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Dr. Parminder Singh Ahluwalia
Director of Sports, Department
of Physical Education, Panjab
University, Chandigarh, India

Sunder Singh
Research Scholar, Department of
Physical Education, Panjab
University, Chandigarh, India

Development of lawn tennis in Chandigarh: An analytical study

Dr. Parminder Singh Ahluwalia and Sunder Singh

Abstract

Historians think that tennis was originated in 12th century at France. Tennis ball was struck with the palm of the hand; hence named as jeu de paume ("game of the palm"). Rackets came into existence in 16th century and the game began to be called "tennis". Major Walter C. Wingfield, invented the modern Lawn Tennis game in 1873. British Army and Civilian Officers brought the game tennis to India in 1880. Soon after, regular tennis championships i.e Punjab Lawn tennis Championship at Lahore (1885) (Lahore Now in Pakistan), Bengal Lawn Tennis Championship at Calcutta (1887) and All India Tennis Championships at Allahabad in (1910) were organised. All India Lawn Tennis Association (AILTA) was formed at Lahore in March, 1920. Chandigarh was the dream project of India's first Prime Minister, Jawaharlal Nehru. Albert Mayer an American planner and architect make the design of new city called "Chandigarh" in 1949. On September, 1975 The Chandigarh Lawn Tennis Association came into existence at Sector 10 Chandigarh. Since the Tennis Stadium is leased out to C.L.T.A. Over the years The Chandigarh Lawn Tennis Association had developed a first class playing infrastructure, as of now 2016 C.L.T.A has 10 synthetic tennis courts with flood lights, 2 clay courts with flood lights, 4 mini tennis courts with flood lights and a practice wall court. Over the years The Chandigarh Lawn Tennis Association had groomed a host of young champions at various international and national championships under various age groups, players like Sunil Kumar, Vijayant Malik, Sahiba Chadha, Vikrant chadha, Chatwinder Singh, Akshay Vishal Rao, Harsimran Kaur Bedi, Amanjot Singh, Sanam k. singh etc. had played in various international tournaments like Olympics Games, Asian Games Common Wealth, Davis cup, ITF junior & senior tournaments, and SAF Games etc.

Keywords: CLTA, Chandigarh, I.T.F, A.I.T.A, Lahore, Punjab, players etc.

Introduction

Historians think that tennis was originated in 12th century at France. Tennis ball was struck with the palm of the hand; hence named as jeu de paume ("game of the palm"). Rackets came into existence in 16th century and the game began to be called "tennis". Major Walter C. Wingfield, invented the modern Lawn Tennis game in 1873. Since 1873 four biggest competitions on the tennis circuit are-

1. Wimbledon (started in 1877) is played on grassy surface.
2. U.S. Open (started in 1881) is played on hard court.
3. French Open (started in 1891/1925) is played on clay.
4. Australian Open (started in 1905) is played on hard court.

A player who wins these four tournaments in the same year is called the Grand Slam.

Development of Lawn Tennis in India: British Army and Civilian Officers brought the game tennis to India in 1880. Soon after, regular tennis championships i.e Punjab Lawn tennis Championship at Lahore (1885) (Lahore Now in Pakistan), Bengal Lawn Tennis Championship at Calcutta (1887) and All India Tennis Championships at Allahabad in (1910) were organised. All India Lawn Tennis Association (AILTA) was formed at Lahore in March, 1920.

Purpose: How Lawn Tennis came into existence in Chandigarh and development of Lawn Tennis in Chandigarh.

Correspondence

Dr. Parminder Singh Ahluwalia
Director of Sports, Department
of Physical Education, Panjab
University, Chandigarh, India

