

68th National School Games U-17 Boys Football

Mental toughness overpowers skill as young footballers guide their teams to victory

Mixed fortune for J&K; registers big win over CBSE, loses to Tamil Nadu

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: The young footballers representing their respective team showed extraordinary mental toughness and held their nerves when it mattered the most in the crunch situation, thus overpowering skill of the rival players to guide their teams to victory in the ongoing 68th National School Games in the discipline of Football U-17 Boys, being organised by the Directorate of Youth Services and Sports, under the aegis of School Games Federation of India (SGFI) at Sainik School Nagrota and Khel Gaon Nagrota near here.

As part of the historic series of the 68th National School Games in four sports disciplines, the mega soccer event is being held under the patronage of Minister for Sports, Sh Satish Sharma; Secretary Youth Services and Sports, Sh Sarnad Hafeez and under the chairmanship of Director General Youth Services and Sports, Sh



Participating team posing for a photograph with officials at Jammu on Sunday.

Rajinder Singh Tara.

In this month-long series of 68th National School Games three events of Judo, Fencing and Wushu have already been completed and the fourth one that's Football U-17 Boys & Girls is in progress. Over 4000 athletes and officials have participated in these games.

Meanwhile, a big number of matches were played in the evening session of day-1 yesterday and on day-2 today at the four venues of Sainik School Nagrota and two venues of Khel Gaon Nagrota.

Today, there was mixed fortune for Jammu and

Kashmir team as it faced a defeat against Tamil Nadu and registered a big win over CBSE by thirteen goals to one (13-1). The goal scorers for Jammu and Kashmir were Hanan Ibrahim, Basit, Anwar, Faisal, Huzaif, Adnan and Pranav.

At Ground-1, Orissa held Bihar to goalless draw; Lakshadweep blanked DNHDO by eight goals to nil (8-0); Vidya Bharati held Madhya Pradesh to (1-1) draw; Chandigarh Vs Kerala match ended in a goalless draw and J&K crushed CBSE by thirteen goals to one (13-1)

At Ground No-2 of Sainik School Nagrota, Rajasthan thrashed Himachal Pradesh by eight goals to one (8-1); Karnataka Vs Assam match ended in a (2-2) draw; Himachal blanked Bihar by five goals to nil (5-0); Uttar Pradesh got the better of IBSO by two goals to nil (2-0)

At Ground-3 of Sainik School Nagrota, Chhattisgarh outplayed Puducherry by two goals to nil (2-0); West Bengal beat IPSC by two goals to one (2-1); Chhattisgarh beat Andhara Pradesh by two goals to nil (2-0);

Karnataka prevailed over Lakshadweep by two goals to one (2-1); Tamil Nadu defeated J&K by six goals to two (6-2) and West Bengal drubbed Manipur by three goals to nil (3-0).

At Ground-4 of Sainik School Nagrota, Jharkhand held Haryana to (1-1) draw, KVS Vs Manipur match ended in a goalless (0-0) draw; Jharkhand thrashed Puducherry by eight goals to one (8-1).

At Ground-5 Khel Gaon Nagrota, Uttar Pradesh held Kerala to (2-2) draw; IPSC defeated KVS by three goals to one (3-1) and Vidya Bharati beat Gujarat by two goals to one (2-1).

At Ground-6 Khel Gaon Nagrota, Chandigarh crushed IBSO by nine goals to nil (9-0); West Bengal trounced Punjab by a solitary goal (1-0); IPSC drubbed KVS by three goals to nil (3-0) and Meghalaya outplayed Delhi by five goals to one (5-1).

Maharishi Vidya Mandir shines at 21st State Matsogi-Do Championship 2024



Maharishi Vidya Mandir School winner students posing with faculty.

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: The 21st State Matsogi-Do Championship concluded on a high note, held from 28th to 30th November 2024, with over 800 students from various schools across Jammu participating in the grand event. The championship showcased outstanding performances by young athletes competing in different age and weight categories.

The students of Maharishi Vidya Mandir Senior Secondary School, Sainik Colony, brought laurels to their institution, winning a remarkable 7 Gold, 7 Silver, and 11 Bronze medals, highlighting their exceptional talent and dedication.

