

# PROSQUASH

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Vol 13 No. 4 Issue No. 52  
Oct 2009

## SPRITE-ISP All India Open Squash Tournament 2009

Gaurav, Janet victorious

(25/08/2009)



Mr. Digvijay Singh (General Secretary, All India Congress Committee and former National Squash Player) along with the winners of All India ISP-Sprite Squash tournament held in R.K. Puram, Kendriya Vidyalaya, New Delhi.



Gaurav Nandrajog (Winner, Mens Open) receiving the trophy from Mr. Digvijay Singh alongwith Sanjay Goyal (Sec. Gen. ISP)

**T**op seed Gaurav Nandrajog of Delhi proved too strong for second seed Amjad Khan and the close title match never materialized, with the former winning 11-6, 11-4, 11-5 to lift the men's open title in the Rs 2.10 lakh prize money ISP-Sprite All India Squash open tournament at the Kendriya Vidyalaya Squash Courts, R K Puram. Nandrajog earned Rs 50,000 for his efforts at the hands of former CM of MP, Digvijay Singh, the guest of honour and Mahendra Agarwal, Founder Director of ISP.

Most of the matches went according to ranking, though boys under-17 Pehal Bajwa of Chandigarh was taken the distance by second seed Abhijit Malik before laying his hands on the trophy after winning 4-11, 11-9, 12-10, 6-11, 11-6.

Another player to impress was the upcoming Janet Vidhi of Delhi, who won the girls under-17 title with a four-game win over Pankhuri Malhotra. The sturdily built Janet dropped the third game and then doggedly fought to win the closely contested fourth to register a 11-9, 11-7, 8-11, 15-13 scoreline.

Delhi's domination was broken by two players from Maharashtra, Rahul Fazlilbhai and Yohan Pandole winning the boys under-15 and under-13 title respectively. While Fazlilbhai beat Delhi's Dhivj Singh 11-8, 11-5, 11-5, Pandole dropped a game to Junaid Muzaffar before winning 11-7, 11-5, 11-6.

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## FINALS

**Handicap Doubles:** Amjad Khan/Ranjit Singh (Del) bt Vicky Nayar/Kushwant Singh (CH) 15-10, 15-14 (3-1).

**Men's Over 35:** Anil Bhagat (Del) bt Kushwant Singh (CH) 11-9, 11-3, 11-6.

**Men's Open:** Gaurav Nandrajog (Del) bt Amjad Khan (Delhi) 11-6, 11-4, 11-5.

**Girls U-17:** Janet Vidhi (Del) bt Pankhuri Malhotra (Del) 11-9, 11-7, 8-11, 15-13.

**Girls U-13:** Pankhuri Malhotra (Del) bt Adya Advani (Del) 11-4, 11-3, 11-5.

**Boys U-19:** Karm Kumar (Del) bt Pehalaj Bajwa 11-7, 11-3, 11-7.

**Boys U-17:** Pehalaj Bajwa (CH) bt Abhijit Malik (SK) 4-11, 11-9, 12-10, 6-11, 11-6.

**Boys U-15:** Rahul Fazlabbay (MAH) bt Divij Singh (Del) 11-8, 11-5, 11-5.

**Boys U-13:** Yohan Pandole bt Junaid Muzaffar 5-11, 11-7, 11-5, 11-6.

## SEMI FINALS

**Handicap Doubles:** Amjad Khan/Ranjit Singh (Del) bt Sikander Kamal/Kshitij Seth

**Men's Over 35:** Anil Bhagat (Del) bt Vicky Nayar (CH) 6-11, 11-8, 12-10, 5-11, 11-9 Kushwant Singh (CH) bt Dushyant Jamwal 7-11, 11-9, 5-11, 13-11, 12-10.

**Men's Open:** Gaurav Nandrajog (Del) bt Sohail Kapoor (Del) 12-10, 11-7, 11-1 Amjad Khan (Del) bt Karm Kumar (Del) 3-11, 11-6, 11-7, 11-7.

**Girls U-17:** Pankhuri Malhotra (Del) bt Harshita Kaur 11-9, 4-11, 11-7, 11-4 Janet Vidhi (Del) bt Vishruti Sahni (Del) 11-7, 11-7, 12-10.

**Girls U-13:** Pankhuri Malhotra (Del) bt Harshita Kaur 12-10, 11-7, 11-5 Adya Advani bt Neher Fazlabbay 11-2, 11-1, 11-0.

**Boys U-19:** Karm Kumar (Del) bt Vedant Issar (Del) 11-3, 11-6, 10-12, 11-4 Pehalaj Bajwa bt Aditya Advani 12-10, 4-11, 9-11, 11-4, 11-6.

**Boys U-17:** Pehalaj Bajwa (CH) bt Rahul Fazlabbay (MAH) 6-11, 11-6, 6-11, 11-8, 11-5.

**Boys U-15:** Rahul Fazlabbay bt Ranvijay Singh 11-8, 11-8, 12-14, 11-6 Divij Singh bt Ranjit Singh (UP) 9-11, 11-7, 11-9, 11-3.

**Boys U-13:** Yohan Pandole bt Yash Bhargava (Del) 11-7, 11-4, 11-6 Juned Muzaffar (Dhampur) bt Robin Maan (Del) 11-9, 11-8, 11-7.

## QUARTER FINALS

**Handicap Doubles:** Vicky Nayar/Kushwant Singh (CH) bt Imroz Pathan/Sunil Bhandari (MH) 15-12, 15-12.

**Men's Over 35:** Vicky Nayar (CH) bt Shammi Khorana (Del) 11-4, 11-0, 11-3 Rohit Nayer (Del) lost to Anil Bhagat (Del) 9-11, 11-8, 11-9, 11-11, 8-11.

**Kushwant Singh (CH) bt Viman Khubchand 11-9, 11-5, 11-8.**

**Men's Open:** Gaurav Nandrajog (Del) bt Shakir Hussain (Del) 11-7, 7-11, 11-6, 11-3 Sohail Kapoor (Del) bt Imran Khan (Dhampur) 11-6, 11-7 Karm Kumar (Del) bt Cadet Ahlawat (Ser) 11-3, 11-2, 11-5 Amjad Khan (Del) bt Prateek Chalia 7-11, 12-10, 11-9, 11-9.

**Girls U-17:** Pankhuri Malhotra (Del) bt Anshul Kashyap (Del) 11-4, 11-3, 11-6.

Vishruti Sahni (Del.) bt Tanvi Khanna (Del.) 13-11, 9-11, 11-8, 11-9.

## Girls U-13:

Pankhuri Malhotra (Del.) bt Mehveen (Del.) 11-3, 11-3, 11-3.

## Boys U-19:

Karm Kumar (Del.) bt Harman Singh (Del.) 11-4, 11-6, 11-4.

Akash Moitra (Del.) lost to Vedant A. (Del.) 7-11, 6-11, 13-11.

Aditya Advani (Del.) bt G.S.Sidhu (Del.) 11-2, 11-8, 11-5.

Sachit Jolly (Del.) lost to Pehalaj Bajwa (CH) 0-11, 5-11, 1-11.

## Boys U-17:

Abhijit Malik (SK) bt Ranvijay Singh (CH) 11-5, 11-1, 11-9.

Divij Singh (Del.) bt Sajid Hussain (Dhampur) 11-8, 11-7, 11-8.

Rahul Fazlabbay (MH) bt Aditya Advani (Del.) 16-14, 13-11, 11-8.

