CHAMPIONSHIP ADMINISTRATORS COURSE
COVID-19
WSF COACHING COURSE

SRFI RANKING

WWW.INDIASQUASH.COM
CONTENTS
April 2020 Edition

1. PSA Results
2. SRFi Ranking
3. Squash Family
Saurav Ghosal lost to top seed Mohammed Elshorbagy of Egypt but the tale of the quarterfinal was not that; for the Indian came within an inch of doing the impossible, of beating the world number one. Elshorbagy eventually won 11-13, 11-7, 12-10 but it was Ghosal who won the cheers of the spectators in this gripping match. Ghosal seemed in great touch as he shocked the world number one by taking the first game in this best of three game match. Under pressure now, the Egyptian had a struggle to contain the swift moving Indian. The Egyptian drew level but in the third and deciding game Elshorbagy had five match points but managed to put down Ghosal. The match turned out to be a 51-minute intense contest. Earlier, Ghosal had stunned the fifth seed Simon Rösner of Germany in the second round 13-11, 7-11, 11-4 for a place in the quarterfinal.
Covid-19 Suspends Squash

The Coronavirus/COVID-19 that has gripped India in the wake of its global spread has virtually brought sports activities all over to a standstill. Squash is no exception. The Asian Team Championships scheduled in Malaysia in March and the Asian Junior Individual Championships scheduled in June have been deferred. PSA events have also come to a halt and in India, SRFI has decided to suspend all national circuit events until May 15, 2020. The federation is continuously monitoring the situation and will advise all players once the suspension of our circuit is lifted. The SRFI office is closed until April 15, 2020 as per the directive of the Government of India. We urge all to stay at home during this period.

Championship Administrators Course

A two-day Championship Administrator Course meant for squash officials from various state units was organised at the Indian Squash Academy on 13-14 March 2020. SRFI officials Cyrus Poncha; the Secretary-General, Harish Prasad; the National Development Officer and S. Natarajan; Experienced Tournament Administrator were in charge of this course.

In all 13 officials from various states attended the intense sessions which went into various modalities of the role of a Championship Administrator. It included a look at the national circuit and player guidelines, roles and responsibilities of SRFI / Hosts / Administrators and Referees. Also taken up were organisational needs in putting up a SRFI national circuit tournament, host briefing, tentative budget, Code of Conduct and the use of the Tournament Software program.
A week-long WSF Level 2 Coaching Course held at the Indian Squash Academy went off very well with participants considering it as “enriching”. The London-born Austrian Michael Khan, a WSF Level 3 coach and Tutor conducted this course with support from Cyrus Poncha, the SRFI Secretary General who is a WSF Level 3 coach and Level 2 Tutor himself. On his first visit to India and to Chennai, Khan managed to take a little time off from his busy schedule to go around the city, the “impressive Marina beach shores” in particular. Dr Jolly Roy, Sports Psychologist & Mr. Andrew Grey, Exercise Physiologist from the Centre for Sports Science, Sri Ramachandra Institute for Higher Education & Research also presented lectures during the course.

What he liked most was the way the 17 participants interacted. “This is one feature of many Asian nations; the kind of intent and attention they give to us tutors and the respect they show,” he said. He had only high praise for each one of them and hoped they would all rise to take higher responsibilities in the sport.

Among the participants were three current India players; Harinder Pal Sandhu, Urwashi Joshi and Aparajitha Balamurukan. The three believed the course would help them in their current active playing careers even as it would open up new vistas in later times. “I had always had a keen interest in strengthening my knowledge on the rules and techniques and this course has helped me clear many doubts,” said Aparajitha. Harinder, having taken a full plunge into squash, wanted to be strong in all areas. “Taking coaching as a profession very seriously, I am delighted to partake in this course as I am sure this will also help me in my current playing methods,” mentioned Harinder. Poncha summed it up thus: “With the need to increase the number of Level 2 coaches in India, SRFI decided to conduct this clinic in March and also plans to host another one at the end of the year. I would like to thank the Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports and HCL for their contributions to host this course.”