

SHUTTLE POINTS

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IBL is a very good platform – it will encourage new talent and people will be more keen to follow the sport
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FIRST SERVE

There is a lot that can be expected from IBL: Kashyap



IT IS quite natural for the forthcoming Indian Badminton League (IBL) to be compared with the Indian Premier League (IPL) for cricket, but India's star shuttler and Olympics quarterfinalists Parupalli Kashyap feels there is lot more to it and is sure the League will create a new standard and carve a niche for itself.

"The comparison of IBL with IPL is a positive thing, but I think there is a lot more than can be expected from it rather than just thinking it to be just another league based on the lines of IPL," said the world No.8.

"IBL in its own right will be a game-changer and help badminton become one of the most-sought after sports in India. IBL will offer good money, exposure and will put the limelight on the badminton players," he said.

The 26-year-old Kashyap is optimistic about the IBL becoming a spectacular success and capturing the imagination of millions of people for badminton in India.

Asked which team would he want to represent in the IBL, Kashyap replied he would like to play either for Hyderabad or Mumbai - both his favourite cities.

"I would like to play for Hyderabad as I am based out of the city and would like to play in front of my home crowd. I am also inclined towards Mumbai as I have many friends from there."

The winner of the 2012 Syed Modi India Grand Prix Gold International also expressed his ambition to play with Chinese superstar Lin Dan and his

Malaysian nemesis in the 2012 Olympics, world No.1 Lee Chong Wei.

"I want to team up with Lin Dan or Lee Chong Wei in the IBL. They are the legends of the game and playing along-

side them will help me gain a lot of experience. It would also be ideal for me if I am playing against them because then it would give me a chance to beat these stalwarts. Both ways it will be an achievement for me," says the amiable Hyderabad.

Kashyap who is an IBL 'Icon Player' is also looking forward to play a perfect host to the foreign players and says he will be happy to take them out for city tours if anyone approaches him. "I will definitely take them out for a tour and be a perfect host to them," he said.

"I want to team up with either Lin Dan or Lee Chong Wei in the IBL"

COURT COVERAGE

THE HINDU

April 4, 2013

IBL to be held at six venues from June 24

The prestigious Indian Badminton League (IBL), a star-studded event of the the Badminton Association of India (BAI), will be held from June 24 to July 14 at six venues — Delhi, Mumbai, Bangalore, Hyderabad, Pune and Lucknow — the BAI secretary (events), K.Ch. Punnaiah Chowdary, said here on Wednesday. The three-week long tournament, with prize money of Rs. 5.5 crore, will feature a galaxy of international stars from China, Malaysia, Indonesia, Korea and Denmark, along with national stars and emerging players from India.

<http://www.thehindu.com/sport/other-sports/ibl-to-be-held-at-six-venues-from-june-24/article4577855.ece>

THE TIMES OF INDIA

March 9, 2013

Five cities finalised for Indian Badminton League, says BAI vice president Gandhe

NAGPUR: Even as Saina Nehwal and Parupalli Kashyap continued their excellent show in the ongoing All England Championships, the activities regarding the Indian Badminton League (IBL) are slowly but surely going on in the right direction in the Badminton Association of India (BAI) set up. BAI vice president and vice chairman of IBL's governing council Pradeep Gandhe said major work of the forthcoming mega league has been completed and soon they will announce the final list of six franchises.

http://articles.timesofindia.indiatimes.com/2013-03-09/badminton/37580391_1_indian-badminton-league-pradeep-gandhe-ibl

KNOW YOUR LEGENDS

The 'Great Wong'

Wong Peng Soon, Malaysia

- Men's singles player
- Four times All-England champion
- Eight times Malaysian Open champion
- Three times Thomas Cup title
- Member of the Order of the British Empire
- DoB: February, 1918- May22, 1996

WONG Peng Soon was one of the best players in the world from 1930s to the 1950s. Noted for his smooth yet powerful strokes and graceful footwork, Soon was the first Asian to win the prestigious All-England in 1950. He won it again in 1951, 1952 and 1955. The feat earned him the nickname 'Great Wong'. He also won the Malaysian Open and the Singapore Open for a record eight and seven times respectively. He however achieved legendary status after he helped Malaysia to three Thomas Cup titles in 1948-49, 1951, 1955.



