

Sept-Oct 2023



RAJASTHAN ROYALS CRICKET CUP

U19 Girls Inter-school Competition



NOTE FROM THE CEO

“At the Royals, our overarching vision is to make cricket more inclusive and accessible, while also ensuring that there is a strong social purpose to everything we do. Over the last 45 days we have seen some heartwarming and incredibly motivating stories from the Rajasthan Royals Cricket Cup. We are delighted to have played a small part in bringing girls closer to the sport that we all love.

I also want to thank all the girls involved for hitting so many boundaries as we committed to lighting up 1 village household for every boundary scored. With their brilliant performances, these girls have helped power 87 households through the Royal Rajasthan Foundation's work and this is just the start!

Jake Lush McCrum

Chief Executive Officer, Rajasthan Royals



THE TOURNAMENT

RAJASTHAN



At the core of our mission at Rajasthan Royals lies a resolute commitment: *"Transform society through cricket, transform cricket through innovation."*

This transformative vision has been brought to life through the Rajasthan Royals Cricket Cup - a tournament that aims to empower young school girls across Rajasthan's top eight districts. These districts represent 50% of the state's urban population. The tournament features an in-house innovative pink soft ball, an exciting T10 format of the game that is designed to inspire greater participation among the U-19 girls of Rajasthan.

8 districts | 50+ schools | 750+ players

The excitement of a T10 format with an innovative new soft ball



OUR MISSION:

To make cricket accessible and inclusive for the young and aspiring women cricketers of Rajasthan

AN OVERVIEW: KEY NUMBERS & HIGHLIGHTS

For detailed stats and more information, click here: [▶](#)

WINNERS



FINALE TEAMS

WINNER TEAM
UDAIPUR THUNDERBOLTS

RUNNER-UP TEAM
KOTA MAVERICKS

PINK CAP (Most Runs)

PRATIKSHA SINGH

Kota Mavericks - Maa Bharti Institute

92

BLUE CAP (Most Wickets)

HIMALI

Udaipur Thunderbolts - Central Public School

9

CATCH OF THE TOURNAMENT

PRATIKSHA SINGH

Kota Mavericks - Maa Bharti Institute

PLAYER OF THE TOURNAMENT

PRIYANSHI CHOUDHARY

Udaipur Thunderbolts - Central Public School

92 RUNS **3** WICKETS

FAIRPLAY AWARD

BARMER BLASTERS

GOVT. SR. SECONDARY SCHOOL, PANDRAVLI

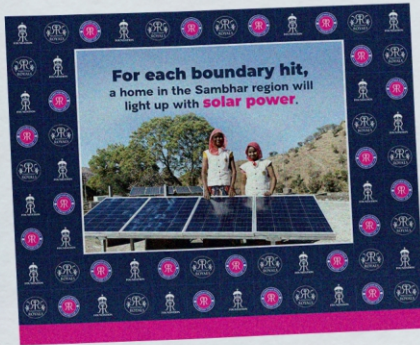


IN THE NEWS

Friday

Powered By Solar

20-10-2023



87 households of Rajasthan to be electrified as part of the Rajasthan Royals Cricket Cup

Ahead of the final leg of this exciting tournament, we undertook a pledge close to our hearts with our social equity arm, the **Royal Rajasthan Foundation**. For each six or four hit in the two-day final, one household in the Sambhar region will receive basic electrification of their homes through solar energy.

Thanks to these young girls and their electrifying batting display, **87 boundaries** were scored in the final leg, meaning **87 households** in Sambhar will soon be shining bright using solar power.



About Royal Rajasthan Foundation

With our vision as "Aurat Hai toh Bharat Hai", we strive to enable opportunities for empowered women that ensure equitable access to water and clean energy. Over the last four years, we have impacted the lives of **15.2m women** through direct and awareness interventions, spanning across water, livelihoods, solar energy, mental health awareness and COVID.



About Solar Sakhis

This program aims to empower rural women in India by providing them with the necessary skills and knowledge over 5 months to become solar engineers. It is open to rural women who may not have any formal education or specific skills but possess a strong desire to make a positive, lasting change in their villages. It not only focuses on technical training but also encompasses various aspects of personal development and community impact.

Overall, this initiative not only addresses the issue of energy poverty in rural areas but also empowers women to take on leadership roles and make a lasting impact in their communities.



WHAT THEY SAID...

“ I think age-group cricket is extremely important, it's the foundation of anyone's career. When I played in the Harris and Giles Shield, scoring runs there really motivated me further. This is a wonderful initiative from Rajasthan Royals where they're focusing on grassroots cricket and helping young girls with such brilliant infrastructure and facilities. This tournament will help the girls go a long way, and give them the confidence and hunger to succeed in the future.



Yashasvi Jaiswal

Rajasthan Royals player



Ruma Devi

Social Worker, Fashion Designer,
Winner of Nari Shakti Puraskar 2018

“ I really appreciate the way Rajasthan Royals have come forward to spread the game of cricket in every corner of Rajasthan. There are plenty of girls in the rural areas who want to play cricket but they don't always get the facilities that are available in the cities, so this was a brilliant way to bring them closer to the sport. I'm sure more and more girls will be motivated to pursue their cricketing dream after watching the participants of this tournament in action.

“ This new pink soft ball used in the competition is an excellent idea from the franchise to ensure there was greater participation among the girls. Parents are usually worried about their young children picking up injuries because of the leather ball, but this innovation is an effective way of reducing the risk while also providing the bounce of a hard ball for competitiveness.



