AI boys, AP girls emerge Champs in Inter State National Junior Badminton Championship, Chandigarh

Suhas Nayse, TNN Dec 1, 2013

Mumbai teenage duo Harsheel Dani and Shlok Ramchandran rose to the occasion to guide <u>Air India</u> to <u>triumph</u> in the 38th Inter-State National Junior <u>Badminton</u> Championships at Chandigarh on Saturday.

In an exciting U-19 boys final, Air India rallied back strongly to down Kerala 2-1 to complete their hat-trick of titles of Narang Cup.

In the decider, National Junior Champion Harsheel Dani produced the Champion stuff to brush aside the challenge of Shyam Prasad in just 28 minutes. AI boys had ousted Maharashtra 2-0 in the semis on Friday.

However, in the U-19 girls' summit clash for Shaif Qureshi Cup, Air India had to taste defeat at the hands of powerful Andhra Pradesh. Ruthvika Shivani thumped Reshma Karthik to give AP 1-0 lead. AP's doubles pair J Meghana-Rituparna Das proved too strong for Reshma and V Harika to wrap up the tie. AP girls had beaten Chandigarh 2-0 in the semis on Friday.

After Jaipur and <u>Imphal</u> (2012) it was our third successive Narang Cup victory," said Utsav Mishra, who was Awadhe Warriors manager during the IBL.

Results (finals)

- (i) U-19 boys for Narang Cup: Air India bt Kerala 2-1 (Aditya Joshi lost to Arun George 23-21, 14-21, 11-21; Shlok Ramchandran-Sanyam Shukla bt Arun George-Shyam Prasad 21-10, 21-17; Harsheel Dani bt Shyam Prasad 21-12, 21-14).
- (ii) **U-19 girls for Shafi Qureshi Cup:** <u>Andhra Pradesh</u> bt Air India 2-0 (G Ruthvika Shivani bt Reshma Karthik 21-9, 21-15; J Meghana-Rituparna Das bt Reshma Karthik-V Harika 21-7, 21-14).