Gold: Mehak Verma, Krithvik Mahajan, Vikhyat Balotra, Navika Choudhary, Laksh Sharma, Jaspinder Kour and Aarav Mankhotra.

Silver: Arshita, Akash, Rudra Salathia, Prachi, Naitik Verma and Sanchit Sharma.

Bronze: Jyotsana, Anmol Sangral, Renaksh, Navya Choudhary, Karan Dhar, Mehak

Thakur, Jaskirat, Kartik Singh and Anirudh Sadhotra.

The championship witnessed the esteemed presence of Shri Satish Sharma, Cabinet Minister of Jammu and Kashmir, who inaugurated the event. The closing ceremony was graced by Shri Sat Sharma, Senior BJP Leader, who encouraged the young athletes and showered them with blessings. Both dignitaries emphasized the importance of sports in shaping a disciplined and determined youth, fostering physical fitness and mental strength. Shri Sat Sharma lauded the efforts of all participants and congratulated the winners for their hard work and dedication, urging them to continue their pursuit of excellence in sports. The management of Maharishi Vidya Mandir congratulated the students for their stellar performance and expressed gratitude to the organizers for hosting such an inspiring event. The school reiterated its commitment to nurturing talent and encouraging students to excel in extracurricular activities alongside academics.

Army organises Dachhan Cricket Premier League at Sondar



Participating teams posing for a photograph with army officials.

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

KISHTWAR: In the continued efforts to promote community welfare and encourage sportsmanship, the Indian Army successfully organized the Dachhan Cricket Premier League at Sondar which concluded.

The tournament was inaugurated on November 16, 2024 and witnessed participation from 32 teams from the Kishtwar region.

After 30 exciting league matches, the final was held between the United Sondar and Elite team where United Sondar emerged victorious. The team was awarded a champion's trophy and a cash prize of Rs 15000. The runner up team

received a trophy and a cash prize of Rs 10000.

Special recognition was given to individuals for their outstanding performances, including the "Man of the Series" and the "Man of the Match," who were rewarded with cash prizes and trophies. The commentators were also felicitated with cash prizes for their contributions. The tournament aimed to provide a platform for local youth to showcase their cricketing talents while fostering a spirit of healthy competition and community engagement. The event was highly appreciated and well received by the locals, strengthening the bond and camaraderie between the local population and Indian Army.

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JAMMU: KC Public School celebrated its 26th Annual Function at General Zorawar Singh auditorium, Jammu University, on Sunday.

The function was presided over by Satish Sharma, Minister of several key departments, Government of the UT of J&K.

Rattan Lal Gupta, Provincial President, J&K National Conference Jammu, graced the occasion as the Guest of Honour.

The function began with the lighting of the ceremonial lamp by the Chief Guest and other dignitaries, followed by welcome address by school Principal AK Mishra.

The first part of the cultural programme commenced with a musical composition 'Never Give Up' presented by the



KCPS students at Annual Day function.

school choir and orchestra group.

Thereafter, students of senior school performed an invocation dance titled 'Shri Ram Stuti'.

After the presentation of reports by members of the Students' Council on academic, sports and co-curricular achievements during the current academic year, the Chief

Guest gave away awards to students for these achievements. It was followed by the felicitation of 16 alumni of KC Public School who have carved out distinguished careers in different fields.

After the felicitation ceremony,

school Chairman Raju Chowdhary addressed the gathering and shared his mission statement on the quality of education the school has been imparting to the children of Jammu and Kashmir since 1997.

He also outlined the salient features of the school's mission to keep the school on a steady course of progress and excellence in the future.

The Chief Guest in his speech appreciated the school management for rendering valuable services to the people of Jammu & Kashmir by providing quality education to the youth and enabling them to make successful careers in various walks of life.

He complimented students

for exhibiting their talent through cultural items presented at the function.

The concluding cultural item of the function was a spectacular dance-drama 'Chanakya'n Hindi presented by students of both senior and junior wings of the school.