Sachit Jolly (SP) lost to Pehalaj Bajwa (CH) 2-11, 7-11, 4-11.

## Boys U-13:

Yohan Pandole (MH) bt Harsh Jain (Del.) 11-2, 11-3, 11-6.

Juned Muzaffar (Dhampur) bt Ramit Bhargava (Del.) 11-8, 11-4, 11-5.

Vivek Bhojwani (Del.) lost to Yash Bhargava (Del) 8-11, 7-11, 9-11.

Shashank Bhandari lost to Robin Maan (Del.) 3-11, 4-11, 6-11.



Karm Kumar receiving the trophy Mr. Digvijay Singh along with Sanjay Goyal & Rahul Kumar



Mahendra Agarwal along with Vivek Kumar (Addl. Comm. of Income Tax), Sanjay Kumar (Addl. Comm.IT), Raj Gopal (Director in Commerce Ministry), Ranka Rajeev (Add.Com.IT)



Navneet Soni, Sunil Gupta (Commissioner, IT), Mahendra Agarwal, Ramesh Yadav (PS to Ministry of Company Affairs) & Chandra Bhushan.



Mr. Digvijay Singh giving away the trophies to Amjad Khan & Ranjit Singh (Winner, Handicap Doubles) alongwith Sanjay Goyal



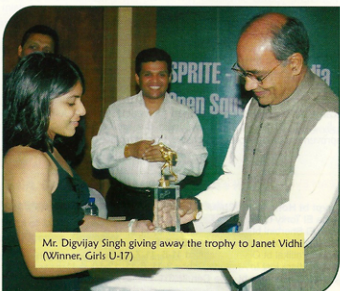
Mr. Digvijay Singh receiving the memento from T. Krishnakumar (CEO, Coke India), Mahendra Agarwal (Founder Director, ISP), Sanjay Goyal and Navneet Soni (Director, ISP)



Rahil Fazelbhoy (Winner, Boys U-15) receiving the trophy from Mr. Digvijay Singh



Mahendra Agarwal, Kapil Mohan (Director, Ministry of Power), Sanjay Goyal, T. Krishna Kumar and Ashutosh Singh (General Manager, Area Operation-Coke India)



Mr. Digvijay Singh giving away the trophy to Janet Vidhi (Winner, Girls U-17)



## WORLD JUNIOR SQUASH CHAMPIONSHIP

Egypt retain Team title in Chennai

(08/08/2009)



World Champ Egyptian stars Shorbagy (right) and Nour El Sherbini

The 13 year old Egyptian teenager Nour El Sherbini blanked her opponent in flat 20 minutes when she beat Hong Kong's Tong Tsz Wing to ensure that Egypt retained the title in the finals of Women's World Junior Team Squash Championships held at the Indian Squash Academy in Chennai.

The day also witnessed India's best performance in the event as it beat the United States in the third place play-off.

Egypt the defending champion beat Hong Kong 2-0 with Heba El Torky and Nour El Sherbini coasting to wins.

Team number one Heba El Torky gave favourites Egypt the lead with an 11-6, 2-11, 11-5, 11-6 victory over Hong Kong top seed Liu Tsz-Ling.

After a surprise loss in the semi-finals 24 hours earlier, it was a confident El Sherbini who ripped apart Tsz Wing Tong like a bad report card in the second match. It only took her 20 minutes to beat 17-year-old Hong Kong opponent 11-8, 11-6, 11-6 to give Egypt the title for the fourth time since 1999.

There was as much delight from the home crowd in the play-off for third place when hosts India recovered from losing the second match to fifth-seeded opponents USA to come back in the third to clinch a 2/1 win - and claim the best finish in five appearances in the championship since 1999.

Given a head start by Dipika Pallikal, who beat Olivia Blatchford in straight games, India lost the next when Surbhi Misra went down to Amanda Sobhy, warranting a decider.

Spurred on by the crowd, however, India's third string Anaka Alankamony became the toast of the nation when she beat US hotshot Julie Cerullo 3-11, 11-5, 11-8, 10-12, 11-8 to give India the bronze medal - an impressive improvement on their previous best-ever fourth place finish in 2003.

## RESULTS

## INDIVIDUAL EVENTS :

## Women's Finals:

Nour el Sherbini (Egy) bt Nour el Tayeb (Egy) 5-11, 11-7, 11-6, 11-5.

## Semi-finals:

Nour El Tayeb (EGY) bt Dipika Pallikal (IND) 11-6, 8-11, 11-8, 11-7

Nour El Sherbini (EGY) bt Maria Toor Pakay (PAK) 11-8, 11-6, 11-6

## Quarter-finals:

Dipika Pallikal (IND) bt Nouran El Torky (EGY) 11-5, 4-11, 11-8, 11-6

Nour El Tayeb (EGY) bt Salma Hany (EGY) 11-7, 11-6, 11-1

Maria Toor Pakay (PAK) bt Kanzy Emad El-Defrawy (EGY) 6-11, 11-4, 11-9, 8-11, 11-8

