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From the President's Desk



The Jawaharlal Nehru Hockey Tournament Society's initiative to update Indian Umpires with the latest rules and technologies have been so successful that more & more umpires are coming forward to get benefit from such Seminars. The Society's third such venture, held in Chandigarh during November 13-15, 2009, was one such event which attracted over 42 umpires from India, UAE and Sri Lanka and was conducted by Mr. Ermanno Silvano, Chairman of the FIH Umpiring Committee. The brain behind this venture was of Shri Kukoo Wallia, the vibrant Organising- cum - Jt Secretary (Tournament) of the Nehru Hockey Society.

While on the subject of umpires, there was some good news as the FIH awarded the most prestigious "Golden Whistle" to Indian umpire Shri Satinder Sharma, who has officiated in more than 100 international matches, including two Olympics, two World Cups, Five Champions Trophy, One Asian Games and two Junior World Cups. The Nehru Hockey Society honoured Shri Satinder Sharma by presenting him a Shawl during the Senior Nehru Tournament in Chandigarh.

All the 12 participating teams for the forthcoming 12th Hero Honda FIH World Cup Hockey for Men in New Delhi from February 28–March 13, 2010, have been identified after a series of qualifying tournaments held at different countries. As for the 2010 BDO World Cup Hockey for Women, there are still three places to be filled as nine nations have already qualified for the August 30 –September 12, event at Rosario (Argentina). As silver medallist of the 7th Asia Cup, Indian women have also qualified for this mega event.

On the home front, four of Nehru Hockey Society's five annual tournaments were completed with great success.

Ram Niwas Mirdha

SEMINAR-CUM-CLINIC FOR HOCKEY UMPIRES-A BIG HIT

Hockey's rules have of late undergone lot of changes in recent years. Therefore, it is imperative that officials, especially the umpires, who conduct the matches, should be abreast with all the latest changes in the rules. To update Indian umpires, the Jawaharlal Nehru Hockey Tournament Society conducted a three-day Seminar-cum-clinic at Hotel Park Inn, Sector 35, Chandigarh during November 13-15, 2009. Mr. Ermanno Silvano, the Chairman of the FIH Umpiring Committee, acted as the Course Conductor of the Seminar, which was attended by 42 participants from India, three each from Sri Lanka and the UAE.



Mr. Ermanno Silvano (Standing), Shri H.S. Dhillon (Middle) and Shri Kukoo Wallia

The participation of these foreign umpires made the Seminar "International". The participants also included six young ladies, local umpires, coaches and some players.

Inaugurated by Shri H.S. Dhillon, Inspector-General of Punjab Police (Vigilance), the three-day clinic ended on a

successful note with the participants returning fully enriched by the experience and inter-action with the experts. Mr. Silvano illustrated the latest rules and their interpretations through video clippings of matches from major international tournaments. The question-answer Sessions in which Shri Kukoo Walla, Umpire-Manager (FIH), Member, Umpire Development Office (Asia), International Hockey Umpire Grade-I, and the Organising-cum-Jt. Secretary (Tournament) of the Nehru Hockey Society, the brain behind this big venture, also joined in the deliberations to make the event more interesting and fruitful. In fact, it was at the instance of Shri Kukoo Walla that Mr. Silvano agreed to come to India to conduct the Clinic.

This is for the third time that the Nehru Hockey Society has conducted such a Clinic. The Society's President, Shri Ram Niwas Mirdha was always keen that the Society should take the lead in conducting regular Clinics for umpires in India. This time it was held in cooperation with Hockey Chandigarh and Hockey Punjab in Chandigarh.

The success of any event depends not only on the number of participants but also on their enthusiasm and commitment. The successful conclusion of this prestigious event earned lot of praise and appreciation from the Federation of International Hockey (FIH).

The Chairman of the FIH Umpiring Committee, Mr. Ermanno Silvano was so impressed by the active participation of the umpires that he saw "potential in them to become the next top Indian International umpires". He said that he was "delighted to see the strong commitment of these young and promising umpires, some of whom travelled by train for more than 30 hours just to be here". He had a special word of thanks to the Society, in particular, Shri Kukoo Walla for organizing and hosting single-handedly this Seminar and for the Society's "ongoing activities in the development of the Umpires across India".