The play revolves round the life of Chanakya, the ancient teacher, author, philosopher, economist and politician who played a major role in establishing the Maura Empire with its first Emperor Chandragupta around 321 BCE. The hour-long play kept the audience riveted with impressive performances by hundreds of students involved in the dance-drama. The function concluded with the national anthem.

LOC Club, Youth Cricket Club win in KGPL

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

POONCH: In ongoing Krishna Ghati Premier League organised by Krishna Ghati Brigade Youth Cricket Club and LOC Club registered wins in a matches played at Sports Stadium Poonch on Sunday.

In first match on the day, Youth Cricket Club outplayed Star Viper by three wickets.

The Youth Cricket Club won the toss and chose to field. Batting first, Star Viper set a target of 102 runs, posting 101 runs in 15 overs. The top scorers for Star Viper were Hammad Mir (21 runs) and Gagan Deep Victor (24 runs). On the bowling front, Khaliq Jatt, Kashif Raza, and Waheed Ahmed took two wickets each.



Winner team posing for a photograph with officials.

In response, Youth Cricket Club successfully chased down the target in 14.3 overs, losing 7 wickets in the process. They won the match by 3 wickets. The standout performer was Waheed Ahmed, who remained unbeaten with 38 runs,

earning the Man of the Match award. For Star Viper, Sunny took 3 wickets for 16 runs. The Chief Guest for this match was Honorary Captain Pritam Singh (Shourya Chakra).

In another match, LOC Club defeated Kanuyian Cricket Club by

LOC Club won the toss and opted to bat first. They posted a formidable total of 181/5 in 15 overs, with Nasir Khan contributing a brilliant 73 runs and JD adding 66 runs. For Kanuyian Cricket Club, Gagan was the pick of the bowlers,

taking two wickets.

In reply, Kanuyian Cricket Club could only manage 104/7 in their allotted 15 overs. Zahid Mayer top-scored with 35 runs. The bowling efforts from Pankaj Sharma and Piyush Likhi, who both took 2 wickets each, helped LOC Club secure a dominant 77-run victory. Nasir Khan was awarded the Player of the Match for his exceptional performance.

The Chief Guest for this match was Social Worker Aman Dabour. The tournament, organized by the Krishna Ghati Brigade and supervised by the Nangi Tekri Battalion, continues to provide a platform for local talent to shine. The overall technical supervisor of the league is Pervaiz Malik Afridi.

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JAMMU: The second season of the Bharat Premier League (BPL) was officially inaugurated on Sunday with great enthusiasm and fanfare.

The opening ceremony was graced by Atal Dullo, Chief Secretary of Jammu and Kashmir, who was the Chief Guest at the event. Nushat Gul, Secretary of the Jammu and Kashmir Sports Council, was the Guest of Honour for the occasion. In his address, Atal Dullo emphasized the importance of sports as a means to foster a healthy lifestyle. He remarked, "Addiction to sports is far better than addiction to drugs", stressing the role of sports in not only improving physical health but also nurturing discipline and focus among the youth.

He further appreciated the dedication of the Rising Athletes team for their com-



Chief Secretary, Atal Dullo after inaugurating BPL.

mitment to the promotion and upliftment of sports in the Union Territory of Jammu and Kashmir.

The ceremony also featured a formal welcome address by Sahil Pandita, President of Rising Athletes, who extended a warm greeting to all attendees and highlighted the significance of the BPL in boosting local sports talent and providing a platform for aspiring athletes.

Among the prominent personalities present at the

event were Sanjay Saraf, a well-known social activist, and Brigadier Vijay Sagar Dhemani, who also attended and supported the initiative.

The BPL Season 2 aims to provide a platform for young sports enthusiasts in the region and will witness intense competition across various sports, offering athletes an opportunity to showcase their skills. The event marks a significant step towards the growth and promotion of sports culture in Jammu and Kashmir.

HI names 20-member Indian junior women's squad for Asia Cup

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

NEW DELHI: Hockey India on Sunday named a strong 20-member squad, led by Jyoti Singh, for the upcoming women's Junior Asia Cup to be held in Muscat, Oman, from December 7 to 15.

As the defending champions, India enter the tournament with high hopes after securing their maiden title last year, defeating South Korea 2-1.