Nour El Sherbini (EGY) bt Heba El Torky (EGY) 7-11, 11-8, 9-11, 13-11, 11-8

## 4th round:

Dipika Pallikal (IND) bt Yathreb Adel (EGY) 11-5, 11-7, 11-5

Heba El Torky (EGY) bt Anwesha Reddy (IND) 11-2, 11-5, 11-6

## 3rd round:

Dipika Pallikal (IND) bt Lana Harrison (NZL) 11-1, 11-7, 11-7

Maria Toor Pakay (PAK) bt Surbhi Misra (IND) 11-7, 11-6, 11-8

Anwesha Reddy (IND) bt Carrie Ramsey (ENG) 11-6, 11-8, 8-11, 11-4

## 2nd round:

Dipika Pallikal (IND) bt Natasha Kingshott (USA) 11-2, 11-3, 11-1

Nouran El Torky (EGY) bt Anaka Alankamony (IND) 14-12, 11-0, 11-3

Sarah Cardwell (AUS) bt Saumya Karki (IND) 6-11, 11-8, 8-11, 14-12, 11-9

Rachael Goh (MAS) bt Harita Omprakash (IND) 11-9, 7-11, 11-4, 11-4

Laura Gemmell (CAN) bt Shivangi Paranjpe (IND) 11-6, 11-6, 11-5

## 1st round:

Dipika Pallikal (IND) bye

Milou van der Heijden (NED) bt Shria Khatri (IND) 11-4, 11-7, 12-10

Yong Sue Ann (MAS) bt Millie Jensen (DEN) w/o

Yathreb Adel (EGY) bye

Anaka Alankamony (IND) bt Franziska Hennes (GER) 9-11, 7-11, 11-8, 12-10, 11-5

Saumya Karki (IND) bt Yarden Odinak (USA) 14-12, 4-11, 11-6, 11-8

Millie Tomlinson (ENG) bt Anika Sharma (IND) 11-5, 11-5, 11-2

Harita Omprakash (IND) bt Michelle Gemmell (CAN) 11-5, 11-8, 13-11

Tan Yan Xin (MAS) bt Sachika Balvani (IND) 11-9, 11-6, 11-5

Aparajitha Balamurukan (IND) bt Tessa ter Sluis (NED) 6-11, 11-6, 12-10, 11-6

Shivangi Paranjpe (IND) bt Cheri-Ann Parris (BAR) 7-11, 11-9, 12-10, 11-4

Anwesha Reddy (IND) bye

## Men's Final:

Mohamed El Shorbagy (EGY) bt Ivan Yuen (MAS) 11-9, 12-10, 11-2

## Semi-finals:

Mohamed El Shorbagy (EGY) bt Andrew Wagih Shoukry (EGY) 11-7, 11-9, 11-6

Ivan Yuen (MAS) bt Aurangzeb Mehmud (PAK) 11-6, 11-9, 11-3

## Quarter-finals:

Mohamed El Shorbagy (EGY) bt Raphael Kandra (GER) 11-7, 7-11, 11-9, 11-8

Andrew Wagih Shoukry (EGY) bt Farhan Zaman (PAK) 11-8, 11-7, 11-8

Aurangzeb Mehmud (PAK) bt Lucas Serme (FRA) 8-11, 11-9, 7-11, 11-8, 11-8

Ivan Yuen (MAS) bt Amr Khaled Khalifa (EGY) 11-3, 11-8, 11-7

## TEAM EVENT - FINALS:

## Egypt bt Hong Kong China 2-0

Heba El Torky bt Tsz Ling Liu 11-6, 2-11, 11-5, 11-6

Nour El Sherbini bt Tsz Wing Tong 11-8, 11-6, 11-6

## Third place play-off: India bt USA 2-1

Dipika Pallikal bt Olivia Blatchford 11-6, 11-7, 11-5

Surbhi Misra lost to Amanda Sobhy 3-11, 6-11, 12-10, 4-11

Anaka Alankamony bt Julie Cerullo 3-11, 11-5, 11-8, 10-12, 11-8



# PROSQUASH speaks to three squash players who are selected to participate in Interstate squash championship

**Aakash Borwankar :** Aakash is a prominent squash player who has been on the circuit since several years. He has several achievements to his credit. While he has been conspicuous by his absence from the circuit recently, he is back by securing a place in the Maharashtra State team for the Junior Inter State Championship.

**Pranay Merchant :** Pranay is a player with good squash skills. An enthusiast who is capable of staying in the squash courts all day, he has some excellent matches to his credit.

**Aishwarya Nambiar :** Aishwarya is a player with immense potential. Experts at ISP who have seen her in action recently have been stupefied at her abundance of skill, court craft, movement and strokeplay. She is a player to watch for in the coming weeks.

## PROSQUASH : Tell us about how you took up Squash?

**Aakash :** I started with badminton as well as squash. But didn't quite enjoy badminton as much as I thought I would. So that's when I decided to take up squash seriously. I find the game thrilling and watching good matches, involving good players, simply excites me.

**Pranay :** As a child, I used to go to CCI every day. I would often pass by the squash courts and was enamoured by the sport. I took it up at age 12 and since then have been totally addicted. My first coach was A.I. Singh and after that I have been training under Amar Haksar and Rohit More.

**Aishwarya :** My brother Akshay plays squash and watching him play, I too got interested in the game.

## PROSQUASH : How do you train? How do you balance training with studies?

**Aakash :** I practise in my club on weekdays in the afternoon for about an hour or two and then go to the gym. On the weekends, I train with my coach Mr.Vaman Apte. In the morning I go for running every alternate day for about half an hour before rushing to school.

Well let me tell you now that it isn't easy to combine training with my study. After training is done I take an hour's break before I get on with my studies, which go on for the next four to five hours and then I'm off for the day.

**Pranay :** I try my level best to put in 6 days a week, but mostly because I love the sport. Currently, I am training under Amar Haksar and Rohit More at the CCI squash academy. Mr. Ahmed Youssef is my fitness trainer and I have 3 sessions a week with him. This ranges from court work to swimming and even step exercises and plyometrics. I try to schedule my studies at times when I'm not training. During exams, I obviously play less. But then make up for it after exams.

**Aishwarya :** I train with my coach Ramesh More on the school days for an hour and a fitness session for half an hour, on weekends I am able to give longer hours to train and also devote time to studies.

## PROSQUASH : Tell us something about others in your family who are active in sports?

**Aakash :** My father was a state ranked badminton player but that's about it. No one has either played or been playing squash in my family (except me).

**Pranay :** No one in my family has played squash. My dad played cricket and table tennis for his college. My sister was a swimmer before she took up squash as well.

**Aishwarya :** My brother plays squash whereas my father and his brother play badminton. So I have a lot of people in my family who are interested in sports. My parents, my principal and my teachers have been very supportive of my interest in squash and I am thankful for all the support.

## PROSQUASH : What is your ambition?

**Aakash :** I've been playing squash for quite some time now and it has become a part of my life. My ambition with regard to squash is to do the very best and reach to the highest possible national/international ranking. But apart from squash I will pursue my academic career, preferably engineering.

**Pranay :** At the moment my ambition is to train hard and I'm sure the results will follow. I want to go to the US to study, and I'm sure my squash will help me get into a good school.

**Aishwarya :** My ambition is to become one of the greatest squash player the world has ever seen.

## PROSQUASH : What are your other interests apart from Squash?

**Aakash :** Well, now-a-days I hardly get the time to do anything but play squash and study, but otherwise I enjoy reading quite a lot and read whenever I get the time. Further, I also try to keep in touch and meet my friends on weekends.

**Pranay :** Apart from squash, I love music. I also occasionally play football and tennis.

**Aishwarya :** Other than squash I love dancing and go for dance competitions whenever possible. I also play throw ball for my school Rustumjee Cambridge International.



Aakash Borwankar



Pranay Merchant



Aishwarya Nambiar

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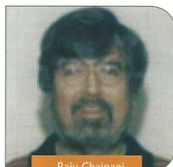
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# FROM THE COLLECTION OF ARTICLES WRITTEN BY LATE RAJU CHAINANI

## Credential – a boost for Indian Squash

Afternoon : 16/10/1995



Raju Chainani

**S**atinder Bajwa is coming to Bombay in ten days time. The pony tailed sardar with his nonsense approach has become an important cog in the wheel of Indian squash. Since his first visit in May '93, Bajwa has seen our juniors progress steadily. Had he been given the leeway by the powers that be, we might well have seen even better performances.

Undeterred by the politicians, Bajwa has soldiered on. The players have responded. All four members of the current Indian senior team Arjan Singh, Rajdever Brar, Akhil Behl and Arif Paul have trained with him. Our top juniors have done likewise. It is the under-16 category that is being targeted. At this month's camp, no one over sixteen is being included.

The reasoning is simple. It has to be a long term strategy. The under-12 and under-14 players need to be developed. If Malaysia can produce a world number two in the under-16, why can't we? There has to be some method in the madness and in Satinder Bajwa, we have a professional who has the dedication and love for the game. He would dearly like to see an Indian

Player emerge.

Can it happen? The current lot of juniors are oozing with talent. They are keen, they work hard and they have taken to Bajwa's ways. With the gradual increase in the number of tournaments, they get much more competition than in days gone by.

There is now an accent on the fitness, something which wasn't given so much attention before. And with sponsors like Deepak and Rajiv Kochar stepping in, there is hope for the future of Indian squash.

The time round, the Squash Rackets Association of Maharashtra (SRAM) is very much involved. Things have changed in the corridors of power in Bombay squash. The cowboys and the designer nosed officials are being phased out. Instead we as see a refreshingly positive attitude. The players matter the most. The juniors deserve the attention and Bajwa is there to help them.

The camp starts on Diwali day. Amidst the firecrackers, sweets and festivities, the London based coach has the job of inducting a sense of discipline to the trainees. He's done well in the last couple of years. One thing you can be sure of. The Satinder Singh doesn't believe in relaxing. (CENTRESTAGE EVENTS PVT. LTD.)

