



Irwinville United bagged the HT GIFA (Gurgaon Inter-society Football Acad) trophy in the Under-13 category on Saturday at Tui Devi Lal stadium in Gurgaon.

One-sided victory for city's Invincibles and Hunters

IT'S RAINING GOALS It was a total rout in both categories as Irwinville United and Goal Hunters pummeled their opponents to the ground in the HT GIFA finale



HT Correspondent

IRWINVILLE After about a month of hectic, with more than 10 teams participating from across Gurgaon, Irwinville United in the Under-13 category and Goal Hunters from Above-13 won the HT GIFA, championship cup on Saturday night.

Following back-to-back matches from week 16 to the final, the champions in all seasons showed immense stamina, spirit and poise.

The winners did not show any opportunities and opposition to score a goal in both categories.

In the Under-13 category, Irwinville United from Yaska Khan won by an enormous 6-0 margin. The Yaska team was there to win, scoring two goals in the first six minutes of the

match. The team did not give much scope to the opposition, keeping the ball with themselves and passing along for more part of the game.

In the Above-13 category, Goal Hunters from IMA Sector 46 slowly and scintillatingly emerged as the winners, scattering the audience with a 3-0 score. The winners were played against Yaska Hunters, the stars of the show, who had been winning most matches and were being trained by the Haryana state team's assistant coach. The Goal Hunters scored both the goals in the second half of the match.

GOLLEN BROTHER WINNERS Across the board from Irwinville United took the audience by storm with his surprising first goal, sending the crowd screaming for cover. He also stole the show by bagging the Golden Boot in his category.

In the final match, he made a couple of free runs combining them into goals by utilizing his skills of weight from outside to the other and dodging the defenders. Showing more than one can expect from a young player like him, Arjan scored the maximum number of goals in both categories combined. Perhaps, a future Indian football icon is in the making. He handily outscored the goals in both categories.

In the most category, Sakthi Thakur led above Irwinville scoring eight goals in all matches to bag the prestigious award.

SCOREBOARD

UNDER-13	ABOVE-13
Winning Goal 14 mins from 1st half - Ak Bhat	Winning Goal 14 mins from 1st half - Ak Bhat
Score by Irwinville from IMA Sector 46 (6-0)	Score by Goal Hunters from IMA Sector 46 (3-0)

GOALKEEPER	Goals	Team	Match
Gargan	1	Irwinville United	1
Arjan	8	Goal Hunters	1



Gagan Narang with the Golden Shoe winner Arjan Thakur of Irwinville United on Saturday in Gurgaon.

Gagan Narang keen to set up shooting academy in Gurgaon

Siddhartha Das

NEW DELHI Day after the Haryana government offered land in Gurgaon for setting up a badminton academy in Gurgaon, India's shooting champion Gagan Narang on Saturday said he is keen to set up a shooting academy in Gurgaon.

The ace shooter was among the chief guests at the final held at Tui Devi Lal Stadium in Gurgaon on Saturday evening.

Narang had made a special comeback after an injury when he bagged silver medal in the Commonwealth Games at Glasgow, He was in Gurgaon after participating in the Indian Asian Chess Olympiad victory in the national capital. He was the firm supporter of the ceremony.

"If I have a chance to set up an academy in Gurgaon I will be quite pleased," he said. He set up several academies across the country, including one in Pune, Maharashtra and one in Coimbatore. Yes, Haryana is special as my ancestral roots are here and I would like to encourage the sports in the state," he said.

"I said that just a piece of land is not enough to run a sports training institution. More than land, it is the government support and a self-sustaining model that is needed to sustain the academy."

Narang had recently conducted a free-of-kind talent hunt programme in Gurgaon. "I'm very fascinated to see such a good community interest in the sport by IT. This will encourage sporting talents whom we can promote to the highest levels of the country," said Narang.

City's first football tourney ends with hues of music, art

HT Correspondent

IRWINVILLE Stating high on football fever, the fans and players at the Tui Devi Lal stadium were enthralled by a spectacular performance by the local Acadia on Saturday.

Marking the scope of music amid the colors show of the young players and lead cheerers of the crowd, the band mesmerized the fans with songs that echoed throughout the stadium.

Ankita & Debi band led with five members. Their song, "This is where I belong," was backed it up by the chief football minister Sheila Dikshit in 2012.

The stadium had a display of artwork by Lal Gaudh, an artist of international acclaim. This came as a pleasant surprise for those who had come to watch the final GIFA match.

"I got to see the final football lovers also had a liking for art, so I thought to give my paintings to the winners and the chief guests. I was surprised to see so much enthusiastic response, especially children, who have come to play football GIFA, goes then agree to participate to display their talents," said Gaudh.

The stadium witnessed a view of a lifetime, with three groups and the excitement and fervor for the game.

While the life-like display gave the crowd a cultural treat, the music was always their one.

HT Correspondent

IRWINVILLE The three-week soccer league for the residents of Gurgaon, known as HT GIFA (Gurgaon Inter-society Football Acad), concluded here on Saturday at the Tui Devi Lal Stadium with much fanfare between football and cultural evening.

The opening ceremony was organized by Hindustan Times in partnership with Haryana Urban Development Authority (HUDA).

Indian Shooter Gagan Narang, world number one goal keeper Anvesh and actor Mithun Chakraborty were the chief guests on the occasion.

Hundreds of people from different communities across the city were present to witness the opening ceremony.

Narang had recently conducted a free-of-kind talent hunt programme in Gurgaon. "I'm very fascinated to see such a good community interest in the sport by IT. This will encourage sporting talents whom we can promote to the highest levels of the country," said Narang.



Debi band led Ankita performs at the closing ceremony of HT GIFA on Saturday at Tui Devi Lal Stadium.



Ace shooter Gagan Narang congratulates the Above-13 winning team Goal Hunters.

evering in the music and performance to have a go on the field too.

The band members of Ankita - Siddhan Chakraborty, Anshu, Amir, James, Ayash Chakraborty and Kamal Khanna - said, "We enjoyed performing at GIFA."



Hundreds of people from different communities across Gurgaon and from all age groups took part in the event.

the stadium and the crowd. The spectators the very GIFA, had evolved from merely local league into a state-level tournament and in the same time it is helping to build closer bonds among the players from different teams. We are keen to see how the game will develop in the future. We are happy to see our young players winning the matches," he said.

Anshika, 12, the only female player in the tournament, said that through her team love to the sport. She said, "The event has given me a lot of confidence and exposure. Anshika is a member of the team, said that for her daughter, GIFA was an opportunity to see and play in a tournament. She never got a chance to play competitively like this before. The experience of watching her playing was great and we look forward to the next GIFA event," she said.