

SARDAR MANMOHAN SINGH – 42ND NEHRU SUB-JUNIOR HOCKEY TOURNAMENT
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ASHISH PURTI AND ARJANDEEP SHINE AS TATAS SET UP TITLE MATCH WITH
ROUND GLASS ACADEMY

NEW DELHI, Oct 17 - Thanks to a fine hatrick by skipper Ashish Tani Purti, holders Naval Tata Hockey Academy, Jamshedpur took their appointed place in the final S Manmohan Singh 42nd Nehru Sub Junior Boys hockey tournament prevailing over Govt School, Palol, Khunti 6-3 in an absorbing all-Jharkhand semi-final at Shivaji Stadium this evening.

They will clash with Round Glass Hockey Academy, Punjab who subdued an early challenge from a tenacious Haryana Govt Academy, Sonapat. Winger Arjandeep Singh was the hero of Jalandhar team.

Jalandhar team has been trained under former Sports College, Lucknow coach Vikas Pal ably assisted by Ravinder Singh under the overall supervision of Olympian Rajinder Singh.

Naval Tata Boys forged ahead early with two first quarter goals by Afridi and Jaysan Kadulna. Khunti boys retaliated captain Sunil Horo reducing and Sukuwan Bhengra equalising in in a matter of seven minutes.

Jamshedpur Skipper Ashish Purti who scored the next two goals in the second and third quarter missed a penalty stroke compensated minutes later by scoring a brilliant goal after a long haul to complete his hatrick. Two of his goals came through penalty corners.

Khunti 's mercurial forward Birsa Hemron brought back his team into contention again in the 45th minute by making it 3-5 but steel boy Amit Kongari had other ideas and sealed the Khunti fate 6-3 with eight minutes to the hooter.

Round Glass team starting the tournament on a sedate note has improved in every match after playing a draw early on.

Captain Sanmukh Singh put Punjab boys ahead of their neighbours Haryana scoring a on a judicious pass from Arjandeep. Arjandeep's next goal with reverse flick from an acute angle was a beauty. However, Veer Kumar the real fulcrum of Haryana team had briefly made the score 1-1. The match tended to be rough but umpires handled the situation well.

Last two goal were produced by Man of the Match Arjandeep Singh. But for some brilliant saves by Rahul under the Haryana bar the scoreline could have been different and Arjandeep would have added minimum two goals more to Punjab's tally.

The all-Academy final would be played at 2-30 pm. The match will be telecast live on YouTube.