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## ISP COACHING CAMP AT RESIDENCY CLUB, KOLHAPUR

(20/06/2009)



From L to R : Mr.Bhosle, Dr.Ajit Kulkarni, Bharat Patil (Dir Sports Residency Club), Sheetal Bhosle (Sports coordinator), Mr.Baba Bhosle (Guest of hon), Mr.Amar Gandhi (Treasurer Residency club), Mr.Vijay Singhal (Municipal Commissioner Kolhapur & Residency club board member), Mr.Karansing Ghorpade (Runnerup Squash open cat), Vedank Patil (Winner U-18) Satyajeet Bhosle (Runner up U-18), Dr Ravi Jadhav (Jt Sec Residency Club), Kapdia, Sitting Samarjeet Ghatge (Winner open cat), National Jr players Mr.Laxman Joshi & Kunwarpatil Singh

A coaching camp for club members was conducted by Sashi Pandey of ISP from July 10-12 at Residency Club, Kolhapur. The initiative was taken by Karansingh Ghorpade and Bharat Patil of the club. About 35 players of all age groups participated in this camp.

The camp was followed by the intra club tournament held in the following week. Also an exhibition match for the benefit of the club members was held after the inter club tournament between Laxman Joshi and Kunwarpatil Singh. The Municipal Commissioner, Mr Singhal was the Chief guest. A former player himself, he has promised to look into the possibility of including Squash in the upcoming Municipal Sports Complex.

## RESULTS

**Open :** Samarjeet Ghatge def Karansingh Ghorpade (2-2 retd)

**Under 19 :** Vedank Patil def Satyajeet Bhosle (3-2)

**Under 16 :** Aryamaan Ingle def Vardhan Samani (3-2)

## DEEPAK MALHOTRA WINS

(18/07/2009)

In a friendly doubles match played between Team Ahmedabad & Mumbai at Hotel Hyatt, Ahmedabad team consisting of Deepak Malhotra & Narendra Gour (of Karnavati Club) beat Mukesh Desai & Salim Mistry & also doubles pair Ayub Ghori & Mahendra Agarwal.

## RESULTS

**Final Scores:**

Deepak Malhotra & Narendra Gour beat Salim Mistry & Mukesh Desai 15-11, 15-13

Deepak Malhotra & Narendra Gour beat Mahendra Agarwal & Ayub Ghori 15-9, 15-10

## KARAN BHATTY SHINES



Karan Bhatti swept CAC's Bupe Mulumba in another war: 11-3, 13-11 11-5 to lift the U.S Skill Level National Title in King of Prussia, PA.

"I had not played squash in 4 years until a trendy Squash Club called CityView Racquet Club opened up near my house. I started playing squash again in early 2008 and got acquainted with the top squash players in New York City. Having regained my touch and having worked on my fitness, I competed in the major skill level tournaments around the U.S and won each of them thereby achieving a #1 Ranking in the U.S 5.0 Skill level Category," said Karan.

## Titles won:

- CityView Open Champion 2008
- The Grand Open Champion 2009
- The New York Open Champion 2009
- Interclub, Squash League 2009
- The Hyder Cup 2009 Champion
- U.S Skill Level National Champ 2009
- Captain of winning CityView Club Squash team in the New York MSRA



R to L : Ayub Ghori, Winners (Deepak Malhotra, Narendra Gour) and Mahendra Agarwal.



# A MANDATE FOR TREASON

**A**s part of RTI's and court cases have exposed the nefarious nexus between the **Sports Authority of India (SAI)** and **Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports (MYAS)** to abet the **Squash Rackets Federation of India (SRFI)** in vanquishing the foundations of Indian squash by channelizing all activities to the ICL/ISA Academy in Chennai. This myopic and parochial idea was the brainchild of Mr. N. Ramachandran, who ironically was bestowed with the directive to promote squash in the entire nation!

**The Background- Year 2002.** Mr. Ramachandran was heading the SRFI, and wanted to be the Asian Squash Federation (ASF) boss. Maj. Maniam was well connected in the Asian circle. It is widely believed that Maj. Maniam moved the pieces to ensure that Ramchandran won the election over Mohdani Mahathir (Malaysia), the incumbent President. The arrangement continued towards propelling Ramchandran to the WSF presidency, much like the seasoned mountaineer and a mule scaling Mt. Everest! In return, Maj. Maniam was rewarded with the contract as 'Consultant Coach for India'.

Under the guise of widespread promotion he utilized all the funds, accessories and the SRFI's political clout to facilitate every activity in Chennai at the expense of demoralizing the rest of India. The first step had already started in 2002 when the central government blindly funded the creation of the TNSRA complex in Chennai with a grant of over Rs 60 lakhs, believing that, multiple squash centers of excellence in Bangalore, Delhi, Mumbai, Indore, Jodhpur, Calcutta and Pune were being run by the SRFI, a claim put on the MYAS site SPORTEL propagating the other nonexistent centers.

**National Junior Development Programme (NJDP)** - launched in August 2002 entailed countrywide / school grass roots development/identify and nurture young talent/expand coach base to 10 per state/appoint Zonal, State development officers/state coaches to monitor progress/30-100 players per state is an initial estimated target/proposed funding from SAI/State/Sponsors-Natalia/NJDP initial initiation in Mumbai, Delhi and Kolkata/National Junior Circuit-5 legs (Natalia)/National Junior Camp Summary - success dependent on ZDO's/SDO's/ players, parents, State Associations, Govt, sponsors.

**Reality check** - The ISP after conducting over 93 tournaments and over 20% in junior development and free coaching is not recognized. Brig Manichanda and SRFD, SPAD conducted many Inter Schools but were never acknowledged - instead the SRFI calendars Zonal Inter Schools (TBA) mostly never took place.

In the SRFI 2008 LTDP States like J&K/ Gujarat /Chhattisgarh /Kerala/Punjab/Goa /Haryana/Himachal/Assam/ Karnataka/Kerala /Orissa show no coaches and only 1 each in Rajasthan/W Bengal and Uttaranchal, and only Maharashtra and Tamil Nadu qualified quantity wise. The ex G.O.'s report states "The project to increase the proportion of qualified coaches with the ratio of players has also been abysmal. Even many budding coaches have not had the benefit or cooperation of his experience. The terms of his contract were not made available to me on request to the SRFI as I had to write a report on his activities required by SAI. Thus, grass root development is non-existent, except in Mumbai due to local initiative, and in the ICL Academy. The acute shortage of trained coaches remains." Today after 7 years of Maniam's s regressive experiment, coaches are being imported from Egypt and Pakistan and their own kids are being sent to UK, Egypt, Hong Kong, Kuwait, Pakistan etc for training. The statements below by India's top 4 men and women players will give an insight into Maniam's claims

**Sept 12 2006 - Joshna Chinappa** stated "There are only a few hubs of squash in the country. It should widen its base and only then the new crop will come up."

**Times of India December 31st 2006 - Saurav Ghosal** feels that Kolkata hasn't made much improvement since his departure. "I left for Chennai four years ago and am disappointed to say that the city still does not have a system in place to promote the game." Ramit Tandon only prospered because of his talent and he "can't see any other player from Kolkata doing well on the national circuit."