Development of Lawn Tennis in Chandigarh: Chandigarh was the dream project of India's first Prime Minister, Jawaharlal Nehru. Albert Mayer an American planner and architect make the design of new city called "Chandigarh" in 1949. Later Chandigarh was designed and planned by the famous French architect Le Corbusier. Chandigarh was completed in 1960. On 1 November, 1966 Chandigarh was declared a union territory and capital of both the states Punjab and Haryana. It is known as one of the best experiments in urban planning and modern architecture in the 20th century in India. Chandigarh Sports Department was carved out of Education department Chandigarh in 1984. A well established and adequately equipped sports stadiums, sports academies, parks and playing grounds in the different disciplines of Sports and games have come up covering all the zones of the city. On September, 1975 The Chandigarh Lawn Tennis Association came into existence at Sector 10 Chandigarh. Since the Tennis Stadium is leased out to C.L.T.A. C.L.T.A. is a Pioneer Institute in Tennis coaching in India. The game of tennis has traditionally been an elite sport, a game affordable to the affluent. Over the last 20 years Chandigarh has adopted created champions from among highly gifted village children from the neighboring states of Punjab, Haryana and Himachal Pradesh. If the credo for CHART is "catch them rural", the training school as a whole aims to "catch them young, and teach them young." The regimen includes rigorous training, linked with tough physical and mental conditioning. The faculty, including some of the best coaches in the country, hails from many states, including coaches from Kolkata and even from distant Manipur. C.L.T.A has 10 synthetic tennis courts with flood lights, 2 clay courts with flood lights, 4 mini tennis courts with flood lights and a practice wall court. Over the years The Chandigarh Lawn Tennis Association had groomed a host of

young champions at various international and national championships under various age groups.

Discussion

On 1st January, 1987, The Chandigarh Lawn Tennis Association had developed a first class playing infrastructure of 12 courts only out of which 6 courts with flood lights and 6 courts without flood lights and one well equipped gymnasium. As of now 2018 The Chandigarh Lawn Tennis Association have create a well established and adequately equipped tennis academy at Chandigarh. The details are as follow-

a) Infrastructure at Chandigarh Lawn Tennis Association

- Ten synthetic tennis courts with flood lights,
- Two clay courts with flood lights,
- Four mini tennis courts with flood lights
- A practice wall court
- Gymnasium Hall
- Boys Hostel
- Girls Hostel
- Physiotherapy lab
- Modern Physical fitness Equipments
- Modern Ball Throwing Machine
- Gutting Machine
- Speed Guns

Note: Office bearer work in honorary capacity, no one is entitled to any remuneration. No sitting fees are paid to any member.

b) Coaching Personnel's at Chandigarh Lawn Tennis Association

S. No.	Name	Designation	S.No.	Name	Designation
1	Sukhwant Basra	Advisor Development	20	Pardeep yadav	Coach
2	Y. Romen Singh	Chief Coach	21	Ravi Shankar	Coach
3	Karan Golmel	Senior Coach	22	Beeru Saroj	Coach
4	Cheddi Lal	Senior Coach	23	Vinay Yadav	Coach
5	Rishi Sachdeva	Senior Coach	24	Amit chauhan	Coach
6	Suresh Partap	Coach	25	Dhiraj Sarna	Physical Trainer
7	Mayank Valecha	Coach	26	Brij pal	Physical Trainer
8	Bigan Sahani	Coach	27	Rajan Tiwari	Yoga Trainer
9	Ram Kirpal	Coach	28	Navjee S. Saini	Gym Instructor Evening
10	DeepakYadav	Coach	29	Amitoj Garg	Gym Instructor Morning
11	Satish Kumar Sipaeya	Coach	30	Lakhinder Sahani	Asstt. Coach
12	Mohan Singh	Coach	31	Shiv Bahadur	Asstt. Coach
13	Rajman	Coach	32	Sukhdev Yadav	Asstt. Coach
14	Sanjay Yadav	Coach	33	Vikas Yadav	Asstt. Coach
15	Roshan Saxea	Coach	34	Ramkishan Mandal	Asstt. Coach
16	Sandeep Gupta	Coach	35	Arti Nayan	Asstt. Coach
17	Ajay Kumar	Coach	36	Priyanka Jakhar	Asstt. Coach
18	Prasad Apte	Coach	37	Princy Panchal	Asstt. Coach
19	Ranjeet Singh	Coach			

c) International and National level of tournament Tournaments organized at Chandigarh Lawn Tennis Association

- Talent Series
- Champion series
- Super series
- National Series
- National
- Veterans
- International tournaments

- AITA PRO circuit
- ITF
- ATP
- WTA
- Asian U- 14
- ITF Junior
- Davis Cup

d) International and National level of Coaching Courses organized at Chandigarh Lawn Tennis Association

- AITA foundation coaches course

- b) AITA Level 1 Coaches Course
- c) AITA Level 2 Coaches Course
- d) AITA Level 3 Coaches Course
- e) AITA Level 4 Coaches Course
- f) AITA Level 5 Coaches Course
- g) AITA Level 1 FITNESS COURSE
- h) ITF Level 1 Coaching Course
- i) ITF Level 2 Coaching Course

A total of nine (9) coaching courses of different level have been conducted at CLTA.

