

# IBSA BLIND FOOTBALL INTERCONTINENTAL CUP 2023 26 Sep - 02 Oct | Kochi

IBFF is the only entity authorised by PCI and IBSA to conduct any official blind football activity in India as well as to represent the nation overseas. It has been actively implied in the development of blind football for the last 10 years, during which time we were able to conduct 7 national championships for men and 3 for women.

IBFF has been conducting orientation and training camps across the country over the years to identify new players and to hone the skills of existing players. Simultaneously, we have held referee clinics and training for coaches to develop the game in a systematic manner. This has led to 3 Men and 2 women referees being selected by the World Blind Football Federation to officiate in international championships, which is a big recognition for Indian blind football.

With blind football played in 23 states, we now have 15 NGOs and 13 state bodies affiliated with IBFF. From among nearly 800 players identified on a national level. 661 players had registered, including men's and women's, for the various zonal and national-level tournaments held in 2023. The Indian men's team is ranked 14th in the world, and our women's team emerged as 4th ranked in the World Championship held in August 2023 in Birmingham.











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### ABOUT BLIND FOOTBALL

Blind Football is a 5-a-side game played by 4 visually challenged players and a sighted goal keeper, using a ball which produces sound. The match is played in turf ground of size 40 m X 20 m, which has a 1m high side board along the length on both sides to keep the ball in continuous play. The coach and goal guide, both assist the players from outside the field of play by giving voice commands. Matches are played over two halves of 15 minutes each, plus 10 minutes for half-time. A typical match takes about an hour taking into account stoppages in between.

### 2023 IBSA BLIND FOOTBALL INTERCONTINENTAL CUP 2023

IBFF has won the bid to host the upcoming 2023 IBSA Blind Football Intercontinental Cup to be held from 26th September to 02nd October '23 in Kochi, which is very prestigious for India. It shows the trust, the International Blind Sports Federation reposes in IBFF after witnessing the way the Asian Championships was organised in Kochi in 2022. The tournament will feature ten international teams including India.

### VENUE

Matches will be held in Kochi at the 'United Sports Centre' near Infopark, Kakkanad. It has a turf ground of international standards with ample parking space around and is only walking distance from Four Points by Sheraton, where the teams and officials will be accommodated.







# **SCHEDULE**

Arrival of the teams: 23rd September 2023

Classification Period: 24th to 25th September 2023

Opening Ceremony: 26th September 2023
Opening Game: 26th September 2023

Competition Period: 26th September to 2nd October 2023

Closing Ceremony: 2nd October 2023

Departure: 3rd October 2023

# CONTACT

# Main contact person for national teams:

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# **PARTICIPATING TEAMS**



CHILE



**UZBEKISTAN** 



**ROMANIA** 



POLAND



KAZAKHSTAN



**INDIA** 



**GREECE** 



**EGYPT** 



**COSTA RICA** 



**REPUBLIC OF KOREA** 