**18/11/2007 - Article in DNA, Mumbai :** "But, ironically, the game is entirely centered around Chennai. As a result the powers that be in the Squash Racket Federation of India feel that Chennai is India. If the game is spread all over our country, then there will be many Indians among the top ranked players in the world. Instead of concentrating just in Chennai, both the coaches and glass courts should appear in at least five or six centers throughout the country. **Ritwik Bhattacharya** India no 2.

**May 2008 Dipika's** interview in **SAUVY** "If you want to play squash in India, you have to be with the Academy in Chennai.

**Long Term Development Program (LTDP).** The claims of a National Junior Backup Squad was only on paper as the Government Observer put it aptly "a number of players mentioned in LTDP have left playing the game well before the LTDP was submitted, prospects for various world/other international championships contain such names of players who are no longer playing, training centers are claimed to be operational in Delhi and Mumbai apart from that in Chennai. If they are, there is no awareness about them amongst the players. So, who is really being trained there is a matter of conjecture. A number of players called special project players, are being discriminated against leave alone anything being done for them at all. "Holding clinics for those who are already playing hardly amounts to grass-root development. In fact, the all India inter-school event has been scrapped. I understand that Maj. Maniam was the Director of the Junior Squash Development Program in Malaysia, and was responsible for developing 6/7 autonomous Centres in the country. For over a decade the Malaysians have overtaken our juniors and seniors. Unfortunately we have only one training center in Chennai, and nothing beyond that has been developed,"

This lie has been attested by the March 12, 2005 statement in the Sportstar "already it has set up bases in various parts of the country to ensure uniformity of training and coaching and to trigger interest among schoolchildren simultaneously." Despite numerous RTI's no answer has been for thcoming about these clandestine academies, coaches or participants from MYAS/SAI /SRFI or Maniam!

**Players Commitment contract** - introduced by Maniam and the counter affidavit filed in 2008 by SRFI stated that "such contracts are made only for trainees at ICL Academy. The MYAS/ SAI (Delhi) have in an RTI reply stated that they have no knowledge of the existence of this contract. The 2002 contract stated that players not part of this program could still be selected to represent India. This clause was extended to outstation players who would get an SRFI appointed coach to report on the players progress etc. As a co signatory of this dubious contract Maniam did not train the top outstation players in the State run academies all over India- under the provisions of the designated program's. The paradox is that during his tenure the maximum top players like Saurav, Sandeep, Vikas, Harinder, Cyril, Naresh, Parth, Ramit, Rishi, Ravi, Paramjit, Abhishek, Vrishabh, Deepak & Kush were coaxed, coerced or bought to join ICL Chennai. How could he then reconcile his proposed policy of strengthening regional bases when he was decimating and undermining their potential by shifting these top players. This means he was renegeing on his contract the day he joined and the reason for its non disclosure. The result is there to see- the only men training to improve in India have all seen better days. **Ritwik Bhattacharya** (PSA best 38 Nov 2006 Now in OCT 09 PSA - 76) **Gaurav Nanda** (Jog) (PSA best 117 March 08. Now Oct 09 PSA - 198) **Naresh Kumar** (Chennai - PSA 142 Nov 07 - Today 153) **Sandeep Jhangra** Best PSA 216 in 2006 - removed from PSA / Vikas Jhangra a top 8 player lost to 15 year old Mahesh in the Sr National in 2008 & US. In 2009 he lost to Paramjit an 18 year old who was ranked no 6 U-19. Vikas was not allowed for the World team trials 2009 due to his performance. The only just past 19 male training is Laxman Joshi and Naveen Jhangra, both of whom have already been losing to the 15 year old Mahesh and probably have a bleak future. The Services players like Vikas and Sandeep are being used as glorified sparring partners to improve the standard of the TN juniors.

The only senior left in Chennai Naresh Kumar is stuck in a time warp for the last 3 years while his colleagues like Harry and Parth have moved on to more lucrative venues. The mortal blow was when the 15 year old Mahesh from Mumbai beat Ramit and Paramjit from the ISA Academy on the Rainbow courts the same day in the World Jrs.

The large amount of SRFI public funds used for elite training were siphoned to ICL trainees and they were sent abroad on the basis of signing the contract while top outstation players were often deprived of even selection trials on one pretext or another. This amounts to a clear embezzlement of public funds for a private academy with the connivance of the ex Secretary General and National Consultant Coach coercing these players to shift to Chennai and play for Tamil Nadu if they wanted to represent the country. In a July 2002 interview Maniam stated "that there is an absence of reasonable goals for youngsters. The Satellite circuit is too strong and there are too few tournaments here. This leads to a drain to the U.S. Most certainly Indians set goals. But to go to study in American universities using squash as a vehicle to get there. This has to change." He cited Saurav Ghosal, Siddharth Sunde, Gaurav Nandrajoo, Supreet Singh, Vikas Jhangra, Joshua Chinappa, Valdehi Reddy and, Alisha Mashruwalla as potential professional players. All of them opted for studying abroad, except Vikas (Navy), Gaurav and the latter is at a disadvantage compared to the rest. Today Maniam's experiment is an abysmal failure as even future prominent trainees like Harinder Sandhu, Parth Sharma, Cyril Kuhn, Karan Malik, Sujat Barua, Shruti Ashok etc also left the ICL Academy for a better education, coaching, future prospects or just quit the game. The facts also show that many players have benefitted more from their stints abroad (Joshua C, Dipika P, Ritwik, Aditya J etc) than the ones left in Chennai who stagnated or become glorified markers without reaching their full potential (Naresh Kumar, M/A Parthiban, Paramit (Paramjeet) Singh, etc)

**Demoralization of Local Talent** - These policies formulated by Maniam on behalf of the Indian tax payers have no bearing to reality as 37/35 empty slots were utilized in the MYAS sponsored Asian/World Juniors events held at Chennai in 2009. This in the backdrop of the host nations prerogative to fill these slots with their own players, and the SRFI/MYAS propagations that "in no way the local talent should be deprived of such training/exposure to international events. "...the ultimate objective of promoting and developing local talent to international standards/..... citizens the opportunity to learn and develop from competitions."

Let Maniam give a statement that the players not called like Dheeya Somaiya (CWG selectee) Sachika Ingale, Pankhuri Malhotra, Urvashi Joshi, Janet Vidhi, Rishi Jalan etc have no potential and cannot even benefit from the exposure. Incidentally a 13 year old girl won the World Juniors in 2009, while the older Indian girls were not even called!

**Ranking/Selection system** - which is the basis of a fair and transparent management was terminated years ago after some experiments by the SRFI in 2002/2003 revealed that this would not help the ICL/TNSRA Academy players despite a claim during the Junior Nationals 2002 in Chennai about a new format "that by the time the competition ends, everybody would also know his or her national ranking." But an excerpt in WP (C) NO. 4439 of 2008 ratifies Maniam's thoughts "The experts of the answering respondents have analyzed and come to the conclusion that at present a ranking system at the domestic level is not the right method to invite players for selection trials..." The Govt. Guidelines and a statement by the MYAS in Rishi's case to make a comprehensive ranking system, with the same reiterated by SAI in the belated 2008 Tripartite agreement has fallen on deaf ears.

