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# ISP - Minute Maid SQUASH CARNIVAL 2011

(12/02/2011)

In Association with Khar Gymkhana and Juhu Vileparle Gymkhana

Marwan, Delia, Mahesh, Saumya emerge champs

he gagressive tactics and attacking play of second seed Marwan Shorbagy of Egypt prevailed over the defensive, consistent style of Malaysian top seed Kamran Khan in the men's open final of the Rs. 11 lakh prize money ISP Sauash Carnival, the ISP's 100th tournament, jointly hosted by Khar Gymkhana and Juhu Gymkhana.

Shorbagy won 11-3, 11-8, 12-10 to bag the winner's purse of Rs 1.5 lakh which is the highest prize money ever in men's category in India. Earlier, the women's final was an anti-climax as top seed Delia Arnold of Malaysia packed too much firepower for her second seed countrymate Siti Munirah Jusoh, winning 11-2, 11-6, 11-9 without breaking too much of a sweat, Mahesh Managonkar and Saumva

Karki, the top seeds in the boys and airls U-19 emerged easy winners in their categories while it was double delight for the Chotrani family, While former men's National champion Manish Chotrani won the men's over-35 title, his son Veer Chotrani laid claim to the boys under-11 title.

Marwan, who had impressed throughout the tournament with his aggressive play and penchant to go for winners, continued in the same vein in the final, catching Kamran Khan by surprise. The contest had hardly begun before the first game was over. Marwan kept going for his shots in the second game too and when Kamran tried to mirror his tactics he ended up finding the tin on more than a couple of occasions. The third game was a tight affair and Kamran saved two match points to level scores at 10-10. However, a backhand attempted winner that landed on the tin saw him lose the advantage and Marwan then caught him short on a forehand winner for the title. Delia Arnold, world no.20, after steamrolling her training partner Siti Munirah said she enjoyed the encounter but Muniraj was finding it difficult to move on court as she had not recovered from her long semi-final win.

The change in Egypt's leadership has brought more smiles to the young squash participant from Egypt Marwan El Shorbagy and as he said at the finals of the 100th squash tournament in Mumbai, he was happy to hear Hosni Mubarak was finally out of power. Later in the evening the Indian Squash Professionals (ISP), India's only NGO dedicated to promotion of a sports had its glittering grand finale of the seven-day Squash Carnival compered by TV actress Kavita Kaushik of F.I.R fame and the Comedy Circus and Laughter Challenge fame-Kapil Sharma. The awards in various categories were given to the winners by the beautiful actress Riya Sen (who specially flew down from New Delhi). Rati Agnihotri, who was herself a national Squash player and winner, among others. There was a book release also. Actress Divva Dutta encouraged the players in their final rounds by visiting the Khar Gymkhana earlier. While South Indian actor Harish and TV actor Abhishek Awasthi also araced the occasion as did singers Jimmy Felix, Sushmita Das and Shonaa Gonsalves, actress Priyanka Chopra's father Dr. Ashok Chopra, actor Aditya Raj Kapoor and Maharashtra Minister of Sports Padmakar Valvi. Fashoin show, dance, music, laser show, fire act and a lavish spread of foods in the open ambience made the proceedings more enjoyable. Above all it was a grand 3 hours entertainment with prize distribution which according to many players was a mini filmfare award type function the likes of which has never happened in any squash events in



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April 2011

# PROSQUASH speaks to NAMRATA PUROHIT and TUSHAR SHAHANI upcoming squash players and AJAZ SHAIKH squash professional from Mumbai.

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

TÜSHAR: My parents enrolled me for Peter Nicol's Squash Camp at Otter Club under Amar Haksar, when I was 7.5 yrs old. Then came the Khar Gymkhana Squash Academy coaching cam under A.I. Singh- MY Coach. That's where I discovered my passion for the fastest game on court!!



NAMRATA: I started playing squash at the age of 10 years, I used to watch my father play squash at Willingdon Sports Club and hence was taken in by the speed and movement of the game.

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

TUSHAR: Training is 7 days a week. Training is divided into fitness, or outry practice, and yoga. It is an intense program covering mental strength along with technical training. One huge incentive for pushing myself harder is the awesome "ICED TEX" that Sir gives to the top achievers—nothing can beat that—I have earned a few littles III to 8 are studies—I media would will be a form a studies—I media would be a form a studies—I media would be a form a form of the studies of the stu

NAMRATA: I was doing no formal coaching fill last year April 2010 and an currently being coached by McA. I Singh, who has made a loug difference to my game. I am a trained pilates instructor and hence use my pilates knowledge by training allmass 13 times a week at our Pilates Studio. This too has made a big difference to my movement and balance on court. I attend classes etc in the morning half so that I have time for squash coaching at other times of the day.

# PROSQUASH: Are your family members also interested in sports, or have a background in sports? How do they encourage you to play squash?"

