**ESFI opens registrations for National Esports Championships 2024; journey to 16th WEC with $1 million prize pool begins**

*The NESC 2024 will be conducted for Counter Strike 2 (Open and Female), DOTA 2 (Open), and eFootball (Open) with registrations remaining open until April 15 and online qualifiers set to commence from April 18*

**New Delhi, April 1, 2024**: Esports Federation of India (ESFI) has opened the registrations for the highly anticipated National Esports Championships (NESC) 2024, marking the start of the journey towards the 16th World Esports Championships (WEC) which will take place in Riyadh, Saudi Arabia.

Organized by the International Esports Federation (IESF), the WEC 2024 will witness a total of 609 teams representing their countries across five game titles – Counter Strike 2 (Open and Female), Dota2, eFootball™ series, Mobile Legends: Bang Bang (Open and Female), and PUBG MOBILE. The prestigious tournament will kick off on November 11 and feature a whopping prize pool of $1 million prize pool being distributed among the top 8 teams in each game title and category for the first time.

The NESC 2024 will provide a platform for players across India to demonstrate their prowess in DOTA 2 (Open), eFootball (Open), and Counter-Strike 2 in the open and female categories. The winners will advance to the regional qualifiers where they will compete against other Asian countries to secure their berth for the global finals of the WEC 2024.

**Commenting on the commencement of the NESC 2024, Vinod Tiwari, President of Esports Federation of India, stated,** *“After a historic 2023, where India made its debut at the Asian Games 2022, we are excited to embark on a new year of opportunities with the NESC 2024. Last year, we hosted the country's inaugural female CS:GO qualifiers, where the winning team made it all the way to the Asian qualifiers. This time, we anticipate even greater achievements from our country’s talented female athletes. Overall, we are looking forward to witnessing the talent and passion of all Esports players throughout the qualifiers.”*

One of the country's top sports & Esports communication agencies, Artsmith-Concepts & Visions, will continue its support to the Esports Federation of India as its official communication partner.The registrations for NESC 2023 are now open and will continue until April 15. All details about the registrations will be available on ESFI’s discord server - <https://discord.gg/esfi>The online qualifiers will kick off from April 18 and will be played in a double-elimination format. The exciting action from the Championships will be streamed live on ESFI’s official YouTube and Facebook pages.

**ENDS**

**About Esports Federation of India:**

The Esports Federation of India (ESFI) is a full member of the International Esports Federation (IESF), Global Esports Federation (GEF), and Asian Esports Federation (AESF). ESFI participated in Asian Games 2018, where Tirth Mehta got India’s first bronze in Esports (demonstration title), and in CWC 2022, where the Indian DOTA 2 team won the bronze medal.

ESFI sent the 15-member Indian contingent to participate in four titles – DOTA 2, League of Legends, Street Fighter V Champion Edition, and FIFA Online 4 for the Asian Games 2022 in Hangzhou where Esports made its debut as an official medal sport. The country’s League of Legends team achieved a historic fifth-placed finish at the prestigious tournament.

To promote, encourage, organize, educate, train, and control Esports in India and to provide facilities for training in Esports, build and sustain the Esports eco-system in India, not limiting to providing, conceptualizing, opening, managing, running, developing, facilitating, and promoting all areas of Esports and to provide all other possible and related forms of Esports.

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