'The Versatile Dane'

Finn Kobberø, Denmark

- Men's single, doubles, mixed doubles
- Seven times All-England men's double
- Eight times All-England mixed double
- Two US Open single title
- Two French Open single title
- French Open doubles title twice
- DoB: March 13, 1936-Jan 21, 2009

CONSIDERED as one of the best players of all time, Finn Kobberø participated in all three disciplines of the game. But it was attributes as doubles and mixed double player that earned him the most laurels. He has been one of the most successful doubles player in the history of All-England with 15 titles. He was included in the Badminton Hall of Fame in 1997. He passed away on January 21, 2009, bringing an end to a legendary era in the sports.



KNOW THE YOUNG GUNS

'Giant killer from India'

Sourabh Verma, India

- Men's singles
- Indian National Badminton Championship in 2011 and 2012
- Runners-up in 2011 SyedModi India Grand Prix Gold
- Base: Hyderabad
- Current BWF rankings: 37
- Current BAI rankings: 10
- DoB: December 30, 1992



The badminton prodigy from India, Sourabh Verma is making rapid strides in the international badminton circuit. Even though the 21-year-old shuttler is yet to win a BWF title, he is the fourth-highest ranked Indian player in the BWF rankings.



We Love This Game

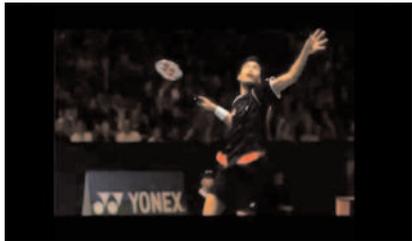
A product of Pullela Gopichand's Academy, Sourabh was introduced to the game at an early age by his father. He was not inclined towards the sport initially but gradually started enjoying it. Sourabh's mental strength makes him a very tough opponent on the court. He shot into limelight in 2011 when he annexed the Senior National Badminton Championship title and then retained the title the following edition as well.

Sourabh has built a reputation of a giant-killer in the badminton circuit, and believes he has what it takes to beat the top players. He has beaten top players such as Kenichi Tago in the India Open Super Series and former world No. 1, Peter Gade at the Denmark Open. His best performance in the international circuit came in the Syed Modi Memorial India Grand Prix 2011 where he beat seventh seed Hu Yun of Hong Kong and won convincingly against Suppanyu Avinghisanon of Thailand to march into the finals. Unfortunately, his run was cut short by former Olympic champion Taufik Hidayat.

TOP BADMINTON VIDEOS



Happy Birthday to Saina Nehwal
World No. 2 Saina Nehwal celebrates her 23rd birthday on March 17, 2013



Yonex Sunrise India Open 2013
A promotional video of upcoming Superseries tournament - Yonex Sunrise India Open 2013, to be held at the Siri Fort Indoor Complex from April 23 to 28.



Saina Nehwal nominated for BWF's female player of the year
'Indian Shuttle Queen' has been nominated for the 2012 'Female Player of the Year' award of the Badminton World Federation

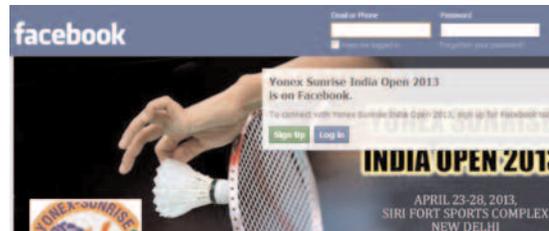


Jwala Gutta's dance debut
Ace Indian badminton player Jwala Gutta will be seen in a glamorous avatar in the Tollywood movie Gunde Jaari Gallan-thayyinde.