TUSHAR: My family is my strength. having been active in sports during school days, my parents have supported me all the way whether it was in the mental game of CHESS or "SQUASH". I was playing Chess at National and State levels and have wan several trophies toal! And now it is Squash II I've carved a niche for myself—thanks to my parents who are my TOWER OF STRENGTH, never putting any pressure on me to perform, hence encouraging me.

NAMARATA: My entire family has a sports background which encourages me to perform better. My grandfather was the National Billiards and Snooker Champion and my father was a good cricketer and had played for Mumbai Schools. He was the one who got me into squash and my family is fully supporting my sports interest

#### PROSQUASH: What is your ambition?

TUSHAR: My ambition is to beat Ramy Ashour and become World No.

1 squash champion. My dreams doesn't end there.... I want to be the next "Warren Buffet" and posses the "best cars".

NAMRATA: My ambition is to be No. 1 and hopefully I will reach there someday. I would also like to play the game for as long as possible at a

good level

PROSQUASH: What are your other interests apart from Squash?

TUSHAR: I am a total sports freak.... My interests range from chess to cricket, to T.T. and even an intense game of SCRABBLE excites me !!!

NAMRATA: Horse Riding (I take part in

Horse Riding Competitions), Writing Poetry, Choreography / Drama (I have acted in and choreographed many of my school functions), Studying Animals and their Behaviour, Football (play for my college).

# PROSQUASH: Latest achievements in squash, as well as other sports and co curricular activities?

TUSHAR: In the recent past year 2010-2011, I stood runner up in Pune Open, followed by 2nd place in the Puni Llyod – West Zone and Puni Llyod – Delhi. In Chennai Nationals - I took the 7th place. I broke the jinx when I walked away with the Champions Trophy (Winner) at the CCI Club. Several other tournaments followed where I stood runner-up culminating with the ISP Khar Gym- where I was a semi-finalist. As I give this interview I am looking forward to some great squash coming up this summer. The Other's Open and the Malaysian tournaments – Milo and Penang. I am super excited and all ageared up to "SQUASH'EM" !!!

NAMRATA: Squash - 4th at Nationals Junior Championship -Chennai 2010 (Under 19 years), Quarter Finalist at the Senior National Championship - Mumbai 2010

Football - In the D.S.O. competition my college H.R. College of Commerce and Economics came first in Mumbai District and Third in all over Maharashtra. In the American School Of Bombay Competition my college H.R. College of Commerce and Economics finished first.

Pilates - I am a trained Pilates Instructor and probably the youngest.



PROSQUASH: How did you start coaching and who is your role model, if any?

AJAZ: I come from a sports background.
Uncle Riaz Sheikh, Yakub are already
successful as Squash Coaches, and I took to
coaching with encouragement from them.

# PROSQUASH: What is your present location where you work and where all have you coached? AJAZ: I have coached at Club Aquaria, The Club, and am

present working in N.S.C.I Club Worli

#### PROSQUASH: How do you keep yourself fit?

AJAZ: Besides playing squash I do jogging, skipping and swimming, which increases my stamina and tones by body.

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PROSQUASH: Who are the players you've coached earlier and the prominent ones now? AJAZ: I trained Abhishek Pradhan when he was an under 13 player.

I'm coaching some young, enthusiastic players at NSCI Worli with the team of coaches there.

PROSQUASH: In your view, how has squash grown, and how would you recommend squash to those wishing to start? AJAZ : Squash has grown a lot in recent times. There are more

squash courts now than coaches available! Squash is very high intensity game. It helps develop staming and keeps one charged up through the day after a good game!

#### CIMB KL Open Squash Championships At Kuala Lumpur (20-3-2011)

Sauray Ghosal loses in quarter finals to Karim Darwish

Finals: Karim Darwish bt Mohamed El Shorbagy 11-9,11-9,11-3 Semifinals: Karim Darwish bt Grea Marche 11-6, 11-5, 11-3 Mohamed El Shorbagy bt Azlan Iskandar 8-11,14-12,11-7,11-5 Quarter Finals: Karim Darwish bt Saurav Ghosal 11-8, 11-8,

11-5 Men's 1st round: Sauray Ghosal (IND) bt Ong Beng Hee (MAS)

11-8, 4-11, 11-6, 11-6 Womens Qualifying Finals: Samantha Teran (Mex) bt Dipika Pallikal (Ind) 11-4, 11-9, 11-7

Delia Arnold (Mas) bt Joshna Chinappa (Ind) 8-11, 11-7, 14-16, 12-10. 12-10

Qualifying Round One: Dipika Pallikal (Ind) bt Rachel Arnold (Mas) 11-3, 11-8, 11-3

Joshna Chinappa (Ind) bt Misaki Kobayashi (Jpn) 11-8, 11-6, 10-

Mens Qualifying Finals: Ali Farag (Egy) bt Siddharth Suchde (Ind) 3-11, 11-9, 11-6, 11-4

