



PAKISTAN BALL HOCKEY FEDERATION

2015 SPONSORSHIP PRESENTATION

ZUG, SWITZERLAND-POOL A



To:
From: Pakistan Ball Hockey Federation
Date:
Re: Sponsorship for Team Pakistan

Dear

The Pakistan Ball Hockey Federation is once again participating in the 2015 World Ball Hockey Championship Tournament in Pool A during the month of June of this year. The tournament will be taking place in Zug, Switzerland and we will play alongside 15 other nations representing the elite athletes in this particular sport.

This event requires a tremendous commitment from not only the organizing committee, but also each and every player on our roster. Preparations are already underway in the form of fitness training, practices and other red tape requirements in flying to this tournament.

This year, the organizing committee is asking for your help in this endeavor. Each player's basic estimated expenses are totaling \$5,000, which only includes airfare and accommodations to the event.

By giving to the Pakistan Ball Hockey Federation, you will be supporting our goal in getting to Zug and representing the nation of Pakistan in a sport that is growing very rapidly around the world. Also, it definitely helps our participants financially in order to take part in this prestigious world-class event.

Please take this opportunity to read over this package and support our organization. Your donation will do so much to help Pakistani youth be part of a cause that promotes athleticism, gamesmanship, unity and above all, being in an environment of other motivated adult and youth that will play a huge positive role in their lives.

I hope that I can count on you to help support Pakistan Ball Hockey. For more information about our organization and the upcoming tournament please call any of the individuals listed below and/or visit our website at **Pakistanballhockey.com**

Sincerely,

The Pakistan Ball Hockey Federation

Dr. Ijaz Chaudhry - President
Azhar Kalair - Vice-President & Founder
Dr. Naveed Mohammad - General Manager

(416) 569-0258
(647) 300-7491
(416) 727-2108



TORY ZIMMERMAN/TORONTO STAR

Team Pakistan members proudly display their trophy and gold medals after winning their pool at the Street Hockey World Cup in Germany.

Team Pakistan all Canucks

Capture Street Hockey World Cup; Canada's national men's and women's teams also bring home gold

SHEILA DABU
STAFF REPORTER

It wasn't exactly *Hockey Night in Canada*, but this year's world champion street hockey team says it came close.

The underdog Pakistan team defeated the favoured United States 5-1 to win the Street Hockey World Cup in Ratingen, Germany.

While members of the gold medal winning team wear Pakistan's national colours on the field, many say they carry Canadian hopes with them in their hearts.

All 24 members of Pakistan's squad are Canadian citizens and according to coach Naveed Mohammad, eligibility for the country depends on whether the player or his parents were born in the country or

if the player works or studies in that country.

Sixteen teams at the World Cup were divided into two divisions, with Pool A hosting nations with teams whose country has more than 5,000 street hockey players.

Pool B hosted those countries with teams that have less than 5,000 players.

Pakistan took top honours in Pool B, but in the next world championships in 2009, they will face Canada, which topped Pool A over the Czech Republic and also won gold. Canada's women's team also returned home with a gold medal.

Street hockey shares similar rules with ice hockey. The first international tournament was held in Oshawa in 1994.

For members of Pakistan's team, street ball hockey is a full-time obsession, even though most hold full-time jobs.

Mohammad, a Leafs fan who once painted his basement white and blue as a quasi-shrine for his favourite team, is the chief of emergency services at the William Osler Health Centre.

Mohammad says his team practices twice a week after work.

Team captain Ijaz Chaudhry is also an ER doctor with three children who makes time for the cross-training workout, which includes basketball, cardio drills and three-hour practices in an ice hockey rink, minus the ice.

Some of the players on the Pakistani team like Mohammad emi-

grated to Canada and wanted to play ice hockey but found the equipment and ice time too expensive.

Mohammad says that as a 10-year-old, he once dreamed of playing in the NHL but then discovered street hockey.

