

INDIAN FOOTBALL ASSOCIATION (IFA)

IFA CUP 2026

Participating Teams Guide

An International Under-15 Football Tournament

5 – 20 DECEMBER 2026 · KOLKATA, INDIA

Building the Future of Football

Presented by Madhavan Sports Ventures

WELCOME

Welcome to Kolkata

Your academy has been invited to the inaugural IFA Cup — an international Under-15 tournament hosted by the Indian Football Association in the city that has carried Indian football since 1893.

This guide covers everything your delegation needs before travelling: squad size, accommodation, venues, security, the daily programme and what to bring. Please read it with your team manager and share it with parents.

Everything from airport arrival to departure is arranged and paid for by the host.



The Tournament at a Glance

5 – 20 Dec

Tournament window

2026

12

Competing teams

6 international · 6 Indian

U-15

Age category

Boys

Kolkata

Host city

West Bengal, India

1

League matches

Sports Authority of India Ground

2

Opening & Closing Ceremonies

Stadium at the historic Maidan

3

Accommodation

Secure hostel inside a sports campus

4

Rest day programme

Kolkata heritage tour + gala dinner

Squad & Staff

TOTAL DELEGATION

22

persons per team

All 22 are covered by tournament accommodation,
meals and local transport.

18

Players

Registered U-15 squad members

Cut off DOB: 01.01.2012 - 31.12.2014

4

Support Staff

Head coach, assistant coach, physio, team manager (indicative)

Registration deadline

Final squad lists, passport copies and age-verification documents must reach the organising committee before the deadline stated in your invitation letter. Substitutions after that date require written approval.

VENUES

Where You Will Play



PHOTO: SAI Ground

LEAGUE STAGE

Sports Authority of India Ground

All group-stage fixtures are played here on prepared, match-standard pitches with full officiating and medical cover.



OPENING & CLOSING

Stadium at the Historic Maidan

The ceremonies take place at the heart of Kolkata's football culture — the Maidan, home of the city's oldest clubs.

ACCOMMODATION

Where You Will Stay

A dedicated hostel inside a secured sports campus — teams live, train and eat within one controlled perimeter.



Players

Team dormitory rooms within the campus hostel, allocated by squad

Coaches & staff

Twin-sharing rooms, close to the squad accommodation

On campus

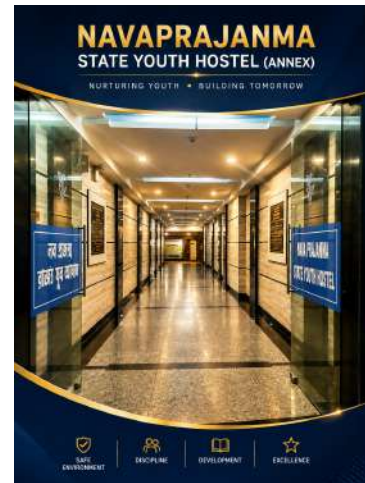
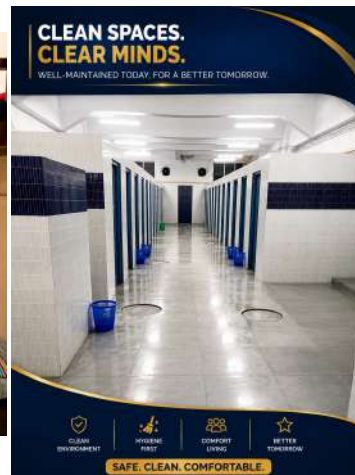
Training pitches, dining hall and medical room inside the same perimeter

Meals

Three meals a day, prepared for a young athlete's needs



Dormitory beds



A Fully Secured Environment

Security is the highest priority of this tournament. The campus operates as a closed, monitored site with the full co-operation of local authorities.

01

Controlled perimeter

A single secured campus. Entry and exit points are staffed around the clock.