Qualifying Round One: Siddharth Suchde (Ind) bt Yann Perrin (Fra) 11-9, 11-7, 11-6

**Brit Insurance Metrosquash Windy City Open** At Chicago , USA (10/02/2011) Chinappa Storm To Windy City Success

Final: Joshna Chinappa (IND) bt Dipika Pallikal (IND) 11-4, 6-11, 12-10, 2-11, 11-6

Semi-finals: Joshna Chinappa (IND) bt Aisling Blake (IRL) 11-7. 5-11, 11-5, 8-11, 11-6

Dipika Pallikal (IND) bt Latasha Khan (USA) 11-5, 6-11, 11-8, 10-12, 2-0 ret.

Quarter-finals: Joshna Chinappa (IND) bt Stephanie Edmison (CAN) 11-5, 5-11, 8-11, 11-6, 11-9

Dipika Pallikal (IND) bt Ivonne Diaz (MEX) 11-4, 11-1, 11-1 Women's 1st round: Joshna Chinappa (IND) bt Imelda Salazar

Martinez (MEX) 11-3, 11-7, 11-5

Dipika Pallikal (IND) bt Heather Johnston (USA) 11-2, 11-4, 11-2



# Pradeep Vijayakar R.I.P.

The news of veteran sports/squash journalist, Pradeep Vijayakar's premature demise came as a shock to all of us in January 2011. He was so unassuming, yet articulate, knowledgeable and indeed had a bundle of talent. Apart from being a cricketer himself and assistant editor of Times of India, Pradeep also helped squash. He had given commentary at Hotel Leela during one of the finals in 1993, which is a rare thing in squash. His loss will be felt deeply in the squash community.

MAY HIS SOUL REST IN PEACE!

# **DIPIKA EQUALS HIGHEST** RANKING BY AN INDIAN WOMEN SQUASH PLAYER

ipika Pallikal has been going places. After the Nepal Open triumph in November, she made it to the augrterfinals of the WISPA Puni Lloyd Masters tournament in New Delhi in December 2010.

Because of her good performances, Dipika has achieved a career-best WISPA ranking of 27. She has also equalled the highest-ever ranking achieved by an Indian woman, namely that of former National champion Misha Grewal.

The 19 yrs old girl from Chennai was earlier 29th in the rankings. Dipika, who trains in England (Leeds) and Egypt, has age on her side as she looks ahead to the new year. Considering that her ranking at the start of 2010 was 46, it has been a remarkable jump. Her close Indian rival, Joshna Chinappa, is at 35.

"Playing well and beating some good players were the key reasons for the rise," said Dipika. The two big wins last year — Indian Challenger and WISPA title in Nepal — made a big difference, she added. Dipika, who trains in Leeds and Egypt, said her aim is to break into the top-10 by the end of this year.

I am moving a lot better though fitness is one area where I would like to improve. To say that I have age on

my side and I have time to get into the higher bracket is not somethina I believe in. I would like to break into top 10 by the yearend. I think I have the game and it's just about winning the crucial points against the top players,' said Dipika, who turned professional in 2006.

Dipika made rapid strides in the rankings last year. The Chennaibased player started 2010 as No.46 and ended at a commendable 27



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#### INTERNATIONAL RESULTS

23/03/2011: Swiss Open 2011, Geneva, Switzerland Kashif Shuja (NZL) bt Steve Finitsis (AUS) 12-10, 9-11, 11-5, 11-8 Yathreb Adel (EGY) bt Maud Duplomb (FRA) 11-4, 11-4, 11-5

20/03/2011: CIMB KL Open 2011, Kuala Lumpur Nicol David bt Madeline Perry 11-6, 11-6, 11-2

20/03/2011: Rocky Mountain Open 2011, Alberta, Canada David Palmer bt Laurens Jan Anjema 11-7, 5-11, 4-11, 11-7, 11-6

15/03/2011: Manitoba Open 2011, Winnipeg, Canada Adrian Grant bt Julian Illingworth 11, 11-2, 11-2, 12-10

13/03/2011: Mixed Team World Cup 2011 [1]Egypt 2 [2]England 0

Ramy Ashour bt James Willstrop 11-8, 11-7, 11-7 Raneem El Weleily bt Jenny Duncalf 11-8, 7-11, 11-9, 11-1 Karim Darwish v Tom Richards (dead rubber - match not played)

09/03/2011 : KIG OPEN 2011, Los Angeles, USA Jonathan Kemp bt Julian Illingworth 11-7, 11-8, 7-11, 7-11, 11-6

07/03/2011: Vendee Open 2011, La Roche Sur Yon Siyoli Waters bt Lauren Briggs 11-8, 11-7, 11-13, 11-5

