



THE CRADLE OF INDIAN HOCKEY QUARTERLY NEWSLETTER

No. 36

JULY-SEPT 2012

INSIDE

London Olympic 2012	2
India back in Champions Trophy.....	2
President presents National Awards.....	3
Society's Annual Souvenir Released.....	3
President honours Dr. DR Saini.....	3
Ashwani Chauhan donates Trophy.....	4
Baljit Singh Memorial Player of the match Award.....	4
Dilip Chenoy joins Nehru Hockey Society.....	4

From the President's Desk

More than the disappointment of not having qualified for the Beijing Olympics in 2008, the humiliation of losing all six matches and finishing at the bottom in men's hockey in the London Games will torment the game's followers in India for a long time to come.

The best way to forget the misery of the London Games is to think ahead in a positive manner and learn from past mistakes. All is not lost yet. Let us start from scratch and prepare right away in earnest for the next Olympics.

There is something to cheer about though as Indian men's team will be one of the eight teams that will take part in the Owen G Glenn FIH 34 Men's Champions Trophy in Melbourne later this year.

To commemorate the memory of hockey wizard Maj Dhyhan Chand, August 29, is celebrated as National Sports Day every year. On the occasion, outstanding sportspersons and eminent coaches are honoured by the President of India. This year hockey ace mid-fielder Shri Sardar Singh and coach Shri Harendra Singh were honoured with Arjuna and Dronacharya awards, respectively.

The release of Nehru Hockey Tournament Society's Souvenir has been an eventful one every year. This year a new-look Souvenir, rich in content with analytical articles and statistics information were released. This gives me immense pleasure to announce that our Vice-President, Dr. D.R. Saini was honoured by the President presenting him the Best Teacher Award for the year 2011.

The Nehru Hockey Society is grateful to Shri Ashwani Chauhan, NRI brother of Shri Rohit Chauhan, Jt. Secretary for instituting a trophy and giving a cash award of Rs 32,000 to the 3rd position team in the Junior Nehru tournament. It will be in memory of his father Shri K S Chauhan. The Society is also happy to announce Player of the Match award, totaling to the tune of Rs 50,000, in memory of international Baljit Singh Bitto. The award is instituted by his brother Naripjit Singh.

The Nehru Hockey Society takes pleasure to announce that Shri Dilip Chenoy, Managing Director and Chief Executive Officer of National Skill Development Corporation (NSDC), has been inducted as a Member of the Society.



EDITORIAL BOARD

EDITORIAL ADVISORS

Dr. Mahboob Alam, IPS

Dr. D.R. Saini

Shri Kukoo Walia

CHIEF EDITOR

Shri M.N. Shome

Arun Subhashchandra Yadav

LONDON OLYMPICS 2012

A DREAM SHATTERED YET AGAIN

Indian team's worst show at London Olympics but lets be positive and learn from mistakes Indian men's hockey team touched a new low by finishing at the bottom of the competition after being beaten 3-2 by South Africa in the 11-12 place classification match at the London Olympic Games. The bottom-place finish will leave lingering pain for Indian hockey. This was the sixth straight loss at the Riverbank Arena for the Indian team, who made a return to the Olympics after failing to qualify for the 2008 Games in Beijing. The previous lowest position that the country had occupied was eighth at the 1996 Atlanta Games.

London presented an opportunity for the Indian team to find its lost glory. It was redemption time. It marked India's return to the Games after eight years. After humiliating loss, the big question is about the Indian team's preparedness for the Olympics. The Indian team showed a distinct lack of preparedness for the big event. India's No. 10 international ranking itself was a clear indication that they were never in medal contention but it was hard to believe that they would fail to win a single match. The fact that eight-time gold medallists India had not even entered the hockey semifinals for 32 years underscores the marginality of India in a sport in which they once were world beaters. It was a sad commentary on Indian hockey when Chief Coach Michael Nobbs said that some players seemed satisfied at having become Olympians, while a few others were striving to give their best for the country.

