N Ramachandran co-opted as SAI member

SRFI President elected as WSF - VP

Delhi to get six new courts at National Stadium

First SRFI State event post lockdown in Thiruvananthapuram, Kerala

SRFI State Closed Championships open!

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Former SRFI President, Mr. N. Ramachandran was co-opted as a Member of the Governing body of the Sports Authority of India (SAI). SAI is an autonomous body under the department of sports which was set up by Government of India in 1984. SAI acts as an interface between the Department of Sports and other bodies.

SRFI PRESIDENT D. SARANGI ELECTED WSF VICE PRESIDENT

Congratulations to SRFI President Debendranath Sarangi, IAS Retd on being elected as one of the 3 Vice Presidents of the World Squash Federation. Earlier in September 2020, the SRFI had nominated Mr Sarangi for this post.

Mr Sarangi was unanimously elected to this post at the virtual Annual General Meeting on 5 December 2020. We wish him the best for his successful term at office as VP and look forward to the successful implementation of new initiatives in WSF.

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The SRFI’s Annual General Meeting took place at the Indian Squash Academy, Chennai on 11th December 2020. Mr. N. Ramachandran (patron SRFI) who has been supporting and promoting squash in India for the past 3 decades was inducted as the first Honorary Life President of SRFI by a proposal put forth by the President and unanimously agreed upon by the members.

The members present were informed about SRFI receiving its Annual Recognition from the Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports wherein it was directed to update the Constitution as per National Sports Code. The Special Resolutions updating the Constitution were unanimously approved by the members present.

The President also informed the members present that it was approved to support State Associations who conduct State Championships from 2021 onwards with a grant of Rs. 1 Lakh.
NEW SQUASH COURTS AT NATIONAL STADIUM IN DELHI UNDER AEGIS OF SAI

Union Minister of External Affairs Dr. S Jaishankar (a squash enthusiast himself) laid the foundation stone for six squash courts at Major Dhyan Chand National Stadium on 16th December 2020. SRFI Secretary General Cyrus Poncha attended the ceremony in the presence of Shri Kiren Rijiju, Union Minister of Youth Affairs and Sports, Shri Sandip Pradhan, Director General, Sports Authority of India and Shri Neelesh Shah, Director (Projects), NBCC.

This will be the first SAI facility for squash in India. The 6 single squash courts (of which 3 could be converted as doubles courts with movable walls) will be built with WSF specifications. The proposed facility of international standards will also house a viewing gallery to accommodate spectators. The federation looks forward to holding international events and camps at the facility.

KERELA STATE CLOSED CHAMPIONSHIP 2020

Kerala Squash Rackets Association kick started the season of SRFI’s National Ranking tournaments by hosting the state championship at the National Games Squash Centre, Thiruvananthapuram after the lockdown due to the Covid-19 pandemic. Held for three days in six categories - U11, U13, U15, U17, U19 and Seniors for boys and girls, this state championship is the 2nd Kerala State Squash Championship. The tournament tested the fitness level of the players as many of them began training only a few weeks ago.

“We decided to go ahead mainly to boost the mood of the players. We don’t have that many numbers too, hardly 50 players in six categories and the majority of players are school or college going children. I hope this will bring some cheer to the competitors and the sporting lovers in the state,” said Anish Mathew, secretary, Kerala Squash Rackets Association. Winners - Boys U-13: Ryan Ohio; U-15: Omkar Vinod; U-17 and U-19: Siddhant Patil; Men: Pran Praveen; Pro Coach: Krishnan Jaipal Singh. Girls U-15: Aleena Nazrath; U-17: Nikhitha.B; Women: Neeraja.B.