06/03/2011: Hashim Khan Championship, Denver, USA

Charles Sharpes (ENG) bt Lewis Walters (ENG) 11-6, 11-5, 11-7

05/03/2011: Norooz Open, Tehran, Iran Danish Atlas Khan (PAK) bt Bader Al Hussaini (KUW) 11-6, 11-8, 11-3

04/03/2011: Avrupa Konutlari International, Turkey Omar Mosaad bt Davide Bianchetti 11-8, 8-11, 13-11, 12-10

28/02/2011: North American Open 2011, Richmond, USA Nick Matthew bt Ramy Ashour 11-9, 11-5, 8-11, 8-11, 11-6

28/02/2011:Winnipeg Winter Cup, Winnipeg, Canada Emma Beddoes (ENG) bt Miranda Ranieri (CAN) 11-9, 4-11, 6-11, 11-7, 11-8

28/02/2011: Austrian Open 2011, Salzburg, Austria Steve Finitsis (AUS) bt Julien Balbo (FRA) 11-8, 11-8, 9-11, 11-9

18/02/2011: Fair International 2011, Arak, Iran Danish Atlas Khan (PAK) bt Muhd Asyraf Azan (MAS) 12-10, 18-16, 11-6

17/02/2011: Kish Persina Gulf Cup 2011, Kish Island, Iran

Danish Atlas Khan (PAK) bt Yasir Butt (PAK) 11-9, 11-7, 8-11, 11-9

17/02/2011: Wispa Persian Gulf Open 2011, Iran Salma Nassar (EGY) bt Merhan Amr Mahmoud (EGY) 7-11, 11-2, 11-3, 11-7

15/02/2011: Finnish Open 2011, Mikkeli, Finland Steve Coppinger bt Joey Barrington 13-15, 11-5, 11-8, 11-5

# MENC DANVING ADDIT 2011

RANK	PLAYER	COUNTRY
1	Nick Matthew	ENG
2	Ramy Ashour	EGY
3	Karim Darwish	EGY
4	James Willstrop	ENG
5	Amr Shabana	EGY
23	Saurav Ghosal	IND
69	Siddharth Suchde	IND
136	Harinder Pal Sandhu	IND
165	Sandeep Jangra	IND
207	Gaurav Nandrajog	IND
207	Ravi Dixit	IND
325	Ramit Tandon	IND
406	Aditya Jagtap	IND
406	Mahesh Mangaonkar	IND
406	Abhishek Pradhan	IND
406	Waqar Khan Pathan	IND
406	Vrishab Kotian	IND

WOMENS RANKING APRIL 2011			
RANK	PLAYER	COUNTRY	
1	Nicol David	MAS	
2	Jenny Duncalf	ENG	
3	Madeline Perry	IRL	
4	Rachael Grinham	AUS	
5	Alison Waters	ENG	
25	Dipika Pallikal	IND	
36	Joshna Chinappa	IND	
112	Surbhi Misra	IND	
116	Aparajitha Balamurukan	IND	
116	Anaka Alankamony	IND	
153	Anwesha Reddy	IND	
219	Ankita Sharma	IND	
219	Harshit Kaur Jawanda	IND	



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#### INDIA'S LEADING SQUASH MAGAZINE

#### RESULTS FINALS :

Boys & Girls U-9: Neel Joshi bt Dhruv Vazirani 11-9, 11-3, 7-11,

Boys U-11: Yeer Chotrani bt Yash Dilip Fadte 12-10, 10-12, 11-9, 11-4

Boys U-15: Kunj Rawani bt Aishwarya Singh -9-11, 13-11, 11-7, 5-11, 11-6

Boys U-17: Divij Kadan bt Akhilesh Yaday 11-7, 11-4, 9-11, 11-7
Boys U-19: Mahesh Mangaokar bt Vivek Dinodia 11-6, 11-5,11-1

Mens Open: Marwan Shorbagy bt Kamran Khan 11-3,11-8,12-10

Doubles Open: Kamran Khan / Gaurav Nandrajog bt Vikas Jangra
/ Sandeen Jangra - 15-9, 8-15, 15-11

Womens Open: Delia Arnold bt Siti Muniroh Jusoh 11-2,11-6,11-9
Girls U-11: Aakanksha Rao bt Aditi Raheja 11-1, 12-10, 11-8

Girls U-11: Aakanksha kao bi Adin kaneja 11-1, 12-10, 11-6 Girls U-13: Jui Kalgutkar bt Aishwarya Bhattacharya 11-6, 5-11, 11-5, 12-10 Girls U-15: Aishwarya Bhattacharya bt Aishwarya Nambiar 11-7, 6-

Girls U-15: Aishwarya Bhattacharya bi Aishwarya Nambiar 11-7, 6
11, 8-11, 11-9, 11-5

Girls U-19: Saumya Karki bt Harshi Kaur Jawanda 11-9, 11-1, 11-

Men Over 35:Manish Chotrani bt Gary Nitschike 11-9, 11-5, 11-7
Men Over 45:Ashwin Bahl bt Deepak Moolani 6-11, 11-8, 11-9,
11-9