**Tainted Coaches** - Cyrus is by his own admission is an employee of ICL (just recently renamed Indian squash Academy), which is a private firm running a squash academy to groom players to represent India. He admits to playing for, recruiting for and being the coach for the ICL/TNSRA combine. In an RTI reply dated 28th Nov 08 the MYAS stated "Mr Poncha is neither an employee of SAI nor SRFI." This unequivocal conflict of interests and the latest proof of Maniam's complicity has resulted in teams not being sent on merit but on the considerations mentioned above. Since Maniam was the only official Government appointed and paid National Coach how was he signing contracts to promote ICL Academy players only. This shocking piece of news actually proves that the National coach could only be Maniam as his contract, duties and pay was from SAI (Sports Authority of India) while Cyrus had no liability as contractually he was not

bound to promote squash all over India. He was the National coach only because the SRFI said so, but legally free to do what he wanted. Thus the new guidelines which calls for the removal of tainted coaches has been framed especially for biased persons like both of them and should be enforced to set an example.

Besides that "Major Maniam who made this draw was instrumental in the selection of Karm in the Asian Juniors 2006 held in Singapore, but thereafter stood silently when SRFI was instrumental in barring Karm from the 2008 and 2009 Asian Juniors, on the basis that he was ineligible under Asian rules. Subsequently it transpires that he was fully aware that Karm was eligible since after the order passed by the Delhi High Court allowing Karm to play, he raised no objections either during selection trials or in actual play. In contrast, Maniam, a Malaysian with an Indian background (Technical Delegate/ Seeding Committee member of the ASF (WSF) who does the Indian colours for a bloated pay cheque proves his bias streak by giving select Indian players the worst draws in the SAI/MYAS sponsored Asian/World Juniors held at Chennai in 2009. In legal terms this is a form of perjury and will be pursued to its logical conclusion.

**Doha Asian Games 2006 match fixing scandal** (HT front page news in Feb 2008) was a direct result of Maniam breaking the ASF/WSF rules to insure a bronze medal for India at the behest of his boss Ramachandran who controlled him through the WSF/ASF/SRFI/ICL/IOA and was instrumental for his recruitment in India.

Incidentally Maniam was also the ASF (Asian Squash Federation) Technical Delegate and WSF (World Squash Federation) appointee to oversee the proceedings. He was also Saurav Ghosal's coach and this was a direct conflict of interests. The consequences of this pre mediated win had far reaching consequences. Squash was inducted into the Indian Olympic Association (IOA). Saurav Ghosal got the Arjuna Award (deservingly, but at the expense of the first contenders Joshua Chinappa and Ritwik Bhattacharya) Squash became a priority sport and rewarded with extra funds which as usual have not trickled down to the most deserving players!

**Promoting & Abetting & Rewarding Age Fraud** - Maniam and Cyrus has a proven track record of being the foremost promoters, abettors, and protectors of age fraud cases in India. They have shielded many overage culprits and especially the ones who have shifted to the ICL/TNSRA combine. Many of them have got new names and dates of births eg A Parthiban and Paramit Singh who had been rewarded by being sent for international tournaments. This fraud peaked in 2007 when they invited Suhail Kapoor and Harshit Jain for World Junior trials, when the former was already overage and the latter would soon become ineligible. This besides abetting age fraud they were also goading youngsters to change their age for participation and repeated the same with Karan Malik in the Qatar Juniors in 2009!

**Grievance Redressal Cell** - The non functioning of which was perpetrated by Maniam as he never read the Govt. Guidelines. A the only paid official of SAI he had a duty to mention all SRFI malpractices to the Govt or Government Observer in case they were not rectified. He also attended the LTDP meetings at Delhi which included the top MYAS, SAI officials. He never raised any concerns proving that his job was to appease Rami and only follow his agenda of promoting ICL, Tamil Nadu Squash Association and that too by subjugating and demoralizing the rest of India!

The video tape of the match between Karm Kumar and Paramit Singh during the Asian Junior team trials will show how matches, referees and scores are rigged. Maniam witnessed the match which was marred by biased refereeing by his own trainee Shrikant. Not once did he intervene and this tape has been cited as evidence for over 3 months but not delivered.

Cyril Kuhn left the Academy as Maniam had reneged on a promised slot in the Asian Juniors Individuals contingent in 2007. The SRFI accused Cyril of quitting without informing anyone, though e-mail correspondence with Maniam is available to prove the contrary. Many such incidents where the Consultant Coach kept mum or lied to protect the Federation have reduced his stature and credibility to impart justice.



**Breach of Contract** - Since none of the SAI contracts mention Maniam sanctions for his division of work in the TNSRA, ICL Asian and World contexts, which actually constituted his total time and dedication, he should be charged with dereliction of duty at the Indian exchequers' cost. His private deals with the ICL trainees to represent India by forcing them to sign the Players Commitment Contract is highly illegal and discriminatory as no players outside TNSRA/ICL were either informed, and nor has government permission been taken for the same and nor is this the mandate for the consultant coach. Since he is paid through public funds a detailed audit of his functioning may be undertaken so as to bring out the following what other remunerations does he receive from ASF/WSF / TNSRA/ICL and the time spent working for these bodies.

The belated May 2008 Tripartite agreement mentioned participation in the Commonwealth Youth Games in 2008. True to his master squash was not recommended by Maniam as the most likely participants were non ICL players. U-19 boys 1. Vikram Malhotra (Mumbai) 2. Aditya Jagtap (UK/Mumbai) Girls 1. Dipika Palikal (Egypt/Mittal) and 2. Surbhi Mishra (Jaipur).

Maniam should return the remuneration received by him from 2002 till now and he should be dismissed after criminal proceedings are levied against him. His salary from May 2002 till Feb 2009 works out to **more than 1 Crore 15 lakhs. In 2007 SAI obliged him by paying his income tax dues of Rs 11 lakhs too!** Not a bad remuneration for throttling Indian squash within 7 years!

MP Ganesh, blimished by the CAG 2.5 crore mismanagement of funds report, was a co conspirator who ratified Maniam's contract in 2002 and then gave a clean chit to SRFI's functioning in 2006, without delving into the NDJP fraud.

**False Claims** - A statement made by the SRFI in their Counter Affidavit in 2008 in Karm's case reads that " Squash promotion, development and performance at all levels in India have escalated more in the last decade rather than in the past 25 years." " Mr Singaravelo Subramaniam has done a fantastic job over the past 6 years with the players in India." is far from the truth. In Dipika vs SRFI another statement is " Squash promotion, development and performance at all levels in India have escalated more in the last 5 years than in the last 20."

A comprehensive statistical comparative analysis of the prominent and average players in 1996 (SRFI's new Chennai management ) 2002 (Maniam took over) and till Sept 2009 show that more polarization took place and no significant changes in states representation changed after 1996. The other myth that squash players and infrastructure created by the SRFI increased fivefold in the last decade is another farce and a crude attempt was made to cover up a disastrous misadventure. Maniam's complicity is evident by no recommendations for all glass/doubles/ Rainbow courts installations in any other city/academy to protect the ICL Academy from competition.

