



GoodSport NEWS

S R I L A N K A O L Y M P I C W E E K L Y N E W S B U L L E T I N

SPORTS NEWS

Thirteen-year-olds resolve and love for racing



Teen prodigy Yevan moving towards world fame

At the tender age of thirteen, trailblazer Yevan David seems to walk the talk. He has an ambition of becoming a F1 racing driver and he is also well aware that he has to keep fighting for his pound flesh.

Now proving his adrenaline that runs in him and the fire in his belly he added another feather in his short but daring Karting career by becoming the first Sri Lankan to win a Heat Karting race in Genk, Belgium.

The little champion Yevan was riding in the OKJ category, which is the Junior World-class category listed in the 12-15 years-olds in the world.

Yevan finished 15th in the final race. He was placed second in the Rotax Asia Championship and the thirteenth in the IAME Winter Cup in Valencia, Spain recently.



Speaking to GoodSport exclusively he was explaining how he initially got through the lull period that was forced upon the globe and its sport owing to the Covid pandemic.

“ Till March last year we were still racing and thereafter we were told that the races were cancelled and the track was shutdown ”

From Page 01

He said “Till March last year we were still racing and thereafter we were told that the races were cancelled and the track was shut-down and there we had to fly back to our home countries and this was followed by the lockdown.

“But in 2021, things are getting better and the races are going ahead and the situation is definitely better than last year and that is why the circuit is up and alive.

“But, still we do have to wear the masks and go through the sanitizing.

We asked how the preparations were “I managed alright; at the start of the year it was a bit hard, because it was my first time out and still figuring, but now I have got used to it and I know how everything works.

“I am still doing my schooling online and I still training under management.”

Are you still indulging in the simulated tournaments which you engaged during the pandemic? Yevan answered “Yes, basically last year since the lockdown we did not do any racing outdoors, so I started doing ‘sim’ racing indoors, whole of last year pretty-much; at the start of this year and in Europe I am still doing a bit of ‘sim’ racing, -

but right now I am a little bit too busy to engage in it because every weekend it is either driving or real-life racing.

“The ‘sim’ tournaments are still going on, but some places are quite bad in the world and they still need some sort of simulated racing”.

Besides racing do you have any academic aspirations we asked? Yevan replied “No, but I am really interested in the engineering and mechanical aspect of motorcars, it is interesting to know more about racing and automobiles; if I study this it would come handy one-day.”

Then GoodSport asked about his ambitions to move to the next level of racing.

He said “After this year I am going to do one more year of Karting in the 15 and over category and that will prepare me for the races with cars at formula 4 and that’s basically the bigger stuff of my racing career.

Moving from Karting to Cars; though it’s hard that’s the punch and moving to formula 4 and at the end of 2022 or early 2023.

Continued on Page 03



From Page 02



Thanks to Ron Dennis of McLaren sponsorship of this 13-year-old boy, he's now perhaps the all time greatest world champion of Formula 1.

“Had it not been for this interaction who knows, he may have ended up as yet another race engineer and lost to the world of Formula 1 as champion driver,” young Yevan said.

Whether Yevan obtains the financial support to provide him the opportunity to reach F1 is a question but there is no doubt the strength, resilience and perseverance in his character provides

him that extra factor to win if given the chance.

Talking about Lewis Hamilton Yevan said that he idolised the great driver from a very tender age.

“To back his claims he has the necessary base being the Karting IAME Asia series Champion in 2017 and Asia Cup Cadet Champion in

He said that he just loved his mentality and his ambitions always move forward and he not a very dirty driver or a loser – he always makes it a point to congratulate the winner of a race which means he is not a sour loser and for me he is a great personality.



“My hero is Lewis Hamilton and I have tried to follow his footsteps.

“Watching Lewis win the World Championship with Mercedes in 2014 encouraged me in my passion and dream to be the first Sri Lankan driver in Formula 1.”

2018 besides his present exploits. “I now reflect back to Hamilton’s own start-up career, when he was a 13 year old boy.



“NOC SL - Crysbro Next Champ” list of scholarships completed

The selection committee of the Crysbro-National Olympic Committee of Sri Lanka’s “Next Olympic Champ” programme added the remaining eight nominees for the two-year scholarship programme conducted by the twosome.

The main aim of this programme is to help and sustain identified junior athletes of Sri Lanka and elevate them to be the next contenders of the top tier athletes and produce medal winners with eye for the third Olympic Medal in Lankan history.