Men Over 55: Rahul Kumar bt Ramesh More 11-5, 11-2, 11-5

Doubles Handicap: Kishore Chhabria / Inderjeet Singh bt Rajesh
Rajani / Vinod Rhijwani 13-15, 15-9, 15-5

Professionals : Amjad Khan bt Sachin Jadhav 11-7, 11-2, 11-8



I am passionate about squash. My sister Daksha Pathak has always been an idol for me and her achievements have inspired me to win some for myself some day. ISP declared 100th Tournament in a Grand way where I porticipated in Mixed U9 category and made to the semi finals. Thanks to the people around who have been odmiring me and my immense interest in the game. The name I can think of besides my parents is Mr. Mahendra Agarwal. Lanamai Pathak (Thane)



### PHOTO GALLARY AND VIEWS ABOUT 100TH TOURNAMENT







That was my wonderful experience, health is weelth, everybody knows, but, Mr. Mahendra Agarwal knows value of this weelth and he is very dedicated to his sport and I like it. I'm very thankful to Mr. Narendra Gour because of him I was able to see this tournement...Suril Agarwal (Jodhpur)



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#### INDIA'S LEADING SQUASH MAGAZINE



ISP's 100th tournament was a splendid one for the players as well as for the audience. I personally enjoyed it a lot as I won and also loved to watch the men's final which was truly worth watching. The prize distribution ceremony was awesome. The lazer show was fantastic. The trophies are also good. Overall it was smash hit. Looking forward for many more....Kunj Rawani (Mumbai)





A well thought, impeccably organised and executed mega event with an array of players from the Indian junior scene to the professional players from abroad. I loved the opportunity of playing with the seeded players and thoroughly enjoyed partying at the end of the tournament too....Saumya Karki (Thane)





Mr Padmakar Valvi (Hon. Sports Minister, Govt of Maharasht giving away the trophy to Merwan Shorbagy (Winner, Mens Open



Thanks so much for hosting such a wonderfully organized tournament. I hope you will continue hosting such events which promote squash in such a big, making every future events bigger and better than the last. Sincere thanks to the sponsors who have joined hands with ISP. They are key to any sport and more so developing one's such as squash. I look forward to your next event.... Gauray Nandrajog (New Delhi)









The organisers did a great job to make this tournament great. I m really happy to win the 100th tournament. I want to thanks the sponsors for supporting the tournament and everyone who came to watch the prize distribution function. It was a great tournament and I will look forward to come here again and would like to dedicate my win to all the people who died in the revolution in Egypt...Marwan Shorbagy (Egypt)







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ISP grows from strength to strength providing a great 10 service to our wonderful game whilst helping the growing breed of squash professionals all the time.....Raj Arora (Mumbai)







ndra Mohan Gupta (Winmark) being felicitated by Ashok Nagpal (Treasurer, ISP)



The competition was well organised. The prize giving ceremony was also entertaining and I am proud to be given the opportunity to play in this historic championship. I am looking forward to be invited again. More importantly I am very pleased with the hospitality of the organising committee. A special thanks to Mr Rahul Kumar who took the initiative to make my stay in Mumbai a comfortable one.....Pushppa Devi (Malaysia)

ISP's tournament was a very good experience for me. It was very well organized and well managed. In fact, it was a great idea to play 4 different categories at 2 different places as it would have become very crowded and difficult to manage all of them at one place. Top players like Delia Arnold and Siti Munirah made the event more interesting. I had an amazing experience playing with Sayoli Waters in the women's quarter final, who is another top player from South Africa. The awards were being given away by celebrates graced the occasion. Fashion show, dance, music and the open ambience made the proceedings cool...........Harshit Kaur Jawanda (New Delhi)





It was a delightful experience to be a part of the squash event organised by INDIAN SQUASH PROFESSIONALS (ISP). The professional event organised by you, was of a high quality and a delight to watch. Ancillary shows too were a fun to watch like the fashion show and dance show etc. I feel deeply honored to get an invitation for the ISP 100th tournament and I look forward to be a part of the amazing experience again....Dinesh Malhotra (Ahmedabad)



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#### The foreign players participating in ISP's squash Carnival were interviewed by A. I. Singh.

by A. I. Singh. Here are the excerpts.

Marwan Shorbagy (Egypt)- Winner of the Mens Open Title. Current PSA rank- 126.

A.I.Singh - Congratulations for winning the title! You are doing quite well at PSA too. Tell us more about your progress, and how you've improved so much since I saw you a year back at Millfield School when your game was nowhere near its present level!

Marvan: I've dimbed 270 places in PSA in my first month itself. I've trained under Janha Brarrington at Millfeld for the last faur years, who along with lan Thomas helped me work on my weak points. My brother, Mohammed Shorbagy, current world No. 9, helped me ol pt, as a special thanks to lan trained with Aditya Jagtipa at Millfeld, who is an excellent partner for drills, and a good friend, very supportive, and competitive on court!