02

Accreditation-only access

No person enters without a valid tournament card. No exceptions, at any venue.

03

Police co-operation

Local police and civic authorities support the event in full, at venues and in transit.

04

CCTV monitoring

Camera coverage across entrances, corridors, common areas and the training grounds.

05

24/7 on-site staff

Tournament staff and security personnel present at the hostel at all hours.

06

Escorted transport

All movement between the hostel and venues are by organised, supervised transport.

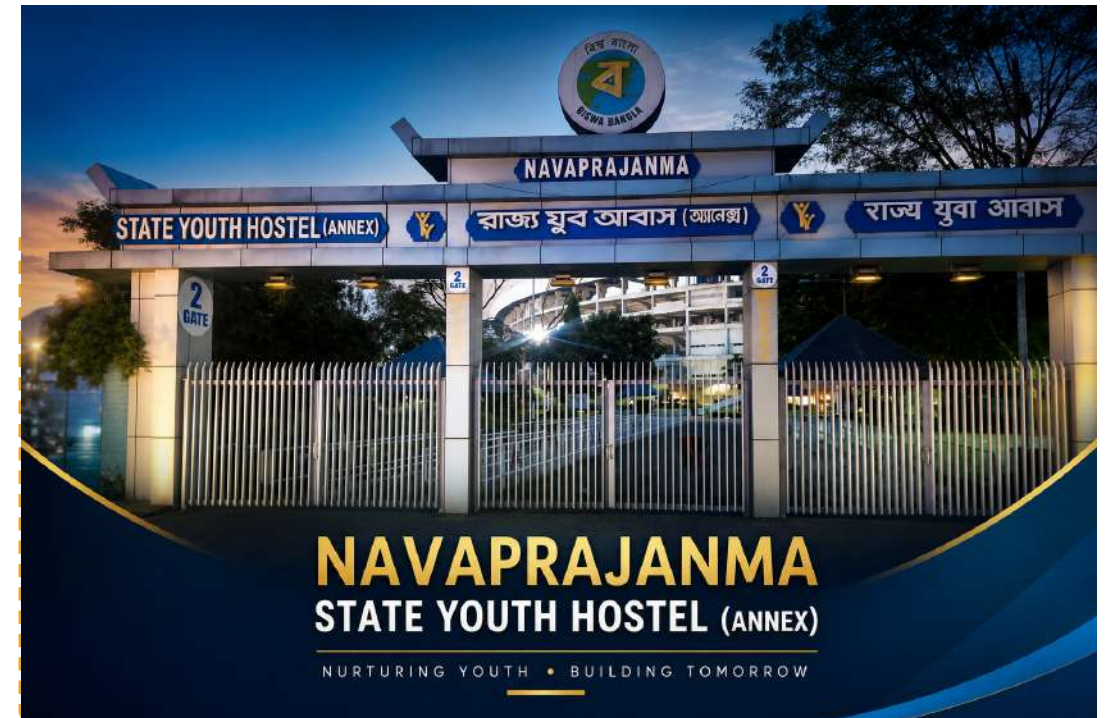
A designated tournament safeguarding contact is available to every visiting team for the full duration of the event.

No Card, No Entry

EVERY PERSON, EVERY VENUE

Accreditation cards are issued to all players, staff and officials on arrival.

