

Indian Hawks Sports Academy makes a mark at CBSE North Zone II Championship with six medals

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JAMMU: In a stunning display of grit, talent, and determination, Indian Hawks Sports Academy (IHSA) has once again proved why it remains one of the premier institutions for developing young sporting talent in India. At the recently held CBSE North Zone II Championship in Gurugram, IHSA's skaters rose to the occasion, bringing home a total of six medals, and winning accolades not just for their performances, but also for their sportsmanship and discipline.

The championship witnessed participation from hundreds of athletes across various CBSE-affiliated schools and academies, making the competition fierce and the victories even more meaningful.

Leading the medal tally for the academy was Tamanna Saini, who delivered an exceptional performance to emerge as the undisputed champion in her age group. With unwavering focus and



Medal winner J&K skaters posing for a photograph.

flawless technique, Tamanna secured two gold medals, standing out as a true star of the tournament.

Following closely was Saanvi Grover; another rising star of IHSA, who showcased versatility and poise by earning one gold and one silver medal in her category. Her performance drew praise from judges and spectators alike, reinforcing her growing reputation on the skating circuit.

Adding further glory to the academy's achievements, Viraj Gandotra put in a strong performance and showed great character to win a silver medal, while Puneesh Puri displayed competitive spirit to clinch a bronze medal, rounding off a highly successful tournament for IHSA.

The six medals-3 gold, 2 silver, and 1 bronze-are not just symbols of individual excellence, but a testament to the

academy's holistic approach to training and athlete development. IHSA has consistently focused on nurturing talent from a young age, combining rigorous physical training with mental conditioning, values-based education, and a culture of respect and teamwork.

Speaking on this remarkable achievement, Ashok Gandotra, Chief Patron of Indian Hawks Sports Academy and Retired Chief Engineer, expressed immense pride in the young athletes' performances.

"It is heartening to see our skaters achieving such success on a significant platform like the CBSE North Zone Championship. Their dedication, discipline, and determination have brought laurels not only to themselves but to the entire IHSA family. I congratulate every medal winner, and just as importantly, every participant who represented the academy with integrity and passion," said Gandotra.

He also acknowledged the

tireless efforts of the coaching staff, trainers, and parents whose support continues to be a cornerstone of the academy's success. "Behind every medal is a team of committed coaches, supportive families, and a system that believes in the potential of each child," he added.

What set IHSA apart at the championship was not just the medal haul, but the spirit and character displayed by its athletes. Coaches and attendees noted the positive attitude, respect for competitors, and humble demeanor of the IHSA skaters-qualities that reflect the core values of the academy.

With this performance, Indian Hawks Sports Academy has reaffirmed its position as a leading force in youth sports, particularly in roller skating. The academy has consistently delivered medal-winning athletes at regional and national levels, and the results at Gurugram are yet another milestone in its growing legacy.

Tarun Uppal inaugurates J&K U-19 UT Tennis Cricket Championship 2025



Chief Guest, Tarun Uppal with others at inaugural ceremony of 1st J&K U-19 State Tennis Cricket Championship 2025.

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JAMMU: The 1st J&K U-19 State Tennis Cricket Championship 2025 commenced with a grand opening ceremony held at M.A. Stadium, Jammu on 23rd October 2025. The prestigious event was inaugurated by Tarun Uppal, who graced the occasion as the Chief Guest. The opening ceremony witnessed enthusiastic participation from young cricketers across Jammu & Kashmir, showcasing the growing spirit of sportsmanship and unity among youth.

Speaking on the occasion, Uppal said that the event is

being organised with an objective to serve a twin purpose of promoting sports in the Union Territory and involving more and more youth in sporting activities to save them from falling prey to drugs and other allied social evils.

Sunil Kumar, General Secretary of J&K T10 Tennis Cricket Association, played a key role in organising this championship. The event was also graced by Special Guests - Divyansh Baba and Vakeel Singh, whose presence added to the significance of the occasion.

The Guest of Honour, Sant Kumar, Secretary of Samba

District Tennis Cricket Association, applauded the efforts of the organizers for providing a strong platform to the young players of the Union Territory.

The championship aims to identify and promote budding cricket talent from J&K. The best-performing players from this tournament will represent Jammu & Kashmir at the upcoming National Level Championship.

The event marks a new milestone in the journey of promoting Tennis Cricket in the region and nurturing the next generation of sporting champions.

Roll Ball teams leave for Nationals



Selected Roll Ball teams posing for a photograph with officials.

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JAMMU: The 27-member J&K Sub Junior Roll Ball team on Thursday left for participation in the 18th Sub Junior Roll Ball Nationals slated to be held at Agra in Uttar Pradesh from October 25 to October 28.

Earlier, the team was screened by the officials of

the J&K Sports Council led by Manager Indoor Complex, Arshi Nad, who later extended a warm send off to the contingent.