A. I. Singh- Tell us about your squash background and what motivates you, and what is your ambition?

Marwan - I started playing squash at my home club- Smouha in Egypt, about 10 years ago. Basically, I love the sport. I enjoy playing and training and always want to win. I train everyday, even more than 6 hours in vacations, and average 2-3 hours during school.

A.I.Singh - How long do we need to wait before you are World No-1?

Marwan- I'll be there ASAPI I have milestones though- I hope to win the World Junior Title at Belgium in July, and keep improving my PSA ranking all along.

A.I.Singh-How did you like this tournament and Mumbai?

Marwan- This tournament had really high prize money and a lot of sponsors. The organizers have worked really hard. The courts are good at both the venues. It was nice to play such a big tournament. It was my first visit to India. Mumbai is nice, beaches are nice, but not the traffic jams!

#### Elvin Keo (Malaysia), Semi Finalist, PSA rank 245.

A.I.- Your racket skills are remarkable! A PSA rank of 245 is out of place!
Elvin- I've been injured for a year and just resumed 2 weeks back. This is

my first tournament after my break! My highest rank was 111.

A.I.- Tell us about your progression to PSA from the start.

Elvin- I started at 12 years of age. But I've had a lot of injury breaks (shows his scars proudly)! I was introduced to squash by my Father's friend. I train at Bukit Jalil, KL.

A.I.- Did you enjoy this tournament and Mumbai?

Elvin- This tournament was good fun! I made some friends, and the

Elvin- This tournament was good fun! I made some friends, and the venues are very good. Mumbai traffic is killing, but people are nice. This is a non government tournament, so heartfelt thanks to the sponsors.

### Siti Munirah Jusoh (Malaysia), Semi finalist, WISPA rank 44.

A.I.- How did you take up squash?

SHI-My Brother and Sister played squash, so I followed them. This was at goe 10. Coach Ahmed Ahmeds annica noticed me and annouraged me to train seriously. I played Netball too at my school at state level, but later specialized in squash. My first burnament was the YTL Inter state at let at 11 years of age. I reached the top-4 at age 12. Subsequently, Bukit JoH at Coach 10 in the Coach School invited me to study there and pursue squash. I, lipined WISH at age 18, and chose squash over studies. My ambition is to reach top-10, and hoppfully No-1.

A.I.- How about this tournament?

Siti- It provided a very good start to the new year, and was good fun! I felt it was a good exposure for the Indian players- it was a pleasure to play with them. It wasn't like WISPA in terms of pressure, so I was quite relaxed. I hope to be back next year.

Kamran Khan (Malaysia), Runner up, PSA rank 80

A.I.- How did you start playing squash, what motivates you and what is your ambition?

Kamran- I started playing at age 10. Coach Ajaz Azmat helped me develop my game. I just love playing squash, and that motivates me! My ambition is to reach as a high a PSA rank as possible, possibly be no-1.

A.I.- What is your opinion about this tournament?

Kamran- This was a good tournament, well organized, and players were treated well. This is my second visit to India, and I love it. I didn't get much time to see Mumbai, but the hotel is nice.

Delia Arnold (Malaysia)- Winner of Womens Open Title. Current WISPA rank- 20

A.I. How did you start playing squash? Tell us about your progression to playing WISPA

Delia- My Dad (Raymond Arnold) used to be the National coach in

And the state of t

A.I.- Whats your impression about this tournament?

Delia- There are a lot of upcoming Juniors here! This was a great

tournament.

Siyoli Waters (S. Africa), Semi Finalist, WISPA rank-78

A.I.- South Africa is not exactly known for squash. How did you take up squash and progress to WISPA, and what is it like in S. Africa for a WISPA player?

Skyell- I was lucky to heve squash in my school, and stanted at 11 years of age. It is tough to pursue squash professionally mainly because of lack of sponsers, but I decided to try, As a junior, there are adequate facilities, but as a pro, it is difficult. I work part time, and coach kids. I started coaching as a passion, but every bit of income helps, and parents are quite happy with my work. I enjoy working with under privileged children.

A. I. – What is your future plan?

Siyoli- My immediate plan is to reach WISPA rank 40.

51/011- My Illimediate plants to reach Wish Arank 4

Pushpaa Devi (Malaysia), Quarter Finalist, WISPA rank 125

A.I.- How long have you played squash for, and what were the milestones?