We prove time and again that, as a nation, we overreact on winning and losing. The need of the hour is to address the root causes. Schools and colleges should give more importance to sports — at least provide a proper playground. Talent should be spotted at a young age and encouraged. If we are honest about these, India will find itself competing with others sooner than later. The Bharat Chetri-led team got all the support from the Hockey India, Government, and Corporates in preparation for the London Olympic. That is the reason one is disappointed at the dismal show put up by the team.

The Jawaharlal Nehru Hockey Tournament Society's motto has always been to inspire and promote the game and its players from grass-roots level. Society's Secretary Shri Kukoo Walia believes that heaven has not fallen. What the immediate need is that all the authorities concerned should draw a plan immediately to rectify past mistakes and prepare for the next Olympics in earnest. Rome was not built in a day. We must accept the fact that while other nations have moved far ahead we have fallen behind. But there is still hope and light at the end of the tunnel.

Final Standings : 1. Germany, 2. Netherlands, 3. Australia, 4. Great Britain, 5. Belgium, 6. Spain, 7. Pakistan, 8. Korea, 9. New Zealand, 10. Argentina, 11. South Africa, 12. India.

INDIA BACK IN CHAMPIONS TROPHY

India will be one of the eight confirmed teams for the Owen Glenn FIH Men's Champions Trophy hockey tournament to be held in Melbourne later this year, thereby ending the nation's six-year long wait for making a comeback to the prestigious event. Apart from India, the other confirmed participating countries are hosts Australia, Belgium, Germany, the Netherlands, New Zealand and England with the field to be increased to eight in total, the International Hockey Federation (FIH) disclosed.

The 34th Champions Trophy will be held at the State Netball Hockey Centre in Melbourne — the same venue that hosted the 2009 edition of the event — from December 1-9, 2012. India last featured in a Champions Trophy in Chennai in 2005 when they finished fifth. India's best performance in the event was the team's bronze medal finish in 1982 at Amstelveen (Netherlands).

India could not qualify for the 28th and later editions as they failed to qualify through the Champions Challenge. India were out of the 28th edition having finished sixth and last in the earlier edition held in Chennai in 2005.

Champions Trophy is the International Hockey Federation's (FIH) most prestigious annual event since 1978. It features the world's top-ranked teams competing in round-robin format. In the men's section, Australia won the trophy maximum number of times (12, four times in a row) followed by Germany (9), the Dutch (8) and Pakistan, the only Asian champions, with three titles. The 33rd edition held in Auckland (New Zealand) was won by Australia (fourth time in a row) while Spain finished runners-up and Netherlands came third.

PRESIDENT PRESENTS NATIONAL AWARDS TO SPORTSPERSONS

The Arjuna Award, the Union Government's one of the top sports honour, specifically meant for outstanding sportsmen and women of the country, has generated into a purposeful institution, established in 1961.

August 29 has been designated as the National Sports Day by the Government of India to honour the nation's greatest-ever sportsman, the late Major Dhyan Chand. To commemorate the legend's birth anniversary on this day, the President of India, of all dignitaries, personally presides over the annual award presentation ceremony with all solemnity it deserves



at the gorgeous Ashoka Hall in the Rashtrapati Bhawan in New Delhi.

The awardees this year included among others one hockey stalwart Shri Sardara Singh, the ace midfielder and Vice-Captain of the Indian team at the just held London Olympics. Also honoured on the occasion was the eminent hockey coach Shri Harendra Singh, who was awarded the Guru Dronacharya Award. The coveted Dhyan Chand Award for Life Time Achievement was presented to Shri Gundeeep Singh.

SOCIETY'S ANNUAL SOUVENIR RELEASED

The release of the annual souvenir of the Jawaharlal Nehru Hockey Tournament Society has always been an eventful one. The reasons are many. It is rich in content, with analytical articles from eminent sports writers who have been following the game of hockey for several decades.



This year's Souvenir was released by the Society's President, Shri Arun Subhashchandra Yadav on July 18 at an impressive function in the presence of an eminent galaxy of stars that included the three Vice-Presidents - Dr D R Saini, Shri Subhash Kapur and triple Olympian Shri Harbinder Singh. Other top personalities who graced the occasion included Shri Om Pathak, Chairman, Sela Qui Education Trust and Shri Ramesh Kapur, Chairman, Souvenir Committee.

