



# CHRONICLE- THE MODERN SCHOOL WEEKLY

**Modern School, Barakhamba Road**

**Est. In 1920**



**THE PRINCIPAL DR VIJAY DATTA ALONG WITH SANYA VATS**

## **SANYA VATS: THE RISING STAR OF SQUASH**

Modern School, Barakhamba Road has seen numerous talented students who have made the School proud in various fields of academics and sports. An excellent squash player, Sanya Vats (Batch of 2019-20) has made the School proud by participating in several National and International Tournaments.

She was inclined towards sports from her early childhood. From golf to competitive badminton and equestrian, she has been an active sportsperson. The squash bug bit her when she joined the Squash Camp at the School during the Summer Vacations in 2014. Thereafter, there was no looking back. Even though she was a late starter for competitive squash, she was determined to excel and made up with sheer grit, hard work and fortitude. She has represented India in the Senior Squash Team for the 13<sup>th</sup> South Asian Games held in Nepal. She brought home the Gold Medal, as a part of the Indian Women's Squash Team which beat Pakistan in the finals on the 10<sup>th</sup> December 2019.



**Sanya Vats**

Sanya had secured a place in the Senior Team by beating three of the top national ranked players in the selection trails conducted by the Squash Rackets Federation of India in October 2019. She was the only player from the Junior Circuit to have been invited for the Senior National Team Trials based on her stellar performance in the Junior Circuit.



It was in the year 2016 when Sanya started reaping the fruits of her hard work. She tasted success by winning the coveted 'Individual Silver Medal' in the Under-17 Age Category at the Inter Public School Squash Championship held at Daly College, Indore in July 2015. The School team of which she was a proud member,

brought home the IPSC trophy for Under 17 Girls Category at the same meet. In June 2016 she upset the top seed and fellow Delhi girl Megha Bhatia in the semi -final of the Summer Classic Junior Squash Championship, and went on to win her first major Squash Tournament. Her beating Megha Bhatia was considered improbable to such a degree that it stunned the squash community and became a sports headlines.

2017 was the year when Sanya started making a mark and carving a niche for herself both at the National and International level. She trained immensely hard and made gainful use of the experience she had gained by now. Her performance over such a short span of time in the sport surprised most. Some of her major achievements in 2017 were-

- + Sanya won the Individual Silver Medal in the Girls Under-17 at the National School Games in January 2017 rated as a prestigious National Award.

#### + **18<sup>th</sup> Asian Junior Team Championship**

Sanya secured for herself a berth in the Under-19 Squash team for 18<sup>th</sup> Asian Junior Team Championship held in Hong Kong from 1<sup>st</sup> to 5<sup>th</sup> February, 2017. She was the youngest member of the team, at all of 15 years of age.

#### + **Selection for Specialized Training in Egypt**

Sanya was also selected by the Squash Racquet Federation of India for a special training program at Alexandria, in Egypt, which is considered the Mecca of squash.

#### + **World Junior Squash Championship, July 2017**

Sanya was called for the selection trials for the Under-19 team to represent India at the World Junior Squash Championship, 2017.

Sanya was selected in a team of six. She represented India in the WSF Women's World Junior Squash Championship held in Tauranga, New Zealand and was the youngest member of the Under-19 team.



**World Junior Squash Championship, July 2017**

#### + **24<sup>th</sup> Asian Junior Individual Squash Championship, August 2017**

Sanya represented India and secured the Fifth position in the Girls Under-17 Category at the 24<sup>th</sup> Asia Junior Squash Championship held in Jordan from 15<sup>th</sup> to 19<sup>th</sup> August.

#### + **IPSC First Position**

Sanya was a proud member of the Girls Under-17 team which won the Gold Medal at the IPSC Squash Championship in Jodhpur.



✚ **Junior National Squash Championship**

She secured the Third position in the Gils Under-17 Category in the SRFI Junior National Squash Championship held in Ajmer.