Pushpace - Ive played for 9-10 years. My Father played squash for his company, and he encouraged me and my brother. When in Under-11, 1 joined my Brother (de state level player) at the Selengor Squash Association. The dub officials saw my improvement within 2 months and were impressed. At 12 years, I played Kong Kong Junior Open and was 3rd in U-13. 1 Bed Top Grapt Squash and lest only to Loo Green and was 3rd in U-13. 1 Bed Cup. After high scool. I took a 5 month brack, worked for I will all the MSPA locument and bed will know the for the MSPA locus and the

A.L. What about the future, and thoughts on this tournament? Pushpaa - I want to rise further, but lack training partners. In this tournament, I thoroughly enjoyed the doubles handicap- the 1st time I'm playing such an event in my life! The accommodation was good, as is the food, and Rahul Kumar has taken good care of us.

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# LITTLE MASTERS JUNIOR SQUASH CHAMPIONSHIP

At The Willingdon Sports Club, Mumbai (16/01/2011)

Mangaonkar, Bhattacharya got grand double

ahesh Mangaonkar proved too strong for his opponents as he went on to grab a grand double in the Rs 2,69,000 prize money All India Little Masters Junior Squash Tournament, organized and hosted by Willingdon Sports Club, Maholaxmi.

The top seeded 16-year-old Mumbai lad, Mangsonkur brooked little opposition from second seed Abhimanyu Shah in the bedi titled opposition from second seed Abhimanyu Shah in the body under-17 final as he cruised to a 11-1, 11-3, 11-5 victory, Mayah won the 25,000. while Abhimanyu got runner up maney of 8x.12,5000. Seeded number one in the boys' under-19 category, he went on to tame second seed Samir Mistry 11-3, 11-6, 11-13, 11-6, 11-4 with a degree of comfort to complete his double wins. Mahash emerged richer by 8x.4 0,000, while Samir was awarded 8x.2 0,000.

In the girls U-19 final, Saumya repeated the feat against Aishwarya Nambiar, After leading by two sets, 11-5, 11-1, Aishwarya conceded the match. Saumya pocketed Rs. 25,000 for her efforts, while Aishwarya had to be content with Rs. 12,500.

In the hotly contested boy's under 13 match, which went the distance, top seed Velavan S from Tamil Nadu rallied from the loss of the opening two games to put it across Aryamaan 11-13, 3-11, 1-9,11-6,13-11.

#### **RESULTS FINALS:**

Boy's & Girl's U-9: Neel Joshi bt Druv Vazirani 7-11, 11-9, 8-11, 11-6, 1-7

Girl's U-11: Daksha Pathak bt Akanksha Rao 11-5, 11-3, 11-

Girl's U-13: Aishwarya Bhattacharya bt Jui Kalgutkar 11-6, 11-2, 11-7

Girl's U-15: Aishwarya Bhattacharya bt Aishwarya Nambiar 12-10, 11-4, 11-6

Girl's U-19: Saumya Karki bt Aishwarya Nambiar 11-5, 11-

Boy's U-11: Aryan Parekh bt Tushar Sahani 11-6, 11-5, 11-8 Boy's U-13: Velavan S (TN) bt Aryamaan Adik 11-13, 3-11, 11-9, 11-6, 13-11

Boy's U-15: Guhan Senthilkumar (TN) bt Kunj Rawani 1-3, 11-7, 11-5.

Boy's U-17: Mahesh Mangaonkar bt Abhimanya Shah 11-1, 11-3, 11-5.

Boy's U-19: Mahesh Mangaonkar bt Samir Mistry 11-3, 11-6, 11-4

## MATUNGA GYMKHANA JUNIOR SQUASH OPEN

At Matunga Gymkhana, Mumbai (28/01/2011)

Abhimanyu, Yadav, Nambiar champs



Seconds seeds Akhilesh Yadav and Aishwarya Nambiar registered exciting victories to clinch the boys under-15 and girls' under-19 titles, respectively, in the Matunga Gymkhana Junior Open Squash Tournament.

Last year's runner-up Yadav of Jindal Squash Academy, Yasind overcame top seed Yohan Pandole of CCI 11-8, 5-11, 9-11, 11-5, 11-9 in a thriller after trailing 1-2. In a contest that could have gone either way, Yadav made sure the title was his after leaping in the air to smack a winner at match ball. Last year's runner-up Aishwarya Nambiar of Country Club registered an 11-7, 11-2, 8-11, 12-10 win over No. 1 seed Aishwarya Bhattacharya of Jindal Squash Academy in an exciting under-19 final. Nambiar endured anxious moments in the crucial fourth set before sealing victory over extra points.

#### **RESULTS FINALS:**

Under-9: Neel Joshi bt Druv Vazirani 11-7, 11-8, 11-6. Girls U-13: Aishwarya Bhattacharya (Jindal) bt Jui

Kalgutkar (Chembur Gym) 11-7, 11-8, 11-6.

Girls U-19: Aishwarya Nambiar (Country Club) bt

Aishwarya Bhattacharya (Jindal) 11-7, 11-2, 8-11, 12-10 Boys U-11: Veer Chotrani (Otters Club) bt Advait Adik (Otters Club) 11-7, 11-8, 11-6.

