



WORLD MASTERS ATHLETICS

IN COOPERATION WITH THE IAAF

7 April 2017

Mr. David Premnath
General Secretary
MASTERS ATHLETICS FEDERATION OF INDIA

Dear David - By Email

The purpose of this letter is to confirm to you that World Masters Athletics (WMA) continues to recognise MAFI as the affiliate to WMA for the country of India. The WMA Constitution and By-Laws are very clear in defining that only one organisation can be affiliated with and recognised by WMA, and in regard to India this is MAFI.

The recent decision of the Athletics Federation of India to consider themselves as the responsible body for Masters Athletics in India is not recognised by WMA. The IAAF constitution delegates responsibility for athletes aged over 35 to World Masters Athletics. WMA and the IAAF have a close working relationship and are equally represented on the IAAF Masters Commission.

MAFI is also recognised as the representative affiliate for Masters Athletics to the Asian Masters Athletics Region. In all international Masters competitions, MAFI is the only entity approved by WMA to submit entries and sanction and approve entries from Indian masters athletes. This is a very important point as the current information being circulated by the AFI falsely states that the AFI will be conducting masters athletics competitions in India and entering athletes (selected in accord with a policy that they will establish) into Masters international competitions. This is not possible under the WMA constitution and rules as only MAFI holds the authorisation to perform this process.

WMA has referred the decision of AFI to the IAAF and the Masters Commission because of our concerns at the potential damage this decision may do to the organisation and conduct of masters' athletics in the State Athletic organisations in India. Already there is confusion and we are seeking to have the IAAF request AFI to retract its decision so that an acceptable resolution can be considered, and the growth of Masters athletics in India can continue.

Our concerns have been communicated directly to the AFI and we await a response. In the meantime WMA will continue to support and recognise MAFI as our legally constituted and approved affiliate in India.

Regards
Stan Perkins
Stan Perkins
WMA PRESIDENT