This tournament serves as a qualifier for the FIH Hockey Junior World Cup 2025. The host nation for the event is yet to be determined.

The competition will feature 10 teams divided into two pools.

India are placed in Pool A alongside China, Malaysia, Thailand, and Bangladesh, while Pool B consists of South Korea, Japan, Chinese Taipei, Hong Kong China, and Sri Lanka.

Sakshi Rana has been named the vice-captain.

AIIMS Jammu triumphs at 'CONVOQUER 2024' with Women's Chess Championship Victory

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: All India Institute of Medical Sciences (AIIMS) Jammu added another feather to its cap with the spectacular victory of its MBBS students in the Women's Chess Championship at CONVOQUER 2024, an inter-collegiate sports fest organized by IIT Jammu from October 18 to 21, 2024.

The remarkable win reflects the unwavering support and visionary leadership of Executive Director & CEO of AIIMS Jammu, Prof. Dr. Shakti Kumar Gupta. His dedication to fostering excellence not only in academics but also in extracurricular activities like sports has inspired students to reach new heights. The collaborative efforts of the Sports Committee and Students Welfare Committee under his guidance played a pivotal role in achieving this success.

The victorious team comprised four talented students namely Alha A. Soni (Batch 2020), Kanchan Lata (Batch 2020), Rakhi Mittal



Executive Director & CEO of AIIMS Jammu, Prof. Dr. Shakti Kumar Gupta felicitating winner team.

(Batch 2020), and Ghazal Chawla (Batch 2022).

Competing against six institutions, including IIT Jammu and Jammu University, the team showcased extraordinary strategic prowess in the Swiss-format tournament across three intense rounds.

In round 1, AIIMS Jammu dominated Jammu University, scoring 3 points out of 4 while in round 2, AIIMS Jammu secured a commanding win against IIT Jammu with 3.5 points out of 4. AIIMS Jammu defeated MIET, adding 3 points to

their score in final round.

AIIMS Jammu emerged as tournament champions with a stellar total of 9.5 points, establishing themselves as leaders in this mega event.

This achievement highlights AIIMS Jammu's holistic approach to student development, setting benchmarks not only in medical education and healthcare but also in extracurricular domains. The institute's commitment to nurturing well-rounded individuals is evident in its consistent excellence across diverse fields.

15 Jodhamal school students qualify for Swimming Nationals 2024

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: Jodhamal Public School announced that 15 outstanding students of the School are representing Jammu & Kashmir at the prestigious 68th National School Games Swimming Competition at Rajkot, Gujarat.

The selected students from Jodhamal who are showcasing their aquatic prowess on the national stage are Pragmay Sharma, Vihaan Yadav, Vihan Goel, Mohd Ibrahim, Riaan Mahajan, Kartikaye Choudhary, Priyom Jain, Aditya Pratap, Hitanshi Yadav, Anahita, Diya Gupta, Aayee Anthema, Adalaji Narang, Tanisha Jaggi and Priyal Kapoor.

This remarkable achievement underscores their commitment to excellence and passion for the sport.

These swimmers have been trained at Aqua



Selected swimmers of Jodhamal Public School posing with faculty members.

Cube, School's Swimming Pool by their coach Pooja Bassan who was assisted by Malkeet Kour, Rajan and Romesh.

Their tireless efforts and expert mentorship have been instrumental in preparing the team for this significant milestone.

Nandan Kuthiala, Trustee, Jodhamal Public School, congratulated the swimmers on their remarkable accomplishment.

He remarked, "It is a proud moment for Jodhamal Public School to see our students excel at

such a prestigious platform. Their dedication and hard work, supported by the school and their coach, have brought them to this level. We are confident they will make us proud at the Nationals."

Grish Kumar, Principal and Amita Arora, Vice Principal of Jodhamal Public School, echoed their sentiment, saying, "Our swimmers have demonstrated exceptional talent, determination, and discipline. Their success is a testament to their hard work and the guidance provided by their coach. We wish them the very best as they represent not only Jodhamal Public School, but the entire J&K on the national stage."

This accomplishment not only reflects the individual skills of the swimmers but also highlights the excellence of Jodhamal School in nurturing sporting talent.