1. Detailed information of Chandigarh Lawn Tennis Association players who represented India is as follow

- 1) Sunil Kumar Sipaeya from Kapurthala district of *Punjab* state was the first ever player of Chandigarh Lawn Tennis Association's, "Academy for Rural Tennis" known as (CHART), which participated at international level. A member of Indian Davis cup team and participated in many international tennis circuit. In October, 1999 at the age of 16 he won the title of Men National hard court Tennis Championship at Delhi. He has joined the elite class of international player like Rameh Krishnan and Leander Paes, which represented India. Sunil Kumar Sipaeya had won 3 junior grand slams, Wimbledon, Australian open, and US open. He also won Asian junior crown in 2001.
- 2) Sanam Krishan Singh of Chandigarh has received his basic tennis coaching in CLTA's junior development programme from 1997 to 2003, before joining the National Training Academy of All India Tennis Association. Sanam Krishan Singh a former CLTA trainee is Asian Games Gold medalist in men's doubles event in 2010 at China and Silver Medalist in men's double event in 2014 at Incheon, South Korea. Member of Indian Davis Cup Team in 2012. His current ATP singles ranking is 475.
- 3) Vijayant Malik from Panipat district of *Haryana* state was also a trainee of Chandigarh Lawn Tennis Association's, "Academy for Rural Tennis" known as (CHART) in year 2000. Member of Indian Davis cup team in 2014, played match of Davis cup tie between India v/s South Korea. Vijayant Malik was under-16 National champion in 2006 and under-18 runner up in 2008. He has represented India in Junior Davis cup in 2003 and World junior cup in 2005. He has also won silver medal in Commonwealth Youth games in 2008.

CLTA has been the distinction of producing Tennis Umpires besides players.

- 1) *Birbal Wadhera of Chandigarh is the only* qualified ITF white Batch Umpire in Chandigarh and ranked India no. 15 during his playing days. He is bronze medalist in all India inter University. He has traveled worldwide as official in Davis Cup and Grand Slam events. Earlier he was senior coach with National Tennis Academy. Travelling coach with former Davis Cup player Divij Sharan and now working full time as Head coach in Panjab University, Chandigarh.
- 2) Parveen Kumar is ITF qualified White Badge umpire in India. He had traveled for many umpiring assignments in Davis Cup and Grand Slam events across world. Praveen is currently settled down in USA.

Conclusion

The game of tennis has traditionally been an elite sport, a game affordable to the affluent. Over the last 20 years CLTA has created champions from among highly gifted village children from the neighboring states of Punjab, Haryana Himachal Pradesh Jammu and Kashmir, Rajasthan and Utrakhand. Some factors affecting development of Chandigarh Lawn Tennis Association in the field of Lawn Tennis are as follow:-

- a) Office bearer work in honorary capacity, no one is entitled to any remuneration. No sitting fees are paid to any member.
- b) CLTA special project CHART (Chandigarh Academy for Rural Tennis) for tennis training of low income village children's.
- c) Coaching schemes like Mini tennis, Novice & Beginners; Intermediate helps people to take game.
- d) Tournaments of various age groups.
- e) CLTA works on Motto; Catch them young and teach them right.
- f) Special focus on female coaching at young age.
- g) Chandigarh Literacy Rate in 2011 was 86.05 percent, so city people are conscious about their health.

CLTA has among its mentors such sporting legends as former and current national champions and captains of the Indian Davis Cup team. Naresh Kumar, Ramesh Krishnan and Leander Paes provide invaluable guidance on tennis matters as CLTA's honorary advisors. These links have helped to bring the city of Chandigarh on the international sports map, the city having hosted numerous national and international events, including two Davis Cup ties. Every year, players are given scholarships and incentives for outstanding performance in various tournaments. CLTA is a nonprofit organization. It receives no official grant for its training schemes. Any revenues generated are ploughed back into the game for supporting players and improving infrastructure. The function of a nursery is to identify, breed and nurture quality. It prepares its subjects to enter the tough world of competition. The products of this Chandigarh's nursery for tennis are surely worth watching

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