NATIONAL STORYTELLING CHAMPIONSHIP · 2026

Championship Rules

These rules keep the championship fair for every storyteller. Please read them fully before you record. By registering, you agree to follow them.

Last updated 15 Oct 2026 · Version 1.0

2 min	10 MB	₹500	1 story	24 Oct
Maximum story length	Maximum video file size	Fee per registration	Per registration, one take	Last date to submit

1. Eligibility

- Open to participants aged 3 years and above. There is no upper age limit.
- Indian residents and storytellers living outside India can take part.
- Your age on the cut-off date (1 October 2026) decides your age category. Proof of age may be requested from finalists.
- Participants under 18 must register through a parent, guardian, or school, who gives consent on their behalf.
- Schools and institutions may register several students. Each student needs a separate registration.

2. Registration And Fee

- Register online on the NSC website and create your participant account.
- The registration fee is ₹500 per registration . One registration allows one story entry in one category.
- Your entry is confirmed only after the payment succeeds. You will receive an entry ID by email.
- Fees are non-refundable once paid, except where the championship is cancelled.
- Registration closes on 20 October 2026. Late registrations will not be accepted.

3. Categories And Themes

Division	Age group
Junior	3 – 4 years · 5 – 7 years · 8 – 13 years · 14 – 17 years
Senior	18 – 30 years · 31 – 60 years · 61 years and above
Inclusive	Any age, for storytellers with special needs

- Choose one theme for your story: Folk Tales, Mythology and Legends, Original Stories, Humour, History and Heritage, or Moral and Values.
- Every theme is open to every age group. All themes compete together within your age category.

4. Story Rules

- Your story must be 2 minutes or less , including your introduction. Entries over 2 minutes may lose marks or be disqualified.
- Tell your story in English or any major Indian language.
- You may tell a traditional story in your own words or an original story you created.
- Tell the story from memory. Reading from a script, screen or prompter is not allowed.
- Simple props and costumes are allowed. Background music, sound effects and other performers are not.
- Content must suit a family audience. No hate speech, violence, offensive language or political content.

5. Video Requirements

Requirement	Specification
Length	Up to 2 minutes
File size	10 MB maximum
Format	MP4 or MOV
Orientation	Landscape (horizontal) preferred

- Record one continuous take. No cuts, edits, filters, subtitles or added effects.
- Your face and upper body must be clearly visible throughout. Keep the camera steady.
- Record in a quiet place with good light. Your voice must be clear.
- Start by saying your name, age category and the title of your story.

Tip for the 10 MB limit: phone cameras usually record much larger files. Record at 720p (not 1080p or 4K), or compress the video before you upload it.

6. Submission

- Upload your video through the participant dashboard between 15 Oct 2026 and 24 Oct 2026.
- Each registration allows one final video. You may replace it until the deadline.
- Keep your entry ID. You will need it to track your status and for any support request.
- Videos sent by email, WhatsApp or social media will not be accepted.

7. Judging

A jury of storytellers and educators reviews every entry. Finalists from each category move to the live grand finale, where the overall Champion and Runners Up are chosen.

Criterion	What the jury looks for	Weight
Storytelling craft	Clear beginning, middle and end; pace and structure	[30%]
Voice and expression	Voice modulation, gestures, emotion	[25%]
Originality	A fresh story or a fresh way of telling a known one	[25%]
Audience connection	Engagement and overall presentation	[20%]

The jury's decision is final. Scores are not shared individually.

8. Prizes And Certificates

- Total prize pool ₹2,00,000 – Champion ₹1,00,000 · First Runner Up ₹70,000 · Second Runner Up ₹30,000.
- Category winners receive a trophy, medal or certificate of merit.
- Every participant whose entry meets the rules receives an e-certificate.
- Prize money is paid by bank transfer within 30 days of the results, subject to applicable tax. For minors, it is paid to the parent or guardian.

9. Disqualification

An entry may be disqualified if it:

- Is edited, uses a different performer, or reads from a script
- Copies another storyteller's performance or recording
- Contains unsuitable or offensive content
- Gives false age or identity details
- Is submitted after the deadline or through an unofficial channel

10. Consent, Rights And Privacy

- You keep the rights to your story. By entering, you allow NSC and its organisers to show your video on its website, social media and events, with credit to you.
- For participants under 18, a parent or guardian must accept this consent.
- Personal details are used only to run the championship, as described in our Privacy Policy.
- The organisers may update these rules. Any change will be posted on this page with a new date.

Questions and support

Email: admin@acenovation.com · Phone: +91 89399 51230