



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

Commonwealth Games 2022



CHAMARI WOULD BE THE CYNOSURE OF ALL EYES

Cricket is one sport that has climbed the stature ladder in sport in Sri Lanka. In spite of being women's cricket the game lives with hope and direction and is soon becoming a force to be reckoned in the real sense of sport.

The game's authorities pay every attention to women's cricket in Sri Lanka and it is backed by an army of coaches and officials that would be the envy of 99% of the other sports that are active in the country.

In short Sri Lanka pays a lot of emphasis to women's cricket in -

Sri Lanka and it also gets a lot of exposure thus helping the development of the same.

Hashan Tillakaratne is a multifaceted cricketer. He could bat at any position. He was an adequate enough bowler and in addition, he was one of the best close-in fielders that the world's produced in that era. Thus, he graduated to lead the national cricket team and also went on to lead the Lankan cricket team for the 1998 Commonwealth Games in Kuala Lumpur; the first and only time men's cricket was included in Commonwealth Games.

Under his watchful eye as coach, Sri Lanka won the 2022 Commonwealth Games Qualifier by winning the winner-takes-all contest on the last day of the qualifiers and took a place at the Commonwealth Games tournament.

Tillakaratne is of the view that women's cricket in Sri Lanka is a growing thing. He says "We have grown leaps and bounds during the last five years. Women's cricket has moved a long way during that time and the best example is how they managed to qualify for the Birmingham Games in 2022.



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Now they are line to face up to the skills of women's teams of Australia, England, New Zealand, India, South Africa, West Indies and Pakistan.

Sri Lankan captain Chamari Athapaththu was named as "Player of the Series" and scored the most runs with a whopping 221 runs.

When we walked to the P. Saravannamuttu International Cricket Stadium the Lankan ladies were taking on a Lankan teen (Under 15 and 16) boys' team in a hectic battle.

Voice of GoodSport invited Tilla-karatne to discuss about the upcoming Commonwealth Games and about Women's Cricket in general.

We kicked off the interview by inquiring, -

"Could you give us a bit of an insight into the past and the present inclusion of Cricket in the Commonwealth Games and about its qualifying process?"

"Well, I can still remember in 1998, I captained Sri Lanka and it was a very good experience. It's a very good platform for all the youngsters to show their true talent.

"Prior to the Commonwealth Games qualifiers, we could not get qualified for the Cricket World Cup and I think that reason really fueled the girls to show the world that they are good enough. The qualifiers were definitely a testing time for them, but we were well prepared and the girls played very good Cricket so we successfully concluded by winning in Malaysia beating Bangladesh", Tilla-karatne answered.

"The qualifiers were definitely a testing time for them, but we were well prepared and the girls played very good Cricket so we successfully concluded by winning in Malaysia beating Bangladesh"

We went on to ask him about the composition of the team, including the renowned Chamari Athapaththu.

"We have 8 batswomen, 2 wicket-keepers, 4 genuine spinners and 2 spin all-rounders and 3 fast bowlers. Of course, Chamari is one of the main players we have and she's respected worldwide. Her experience is always shared among the girls and it gives them a great platform as well."

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"Will we be seeing any new faces? What is the game plan for the upcoming games?", we inquired.

"Vishmi Rajapakshe was with us during the Malaysian tour but unfortunately, she's not included in the tournament because she's doing her Ordinary Levels.

"Generally, we have a blend of young and experienced in the team.

"Especially we are depending on the spin attack side and our batters are doing very well now.", Hashan answered.

We then asked him about the format and the fixtures of the matches. He replied, "We have 3 games against South Africa, New Zealand and England.

"We all know they are very competitive but the preparations are very good as of now so we want to give them a good game".

We then asked him, "When it comes to women's cricket in Sri Lanka, we are in a certain place locally and internationally. What are your plans to take the game to the next level?"

"We are popularizing the game in the outskirts of Sri Lanka right now and many development processes are also being carried out currently. Numerous 'Big Matches' are being played as well.

We have already confirmed the squad for the upcoming Under 19 World Cup next year. A considerable number of girls are coming up from outstation areas so it's nice to see that the game is being popularized."

"Our main goal is to win a World Cup. I'm sure if we played to our fullest potential and talent, we could certainly reach it."

Finally, we questioned, "In 5 years' time, where do you see Sri Lanka Women's Cricket?"

Tillakaratne responded with, "Well our main goal is to win a world cup. I'm sure if we played to our fullest potential and talent, we could certainly reach it. So, I'm keeping my fingers crossed and see how it goes."

He concluded the discussion by requesting Sri Lankan fans for their support, encouragement and blessings for the upcoming games.





