



Mann Maulik Shah & Tanisha Kashyap crowned Champions at the  
Fenesta Open Junior National Championship

14th October, New Delhi: Mann Maulik Shah truly tore the form book to shreds as he toyed with Kevin Mrugesh Patel 6-2, 6-2 to win the under-16 boys' singles title in the Fenesta Open national tennis championship.

On the concluding day of the fortnight-long tennis extravaganza at the DLTA tennis facility, Mann Maulik backed himself to win against the eighth seed in style.

This has been a fairytale for Mann Maulik as he was not seeded. With each match, he kept improving, something one does not get to see too often in the juniors' section. He loved the stage and played carefree tennis, underlined by slick court coverage and potent strokes in the short match.

"This year has been fantastic and in the draws I was unseeded. I competed against the seeded players from the second, third, fourth round, and then the finals. It feels fantastic when you beat four seeds in a row when you're not seeded. My coach and my father had the biggest role to play in my victory this year. I will be working on my fitness for the next year and hopefully I will come back stronger for the Under 18," said Mann Maulik.

In the under-14 boy's final, Ajay Malik upset Krishan Hooda, the third seed, 7-5,4-6,6-2. It was a long match where both the players had a fair share of chances.

What separated the winner from the vanquished was soaking in extra pressure in crunch situations. Otherwise, in the decider, Ajay played with control and calm to win the title.

"I am feeling very good as last time and this time also I won the tournament. Compared to the last tournament, I didn't play very well and I have to work more on my fitness so that I come back stronger next year," said a thrilled Ajay Malik.

Tanisha Kashyap won the girls' under-16 title with a measure of comfort. The top seed beat PrinkleSingh 6-1, 6-4. Tanisha has been in great form this week and she underlined her superiority by not making unforced errors.

"I am very happy to win the Fenesta Nationals Under-16 title for the second time. I played very well and our coach says that the attitude determines altitude. I was very disciplined and focused throughout the tournament. Some things that I would want to take away from the tournament is the experience, the journey and how each and every point is very important; each and every match is very crucial; how you can take risks in the crucial points staying calm and cool as that's what makes you win matches. Overall it was a great experience here," said Tanisha.



In the girls' under-14 final, Sandeepi Singh Rao cantered to a 6-1, 6-1 win over Rutuja M.Chaphalkar in quick time.

"I'm feeling just amazing. The key thing that I have learnt from this tournament is patience is very important whenever you are losing or winning. When it comes to fitness, I sustained my fitness throughout the tournament by eating right and taking adequate rest," said winner Sandeepi.