Thanks to the untiring efforts of the Society's Secretary, Shri Kukoo Walia, this year's Souvenir has got a new and fresh look by including rare National and International news and views. It is thus no surprise that the Nehru Hockey Society's Souvenir has come in for high praise from none other than the President of the International Hockey Federation, Mr Leandro Negre himself.

PRESIDENT HONOURS DR. D.R. SAINI ON THE TEACHERS DAY



For the last 50 years, 5th September is befittingly celebrated across the country as the Teachers Day. The President presides over the National Award Ceremony on this day. This day happens to be the birthday of late Bharat Ratna Dr. Sarvapalli Radhakrishnan.

This year the President, His Excellency Shri Pranab Mukherjee presented the Best Teacher Award for the year 2011 to Dr. D.R. Saini, Principal, Delhi Public School, RK Puram, New Delhi, who was recognized as

a motivated teacher involved in continuously improving educational programme and fully responsive to the changing needs of his students and widening the scope of education beyond the confines of Class-room curriculum.

On behalf of the Nehru Hockey Society, Shri Kukoo Walia, Secretary congratulated Dr. Saini, a Vice-President of the Society and announced that the Society is proud of Dr. Saini.

ASHWANI CHAUHAN DONATES JUNIOR TOURNAMENT'S 3RD PLACE CASH PRIZE



The Jawaharlal Nehru Hockey Tournament Society is grateful to Shri Ashwani Chauhan, NRI brother of Shri Rohit Chauhan, Joint Secretary – JNHT Society for instituting a trophy and cash prize of Rs. 32,000/- to the 3rd Position team in memory of his father late

Shri K.S. Chauhan. This trophy and cash incentive will be given every year by Shri Ashwani Chauhan. The Society appreciates the kind gesture of Shri Ashwani Chauhan for donating and helping the Society in conducting the Junior Tournament in a befitting manner.

BALJIT SINGH MEMORIAL PLAYER OF THE MATCH AWARD



The Jawaharlal Nehru Hockey Tournament Society is pleased to announce that the 'Player of the Match Award' in memory of Baljit Singh (Bitto), International Hockey Player in respect of Nehru Girls (u-17 years) Tournament. This award is instituted by his brother Shri Naripjit Singh. The match award will be given as per details below :-

1.	Phase-I	15 matches X Rs. 1,000 each	=	15,000
2.	Phase-II	12 matches X Rs. 2,000 each	=	24,000
3.	Semi-finals	02 matches X Rs. 3,000 each	=	06,000
4.	Finals	01 match X Rs. 5,000	=	05,000

The Jawaharlal Nehru Hockey Tournament Society extends its grateful thanks to Shri Naripjit Singh for his noble contribution for the development of National game of Hockey. The Society looks forward to other donors to come forward and help in improving the standard of hockey at the grass roots level in India, which is the need of the hour.

DILIP CHENOY JOINS NEHRU HOCKEY SOCIETY



The Jawaharlal Nehru Hockey Tournament Society is glad to announce that the Society has associated another useful hockey personality in its fold. Shri Dilip Chenoy, Managing Director and Chief Executive Officer of the National Skill Development Corporation (NSDC) has been

inducted as a Member of the Society at its Annual General Body Meeting held on July 18, 2012. The Society's Secretary, Shri Kukoo Walia strongly believes that Shri Chenoy's induction as a Member of the Society will benefit the Society in a larger way to promote and serve the cause of our National game of Hockey.

This issue has been sponsored by STEELBIRD INTERNATIONAL, New Delhi

Steelbird[®]
AUTO COMPONENTS

Published by

Jawaharlal Nehru Hockey Tournament Society, A-2/98, Safdarjung Enclave, New Delhi-110 029.

Phone : Office : 26178793, Telefax : 26178792, Mobile : 9811175233

E-mail : nehruhockey64@hotmail.com | kukoowalia@usa.net | Website : www.nehruhockey.com