Thomas Bach, President of the International Olympic Committee

“OUR OLYMPIC MISSION IS A HUMANITARIAN MISSION”

IOC President Thomas Bach

On the final day of the 139th International Olympic Committee (IOC) Session, IOC President Thomas Bach addressed the IOC membership on the impact of the Russian invasion of Ukraine on the world of sport and the Ukrainian Olympic community.

He elaborated on the IOC’s actions since the outbreak of war, which have included both protective measures for the integrity of competitions and sanctions against those responsible for the war.

He also spoke of the dilemma the entire Olympic Movement has been facing, since it cannot fully live up to its mission to unite the entire world in peaceful competition.

He concluded this part of the speech by stating:

“Our Olympic mission is not a political mission. Our Olympic mission is a humanitarian mission.”

As part of the opening speech, President Bach passed the floor to Sergii Bubka, IOC Member and President -

of the National Olympic Committee (NOC) of Ukraine, to provide an update on the Olympic community’s support for the humanitarian efforts in Ukraine. “At the end of February, the IOC EB [Executive Board] decided to establish a solidarity fund to help the Olympic community in Ukraine,” he recalled.

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Sergii Bubka, IOC Member and President of the National Olympic Committee (NOC) of Ukraine

“Thanks to the help of all of you, the members of the global Olympic community, the fund has now grown to about USD 2.4 million.

“At the end of February, the IOC EB [Executive Board] decided to establish a solidarity fund to help the Olympic community in Ukraine”

“Today there are approximately 3,000 Ukrainian athletes and coaches who stay in different parts of the world, who we continue to support. Through the Olympic solidarity fund, we already support financially 65 individual projects. We are thankful to the IOC and the global Olympic community,” he concluded.

President Bach went on to reflect on the overwhelming response from across the globe to the hosting of the Olympic Games Tokyo 2020 and the Olympic Winter Games Beijing 2022 in unprecedented circumstances.

He said: “Be it from Heads of State, business and cultural leaders, scientists, our Rights-Holding Broadcasters and TOP Partners, from youngsters and kids – we received and still are receiving countless letters and messages saying: thank you for pulling it off.

“This worldwide reaction,” he continued, “has given us confidence to look to the future of the Olympic Movement.”

The President highlighted just some examples of the achievements of the Olympic Agenda 2020+5 recommendations, building on the foundations of Olympic Agenda 2020.

He said: “We can look to the future from a position of strength, which was never a foregone conclusion in our uncertain times.”



2nd Olympic Solidarity Sport Administrators Course - 2022



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NATIONAL COURSE DIRECTORS' TRAINING PROGRAMME

The National Olympic Committee of Sri Lanka (NOC Sri Lanka) and Olympic Solidarity have come together to offer an exciting opportunity to enhance as a Course Facilitator to join the National Course Directors (NCDs) team to serve for NOC Sri Lanka. As an international opportunity, the training is open to regional NOCs in Asia, also the course is open to probationary NCDs to earned fully fledged NCD qualification.

The programme is scheduled to be conducted from 04th to 08th July 2022 at the Conference Hall of NOC Sri Lanka and applications are expected from individuals who possess the following qualifications and skills:

Active involvement in administration tasks in the respective sport organization or affiliated body,

Good educational background at least up to GCE Advanced Level,

Experience in teaching/lecturing/public speaking skills,

Completion of Sport Administrator Course conducted by NOC Sri Lanka is mandatory,

NATIONAL COURSE DIRECTORS' TRAINING PROGRAMME



APPLICATIONS ARE OPEN

Application deadline: June 6, 2022

Details available on <https://olympic.lk/nocnews/355>

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Good command in English,

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Experience in working with NOC related activities

Sport Administrators from National Sports Associations/Federations, Lecturers in Sports Sciences/Management and Physical Education, Teachers in Physical Education and Sports Sciences/Management, Sports Administrators attached to three Armed Forces and Police, Sport Administrators from Provincial Councils and other government organizations and all other individuals who involved in sports etc. are eligible for applying for this programme.

Applications will be valid only if they are followed by a detailed CV of the applicant and a recommendation letter signed by the Head of applicant's organisation. The suitable participants for the training programme will be selected after an interview process.

8 local applicants will be shortlisted and will be trained at the proposed training programme for 05 days on the supervision of a Programme Director recommended by Olympic Solidarity.

Applications should reach Secretary General, "Olympic House Sri Lanka", 100/9F Independence Avenue, Colombo 7 or email to natolcom@slt.lk on or before 06th of June, 2022. Applications received after the given deadline will not be entertained and the gender balance of applications will be highly concerned when selecting the applicants.