

# **BAI names 24 members squad for** **BWF World Junior Badminton**

*-Lakshya and Vaishnavi to spearhead Indian challenge at Markham  
-16-day preparatory camp at Panchkula from Oct 16*

**New Delhi, October 4:** Thirteen boys and Eleven girls are part of the 24-member squad selected to represent India in the Li Ning BWF World Junior Badminton Championships 2018, to be held at Markham (Canada) from November 5 to 18.

The Boys' team will be led by Junior World No. 3 Lakshya Sen, the reigning Asian Junior champion, while the Girls' squad will be spearheaded by Junior World No. 5 Jakka Vaishnavi Reddy. The two are part of the Indian contingent, currently in Buenos Aires for the Youth Olympics, beginning October 6.

Rest of the squad members were selected on the basis of ranking points they obtained in the back-to-back All India Ranking Selection Tournaments—Yonex Sunrise Badminton Tournament at Chandigarh and the Yonex Sunrise Krishna Khaitan Memorial Tournament at Panchkula—in September.

The selection committee considered the cumulative points from both the ranking tournaments for picking the players with Kiran George leading the pack with 700 points among boys. In fact, the Kerala boy and Alap Mishra from MP were tied at 700 points each after the two tournaments, but Kiran pushed Alap to the second spot on head-to-head match-ups.

In the women's singles, Malvika Bansod, the winner of both events, from Maharashtra led the points table with 1000 points with Pulela Gayatri Gopichand, the runner-up at Panchkula and a semifinalist at Chandigarh, was placed behind Malvika her at 775 points. Wherever there was a case of tie, it was broken through head to head superiority.

The rest of the players for doubles and mixed doubles got the nod purely according to the points they logged in both events to get themselves selected. The winner of each leg gets 500, while the runner-up 425. The rest of the points bifurcation are: semifinals (350), quarterfinals (275) and pre-quarterfinals (192)

Men's doubles will be spearheaded by Dhruv Kapila and G. Krishna Prasad with 1000 points under their belt and Sahiti Bandi and R. Tanushree in the women's category with 776 points. Whereas mixed doubles team will be led by Karnataka mate; Sai Krishna Sai Kumar and Ashwini Bhatt, who secured 852 cumulative points.

The BAI has organized a preparatory camp for the players selected for the World Juniors in Panchkula from October 16 to 31. The BAI has made it mandatory for all members of the squads to attend the 16-day camp. The players must report at the venue on October 16.

The selectors have also picked some reserve players who will be inducted into the squads if there is a need to replace a player / pair.

**THE SQUADS:**

**Boys:** Lakshya Sen (AAI), Kiran George (Ker), Alap Mishra (MP), Priyanshu Rajawat (MP), Dhruv Kapila (PNB), G. Krishna Prasad (AP), K. Manjit Singh (MNP), K. Dingku Singh (MNP), Sai Krishna Sai Kumar (KTK), Sai Krishna Sai Kumar Podile (TS) P. Vishnuvardhan Goud (TS), Navneet Bokka (TS), Akshan Shetty (Mah).

**Girls:** Jakka Vaishnavi Reddy (TS), Malvika Bansod (AAI), P. Gayatri Gopichand (TS), Purve Bhave (AI), Sahiti Bandi (TS), R. Tanushree (TN) Aditi Bhatt (UTR), Tanisha Crasto (Goa), K. Ashwini Bhatt (KTK), Shrishti Jupaddi (TS), Rashi Lambe (Mah).

SR No	NAME	STATE	POINTS	SR NO	NAME	STATE	POINTS
<b>SINGLES (MEN'S &amp; WOMEN'S)</b>							
1	LAKSHYA SEN (Jr. Asian Champion 2018), BWF Rank-3	AAI	-	2	JAKKA VAISHNAVI REDDY BWF Rank-5	TS	-
3	KIRAN GEORGE	KER	700	4	MALVIKA BANSOD	AAI	1000
5	ALAP MISHRA	MP	700	6	P. GAYATRI GOPICHAND	TS	775
7	PRIYANSHU RAJAWAT	MP	692	8	PURVA BARVE	AI	705
<b>DOUBLES (MEN &amp; WOMEN)</b>							
9	DHRUV KAPILA	PNB	1000	10	SAHITI BANDI	TS	776
	G. KRISHNA PRASAD	AP			R.THANUSREE	TN	
11	K. MANJIT SINGH	MNP	776	12	ADITI BHATT	UTR	692
	K. DINGKU SINGH				TANISHA CRASTO	GOA	
13	P. VISHNUVARDHAN GOUD SAI KRISHNA SAI KUMAR PODILE	TS	702	14	K. ASHWINI BHAT SHRISHTI JUPPADI	KTK TS	692
<b>MIXED DOUBLES</b>							
15	SAI PRATHEEK KRISHNA PRASAD K. ASHWINI BHAT	KTK	852	16	SAI KRISHNA SAI KUMAR PODILE SHRISHTI JUPPADI	TS	800

17	NAVNEETH BOKKA SAHITI BANDI	TS	776	18	AKSHAN SHETTY RASHI LAMBE	MAH	552
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