics Code) Rules. MeitY has been requested to "hold a meeting and have a consultation" with the commission on the Draft Rules through the letter.

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MeitY Holds Meeting with E-Sport Athletes on Draft Online Gaming Rules

On January 17, 2023, the Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology (MeitY) conducted the second public consultation on the amendments to the Information Technology (Intermediary Guidelines and Digital Media Ethics Code) Rules, 2021. The draft Information Technology (Intermediary Guidelines and Digital Media Ethics Code) Rules extend the scope of the IT Rules, 2021 to include online gaming intermediaries.

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IOA Forms a Seven-Member Committee Upon Receipt of Sexual Harassment Complaint Against WFI President

The Indian Olympic Association (IOA) has formed a seven-member Committee to probe the charges against the Wrestling Federation of India (WFI) President, Brij Bhushan Sharan Singh, upon receipt of a letter from wrestlers in this regard. The letter included the signatures of top athletes, Sakshi Malik, Vinesh Phogat, Deepak Punia, Bajrang Punia, and Ravi Dahiya.

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Dutee Chand Provisionally Suspended on Account of Doping Charges

The athlete, Dutee Chand, has been provisionally suspended by the National Anti-Doping Agency (NADA). On January 3, 2023, the agency stated that the sprinter's doping results returned positive after an out-of-competition dope test was administered in Bhubaneshwar on December 5, 2022. If the charges are proven, then a four-year suspension would be imposed upon her.

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NADA Appeal Panel Reduces Period of Ban Imposed on Javelin Thrower Shivpal Singh

In an order dated January 9, 2023, the Appeal Panel of the National Anti Doping Agency (NADA) reduced the period of the ban imposed on the appellant, Shivpal Singh, a well-known Javelin thrower, from four years to one year. The Panel accepted his contention that the nutritional supplements he consumed were contaminated, resulting in his dope sample testing positive.

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21-Month Ban Imposed on Dipa Karmakar for Use of a Prohibited Substance

The International Testing Agency (ITA) has suspended the Indian Gymnast Dipa Karmakar for 21 months as her sample taken in October 2021 returned positive for Higenamine. The World Anti-Doping Agency prohibits the use of the said substance and the matter was resolved through a case resolution agreement executed under the provisions of the Federation Internationale de Gymnastique (FIG) Anti-Doping Rules and the World Anti-Doping Code.

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AIFF signs MoU with LNIPE to set up the Centre of Referees' Excellence



The AIFF seeks to establish five Centres of Referees' Excellence (CORE) in the country to provide training to referees and drive the youth to pursue a career in refereeing as set forth under 'Vision 2047'. In consonance with the same, the country's first such Centre will be set up at Lakshmana National Institute of Physical Education (LNIPE), Gwalior.

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