



The Game of **CARROM**



Triumphant Indian Carrom Team with H.E. President of India, Smt. Pratibha Devisingh Patil.



ALL INDIA CARROM FEDERATION

Recognised by the Government of India & the Indian Olympic Association
(Affiliated to the Asian Carrom Confederation & the International Carrom Federation)

INTRODUCTION

Carrom is one of the most popular indoor games in India. Once treated a pastime game limited to children and ladies, it is now played at competitive level in an organized manner. It is a scientific game and is based on physics and geometry. It requires thorough knowledge of angles, deftness of touch, keen sight and superlative control of nerves besides mental and physical fitness. It also requires skill and deep concentration.

MANAGEMENT & CONTROL

The All India Carrom Federation propagates and controls the game of carrom in India. The Federation was formed on 4th March 1956 with Mr. M. Chenna Reddy, the then Minister for Steel, Government of India as its first President. After formation of the apex body, well-knit State level Associations took over the control, management and organization of the game in their respective regions. At present, the Federation has 31 State level bodies and 15 Institutions of all India character as its affiliates. It organizes every year national championships for senior, veteran, youth, junior, sub-junior and cadet players besides conducting All India Ranking, Invitation Prize Money and Zonal Tournaments and Inter-School Tournaments through State/District Associations. It has already organised more than 110 national championships. To bring awareness about this game in the country it has already organised two World Carrom Championships, a World Cup Tournament, an Asian Championship and 2 SAARC Championships in India.

RECOGNITION

The Government of India recognized this game and the Federation on 26th October 1970. It is treated at par with other game in India. The Government of India is releasing grants-in-aid regularly for all national carrom championships. The Government of India had allotted office space and sanctioned a post of Assistant Secretary for effective and efficient functioning of the Federation. In 1991, the Government of India included the game of carrom for the purpose of recruitment under sports quota in Government offices/ organizations. Hence, carrom players are getting jobs in Government offices and Public Sector Undertakings under sports quota. They are also getting scholarships from Sports Authority of India. Most of the State Governments have also recognized this game. Different State Sports Councils are extending financial help to the State Associations for different carrom activities. This game is also recognized by few State Governments for admissions under sports quota in different degree courses including medicines and engineering.



The Indian Olympic Association recognized the Federation and the game of carrom in October 1997. The Federation is affiliated to the International Carrom Federation and the Asian Carrom Confederation. The School Games Federation of India also recognized this game in 1996.

INTERNATIONAL STATUS

At the international level, this game is controlled by the International Carrom Federation and the respective Continental Federations. At present about 25 countries are affiliated to the International Federation. This game is played at competitive level in India, USA, UK, Japan, France, Germany, Italy, Switzerland, Australia, Pakistan, Malaysia, Sri Lanka, Maldives, Bangladesh, Poland, Czech, Spain, Netherlands, Nepal, North Korea, UAE, Singapore, Kuwait and Saudi Arabia and is coming up in Brazil, Mongolia, Ireland, Vietnam, Mauritius, Indonesia, etc. International Carrom Federation, formed in 1988, has already organised 5 World Championships, 2 World Cups, 4 ICF Cups and number of regular Open Tournaments in USA, UK, France, Switzerland, Malaysia and UAE. Asian Championships, SAARC Championships and Euro Cups are also being conducted regularly.

INDIAN SUPREMACY

Indian players are the world champions in all categories of this game. They have won not only all the five World Championships but also all other international tournaments held so far.

ARJUNA AWARD

A. Maria Irudayam, two times World Champion, 9 times National Champion and winner of number of other International and Indian tournaments, was presented prestigious National Sports Award i.e. Arjuna Award for the year 1996 by His Excellency, Mr. K.R. Narayanan, President of India.



FELICITATIONS & RECORDS

Indian world champions were felicitated by Her Excellency, President of India, Smt. Pratibha Devisingh Patil in the President House immediately after winning 15 medals in the 5th World Carrom Championship held at Cannes, France in February 2008. They were also felicitated in Parliament House by Mr. Jai Parkash Agarwal, Member of Parliament. Carrom players were honoured in the Palace of Westminster, House of Commons, U.K. in 2001. A reception and dinner was also hosted in the Palace of Westminster in honour of carrom players where top dignitaries including several Ministers and Members of Parliament were present.

The Government of Maharashtra is honouring meritorious carrom players by presenting prestigious Shri Shivchattrapati Awards. Chief Minister of Maharashtra presented a cheque of Rs. 5 lakhs to the current Men World Champion, Yogesh Pardeshi. The Government of Andhra Pradesh gave a Cash Award of Rs. 3 lakhs to the then Women World Champion, S. Appoorva and suitably rewarded other carrom players from Hyderabad. The Government of Tamil Nadu gave a flat and cash award to two times World Champion, A. Maria Irudayam. Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu gave Cash Award of Rs. 10 lakhs to current Women World Champion, I. Ilavazhaki.

His Excellency, President of Republic of Maldives, Mr. Maumoon Abul Gayoom is the Patron-in-Chief of the Asian Carrom Confederation. A record created by USA players in carrom has been included in the Guineas Book of Records. This is the only game played at Antarctica by some Japanese players.

HISTORY

The game of carrom is played in India since 18th century. Although no concrete evidence is available, it originated from India. Maharajas were playing this game in their palaces. One Carrom Board with its surface made of glass is still available in one of the palaces in Patiala. It became very popular among the masses particularly after the 1st World War. State level competitions were being held in different States of India during early part of the nineteenth century. Once treated to be a pastime game, carrom is played by about 20 million people in India alone. It is widely played in the Indian sub-continent. Like Badminton, Polo and Hockey, little known in the West earlier, carrom is now poised to have massive presence in the West. It is increasingly becoming popular all over the world.



*Final rounds of 5th World Carrom Championship in Progress
at Palais Des Festivals, Cannes, France in February 2008*



AII INDIA CARROM FEDERATION

D-92, MMTC Colony, Sri Aurobindo Marg, New Delhi-110017, India
Mobile: +91-9810244857 Email : icfsk@yahoo.co.uk , info@indiancarrom.com

www.indiancarrom.com