



GoodSport



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



YOUNG LANKAN CRICKET READY TO DEFEND THE INCHEON GOLD

Sahan Arachchige - Captain

In reality, cricket has been more than a sport in Sri Lanka for generations. Being in the fold for more than a century and a half, cricket in fact has been a way of life and that belief exploded beyond imagination the moment the Lankans, still comparatively young in the real world of international cricket, bemused rest of the pundits by winning the ICC cricket World Cup in 1996.

Thereafter the Lankan cricket story keeps living up to its imagination mingled with its own fluctuations. But, in all its paradigms, it's a world force winning all possible international plaudits.

Among all that glory, one must remember that cricket saved a lot of blushes when the Lankan men's team under Lahiru Thirimanne won the Gold for cricket in Incheon, South Korea in 2014 along with women's cricket bronze – becoming the only sport to bear fruit in a barren land.

Now, in 2022/23 Asian Games, once again cricket is back on the cards and Hangzhou has become the battle ground.

Added to that, in Incheon, Asian cricket giant India took a miss, but, in this episode the Asian cricket card is full.

Though the card will not contain the main line up names, owing to the hectic international commitments at hand – in reality, due to the Cricket World Cup overlapping the Asian Games also in Asia – to be precise in India.

To explain the pros and cons of Gold defense at the Asian Games, GoodSport spoke to the tour manager – former national fast bowler, Vinodhan John. The former Lankan bowling icon explained, “Certainly, we are in possession of a very good team; they are mainly a young ensemble studded with several players who have donned the national cap.”

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Ashen Bandara



Nuwan Thushara



“Among the play makers, we have players in the calibre of genuine all-rounder, an effective off spinner and top order batsman, Sahan Arachchige who became the man-of-the-match in one of the World Cup qualifying vital games. He will lead the squad.

“Then, we have Ashen Bandara, who have played 6 ODIs and 5 T-20 internationals and a dashing right hand bat, another impressive batsman who is already knocking on the international door, Lasith Croospulle - a dependable right-hand batsman and Shevon Daniel - an up and coming top order batsman who is very promising.



Lahiru Samarakoon

“We also have the services of another international in right-arm fast bowler - Nuwan Thushara, who has been featured in four T-20s. The above mentioned would be the pivot of the Lankan team to Hangzhou and a lot will depend upon their skills and contributions.”

John also had a lot of faith in the skills of the players the calibre of right arm batsman - Ahan Wickremasinghe, who has scored over a thousand first class runs, Ranitha Liyanarachchi - a left hand bat and a right arm fast bowler, Batsman Sachith Jayatilleke and wicket-keeper batsman - Lahiru Udara. He added, “The others in the squad are – off spinner and batsman - Ravindu Fernando, bowling all-rounder - Movin Subasinghe, slow left arm spinner - Nimesh Vimulth, Fast bowling all-rounder - Lahiru Samarakoon, fast bowler - Isitha Wijesundera and opening batsman - Thanuka Dabare. The support squad will comprise Aviska gunawardena, Upul Chandana, Sajeewa Weerakoon (Coching) Vinothan John (Manager) and Support staff Ajantha Watawala – (Physio).

John reiterated “This is a side in-between the “A” side and the emerging; I think the selectors have done a good job and feel that we can defend the tile in spite of the presence of the other Asian giants.

One does not have mention that the biggest threats will come in the form of India and Pakistan, but I think our young team is ready to take up that challenge. I learn that India has also named a strong squad, but, we have the advantage of coming into the series from the quarter-final stage.

“As a squad, we went into serious practice after the completion of the LPL a few days ago, we are confident with wins against South Africa “A” team Test and the England Lions “A” team one-day series and I feel that the lads are ready for the defense of the Gold Medal.”

NB: Subject to change

Lasith Croospulle



RESHAN ALGAMA WINS NUWARA ELIYA JUNIOR GOLF OPEN CHAMPIONSHIP 2023 IN STYLE



(L-R): Jevahn Sathasivam - Runner Up Gold Division 15 - 18+ Yrs, Reshan Algama - Winner Gold Division 15 - 18+ Yrs, Mr. Michael Sathasivam - Member NEGC Committee representing the Nuwara-Eliya Golf Club, Mr. Indika Dissanayake - Sales Manager, PRIMA SUNRISE BREAD, Mr. Roshan Jayasinghe from Prima Ceylon Ltd.

Reshan Algama fired-up after an excellent TOP 10 finish in the SLG Golf Ranking Tournament played at the Victoria Golf Resort, won by K. Prabakaran the champion PRO from NEGC playing in the PGTI (Professional Golf Tour of India) for over a decade now.

Multiple PGTI Winner N. Thangaraja was the Runner-up, whilst Reshan clinched the 7th place ahead of former National Amateur Champ M. U. Chanaka Perera and senior national player M.H. Chaltha Pushpika of the Sri Lanka Navy.

Reshan Algama is getting better after each tournament and the experience he gains is proved by the confidence he shows on the Golf Course and the excellent results with his follow-up performance in the Nuwara-Eliya Junior Open Golf Championship 2023, where he won by a more than comfortable 17 strokes clear of the closest rival Jevahn Sathasivam who clinched the Runner-up spot three strokes ahead of Jacob Norton and Pranav Muralitharan in joint 3rd place.