Boys U-13: Aryaman Adik (Otters Club) bt Yohan Surti

(Bombay Gym) 9-11, 11-9, 11-8, 11-9

**Boys U-15:** Akhilesh Yadav (Jindal) bt Yohan Pandole (CCI) 11-8, 5-11, 9-11, 11-5, 11-9

Boys U-19: 3-Abhimanyu Shah (Bombay Gym) bt 4-Rohan

Paranjape (Willingdon SC ) 11-3, 11-3, 10-12, 11-2.

with best compliments from

Ayub Ghori

# ASIAN JUNIOR TEAM SQUASH CHAMPIONSHIPS

At Colombo, Sri Lanka (18/2/2011)

Abhimanyu, Yaday, Nambiar champs



he rapid growth of squash in India took another major steps forward when the country's boys team upset arch rivel Pakistan, the title-holders, in the final of the Asian Junior Team Championships in Colombo, Sri Lanka, to win the prestigious title for the first time since the inception of the championships in 1981.

Playing to a packed crowd at the Sri Lankan Air Force base squash varue, the Indian players Ramit Tandon, Abhishok Pradhan, Mahash Mangaankar and Vrishab Katian rose to the occasion as they outmaneuvred and outplayed the Pokistanis. However, Pakistan had not fielded its best junior players - Farhan Zaman and Wagasa Mehbaok.

Results Men's Final: INDIA bt [1] PAKISTAN 2/1
Ramit Tandon bt Danish Atlas Khan 11-7, 6-11, 11-9, 811.11-9

Abhishek Pradhan lost to Nasir Iqbal 4-11, 7-11, 3-11

Mahesh Mangaonkar bt Sadam Ul Haq 11-7, 11-2, 11-6

#### JSW SDAT WSF WORLD CUP

At Chennai (14/03/2011)

Egypt Celebrate World Cup Glory

gypt justified their billing as top seeds in the 2011 JSW SDAT WSF World Cup by beating second seeds England in the final of the World Squash Federation mixed each championship to win the \$50,000 top prize at the Express Avenue Mall in Chennal, India, for the first time.

The event, in its first of three years in Chennai, reached its climax on an all-glass showcourt sited in the central atrium of the Express Avenue Mall, the largest shopping complex in southern India in which crowds on four floors were able to witness the world-class action.

#### RESULTS FINALS : [1]EGYPT 2 [2]ENGLAND 0

Ramy Ashour bt James Willstrop 11-8, 11-7, 11-7 Raneem El Weleily bt Jenny Duncalf 11-8, 7-11, 11-9, 11-1 Karim Darwish v Tom Richards (dead rubber - match not

Bronze medal play-off: [3]AUSTRALIA 2 [5]MALAYSIA 1
Semi-finals:

[1]EGYPT 3 [3]AUSTRALIA 0

[2]ENGLAND 2 [5]MALAYSIA 1

1st qualifying round - Pool B: [2] ENGLAND 3 [6] INDIA 0

James Willstrop bt Saurav Ghosal 12-14,11-3,11-5,10-12,12-10

Jenny Duncalf bt Joshna Chinappa 11-7, 11-7, 11-9 Peter Barker bt Harinder Pal Sandhu 6-11, 11-6, 11-7, 12-10

2nd qualifying round - Pool B: [3] AUSTRALIA 3 [6] INDIA 0

Cameron Pilley bt Saurav Ghosal 9-11, 12-10, 11-4, 10-12,11-5 Rachael Grinham bt Dipika Pallikal 11-3, 11-8, 11-4

Aaron Frankcomb bt Harinder Pal Sandhu 11-9, 11-6, 11-9

#### 34TH NATIONAL GAMES

At Dhanbad (19/02/2011)

### Gold for Harinder and Aprajitha

Anweshe Reddy (TN) lost to Apraighte (TN) in a noil biting five moths as t. Anvesho was leading 2-0 when Apraighte came back in the third game and won it by 13-11. The next two game was easily won by Apraijiha as there was no fight back from Anwesha. In the Mens' final, Harnider dominated the proceeding apart from dropping the second game against state mate Ravi Dixit. Ravi tried his level best to pull off his second upset in the event defedied defeating Sandeep langra in the semi finals. But he could not do it and Harnider won the match easily.

Results Men's Gold Medal : Harinder Pal Singh (1), Tamil Nadu, def. Ravi Dixit (3/4), Tamil Nadu, 11-5, 7-11, 11-8, 11-5

Bronze medals : Sandeep Jangra & Vikas Jangra (Services) Women's Gold Medal : Aparajitha Balamurukan (2), Tamil Nadu, dsf. Arwesha Reddy (1), Tamil Nadu, 3-11, 2-11, 3-11, 11-5, 11-7. Bronze medals : Lakaysha Ragavendran (TN) & Anadita

Gupta (MP)

with best compliments from

Vikram Kumar Kalludi