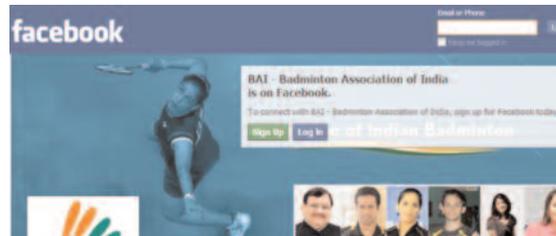
TOP BADMINTON FB PAGES



Indian Badminton League
<https://www.facebook.com/IndianBadminton-League>



Yonex Sunrise India Open 2013
<http://www.facebook.com/YonexSunriseIndiaOpen2013?fref=ts>



BAI- Badminton Association of India
<http://www.facebook.com/pages/BAI-Badminton-Association-of-India/422413077840499?fref=ts>

TOP BADMINTON TWEETS



BADMINTONWORLD
Badminton news | BWF gets award for promoting Sports integrity: At a ceremony in Doha, Qatar, last Monday even...
<http://bit.ly/10hm0GW>



Dato' Lee Chong Wei @Lee_C_Wei 7 Aug
Proud that I've been told that our match was watched by 20% of the entire world
#ThankYou for all the support



yonex badmnton @yonex_badmnton 19h
Do we have some Andy Ellis/Chris Adcock fans in the house? They're on to the quarter finals at the Swiss Open! <http://fb.me/2hCN-hecfk>

OUR PROFILE

About Sporty Solutionz Pvt Ltd

Sporty Solutionz Pvt Ltd are the Commercial Partner for multiple years for planning and executing the Indian Badminton League and the Marketing and Events Partners for the India Open Superseries. The company is India's leading TV Rights Management Company, and has been associated with almost all the premier sporting events in India like the IPL, Euro 2012, Sri Lanka Premier League, Bangladesh Premier League, FIFA World Cup Qualifying matches etc. Based in Noida (Delhi NCR), Sporty Solutionz also specialises in Sports Production, Events, Talent Management & Sports PR & Press Operations.

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Sporty Solutionz Links

<http://www.sportysolutionz.com>
<https://www.facebook.com/sportysolutionz>
<http://www.youtube.com/user/sportysolutionztv>

IBL Links

[Indianbadmintonleague.co](http://indianbadmintonleague.co)
<https://www.facebook.com/IndianBadmintonLeague>
<http://www.youtube.com/user/IBLOfficialChannel>

YOUR FEEDBACK



IBL is very good platform. It will encourage the players as well as make the fascinating sport more popular among the masses. I like reading the *IBL Express*. I am preparing for the League and looking forward to it.

—Jwala Gutta

2010 Commonwealth Games
women's doubles gold medalist, Hyderabad

IBL Express is a good read and helps in keeping badminton fans updated about the sport and the league. Precise yet informative and very well designed, overall it is a complete package. Anticipating a great IBL. Good luck.

—Abhishek Paul

Sports reporter, *Mail Today*, New Delhi

I have read all the editions of IBL newsletter but the special edition on Saina Nehwal's 23rd birthday was simply awesome. It was a fitting tribute to the 'Indian Shuttle Queen'. I also like the other sections, 'Know your Legends', and 'Know your Young Guns' which are interesting insights into the sport. Looking forward to reading more interesting concepts like this in the coming editions. Wishing you a great show for the IBL!

—Sandhya Rana

NTPC Campus, Dadri



KNOW YOUR IBL VENUES

'From the Mecca of Indian Badminton'



Shri Shiv Chhatrapati Sports Complex (Indoor Complex)

Location: Balewadi, Pune

Facilities: Badminton hall, table-tennis hall, boxing arena, basketball courts, weightlifting hall, aquatics centre

Highlights:

- Six international standard competition courts
- Four warm-up courts
- Approx 4000 seating capacity
- Media Centre
- Warm-up rooms for players
- Conference Hall
- Well-equipped fitness-centre with steam bath, jacuzzi and chill water bath
- Yoga and meditation centre
- Sports Science Centre
- Hosted the badminton tournament of 2008 CWG
- Host to several national tournaments

Anecdote

Ace Indian shuttler Saina Nehwal won the gold medal for India in the 2008 Youth Commonwealth Games