



SHREE PRAJAPATI ASSOCIATION (UK)

ESTABLISHED 1975



CHARITY NO. 802570

श्री प्रजापति समाज (युके)

PRESS RELEASE

A SPORTING SUCCESS FOR PRAJAPATI'S

Its not the Olympics or even the Commonwealth games, but every year the Shree Prajapati Associations (UK)'s annual sports day is the most awaited event of the year for a group of talented Hindu sports players.

The 31st sports day was hosted by the London branch of the Association, on Saturday 22nd August 2009 at the University of Hertfordshire. The massive sports hall, large swimming pool, Astroturf football pitches and all weather netball courts were perfect for this extravagant event. The day was a huge success for everyone, President of SPA(UK), Kiran Misty from Birmingham said: "It is a fantastic achievement to bring such a large number of sports people of all age groups together and have a fun filled day, but at the same time conveying a serious message about healthy living. The weather helped, the people helped, and it was a spectacular, wonderful and well organised day".

Members of the 13 branches of the SPA (UK) participate in a highly competitive, but in a friendly manner every year. The sporting categories include football, netball, badminton, volleyball, pool, darts, caram and chess. Swimming for 6-16 year olds and an over 35's category for some of the games was introduced this year. With an overwhelming 31 entries for swimming it was amazing to see such a great turn out for a new sport.

Nearly 500 participants, 80 of them junior members, took part in the various competitions. Over 400 spectators cheered their favourite players and teams to make this event more enjoyable. The entire day was buzzing and lively with a friendly yet competitive atmosphere, supported by volunteers from the host branch London and all the other 12 branches.

The idea of the Shree Prajapati Association (UK)'s sports day is to encourage all ages to participate in sports and understand the importance of staying fit and healthy. Diabetes, high blood pressure and heart disease are said to be a growing problem amongst Asian people, and therefore it is important that the older generation participate in physical activities as exercise can help reduce these illnesses. SPA(UK)

also tries to educate young British Indians about their culture, and keep the Hindu communities integrated.

Each year the branch who wins the most trophies is awarded the Chetan Trophy. This year it went to the London branch, and the fair play trophy was awarded to the Wellingborough branch.

Sports coordinator for the London Branch, Elesh Mistry contently said: "I'm glad it's over, but I am very pleased that the day went well".

Report compiled by Poonum Bhana

Jitubhai Mistry
Public Relations Officer