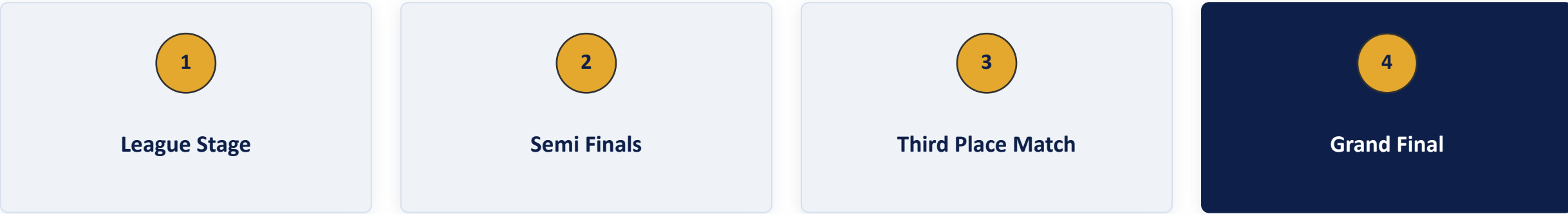
- ✓ Cards must be worn and visible at all times
- ✓ Access is limited to the zones printed on the card
- ✓ Lost cards must be reported immediately
- ✓ Visitors and family require prior written approval



Arriving without documentation

Anyone not on the accredited list — including family members travelling separately — cannot be admitted to the campus or the venues. Please brief your delegation before departure.

Format & Fixtures



- 11 competitive matches guaranteed for every team
- 73 matches across the tournament (approx.)
- 15 days of competition, 5 – 20 December



Kolkata Heritage Tour & Gala Dinner

One full day of the tournament is set aside for teams to see the city and meet each other away from the pitch.

DAYTIME

Historic City Tour

A guided tour of Kolkata's landmarks and colonial-era architecture, travelling together as a full tournament group with escorted transport throughout.



EVENING

Gala Dinner

All twelve delegations dine together — the one occasion in the tournament where every team, coach and official is in the same room.

- ✓ Smart or national team dress encouraged
- ✓ Attendance for all players and staff
- ✓ Escorted transport both ways

What Is Provided

1

Airport transfers

Met on arrival, escorted to campus

2

Local transportation

All movement to training and matches

3

Training facilities

Pitches available within the campus

4

Three meals daily

Prepared for young athletes under supervision of eminent nutritionists.

5

Medical support

On-site cover and match-day medical

6

Laundry

Kit turnaround during the tournament

7

Match analysis

Footage available to participating teams

8

Tournament hospitality

Team liaison assigned to each delegation

Teams are responsible only for international travel and personal expenses. Everything listed above is arranged by the host.

Before You Travel

DOCUMENTATION

- ✓ Passports valid six months beyond travel
- ✓ Visas arranged in advance
- ✓ Age-verification documents for all players
- ✓ Signed parental consent forms
- ✓ Medical and insurance certificates

KIT & EQUIPMENT

- ✓ Home and away playing kit
- ✓ Training wear and match boots
- ✓ Goalkeeper equipment
- ✓ Team first-aid supplies
- ✓ Smart dress for the gala dinner

Participation Fee

Honouring Tradition. Inspiring the Future.

PER TEAM DELEGATION

USD 8,600

18 players + 4 support staff

16 nights · 5 – 20 December 2026

Approx. USD 25 per person, per day

1

Tournament Entry & Operations

Registration, match officials, venue and pitch costs, on-ground medical cover, accreditation, kit and medals

USD 1,600

2

Accommodation & Full Board

16 nights at the State Youth Hostel, Salt Lake Stadium campus · three meals daily and match-day refreshments

USD 5,000

3

Hospitality & Local Programme

Airport transfers, daily venue transport, Kolkata city tour, gala dinner, opening and closing ceremonies

USD 2,000

PAYMENT SCHEDULE

INSTALMENT 1

USD 2,580

30% — on signing the Letter of Participation

INSTALMENT 2

USD 3,440

40% — 60 days before kick-off; visa invitation letters issued

INSTALMENT 3

USD 2,580

30% — 30 days before arrival; fixtures and accreditation released

Fee excludes international airfare, visa fees, personal insurance and personal expenses. · Additional delegates beyond 22: USD 400 per person. · Instalment 1 is non-refundable.

WE LOOK FORWARD TO WELCOMING YOU

IFA CUP 2026

5 – 20 December 2026 · Kolkata, India

TOURNAMENT CONTACT

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