



# All India Chess Federation For The Blind

Reg.No.: G.B.B.S.D.177, Trust Regd. No. F-19500

Affiliated to  
International Braille Chess Association & All India Chess Federation



The All India Chess Federation for the Blind (AICFB) was established in 1997 with the objective of promoting the game of chess among the visually impaired all over the country. The AICFB is affiliated to the International Braille Chess Association (IBCA) and All India Chess Federation (Recognized by Government of India), and through this affiliation has been able to integrate India with the rest of the chess

## Vision & Mission

The AICFB was established with the objective of promoting the game of chess among the visually impaired. All over the country, we wish to bring blind chess players in India on par with the best in the world. Ever since the formation of the AICFB & its Affiliation to the IBCA, & AICF (recognized by Govt. of India) blind chess players in our country have made tremendous progress.

## Chess in Asian Para Games

The Chess game is introduced first time in Asian para games for visually Impaired. The visually impaired players represented India with the support of Paralympic Committee of India (PCI), Sports Authority of India (SAI) and Government of India.

## Annual events conducted by AICFB :

- National A chess championship for the blind (winner is crown as 'National Blind Chess Champion')
- National Woman chess championship for the blind (winner is crown as 'National Blind Woman chess champion')
- National Junior chess championship for the blind (Winner is crown as 'National Juniorblind chess champion')
- National School championship for the blind
- National Team Championship (One team from each state)
- FIDE rating National open tournament for the blind (4 tournament in a year)
- State chess championship for the blind (each state)
- AICFB also send top players to participate in major national and international mainstream chess tournaments aiming at inclusion in real sense.



## Online Chess Training Portal

AICFB will be launching online chess training portal for visually challenged who have desire to enhance their current skills or improve their chances for professional advancement. Online training would enable to start a new course in just few mouse clicks at one's convenience.

## Ongoing activities and programs

AICFB conduct following annual events. AICFB is conducting 3 level qualification cycle tournaments to select Blind chess team to represent India. Since 1999 we are conducting chess Olympiad and other world chess championships for men, women, junior and continental based



Hon. Prime minister rewarding Asian Para Games Gold and Silver medallist Mr. Kishan Gangoli



Hon. Prime minister rewarding Asian Para Games Silver and Bronze medallist Ms. Megha Chakraborty.



## Strategic initiatives

To achieve our vision and ambitious goals We have been executing following strategic initiatives apart from our regular activities to take chess for visually challenged at new heights:

### **Chess in Schools**

We dream of visually challenged children to be able to compete with their sighted counterpart in every aspect of the life. Technology has played the revolutionary role in bridging the gaps. In our endeavor towards fulfilling our dream, we have developed a syllabus, IT system for monitoring, study material in audio format and model for implementation of chess in schools for the blind.



Asian Para games team which visited China in 2023



Giftng a Chess board on behalf of AICFB to PN Shri Narendra Modi during PM meet after Asian Para games 2022.

## Talent Development Program

AICFB has launched "Talent Development Program" from year 2010. The objectives of the program are to improve the standard of Indian chess for the blind. Talent Identification and Talent Development play a crucial role in the pursuit of excellence. Due to perseverance from AICFB, India today has 161 FIDE rated players who are blind. AICFB is very proud to state that India is second country to have dedicated FIDE rating for conducting tournaments for blind after Russia.

## Talk 64 chess software with speech

First of it's kind in the world. The software is launched in 2006 and developed with the support from GTL It is distributed in 30 countries till now.

## Internet Radio for Braille Chess (Radio Chess)

A Joint Venture of All India Chess Federation for the Blind and TecEnvision. Dedicated Radio Station for chess for the Blind. It is a Platform of Knowledge and Information and every aspect of chess for the Blind.

Darpan, Soundarya and Ashwin who won historic team gold and individual Gold , Silver and Bronze medal respectively in Asian Para Games 2022.





## Online Global Chess Library

AICFB has launched Online Global Chess Library for visually challenged which will give a leap of advantage by having a library's worth of information online that is always available for accessing. Being able to checkout a book or article anywhere, anytime makes it all the more attractive. This online Chess Library will host – accessible books in DAISY Online Global Chess Library.



Soundarya Pradhan win Silver medal in World Junior Chess Championship 2018.

## Participations and Achievements

In 2006 India launched Talk 64 chess software with speech, first and only chess software for the blind, used by 30+ countries. All new initiatives like Internet radio, online training and library portal also have huge potential to become global soon. Probably, contribution of AICFB in creating innovative technology are amongst few where western countries are in receiving mode. Normally we import, imitate or adopt technology developed by western countries

## International tournaments conducted

**India is first and only Asian country to conduct official world championships**

- 2003-1st Asian chess championship for the blind, Mumbai
- 2006- 11th World chess championship for the blind, Goa
- 2012- 14th Chess Olympiad for the blind, Chennai
- 2017- 2nd Asian Chess championship for the blind, Manipal



Kishan Gangolli- 8 times National Chess Champion



Dr. Charudatta Jadhav felicitating Sachin Tendulkar in Chess Olympiad 2012.



Inauguration of Chess Olympiad 2012



## International Participation

In last 25 years India participated in 6 Olympiads, 6 world chess championships, 10 world junior, 4 woman world championship 4 world cup team event and 3 international open tournament.