The Team: Boys: Harshaan Singh (captain), Janav Paul Singh, Mohd Ibrahim Pindoo, Divyansh Kandroo, Mavis Kanethia, Laksh Kangotra, Astitva Choudhary, Arindham

Gupta, Gourav Pandey, Yashit Mahajan, Yuvan Gandotra, Manan Khajuria, Mohd Ashraf Ditjoo (chief coach), Harish Nanda (coach). GIRLS: Qurat (captain), Qubrah Parveez, Arushma Mir, Areeba Mir, Meera Verma, Ebrah Jahan, Urwah Sajad, Harshita Saini, Dhvani Nanda, Arshita Singh, Shahzadi

Eleeza, Suresh Kumar (Chief coach), Ashra Yaseen (coach).

Meanwhile, parents and players expressed gratitude to the J&K Sports Council and the Roll Ball Association of J&K for their support and encouragement in providing opportunities to showcase their talent at the national level.

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LEH: The University of Ladakh, in collaboration with the World Wide Fund for Nature - India (WWF-India), organized a three-day celebration from 21st to 23rd October 2025 to mark International Snow Leopard Day. The event aimed to raise awareness about snow leopard conservation, promote environmental education, and foster human-wildlife coexistence in Ladakh's fragile mountain ecosystem.

The snow leopard (Panthera uncia), often called the "Ghost of the Mountains," is a keystone species of Ladakh's cold desert landscape and plays a vital role in maintaining ecological balance.

However, threats such as habitat loss, climate change, and retaliatory killings continue to endanger its survival. Recognizing this, the University of Ladakh and WWF-India joined hands to



engage students and communities in conservation action.

The celebration commenced on 21st October with a painting competition at Government Middle School, Taru, introduced by Rohit Rattan, Landscape Coordinator, WWF-India. Students expressed their concern for wildlife through art, and winners were felicitated by Dr. Amjad Hussain, Coordinator, Department of Zoology, who appreciated the school's enthusiastic participation.

On 22nd October, interactive sessions began with a welcome address by Rattan. A food web activity conducted by WWF-India officers Manu Mohan and Phunstog Angmo engaged students in understanding ecological interconnections.

Preet Sharma, Senior Project Officer, delivered an insightful talk on snow leopards and Ladakh's mammalian diversity, followed by an Ideathon led by Dr. Amjad Hussain, where students presented innovative ideas for mitigating human-

wildlife conflict. Manoj, M.Sc. Forensic Science, won first place. The day concluded with a vote of thanks and a nature walk to Likir, where students learned wildlife tracking techniques.

The final day, 23rd October, featured a special lecture by Padma Angmo, Project Coordinator, Snow Leopard Conservancy India Trust, on "Human-Wildlife Conflict and Mitigation Strategies," followed by a Q&A session.

Dr. Irshad Ahmed delivered the concluding vote of thanks, expressing gratitude to the Vice Chancellor, faculty, and WWF-India for their collaboration.

The three-day event blended creativity, academic dialogue, and field learning, enhancing awareness about Ladakh's unique biodiversity and reinforcing the University's commitment to sustainable coexistence and snow leopard conservation.

Tanish Pathania heads to IIT Bombay for LQ-Ideathon 2025 grand finale

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JAMMU: Delhi Public School Jammu celebrated the exceptional achievement of Tanish Pathania (Class VII-C), who has been selected among the Top 45 finalists out of over 1.2 million participants nationwide in the LogIQids Ideathon 2025. She will now represent DPS Jammu at the Grand Finale to be held at IIT Bombay later this year.

Tanish impressed the judges with her visionary



idea - "Respect is Wealth, Dignity is Currency", a Respect Currency Plan that enables seniors to earn and redeem "Respect Coins" for their contributions, thereby fostering dignity, independence, and social inclusion. Her innovative thinking reflects remarkable empathy and analytical skill.

During the finale, she will present her concept before a panel of eminent judges comprising industry leaders, venture capitalists, and academicians. The event will also provide her a platform to engage with young innovators from across India.

Principal Ruchi Chhabra lauded Tanish's achievement, stating, "Her success mirrors the spirit of innovation nurtured at DPS Jammu."

The President-RCT Ajatshatru Singh, Pro VC, Dr. Ritu Singh, and Director S.S. Sodhi, along with the Principal, congratulated Tanish, her proud parents, and mentors Navneet Kaur and Dr. Parmjeet Singh, extending best wishes for her continued success.

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SRINAGAR: Divisional Commissioner (Div Com) Kashmir, Anshul Garg, on Thursday chaired a meeting to review the preparations for the 2nd Edition of the Kashmir Marathon, scheduled to be held on November 2.

The meeting was attended by Commissioner SMC, Director Tourism, Vice Chairman LCMA, ADC Srinagar, SSP Traffic, Director Health, and officers from departments including Information, KPDC, R&B, PHE, Youth Services & Sports, and other concerned agencies.