FIH GOLDEN WHISTLE FOR SATINDER SHARMA

Satinder Sharma, 44, has been awarded the most prestigious "Golden Whistle" award by the International Hockey Federation (FIH) after becoming the first Indian who umpired 100 senior international hockey matches.

Employed with the State Bank of India in Chandigarh as Deputy Manager, Satinder Sharma umpired his 100th match on November 7, 2009 at Invercargill (New Zealand) during the Men's World Cup qualifiers between China and Scotland. On November 13, 2009, he was formally awarded the "Golden Whistle" in Invercargill by the Oceania Hockey Federation President, Mr. Pam Elgar.

So far, Satinder has officiated in 117 International

matches, including two Olympics, two World Cups, five Champions Trophy, one Asian Games and two Junior World Cups. However, Junior World Cup matches are not considered for the Golden Whistle award.

Satinder Sharma, who is the 29th umpire in the world to get the award, was presented a shawl by former Indian skipper Dhanraj Pillay on behalf of the Jawaharlal Nehru Hockey Tournament Society in Chandigarh on November 25 during the Senior Nehru Hockey Tournament final held there. Satinder, who is in the FIH Panel of Umpires, has already been nominated for the 2010 World Cup to be held in New Delhi.

2010 HERO HONDA WORLD CUP HOCKEY (MEN) All 12 teams Qualify

All the 12 teams that will participate in the 12th edition of the Hero Honda FIH World Cup Hockey for Men, to be held at the State-of-the-art Major Dhyan Chand Hockey Stadium in New Delhi during February 28-March 13 next year, have been identified. Argentina became the 12th team to complete the line-up defeating Belgium 4-3 in a thrilling final of the third and final qualifying tournament, held at Quilmes (Argentina) on November 22. Pakistan and New Zealand were the other teams to make it from qualifying tournaments No.1 and 2 respectively. The dozen

teams that have qualified to take part in this global championship are : 1. (India - hosts); 2. Canada (Champion of the 3rd Pan American Cup); 3. South Korea (Champion of the Asia Cup); 4. South Africa (Champion of the Africa Cup of Nations); 5. Australia (Champion of Oceania Cup); 6. England (Champion of the 12th Euro Hockey Nations Championship); 7. Germany (Silver medallist of Euro Hockey Nations Championship); 8. Netherlands (Bronze medallist of the Euro Hockey Nations Championship); 9. Spain (4th ranked in Euro Hockey Nations

Championship); 10. Pakistan (Winner of World Cup qualification tournament No.1); 11. New Zealand (Winner of World Cup qualifier No. 2); and 12. Argentina (Winner of World Cup qualifier No. 3).

According to FIH announcement, the 12 teams have been divided into two pools of six teams each. **Pool-A** will consist of defending World Cup Champions and World No.1 Germany,

the Netherlands, Asian Champions South Korea, Champion Challenger-I winner New Zealand, Pan American Champions Canada and winner of World Cup qualifier No. 3 Argentina. **Pool-B**, will comprise hosts India, Champions Trophy Winner and World No.2 Australia, European power house Spain, European Champions England, India's arch-rivals Pakistan and African Champions South Africa.

2010 BDO WORLD CUP HOCKEY (WOMEN)

3 Short of 12-team quota

While all the 12 qualifiers have completed the line-up for the Men's World Cup, the 12-nation BDO World Cup for Women, to be held at Rosario (Argentina) during August 30–September 12 next year, is now short of only three for the final line-up. The nine teams that have qualified so far are 1. Argentina (hosts and champion of Pan American Cup); 2. South Africa (Champion of Africa Cup of Nations); 3. New

Zealand (Champion of Oceania Cup); 4. Netherlands (Champion of Euro Hockey Nations Championship); 5. Germany (Silver medallist of Euro Hockey Nations); 6. England (Bronze medallist of Euro Hockey Nations); 7. Spain (4th ranked in Euro Hockey Nations); 8. China (Champion of 7th Asia Cup) and 9 India (Silver medallist of 7th Asia Cup).

