

Press Release

Bilcare Research- ATF Asian under 14 Series Tennis begins from May 1

Pune, April 30: Econ Ace Tennis Academy and PYC Hindu Gymkhana will host the Bilcare Research - ATF Asian Under-14 Series Tennis Tournament 2010 in the city at the Mhalunge Balewadi Tennis Complex from May 1- May 7.

The tournament is being supported by Bilcare Research for the fourth successive year and is co-sponsored by Punjab National Bank.

Speaking to reporters, the tournament directors Sunder Iyer and Hemant Bendrey said that this is the fourth consecutive year the tournament has been allotted to Pune, and it is one of the four Asian under-14 series tournaments allotted to India this year.

The Bilcare Research ATF Asian Under-14 Series Tennis Tournament

Is a part of the Asian Junior Series introduced by the Asian Tennis Federation for players all over Asia. Over 20 tournaments form a part of the series. The Asian 14/U Series Masters Final will be played at the conclusion of the Asian 14/U Series Calendar.

After completion of the current Asian 14/U Series, the eight (8) highest ranked players on the Asian Junior Ranking will automatically qualify for this event, they added.

Mohan Bhandari, Chairman & Managing Director of Bilcare Research, is an avid tennis player himself. He said: "We are glad to be associated with the event and happy to promote young talent in the sport".

"We are happy that players who participated in the event for three consecutive years are now top junior players in Asia and now play on ITF junior circuits", Bhandari added .

The list of successful players who have benefitted from the event include illustrious names such as Arjun Kadhe, Ankita Raina, Pratharna Thombare, Natasha Palha, Sahil Deshmukh and Rutuja Bhosale.

The tournament will be a boon for Indian junior players. Since the tournament this year features only 3 foreign players, the field is wide open for Indian players to garner maximum points.

This year, sports enthusiasts could see the following players in action: Jasmine Kaur Bajaj (ranked No. 2 in Asia), D. Nayanika Reddy (ranked No. 3 in Asia), Dhruvi Venugopal, B. Moulika Ram, Sneha Devi Reddy, S. D. Prajwal Dev, Sumit Nagal, Pranav Malhotra, Sahil Deshmukh and Nikhil Passi..

The organising secretary of the event, Abhishek Tamhane, said that the tournament also has a 'Back Draw' system. It means that the defeated players in the main draw will play plate matches and every

player will get points according to performance. The winner of the event will get 300 ATF points while the runners-up will get 200 points.

The main tournament will start from Monday morning, while the singles finals will be played on May 7. ITF White Badge official Ms. Leena Nageshkar has been appointed the ATF Supervisor for the event.

A tournament committee has been formed for the smooth conduct of the event. The members of the committee include Mohan Bhandari, Kumar Tamhane, Himanshu Gosavi, Arun Wakankar, Arun Sane and Pravin Zite.

In the first edition of the tournament, Natasha Palla, a wild card entrant, defeated Ankita Raina for the Girls' title while Rohit Bisht ousted his brother Ronit Bisht for the Boys' Singles title. In the second edition of the event, Pune's Arjun Kadhe thrashed Vishal Passi for the Boys' crown, while Kolkata's Amrita Mukherjee upset top seed Parminder Kaur for the Girls' crown. In the third edition, T.S. Jude Raymond defeated Anvit Bendre for the Boys' title, while C. Sai Samhitha won against Ambika Pandey for the Girls' title.

POINTS TABLE: Asian 14/U Series Tournaments					
Points will be awarded in each Singles Event as follows					
1st - 300	2nd - 200	3rd - 150	4th - 120	5th - 90	6th - 80
7th - 70	8th - 60	9th - 50	10th - 45	11th - 40	12th - 35
13th - 30	14th - 25	15th - 20	16th - 17	17th - 15	18th - 14
19th - 13	20th - 12	21st - 11	22nd - 10	23rd - 9	24th - 8
25th - 7	26th - 6	27th - 5	28th - 4	29th - 3	30th - 3
31st - 1	32nd - 0				
Points will be awarded to each player in each Doubles Event as follows:					
Winners	200 (25% = 50)		Runners-Up	120 (25% = 30)	
Semi Finalist	80 (25% = 20)		Quarter Finalists	40 (25% = 10)	

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