During the meeting, Div Com emphasized ensuring comprehensive arrangements at the flag-off cum finishing spot, including electricity, sanitation, first-aid, and toilet facilities.



Divisional Commissioner Kashmir, Anshul Garg chairing a meeting on Thursday.

He directed the Director Tourism to share the detailed Marathon route plan with all concerned departments for effective coordination of responsibilities and arrangements.

The Director Tourism and SSP Traffic were instructed to arrange an adequate number of barricades for smooth traffic management on the event day.

To strengthen emergency

response, the Div Com directed the Health Department to deploy a water ambulance in Dal Lake and instructed the SDRF to keep their boats ready to assist the Tourism Department in case of exigencies. He also directed the Health Department to establish a field hospital at Polo View for post-Marathon recovery of participants and to set up seventeen aid stations along

the route, adequately staffed to assist runners.

Commissioner SMC was directed to beautify the Marathon route with potted flower plants in collaboration with SKUAST-K, and to ensure sanitation along the entire stretch as well as dog-catching measures for the safety of participants.

The R&B Department was instructed to ensure a pothole-free track, while arrangements for bottled

drinking water and refreshments were also reviewed.

The Div Com stressed the importance of training and sensitizing volunteers regarding their roles and responsibilities during the event. The meeting also discussed organizing a joint medal ceremony for the Full Marathon (seven hours) and Half Marathon (three hours) at SKICC.

It also discussed arrangements for three-day exhibition showcasing local products by departments including Handicrafts & Handloom, Horticulture, and Agriculture.

To ensure real-time coordination among departments, the Div Com directed the establishment of a Command & Control Centre for the smooth and successful conduct of the event.

Captain Atul Somra Cricket Cup 2025 begins at Banihal



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RAMBAN: The Captain Atul Somra Cricket Cup 2025 commenced with great zeal under the aegis of the Indian Army. A total of 32 teams from across the region are participating in this highly anticipated tournament, aimed at promoting sportsmanship, teamwork and youth engagement through the spirit of cricket.

The event promises attractive prizes and trophies for the winners and participants, reflecting the Army's commitment to encouraging local talent and fostering unity through sports.

The tournament will continue over the coming days, bringing together players and spectators in a celebration of camaraderie and fair play.

NIT Srinagar hosts orientation program for B.Tech. admission batch 2025

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SRINAGAR: The National Institute of Technology (NIT) Srinagar Thursday organized an orientation program for the newly admitted B.Tech. 2025 batch of all branches.

The program commenced with a welcome address by Director, NIT Srinagar Prof. Binod Kumar Kanjia, who extended his greetings and best wishes to the new students. He was joined by Director I/C Dr. Roohie Naaz Mir and Registrar Prof. Atikur Rehman.

In his message, Prof. Atikur Rahman hailed the initiative, stating that such orientation programs are important and play a vital role in helping new students adapt to the academic environment and culture of NIT Srinagar.

He said these programs not only guide students through their academic journey but also inspire them to excel in



research, innovation, and personal development.

The event was hosted by Dr. Manoj Kumar, First Year Coordinator, with the coordination of branch sub coordinators, Dr. Nitika Kundan (Metallurgical & Materials Engineering), Dr. Hareesh Myneni (Electrical Engineering), Dr. Noor Zaman Khan (Mechanical Engineering), Dr. Arzoo Nissar (Information

Technology), Dr. Karthik Dasari (Civil Engineering), Dr. Mohd. Moiz Khan (Chemical Engineering), Dr. Tawseef Ayoub Shaikh (Computer Science Engineering), and Dr. Amit Kumar (Electronics and Communication Engineering).

During the session, students were given a comprehensive introduction to the institution's academic environment, rules and regulations, and various support services.

Dean of Academic Affairs, Prof. B.A. Mir detailed the academic framework and policies, while Dean of Student Welfare, Prof. Mohammad Abid Bazzaz, provided insights into hostel, mess, and student welfare activities.

All Heads of Departments, along with the First Year Coordinators, introduced their respective branches, highlighting key features, faculty expertise, and laboratory facilities.

The Training and Placement Cell was introduced by Prof. Ajaz Ahmed Mir, who explained its pivotal role in enhancing students' employability through internships and campus placements.

Students were also acquainted with various institutional units and cells, including the Medical Unit (Dr. Gawher Nabi Tantray), NCC Unit (ANO Lieutenant Dr. Nitika Kundan), SC/ST Cell (Dr. Kurela Swamy and Dr. Nitika Kundan), NSS Unit (Dr. Pramod Yadav), Student Activity and Sports (Dr. Manoj Kumar), Mohammad Abrar Khan (Sr Pharmacist) and the Library (Showkat Ahmad Wani).

The orientation concluded with an interactive session, ensuring that students begin their academic journey at NIT Srinagar with awareness, enthusiasm, and a sense of belonging.