**Failed Programs** - Maniam's total agenda for India has been proven an abject failure by the information provided. There are zero coaches in most states and the level of talented players from new states is nonexistent and infrastructure is from the private, state or individual sector only. The NDJP is a total sham with no reference to the new players/coaches/programs and their tournament based successes. The plan to offer a career in squash has been relegated to a few poor kids with suspect potential but no alternatives. The elite players of India are training abroad or by non SRFI coaches except when blackmailed into group trials at the expense of losing out on CWG funds and / or important selections. For each renewal, of his contract, SRFI simply submits a compilation of all Indian players performances, regardless of the fact that they train abroad, and Maniam has no role whatsoever in their development. The top players are still migrating unabatedly, even from the hallowed ICI/ISA academy. The lack of a transparent ranking and selection system due to no Grievance Redress is decimating new talented entrants. The TNSRA centric SRFI/ISA/ASF which has even permeating into the WSF committee, with over 10 officials controlling the game for the last 13 years resulted in a cartel which the Consultant Coach found more beneficial than being equitable. Thus age fraud coupled with match fixing in the international arena was rampant and simpler to project the upswing of Indian squash globally, while in reality only a small clique of obsequious, coerced or indifferent players were benefitting. The theory is that if a handful of players do well on the Asian/World circuit the Govt. will ignore all

other transgressions. But the results of the World Juniors in Chennai in August 2009 have exposed the false claims. An old statement by Srivats Sec Gen SRFI that "Also no overseas players will be used to the coloured courts as here", still resulted in all our top 12 juniors boys to be eliminated by the 2nd round and in the girls only Dipika reached the semi's who had left the Academy in 2006 and progressed twice as fast, resulting in more Chennai players being sent to UK, Egypt and exposing the chink that even junior level coaching is not up to the mark! As we speak the result that ICL (seeded 9) lost 3-0 to Scotland (unseeded) in the World Men Team Championships puts paid to Maniam's claim of having back up squads. Since no non Chennai player is encouraged we have no depth of viable reserves. Other non SRFI affiliated agencies promoting the game were vilified, threatened, boycotted due to the extreme xenophobia of being dethroned, by constantly trying to disrupt any outside activity which had perpetrated the prophecy of a change desired by the players.

**The Legacy of Maniam** - after 7 years Indian players are a demoralized, unfocused, aimless squash community which prefers the safety of a US degree to the machinations of a conniving and vindictive SRFI. The experiment of creating full time players has been relegated to only the underprivileged strata of society marred by age cheats and no genetic proof of the selectees being able to withstand and sustain the rigors of the professional circuit. Thus the self destructive policies have come a full circle and also exhausted, demoralized and enervated the large North Indian/Maharashtra base and that no exceptional or willing players are left to shift in Ajmer, Dehra Doon, Jaipur, Chandigarh, Indore, Jodhpur, Kolkata, Allahabad, Kanpur, Ahmedabad, Pune, Bangalore, or Hyderabad etc. Thus the SRFI /TNSRA has decimated its own countrywide recruitment pool and we are back to square one.

**Justice Geeta Mittals Delhi High Court order** - Some excerpts dated March 2nd 2009 sum up the prevailing squash situation very aptly. They are "Though it should not, but there is every possibility that vested regional biases and interests may influence decision making especially in selection of teams. Thus office bearers from a particular region, religion, political affiliation or having other clout may be able to control selection and other matters relating to the national sports federations influencing the development of the sport in the country.

Tremendous damage could result to the sport itself inasmuch as vesting of the control in authorities from a particular region may result in diversion of funds, selection of players from and development of a sport from only a region. The national sports federation would then not remain representative of the hope and aspirations of the sports persons of the entire nation.

A limited office tenure, certainly would have the impact of minimizing, if not eliminating, allegations, criticism and elements of nepotism, favoritism and bias of any kind.

**Conclusion/Solution** - A decade of injustice leading to numerous talented players being forced into oblivion by a intransigent TNSRA/ICL combine has led to the disintegration of the squash powerhouses like Delhi, Kolkata, Jaipur, Ajmer, Chandigarh, Dehra Doon, Indore, Jodhpur etc. The installation of puppet associations and using select political and bureaucratic influence to stifle all protests is the sum total achievement of over 6 crores in grants to the SRFI and 2 crores plus for the pretentious national coaches. It is a pity that with such acumen and respect he had, Maniam could have transformed India into a world squash power. Now it's time for retribution and the CC and his promoters must be held accountable and made to compensate. The MYAS must reimburse the development funds due to the other states, usurped by the TNSRA/ISA/ICL combine and bring all the perpetrators to book. A new National Association with country wide backing and representation should be formed to salvage the remnants of the game in India.



## I WOULD LIKE TO COACH SHAH RUKH, SAYS EGYPTIAN COACH YOUSUF

**P**RADEEP VIJAYAKAR talks to Egyptian coach Yousof who is in Mumbai since the last year

Only 28 Ahmed Yousof Ezzeldin from Egypt is out of competitive and fully into coaching. Coach of the Egypt national side when it had the likes of Amr Shabana, Karim Darwish and others, Yousof has been in Mumbai for over a year now imparting 'gyaan' to the kids. And some of them are showing good results.

Yousof divides his time between the three clubs—Otters Club, CCI and National Sports Club of India.

Asked about his stint, he says, "I am enjoying my stay here. I have been doing a lot of things. There is talent in this country. I am showing them the right way to harness it."

Asked what was the difference between the Indian kids and the Egyptian ones of a comparable age, Yousof said, "There is a difference. For the Egyptians it is only squash. They go to school/college and get full encouragement for squash so that they don't feel anything missing. That motivates them to go all out with no other worry. Here in India the children have to think about school, college studies, time off for practice and tournaments. They cannot give squash their full attention and it shows in their performances."

Still Yousof says he has had good results. "The likes of Dhingra, Raghu Mehrotra, Arjun Kochhar, Dev Vazirani have improved. At the senior level Siddharth Suchde is a class act."

Yousof is more into advanced coaching. "At this age tactics and gameplan are important. How to manage their matches is crucial."

Asked about Indian Squash Professionals and its mission to promote the welfare of markers (professionals), Yousof said, "It is unique the things ISP is doing. But for ISP I wouldn't be here. I plan to get more coaches here, I would like to do more things here like take children to tournaments and so on. I am encouraged by the improvement they have shown in the short time I have had with them."

About the celebrities who have evinced interest in being coached by him, Yousof said, "Neha Dhupia is the one who has trained with me. Her body has changed from the time she has played squash. She is dedicated and has a future. More than a good player she is a good person. I also coach Sohail Khan and would like to coach more celebs, maybe Shah Rukh Khan."

About skill and stamina, the coach says without stamina you won't be able to reach the ball or pick it up after a certain while. You need fifty per cent skill and fifty per cent stamina. At a later stage experience comes into the picture. Overall it has to be a good mix of skill, stamina and experience.

So the kids of Mumbai know the recipe for squash success.



Ahmed Yousof

## INDIAN PLAYERS IN INTERNATIONAL EVENTS

Joshna loses in first round at Forexx Women's World Open Squash Championship, Netherlands : 23/09/2009

**1st round:** Raneem El Welily (EGY) bt Joshna Chinappa (IND) 11-5, 11-4, 11-6

**Qualifying finals:** Sarah Kippax (ENG) bt Dipika Pallikal (IND) 11-5, 2-11, 11-8, 10-12, 12-10

Joshna Chinappa (IND) bt Nour El Sherbini (EGY) 8-11, 11-9, 7-11, 11-8, 11-8

**2nd qualifying round:**

Joshna Chinappa (IND) bt Celia Allamargot (FRA) 11-9, 11-9, 11-5

Dipika Pallikal (IND) bt Lisa Camilleri (AUS) 11-6, 8-11, 11-6, 11-8

**1st qualifying round:**

Dipika Pallikal (IND) bt Cecilie Mayer (DEN) 11-5, 11-2, 11-4

Saurav loses in 1st round at Sky Open 2009, Sky Petrosport Club, Cairo, Egypt : 23/09/2009

**1st Round :** Laurens Jan Anjema (NED) bt Saurav Ghosal (IND) 11-6, 5-11, 11-3, 11-4

**1st qualifying round:** Saurav Ghosal (IND) bt Mohd Sayed Mahmoud Aly (EGY) 9-11, 11-9, 7-11, 11-5, 11-1

Joshna crashes out of WISPA British Open Squash Championship, Manchester : 11/09/2009

Manchester: India's Joshna Chinappa crashed out of the \$53,500 WISPA British Open squash championship here after she was humbled in the qualifiers by Fiona Moverley of England.