✚ **Winner of Six National Level Events**

Sanya went on to win six major National level tournaments conducted by the Squash Racquet Federation of India in Girls Under-17 Category.

Sanya gave her Class 10 Board Examinations in 2018 and she got cracking with her squash practice. In the month of May, she once again was selected in the Indian team for the Asian Junior and World Junior Squash Championships. In 2018, Sanya had some remarkable achievements-

✚ **World Junior Squash Championship, July 2018**

Sanya was awarded a special prize for securing the highest position among the Indian Women’s Team.

✚ **First Position in Indian Classic Junior Open, August 2018**

Sanya beat the India No. 1, Amita Gondi, in a Higher Age Category of Girls Under-19, to win the tournament.

✚ **25<sup>th</sup> Asian Junior Individual Squash Championship, August 2018**

Sanya secured the Bronze medal in the Girls Under-17 Category.

✚ **Junior National Championship, November 2018**

Sanya won the Girls Under-19 title and became the National Champion in her age category, which she had just entered into.

✚ **Entry into Women’s Squash Team**

Sanya started participating in the Women’s category to rub shoulders with the senior players. She secured Third position in the Women’s category at the Bengal Senior Open Championship, Second position in the Northern India Squash Championship and Fifth position at the Senior National Squash Championship.

✚ **Junior Player of the Year (2017-18)**

Sanya signed off the year by winning the Girls Under-19 title at the 10<sup>th</sup> India Junior open in December 2018, an Asia Junior Squash Circuit Platinum event. She was also judged as the Junior Player of the Year 2017-18.



**Sanya receiving a Special Prize for securing the highest position among the Indian Women’s Team**



**25<sup>th</sup> Asian Junior Individual Squash Championship, August 2018**



**Sanya receiving the Award Junior Player of The Year**



2019 was a Golden year for Sanya. Her focus, resolve and unflinching determination made her achieve some remarkable milestones.

✚ **19<sup>th</sup> Asian Junior Team Championship, January 2019**

Sanya captained the bronze medal winning Indian Girls Under-19 Team in the championship at Pattaya, Thailand.

✚ **Senior National Squash Championship, June 2019**

Sanya secured the Third position in the Senior National Squash Championship. Punching above her weight, Sanya acquitted herself very well on the Senior circuit.

✚ **26<sup>th</sup> Asian Junior Individual Squash Championship, June 2019**

Sanya won the Bronze Medal in the Girls Under-19 Category at the Asian Junior Championship, conducted in Macau.

✚ **World Junior Squash Championship, 2019**

Sanya participated in the World Junior Championship for a third consecutive year. She led the team to the Fifth position. The Indian Women's team secured a top 5 finish after 10 years.



**World Junior Squash Championship, 2019**

✚ **Asia No.1. - Sanya secured the No.1 ranking in Asia, in the Girls Under-19 Category.**

✚ **11<sup>th</sup> India Junior Open, August 2019-** Sanya won the Girls Under-19 Category for the second year running at this Asia Junior Squash Circuit Platinum event.

✚ **IPSC, September 2019-** Sanya won the individual Gold Medal in the Under-19 Category and led the School to Gold Medal winning performance.

✚ **Junior National Squash Championship-** Sanya won the Girls Under-19 Category and retained her National title for a second year running.

✚ **13<sup>th</sup> South Asian Games-** Sanya was the only Junior player to be called for the selection trials based on her superlative performance in the Junior Circuit. Rubbing shoulders with the best in the business, Sanya made the cut. The team of which Sanya was a playing member, went on to win the Gold Medal.



**13<sup>th</sup> South Asian Games, 2019**

2020 saw Sanya doing a tight rope walk, balancing her Class XII Board preparations and her passion for Squash.

**British Junior Open, 2020-** Despite her Board Exams round the corner and squash practice on a low ebb, Sanya put in a good performance and secured the Eleventh position in this prestigious international event.

**Senior National Squash Championship, February 2020-** Sanya participated in the Senior National Squash Championship just ten days prior to her Class XII Board Examination and secured Third position in the coveted championship.