16TH NEHRU GIRLS (U-17) TOURNAMENT FOR THE NDMC TROPHY (OCTOBER 6-15, 2009)

Rourkela Girls Emerge Winners

The ancient beautiful fort city of Gwalior was witness to some close and entertaining fare from the 20 girls teams from across the country that had assembled to participate in the 16th edition of this popular tournament, thanks to overwhelming cooperation of the Sports Administration of the Madhya Pradesh Government.

The tournament had attracted twenty best teams of the country. Of them, a dozen teams played in the preliminary league. They were divided into four groups of three teams each. The four group leader's qualified to contest against eight seeded teams. The 12 teams were also divided into four groups and their winners entered the semi-finals. In the first Semi-final, three-time Champions, the Govt. Sr. Sec. School, Ranchi (Jharkhand) beat Govt. Sr. Sec. School, Shahabad, Murkanda (Haryana) 3-2 while the two-time

Champions Birsa Munda Vidyapitha, Rourkela (Orissa) scored a 4-2 win over Govt. Model Sr. Sec. School, Chandigarh in the 2nd semi-final.

Birsa Munda Vidyapitha beat Govt. Girls High School, Ranchi 1-0 in the Final. In the match for the third place, defending Champions Govt. Sr. Sec. School, Shahabad struck with a vengeance to outplay Govt. Model Sr. Sec. School, Chandigarh 8-2.

The winners received the coveted trophy alongwith a cash award of Rs. 96,000 while the runners-up were richer by Rs. 64,000 and the third placed team got Rs. 32,000. Coaches of the three top teams namely Amulya Nanda Bihari, Sylbanus Dung Dung and Dronacharya Baldev Singh received cash award of Rs. 8,000, Rs. 5,000 and Rs. 3,000 respectively.

27TH ONGC-Nehru Sub-Junior Boys (U-15) Tournament Fourth Win for Govt. Model Sr. Sec. School, Jalandhar

The jubilation of the Govt. Model Sr. Sec. School, Ladowali Road, Jalandhar knew no end when they won the sub-junior final for the fourth time in the 27-year-old history of the tournament. They defeated Spring Dales Sr. Sec. School, Amritsar 4-2 at Shahabad (Haryana) on October 29 this year. This school had earlier won the title for three consecutive years during 2002-04.

Sponsored by ONGC, a record number of 24 teams (four more than last year) from across the country participated in the 27th edition of the tournament, held during October 19-29. The competition saw 18 teams in the preliminary league stage. They were divided into six groups of three teams each and the toper from each group qualified for the super league alongwith six seeded teams. These 12 teams were also divided into four groups of three teams each. The four group leaders

then made it to the Semis. In the first Semi-final, Govt. Model Sr. Sec. School, Ladowali (Jalandhar) beat St. Mary High School, Simdega (Jharkhand) 4-1. Last year's losing finalists Baba Gumukh Singh Uttam Singh Sr. Sec. School, Khadoor Sahib, Taran Taran went down 1-4 to Spring Dales Sr. Sec. School, Amritsar. In the 2nd semi-final, Baba Gumukh Singh Uttam Singh School finished third beating St. Mary High School 5-1.

The winners received the glittering trophy and a cash award of Rs. 96,000. Runners-up were richer by Rs. 64,000 while third placed team by Rs. 32,000. The Coaches of the three top teams, Gurdev Singh, Kuljeet Singh and Dronacharya Baldev Singh received cash award of Rs. 8000 Rs. 5000 and Rs. 3000 respectively.

The Govt. of Haryana played a significant role to successfully conduct the tournament at Shahbad.

38TH ATS-NEHRU JUNIOR BOYS (U-17) TOURNAMENT

Govt. Model High School, Chandigarh Triumphs

Government Model Schools' domination in the Nehru Tournaments continued when the Govt. Model High School from Chandigarh won the junior boys crown (U17) at the sector 42 Hockey Stadium in Chandigarh on Nov. 14 this year. Most of the members of the victorious team belonged to the Chandigarh Hockey Academy, a venture of the Chandigarh Administration.