KC Cariappa

Rajasthan Royals player

STORIES

THE TRIALS, TRIBULATIONS & EVERYTHING IN BETWEEN

1

AGAINST ALL ODDS



Govt Sr Sec School, Srinagar (Ajmer)

In the heart of Rajasthan, Coach Kavita emerged as a beacon of hope for her girls' team, determined to secure their first-ever opportunity to compete in the coveted Rajasthan Royals Cup. Convincing the parents and the sceptical school principal to allow the girls' team to participate was a battle in itself. Her relentless pursuit of a proper playing surface was driven by her commitment to providing her team with the best possible opportunity. When the day finally arrived, and the girls stepped onto the non-cemented ground, their faces lit up with joy and excitement. Coach Kavita's eyes welled with tears of pride and fulfilment, knowing that she had made the impossible possible for her team.



Kavita Chelot,
Physical Trainer

2

WHERE THERE IS A WILL, THERE IS A WAY!



Govt Sr Sec School, Khedla (Bhilwara)

A determined coach and his spirited team embarked on an extraordinary journey to the Rajasthan Royals Cup. The journey to the cup was not paved with riches or sponsorships for this Bhilwara team. Instead, they collected 1000 rupees each, just to make it to the venue. He had poured his heart and soul into moulding these young talents, and their dreams became his dreams. The emotional weight of their struggles became evident as the coach, with tears in his eyes, narrated their journey.



Bhilwara School
Coach

3

WE'RE IN THIS TOGETHER!



Team Barmer

A young tech-savvy villager stepped up in a remarkable way to ensure that everyone in the community could witness their girls' journey in this one-of-a-kind tournament. Despite having no access to the field, he became the bridge that connected the village to this significant event. He used his smartphone as a broadcasting tool, capturing the games live. As the matches unfolded, his live streams became a lifeline, allowing the entire village to cheer on their girls on this grand stage.

Barmer Village Representative

4

NO DREAM TOO FAR



Team Bikaner Strikers

Covering a distance of 330+ km, sitting at the back of an open tempo, a bunch of determined girls from the Govt. Sr. Secondary School in Bikaner made it all the way to Jaipur for the final. In their hearts, the hunger to play. In their minds, the passion to win. The determination shown by these girls is a testament to the growing love for the game in Rajasthan, and that all they need is one opportunity.



Bikaner

5

CRICKET IS FOR EVERYONE



Anshika from Team Kota Mavericks

Discouragement from their village, taunts by boys, playing without kits - nothing stopped this young stubborn bunch of girls hailing from Kota, from chasing their dream of playing cricket. They all came out to prove a point - that cricket isn't just limited to one gender, it's meant for anyone with determination in their hearts and dreams in their eyes. Nothing can and should stop them, least of all being a girl.



Kota

Day 1 of the final kicked off with an exhibition match played between the women grassroots leaders of the **Royal Rajasthan Foundation**, followed by the 8 finalists facing off for ultimate glory.

On **Day 2**, the Udaipur Thunderbolts stood tall to emerge as Champions, beating Kota Mavericks in the final.



THE JERSEY STORY

These colourful and vibrant match kits of the final 8 teams were given a meaningful touch by our Super Royal Rohit Gehani, who created unique chants in support for each team that feature on the back of the jerseys.



Rohit Gehani,
Super Royal



UDAIPUR THUNDERBOLTS

*Har manzil pana hai zaroor
Sambhalna zara, hum hai Udaipur!*



JAIPUR WARRIORS

Gulabi rang, sabko karenge dang!



KOTA MAVERICKS

*Jeet ki raahon mein raftar,
har kadam par hum hain taiyaar!*



AJMER BLAZERS

*Dil mein naya josh,
sabke uda denge hosh!*



JODHPUR GLADIATORS

*Jodhpur ki shaan,
Gladiators ki hogi sabse uunchi udaan!*



BIKANER STRIKERS

*Apne khel se karenge tumko dher,
hum hai team Bikaner!*



BHILWARA CHALLENGERS

*Har ek ka hai jo pyara,
hum hai Bhilwara!*



BARMER BLASTERS

*Hume ab jeet ki bas failani hai leher
Hum hai team Barmer*

CLOSING NOTE

As the final pages of the Rajasthan Royals Cricket Cup 2023 unfolded, we found ourselves immersed in a journey that goes beyond boundaries, beyond scores, and beyond traditions.

This tournament wasn't just about cricket; it was a testament to the resilience, spirit, and unwavering determination of young girls across Rajasthan. From the heartwarming stories of coaches battling against all odds to the electrifying chants echoing from vibrant jerseys, each moment was a celebration of cricket's power to transform lives.

Our innovative pink soft ball not only bounced on the pitch but also echoed the dreams of those who dared to dream. It symbolises our commitment to making cricket accessible, inclusive and exhilarating for every aspiring cricketer not just in Rajasthan, but also across the country.

We extend our heartfelt gratitude to the coaches, parents, and every individual who contributed to the success of this tournament. Your stories of dedication, sacrifice, and passion have inspired us all to do more.

A big thank you to our guests of honour, whose presence at the grand finale made this event even more memorable for the young kids, who will hopefully go on to become future superstars.

The Rajasthan Royals Cricket Cup is more than a tournament; it's a celebration of cricket, community, and the boundless possibilities that lie ahead.

See you on the field, where dreams are not just chased; they are crafted into victories!





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