Under this programme each athlete gets an accumulated amount of Rs. 47,000.00 per month for their training.

The full list of names are:

Kanas Kumar Danushan – Golf [M], Amandhika Amarasinghe – Shooting [F], Madabavitage Tehan Sanchith Rayman – Boxing [M], Sudhdhathcharige Nethmi Nimthera – Boxing [F], H.H. Ravindu Sithum Jayasundara – Athletics [M], D.M.T.D. Tharushi Karunarathne – Athletics [F], W. Deshan Kapila Kumara – Weightlifting [M], R.L. Sachini Rajika Laksarani – Weightlifting [F], Pitiyage Don Senura Dilanka Silva –



Table Tennis [M], A.D. Nadila Nethviru – Gymnastics [M], U.L. Tharinda Mandara Premakumara – Taekwondo [M], M. Senori Sasadara Fernando – Taekwondo [F], Kaluarachchige Sithuli Sodithya (F) - Athletics (High Jump), W.A. Ishara Samanmalee (F) - Athletics (Long Jump), T.O. Vinod Ariyawansa (M) - Athletics (400m Hurdles), M.D. Madushika Premarathna (F) – Weightlifting, Bimandi Bandara (F) - Table Tennis, H. Anju Minuwandana de Silva (M) – Weightlifting, D.A. Wenuka Kithnula (M) – Tennis, P. Nethmi Ahinsa Fernando (F) – Wrestling.

Co-opted scholarships

Seneka Gunaratne - Athletics [Co-opted scholarship (Only recognition for promotion)] [F]

Milka Gehani - Gymnastics [Co-opted scholarship (Only recognition for promotion)] [F]

EMPOWERING NEXT OLYMPIC HOPE

ශ්‍රී ලාංකික දු පුහුණු
වලවිසික සිහිනය සැබෑ කිරීමට



TEHAN SANCHITH RAYMAN
BOXING
BANDARANAYEKE CENTRAL COLLEGE, VEYANGODA

would be business as usual”.

Be smart, be safe and have a safe Olympics

To ensure the Olympic and Paralympic Games Tokyo 2020 go ahead this summer in a safe manner, the International Olympic Committee (IOC), International Paralympic Committee (IPC), Tokyo 2020 Organising Committee (Tokyo 2020), the Tokyo Metropolitan Government (TMG) and the Government of Japan together with the world's leading experts in health and sport event delivery, are working around the clock.

They are developing a range of measures to enable the Games to be staged taking into account the evolution of COVID-19 in Japan and worldwide.

Every single Games participant has a clear role to play to ensure their own safety. That is why we have all combined forces to develop the Playbooks, which explain how the Games will be staged. Following February's publication of the first Playbook, several briefings and online meetings were held with all stakeholder groups.

With the benefit of extensive feedback and questions, together with ongoing learning's from recent international sport events and expert scientific advice, this Playbook Version 2 provides updated guidance and further detail on how the Games will be organised and operated, so that you can advance your preparations and implement your plans.

The Games are fast approaching and we are working hand in hand with Tokyo 2020 and delivery partners to ensure that we are ready.

Additional detailed operational and sport-specific documents, as well as online Q & As, will be made available and updated in the coming weeks.

These will continue to address the questions you may still have following this version of the Playbook.

To best support you ahead of the Games, your COVID-19 Liaison Officer (CLO) will soon be appointed and trained.

June's third and final planned version of the Playbook will provide updates on any significant changes, in addition to the information from your CLO.

These Games will be different and we all have to adjust.

In addition to no overseas spectators, you will face restrictions to the places you can go to, as well as hygiene and physical distancing measures.

These 'safety first' decisions are there to protect you, all Games participants and the people of Tokyo and Japan. The eyes of the world will be on Tokyo this summer.



With more broadcast and digital coverage than ever before, the performances of athletes, who have continued to train during these very difficult times, will provide much needed positivity and hope to billions of people around the world.

We must all take responsibility to ensure safe and successful Games. Follow the Playbook, live the values of Excellence, Respect and Friendship. There will be challenges to overcome, even sacrifices to be made.

But #StrongerTogether we will experience a Games like no other.

Kirsty Coventry
 Chair of the IOC Athletes' Commission and
 Member of
 the Coordination Commission for the Games
 of the XXXII
 Olympiad Tokyo 2020
 Robin Mitchell
 Acting President of the Association of
 National
 Olympic Committees and Member of the
 Coordination
 Commission for the Games of the XXXII
 Olympiad
 Tokyo 2020