Sponsored by M/s ATS Infrastructure Ltd. 30 teams took part in this tournament, which was conducted in three stages. The participation of a team from Bangladesh among the 30 teams taking part this year was the salient feature of the tournament. In the pre-league, 15 teams took part. The top teams from the five groups joined seven seeded teams in the next stage. Four toppers from this stage joined another set of eight seeded teams and were divided into four groups again. The four semi-finalists were then

spotted. In the first semi-final, Dudial Khalsa Sr. Sec. School, Patiala beat Spring Dales Sr. Sec. School, Amritsar 3-2 while the Govt. Model Sr. Sec. School, Sector-42, Chandigarh bypassed the Govt. Model Sr. Sec. School, Ladowali, Jalandhar by an identical score of 3-2.

The Govt. Model Sr. Sec. School, Sector 42, Chandigarh beat Dudial Khalsa Hr. Sec. School, Patiala 3-0 in the final. Another Govt. Model Sr. Sec. School, Ladowali claimed the third place beating Spring Dales Sr. Sec. School, Amritsar 4-2.

The winners received Rs. 96,000 plus the coveted trophy while the runners-up got Rs. 64,000. The third placed team was richer by Rs. 32,000. The Coaches of the three top teams, Jasbir Singh, Hira Singh and Avtar Singh received Rs. 8000 Rs. 5000 and Rs. 3000 respectively.

46TH JINDAL STEEL NEHRU (SENIOR) TOURNAMENT

Indian Oil and Namdhari XI Share Trophy

Hockey of the highest order was witnessed by a huge enthusiastic spectators, including many who had made the country proud in the past, at the sector 42 Hockey Stadium in Chandigarh, where Indian Oil and Namdhari XI were declared joint-winners of the 46th Jindal Steel-Nehru Senior hockey tournament. The teams failed to break the deadlock (1-1) at the end of the regulation time despite extra-time and tie-breaker (10-10). Both the teams missed penalties in identical fashion to add suspense and drama to the final moments of the match.

Eighteen teams played in the first phase on knock-out

basis. Four best teams from this phase joined four seeded teams in the next stage. They were divided into two groups of four teams each. Two toppers from each group constituted the semi-finalists. In the first semi-final, Namdhari XI beat Punjab National Bank 2-1, while Indian Oil crushed Army XI 5-1 in the Second Semi-Final. In the match to decide the third place, Army XI beat PNB 4-1.

Indian Oil and Namdhari XI received cash award of Rs. 1.5 lakh each besides sharing the trophy. Namdhari XI were lucky with the toss that enabled them to keep the trophy for the first six months. Army XI received Rs. 50,000 for finishing 3rd.

DO YOU KNOW? Answer if you know

The Screening Committee of the Nehru Hockey Society's Quiz Programme is glad to announce the names of successful persons, who have won the gorgeous RAKSHAK track-suit, prize for the quarter ending December, 2009. They are S'Shri Surender Khanna, A.K. Mathur and Rohit Kumar.

The two questions were:

1. Name the Indian Father and Son Duo, who had played in the Olympic Hockey in which year?

Ans. Major Dhyan Chand Played in 1928, 1932 and 1936 (father), Ashok Kumar played in 1972 & 1976 (son). Ahmed Sher Khan Played in 1936 (father), Aslam Sher Khan played in 1972 and 1976 (son).

2. Who scored the fastest goal in the Olympic Hockey

tournament?

Ans. Ajit Singh, Centre forward of India scored the fastest first goal after just 15 seconds of play in the match against Argentina in 1976, Montreal Olympic Hockey Tournament.

Given below are the two questions:

1. What for the 1972 Munich Olympic is considered sensational in more ways than one?

2. Against whom and in which Olympic hockey tournament India lost first time in its pool matches?

The answers must reach on or before the 15th of January, 2010 to the Society through e-mail (nehruhockey64@hotmail.com) or (kukoowalia@usa.net) The decision of the Screening Committee is final and binding.



Rakshak.

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