When Canada won the gold medal in Germany, Mohammad says his team was proud and elated.

"We stood and cheered," he said. "It must have been strange (for the other teams) to see members of the Pakistan team sing Canada's national anthem as we carried Canada in our hearts."

The team received a warm welcome from family members when they arrived at Pearson International Airport yesterday.

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Jun. 15, 2005. 06:48 AM

Ball hockey goes Global

Team Pakistan takes on the world at shinny showdown of 16 countries. All, but three of squad's members are from Toronto.

Talk about hockey with someone who's just moved from Pakistan and you'll probably trigger images of fields, short sticks and guys in shorts.

But, to a person of Pakistani background who's been here awhile, the mention of hockey will likely bring to mind the images with which most Canadians are familiar.

Meet Team Pakistan, which is competing at the World Street Hockey Championships in Pittsburgh.

While the players will represent that country, they might as well stitch a red Maple Leaf on their green uniforms. The team is made up mostly of young men born in Canada, and all but three players are from Toronto.

Those who aren't natives of this country are on the Team Pakistan roster because their parents were born there.

Those in the lineup have been playing hockey since they were young, but they'd never get to represent this country on the international stage because there are so many strong Canadians in the sport, says coach Dr. Naveed Mohammad. Playing for Pakistan gives them a chance to compete against the world.

And, Team Pakistan is doing just that in the Pennsylvania city where the street hockey showdown began Monday and continues until June 18.

"It's about ball hockey supremacy," says Mohammad, a physician at William Osler Health Centre.

"I wanted to see how I compare with the elite in ball hockey," says Khurram Sher, 23, one of three Montrealers who have made trips up and down Highway 401 at their own expense for the tryouts and many practices in Toronto the past several months.

Other teammates are playing for Pakistan because they weren't recruited by the squad representing this country.

"You kind of go where you were asked to go," says 27-year-old Christopher Pinto.

"You know what? Team Canada didn't call me," says goalie Dilshad Alvi, 32.

So, he and his teammates jumped at the chance to represent Team Pakistan when tryouts began last November. In all, 95 hopefuls showed up. Twenty-five made the team which has a roster that includes doctors, a registered massage therapist, teachers and students.

The experience is costing each player between \$800 and \$1,000, even after the team collected \$7,500 from sponsors.

The squad faces an uphill battle after its first game against No. 2-ranked Slovakia, which ended in a 6-3 loss Monday night. Sixteen countries are represented in the championship, including a team from India, a fierce rival of Pakistan. There are also squads from the host U.S., Great Britain, Mexico, Greece and other nations not noted as bastions for street hockey.

Coach Mohammad is out to change that in Pakistan where he'll fly in October to promote this iceless version of hockey.

Even though there is a Pakistan Ball Hockey Federation, there are only three venues where the sport can be played in the country where field hockey is much more popular.

"You don't see kids just picking up sticks and balls and playing on the streets (in Pakistan)," says Mohammad, who's been playing ball hockey in Toronto for the past 30 years.

Mohammad's love for the game isn't the sole motivator for his long-time involvement in it.

He believes the sport is "just another means to bring youth together so they're on the right path.

"We find that here in Canada too. It gets a lot of our...youth involved in the right things."

Mohammad came to Canada at a time when hockey's popularity might have been at an all-time high. The famous 1972 Canada-USSR Summit Series had just ended and just about everyone was a fan of the sport, if not a player.

But the prohibitive costs of ice hockey — for equipment and rink rentals — led many young immigrants to ball hockey.

"I think that's the main reason that a lot of kids of Indian and Pakistani immigrants have developed into excellent ball hockey players," Mohammad says.



DICK LOEK/TORONTO STAR
Team Pakistan practises at Mississauga Valley Arena before leaving for the World Street Hockey Championships



Pictures taken from the 2011 World Tournament in Bratislava, Slovakia where Pakistan won the Championship.

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Any support you can offer will make a difference.



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"Team Pakistan Zug 2015"

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