World No. 35 Joshna lost 10-12, 12-10, 7-11, 9-11 to Moverley, who is ranked 16 places below her, in the first qualifying round of the World Tour gold event.

Saurav loses in round one at US Open, Chicago : 06/09/2009  
Saurav Ghosal (Ind) lost to [5] Adrian Grant (Eng) 11-8, 11-9, 12-10

Saudi Squash International, Saudi Arabia : 26/08/2009

**Qualifying finals :** Saurav Ghosal (IND) bt Julien Balbo (FRA) 11-7, 11-2, 11-1

**1st qualifying round :** Davide Bianchetti (ITA) bt Ritwik Bhattacharya (IND) 9-11, 11-6, 12-10, 11-7

Saurav Ghosal (IND) bt Ben Ford (ENG) 11-3, 11-9, 11-4

Saurav loses the 1st round of CIMB Malaysian Open Squash Championships, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia : 28/07/2009

**Men's 1st round:** Wael El Hindi (EGY) bt Saurav Ghosal (IND) 11-8, 11-7, 11-6

**Men's qualifying finals:** Saurav Ghosal (IND) bt Julien Balbo (FRA) 7-11, 11-5, 11-4, 11-7

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## PSA/WISPA INDIAN CHALLENGER SERIES

Harinder Pal and Anaka Alankamony win  
historic Indian titles

15/09/2009

**H**arinder Pal Sandhu and Anaka Alankamony won the PSA Indian Challenger No.3 and WISPA Indian Challenger No1 titles, respectively, in the Indian Challenger squash series at the Indian Squash Academy in Chennai.

The championships were supported by the Indian Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports - and for the first time in Indian squash history, there was an all-Indian line-up in both finals.

The climax of the men's \$6,000 PSA World Tour Super Satellite event between Harinder Pal Sandhu and Siddharth Suchde was a tense affair, with three of the five games going to tie-breaks.

Eighth seed Sandhu was the deserving winner, coming from two games down to beat Suchde, the No.4 seed, 11-13, 10-12, 11-8, 14-12, 11-5 in a marathon 111 minutes.

The climax of the \$4000 WISPA World Tour event saw Anaka Alankamony defeat Surbhi Misra to become the youngest winner on the WISPA Tour. The 15-year-old from Chennai was playing in her first tournament as a WISPA member.

The youngster's exceptional skill, speed and control over her 19-year-old opponent led Alankamony to an 11-8, 11-8, 12-10 victory in 29 minutes.

"I wish to thank the federation, my coaches, my family and sponsors for all their support," said the delighted Alankamony, a home grown girl and a trainee of the Indian Squash Academy.

## PSA Indian Squash Challenger No3, Chennai, India

**Final:** Harinder Pal Sandhu (IND) bt Siddharth Suchde (IND) 11-13, 10-12, 11-8, 14-12, 11-5

**Semi-finals:**

Siddharth Suchde (IND) bt Dylan Bennett (NED) 11-8, 11-3 ret.

Harinder Pal Sandhu (IND) bt Anson Kwong (HKG) 8-11, 11-7, 12-10, 12-10

**Quarter-finals:**

Dylan Bennett (NED) bt Ahmed Hawas (EGY) 11-3, 11-5, 15-13

Siddharth Suchde (IND) bt Aqeel Rehman (AUT) 11-2, 11-5, 11-9

Anson Kwong (HKG) bt Leo Au (HKG) 12-10, 9-11, 11-4, 11-8

Harinder Pal Sandhu (IND) bt Mazen Gamal (EGY) 10-12, 11-5, 11-6, 11-5

## Women's WISPA Indian Challenger No1

**Final:** Anaka Alankamony (IND) bt Surbhi Misra (IND) 11-8, 11-8, 12-10

**Semi-finals:**

Surbhi Misra (IND) bt Aparajitha Balamurukan (IND) 11-6, 9-11, 11-6, 6-11, 11-3

Anaka Alankamony (IND) bt Anwesha Reddy (IND) 11-7, 11-8, 11-7

**Quarter-finals:**

Aparajitha Balamurukan (IND) bt Irina Assal (RUS) 11-3, 10-12, 11-9, 11-9

Surbhi Misra (IND) bt Harita Omprakash (IND) 11-7, 12-10, 6-11, 12-10

Anwesha Reddy (IND) bt Carmen Lee (HKG) 11-5, 12-14, 11-9, 11-3

Anaka Alankamony (IND) bt Pushpita Devi (MAS) 11-9, 11-6, 14-12

## INTERNATIONAL RESULTS ALL FINALS

27/09/2009 : Forex Women's World Open, Amsterdam, Holland  
Nicol David bt Natalie Grinham 3-11, 11-6, 11-3, 11-8

23/09/2009 : Sky Open 2009, Sky Petrosport Club, Cairo, Egypt  
Karim Darwish bt Gregory Gaultier 11-6, 7-11, 6-11, 11-9, 11-3

19/09/2009 : Cabs Squashtime Open 2009, Eindhoven  
Annelize Naudé bt Kanzy El Defrawy 3-15, 11-6, 11-8, 11-6

13/09/2009 : Merritt Properties Baltimore 2009, Baltimore  
Julian Illingworth bt Eric Galvez 11-7, 11-5, 11-8

17/09/2009 : SANNOIS OPEN, Sannois, France  
Mathieu Castagnet bt Grégoire Marche 11-3, 12-10, 5-11, 3-11, 11-6

07/09/2009 : US Open 2009, Chicago, USA  
Amr Shabana bt Ramy Ashour 11-7, 11-2, 7-11, 14-12, 11-8

07/09/2009 : Wolverhampton Open 2009, Wolverhampton,  
Jonathan Kemp bt Alister Walker 11-4, 11-6, 11-9

06/09/2009 : Ecuador Open 2009, Quito, Ecuador  
Rafael Alarcon bt Jorge Ferreira 11-9, 8-11, 5-11, 12-10, 11-7

30/08/2009 : Colombian Open 2009, Bogota, Colombia  
David Palmer bt Borja Golan 12-10, 11-13, 12-10, 5-11

## MENS RANKING OCTOBER 2009

RANK	PLAYER	COUNTRY
1	Karim Darwish	EGY
2	Gregory Gaultier	FRA
76	Ritwik Bhattacharya	IND
103	Siddharth Suchde	IND
111	Harinder Pal Sandhu	IND
153	Nareesh Kumar	IND
198	Gaurav Nandrajog	IND
292	Ravi Dixit	IND
377	Karan Malik	IND
402	Ramit Tandon	IND
404	Aditya Jagtap	IND
404	Maheesh Mangaonkar	IND
404	Abhishek Pradhan	IND

## WOMENS RANKING OCTOBER 2009

RANK	PLAYER	COUNTRY
1	Nicol David	MAS
2	Natalie Grinham	NED
83	Joshna Chinappa	IND
54	Dipika Pallikal	IND
127	Anaka Alankamony	IND
146	Surbhi Misra	IND
157	Anwesha Reddy	IND
182	Aparajitha B.	IND
215	Shrisa Khatri	IND
215	Ankita Sharma	IND



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