

GoodSport NEWS

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

Story behind the Medal



PARAMI BACK AT TRAINING

Sri Lanka's Parami Wasanthi Maristella who stirred International ripples by winning Sri Lanka's first Youth Olympic Medal and the third behind senior Olympic medallists Duncan White and Susanthika Jayasinghe is back at training after a lengthy lay-off owing to injury. The nineteen-year-old Steeplechaser won the Bronze Medal at the 3rd Youth Olympics in Argentina in 2018, thus breaking into instant fame. Following the historic win Parami was subjected to medical care owing to a leg injury.

"I sought the assistance of many doctors but, what worked with me was the session I had with Dr. Himan de Silva of the Nine Wells Hospitals and thankfully I am back on the track"

Parami told GoodSport "Even during the Junior Olympics I trained and went through the entire contest subjected to this injury and I could only move with the assistance of pain killers. However, my 18 month training prior to the games and the confidence that I had in my skills took me through to the final post and the bronze medal."

Since the win, Parami and her coach Janith Nadeeshantha have parted ways and now she is training under Kenyan coach Dan Muchoki. Speaking about her recovery Parami said "I sought the assistance of many doctors but, what worked with me was the session I had with Dr. Himan de Silva of the Nine Wells Hospitals and thankfully I am back on the track".

She says she does not have any immediate plans, but, would begin to concentrate on a meet in the near future.

NOC NEWS

Dr. Athukorala to head the NOC Marketing Committee

A respected marketing professional in Sri Lanka with 18 years experience working for top multinationals Unilever, Reckitt Benckiser and Diversylever. He twice won the 'Best Marketer' award in Sri Lanka by the Chartered Institute of Marketing. Youngest Chairmen to be appointed to Sri Lanka Export Development Board by the Government of Sri Lanka and served the EDB for 4 years when the country crossing a \$10 billion in exports. Then appointed as Chairman Sri Lanka Tourism and Lanka Sathosa where he proved how a SOE can be turned around to profitability with the support of the private sector. Subsequently the Cabinet of Sri Lanka appointed him as the Commissioner General for the World Expo in Milan by the Cabinet of ministers.



He was then picked by the United Nations (UNOPS) as the 'Head of Portfolio' for 5 years where the 'Best Project in the world' was won by Sri Lanka. Recently, he was awarded Dr. A.P.J. Abdul Kalam "Pride of the Nation" award as an icon for public sector leadership. Academically, he possesses a double degree in marketing, MBA and doctorate in business administration.

"He was awarded Dr. A.P.J. Abdul Kalam "Pride of the Nation" award as an icon for public sector leadership."

He is an Alumni of Harvard University. Dr Athukorala is a Multiple Paul Harris Fellow of Rotary International and Twice been awarded the "Exceptional Rotarian of the year".

Currently he is the Regional President/ CEO of the Global Artificial Intelligence company Clootrack - Sri Lanka, Maldives and Pakistan whilst also is the Strategic Lead for Swadeshi Industries Works Plc apart from many other boards he sits on.



B.L.H. Perera nominated to attend IOA Director's programme

As a part of the Olympic Education Programme, the International Olympic Academy is an annual programme which is designed for different level of participants who are interested in Olympic values.

All of the programmes shall be held in the heart of Olympics - Athens, Greece. Mainly, International Olympic Academy Session for youth participants who are aged 15-years and under engaged in sports activities at the national or international level will be eligible to be a part of the programme. The 60th IOA session shall be held from 23 May to 3 June, 2020.

Another programme is the postgraduates to publish their researches, which is designed for the researchers who have already completed either masters or doctorate degree. Also, there is a session for the president and Directors of Olympic Academies from each country. For this session, Professor. B.L.H. Perera, the programme director of the NOC Sri Lanka is nominated to attend the programme. These programmes shall be held in first two weeks of May 2020.

In addition to these above short term two-week programmes, a Master's Degree Programme on "Olympic Studies, Olympic Education, Organisation and Management of Olympic Events" is open now for the application. This master's programme shall be for three semesters and taught in English. Those who are interested to the above programmes can apply through NOC Sri Lanka. For more information, please visit our official website.

INTERNATIONAL NEWS

Anna Korakaki chosen to be the first torchbearer



INSIDESPORT

The Hellenic Olympic committee (hoc) has unanimously decided that Olympic shooting champion Anna Korakaki will be the first torchbearer at the lighting ceremony of the Olympic flame for the Olympic Games Tokyo 2020, on 12 March 2020 in ancient Olympia.

For the first time in history, a woman will carry the Olympic flame first, shortly after it has been lit by the High Priestess, Xanthi Georgiou.

“It’s a great honour for me. I am thrilled, and I think the feelings will get even more intense in Ancient Olympia. I am looking forward to experiencing that moment and I’m sure it will remain etched in my mind and heart for the rest of my life,” said Korakaki, who won two medals at Rio 2016 – gold in the 25m pistol and bronze in the 10m air pistol.

Ekaterina Stefanidi, a gold medallist at Rio 2016 in the pole vault, will carry the Olympic flame at the Panathenaic Stadium on 19 March and will pass it on to the Tokyo 2020 team.

Tokyo 2020 torch bearers .The HOC President, International Olympic Committee Member Spyros Capralos, said of the selection of the two Olympic champions: “It is a historic moment, as for the first time in history a female athlete will be the first torchbearer. I believe that Anna Korakaki has honoured the Greek flag and our country, and she deserves it, not only for the two medals at the Rio Olympics, but also for her successes after 2016. I am also happy for Ekaterina Stefanidi, another amazing Greek athlete who shines in the sports world. We are proud of our continued success. Congratulations to both of our athletes.”

TOKYO 2020 MOTO REVEALED

*United by Emotion =
Universal Values + Unifying Power of Sport*



United by Emotion



Official Motto for the Tokyo 2020 is revealed a while ago today. "United by Emotion" shall be the motto which emphasises the power of sport to bring together people from diverse backgrounds to connect and celebrate in a way that reaches beyond their differences.

Only 158 days ahead for the start of the 32nd Olympic Games in Japan! There shall be athletes from more than 200 National Olympic Committees and the Refugee Olympic Team to be part of the Games and a countless number of faces are expected to watch the Games lively.