- In Asian para games 2022, Our players won 8 medals which includes 2 gold, 1 silver and 5 bronze medals.
- For the first time in the history of IBCA, India bagged two medals in the 16th IBCA Chess Olympiad for the Blind and Visually Impaired 2021 was held in Rhodes, Greece from 16th October to 27th October, 2021. On the top board, Aryan Joshi clinched the bronze for his rating performance of 2258.
- Darpan Inani secured bronze for his solid performance on board 3. He scored 6.5/9 with a rating performance of 2131.
- 1998- Charudatta Jadhav stood second and Shirish Patil stood third in Irish international open chess championship for the blind, Island
- 2000- Madan Bagayatkar won Bronze medal (second board) in 11th chess Olympiad for the blind, Poland
- 2003, Gaurav Gadodia won Gold at Asian chess championship, Mumbai
- 2008- Shrikrishna Udapa won gold medal (forth board) in 13th chess Olympiad for the blind, Greece
- 2012- Kishan Gangolli won gold medal (second board) in 14th chess Olympiad for the blind, India
- 2012, India stood 5th in 14th Chess Olympiad for the blind, India
- 2013- Darpan Inani won Bronze medal in Junior world championship, Serbia
- 2017, India win all medals in Asian chess championship for the blind, Manipal Kishan Gangolli Gold, Ashwin Makwana Silver, Soundarya Pradhan Bronze.
- 2017- Kishan Gangolli won Bronze medal in 15th chess Olympiad for the blind, Macedonia
- 2018, Soundarya Kumar Pradhan won Silver medal in Worlds Junior Chess Championship, Poland
- 2018, Kishan Gangolli Won Gold medal in 3rd Asian Para Games 2018, Jakarta Indonesia.
- 2018, Indian totally blind team won Silver medal in 3rd Asian Para Games 2018, Jakarta Indonesia.
- 2018, Indian B2/B3 blind chess team won Silver medal in 3rd Asian Para Games 2018, Jakarta Indonesia.
- 2018, Indian women's team won 1 Silver and 1 Bronze medal in 3rd Asian Para Games 2018, Jakarta Indonesia.
- 2022- Soundarya Kumar Pradhan clinched the gold medal on board 2 and Kishan Gangolli & Swapnil Shah secured silver medal on board 3 and 5 respectively in 09th IBCA World Team Chess Championship for the Blind and Visually Impaired.
- 2022- Aryan Joshi won Silver medal in 11th IBCA Junior Individual Championship for the Blind and Visually Impaired.
- 2023- Kishan Gangolli got silver medal on board 3 in FIDE Chess Olympiad for person with disability and also best game of the tournament prize.
- Dr. Charudatta Jadhav has nominated as a 'President' of International Braille Chess Association', IBCA world apex body for chess for the blind in world, first and only non European to get this recognition.



Dr. Charudatta Jadhav felicitating Sports Ministry Mr. Ayyer.



India Blind Chess Team in the 16th IBCA Chess Olympiad, Greece, 2021.



Aryan Joshi and Darpan Inani clinched the bronze in the 16th IBCA Chess Olympiad, Greece, 2021.



Felicite Mr. Ajay Makan at Chess Olympiad 2012



Indian Blind Chess Team with Medal in 09th IBCA World Team Chess Championship for the Blind and Visually Impaired.





Indian Team With Sports Ministry at World Championship 2006



Dr. Charudatta Jadhav With Visvanathan Anand and Film Star Amir Khan



Winner teams of Olympiad 2012.

## Domestic Tournaments conducted

### ***Tournaments conducted Since 1998***

- 34 National championships (Men, Women, junior (under 19), School)
- 75+ FIDE rating national open chess tournament
- 350+ domestic tournaments (Zonals, States, National open, Invitation cup) for world championship.
- AICFB produce 500+ FIDE rated blind chess players till now, very few countries have achieved this land mark.
- Since 1999, every year, AICFB has conducted selection cycle State, Zonal and National Selection to declare 'National Champion' and select Indian team for world championship.

## How do the visually impaired play Chess

### ***The Chess Board of 64 squares has the following modifications:***

- All the Black squares are raised about 3-4 mm above the white squares
- Each of the squares on the Board has a hole in the centre. Each of the pieces has a downward projection (nail) at the base, which fits into the hole in the squares on the Board, fixing the piece securely on the board.
- All the Black pieces have a pin fixed on their heads helping the player distinguish between a white and a black piece.
- After making every move, the visually impaired person announces the move aloud, so that his opponent comes to know of the move. Instead of writing the moves on a Score Sheet, the player writes the moves in Braille or records the moves on a tape recorder.



Hon. Prime minister rewarding Asian Para Games Silver medallist Mr. Mohammed Salih PK



Indian team at 3rd Asian Para games 2018.



THE INSPIRING SPIRIT & ENERGY



## Journey ahead

- Improve the overall standard of blind chess in India
- Penetrate the interior part of country, especially children below 16 years
- Provide specialized chess equipment to academies, NGOs and schools
- Individual coaching program for top 33 players- 25 seniors and 8 under 16 years
- Classroom base chess coaching program for all levels of players
- Computer lab with chess playing and coaching facilities
- Chess in schools for the blind
- Library of chess books in audio, Braille and DAISY format
- Production of DAISY chess books and periodicals
- R&D center to provide new technological solutions to prepare for bigger tournaments
- Organizing local, Zonal and National level tournaments.
- Sending teams to participate in International Chess tournaments
- Organizing International tournaments, seminars

## How can I contribute?

- Coaching blind players
- Conducting tournament as arbiter
- Reading and recording chess books
- Creating chess study material
- Provide technology support
- Join as a volunteer
- Contribute as Sponsor or donor
- Support Administration

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