The Nuwara Eliya Junior Open Golf Championship 2023 was played concurrently with the Prima Regional -

Junior Open 2023 at the picturesque Nuwara-Eliya Golf Club Course the oldest standing Golf Course in Sri Lanka, being the second oldest Golf Club in then Ceylon established as a holiday venue under the British Empire in 1889!

There was very good turn-out at the Nuwara-Eliya Junior Open 2023 with the participation from the home club NEGC, RCGC, Anuradhapura Golf Club, Victoria Golf Resort and debutants into Junior Golf in Sri Lanka, Ananda College Colombo, who have included Golf in the Ananda College Sports Calendar.

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Mr. Michael Sathasivam Member NEGC Committee representing the Nuwara-Eliya Golf Club, gave away the prizes and the Winner's Trophy to Reshan Algama.

Past Lady Captain of NEGC Ms. Rohina Macan Markar, motivated the juniors on the importance of playing a sport and the benefits of playing Golf considered as a Gentleman's game.

Past Lady Captain of NEGC Ms. Rohina Macan Markar, motivated the juniors on the importance of playing a sport and the benefits of playing Golf considered as a Gentleman's game.

Mr. Ranjith Kumar the Head of Junior Golf at the NEGC, Mr. K. Prabakaran the top Golf Professional -

from NEGC conducted the Tournament efficiently and effectively also participated in the prize-giving marking the Nuwara-Eliya Junior Open 2023 successfully concluded with a worthy junior champion Reshan Algama to the fore!

NUWARA ELIYA GOLF CLUB JUNIOR OPEN 2023 RESULTS

WINNER – RESHAN ALGAMA
144(RCGC) (73,71)

RUNNER-UP- JEVAHN SATHASIVAM
161 (RCGC) (83,78)

JOINT 3RD PLACE – JACOB NORTON
164 (RCGC) (80,84) PRANAV MURALITHARAN(RCGC) (79,85)

5TH PLACE – IMRAN NAZEER
166(NEGC) (83,83)

6TH PLACE – VINUDHA WEERASINGHE(RCGC) 173 (91,82)

7TH PLACE – M.M. THENUK SATHANIDU 175(A'PURA) (94,81)

8TH PLACE – NIYAS ABDUL RAHUMAN 176 (NEGC) (85,91)

9TH PLACE – MAHESHWARAN LIDURSHAN 178(NEGC) (91,87)

10TH PLACE – THARUSHA PILAPITIYA 179 (RCGC)(83,96)

11TH PLACE – MANEESH CHANMUGAM (RCGC) 180(84,96)

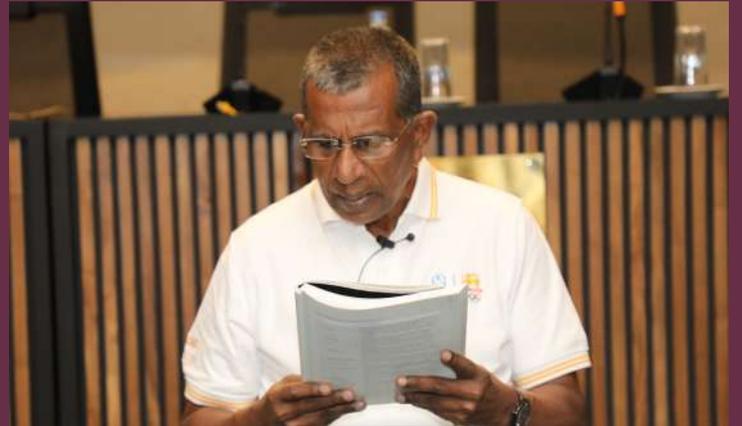
12TH PLACE – L.G. THANUJ KALHARA (A'PURA) 186 (92,94)

Courtesy - Sri Lanka Golf



(L-R): Mr. G.M.Pradeep Kumara- Asst. National Coach SLG, Mr.Chamila Kahandakorale - Ex.Committee member and Golf Coordinator Ananda College, W.D.Y. Ronal Scofield, Lithum Silva, Hirusha Premuditha, Golf Players From Ananda College, Mr.Indika Dissanayake Sales Manager PRIMA SUNRISE BREAD, Mr. Roshan Jayasinghe from Prima Ceylon Ltd.

9TH ADVANCED SPORT MANAGEMENT COURSE BEGINS



The first session of the 9th Advanced Sport Management Course conducted by the National Olympic Committee of Sri Lanka concluded on Sunday, 06 August 2023 at the Sri Lanka Olympic House.

Followed by the course introduction on the first day, the first chapter of the 'Managing Olympic Sport Organisation' - Organising an Olympic Sport Organisation, was delivered by Prof. Laven Perera, Academic Director of the National Olympic Committee of Sri Lanka.

The session was facilitated by Ms. Eranga Chrishanthi Fernando and Ms. Hansi Marasinghe.



NOC SL JOINS HANDS WITH NATTAMI ARMY



The National Olympic Committee of Sri Lanka extended its support for a social responsibility project undertaken by the Nattami Army - නාට්ටම් ආර්මි (A movie) with the support of Sri Lanka Eye Donation Society and Sri Lanka Police.

The NOC Sri Lanka donated 100 spectacles to provide the necessary support for the Nattamis and conducted Olympic-value-based sports activities for the kids from that region.

