

ENDGAME

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SCRABBLE
ASSOCIATION OF INDIA



In this issue:

- History of Scrabble in Mumbai
- About the National Championship
- Sherwin triumphs in Pune
- Puzzles and quizzes

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Picture on front cover: Theme board on Scrabble created by Rustom Deboo

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Foreword

Dear Members,

Though the year began on a wary note, things have since taken a turn for the better as far as indulging in our favourite sport goes. Competitive Scrabble as we have known it is well and truly back on track, and we are all the more grateful for it.

The coming few weeks are set to witness the much-awaited return of the two blue-riband tournaments of the Indian Scrabble calendar, which will bring with them the enticing prospect of some hard-fought and world-class Scrabble featuring the cream of the country's crop. Needless to say, there's a lot to look forward to!

The 22nd edition of the National Championship, last played in 2019, will be held in Mumbai from 22nd to 24th April. With defending champion Sherwin Rodrigues aiming for a tenth title, it promises to be a gripping war of words. A month later, from 26th to 29th May, Bangalore will be the scene of the three-division KSSA Indian Open, originally slated to be held in January. It is set to feature close to 100 players.

The first in-person tournament of the year was the Pune All-India Open in March, where it was business as usual for Sherwin. This was also the first WESPA-rated tournament to be played in India after a gap of two years, and we would like to believe that it has heralded not just the resumption of the pre-pandemic Scrabble calendar, but also the sprouting of new tourneys in existing and new centres alike.

Even as players across the country resume pitting their wits across the board, the virtual Scrabble scene, which has kept many of us going for the best part of the last two years, keeps bubbling and continues to offer a tournament experience in its own right. The KSSA Virtual Tournament, conducted on Woogles in January as a replacement for the deferred in-person tournament, was a notable case in point.

The upcoming Nationals will be marking the end of the tenure of the current Managing Committee, which was elected in November 2020. On behalf of the outgoing Committee, here's a warm word of gratitude for all your support.

Finally, as Endgame turns a year old, here's wholeheartedly thanking everyone who has contributed towards shaping the five issues so far.

May the words keep flowing...

Best wishes,

Rustom Deboo
Editor

History of the Mumbai Scrabble Club

with inputs from Mimi Hingorani and Bhushan Pradhan

It was in late 1997 that late Dr. Bhupendra Dutia, along with P.C. Jose, laid the foundations of Scrabble in Mumbai. An official of the United Nations in Europe, Dr. Dutia got acquainted with Scrabble while playing with his wife, late Rohini Dutia, and son Nikhil.

Not long after, on 27th December 1997, the first Scrabble tournament to be played in Mumbai was conducted by the Zygo Club run by V.R. Damaraj over two days at the SNDT Women's University. In 1998, Scrabble sessions began to be held on Sunday evenings at the Juhu Vile Parle Gymkhana (JVPG) Club, which also hosted an all-India two-day, three-division tournament in conjunction with the Zygo Club in August that year.



*P.C. Jose (right), one of the pioneers of Mumbai Scrabble and the current Chairman of the MSC, playing against young Samrath Singh Bhatia at Pune in 2015
(Picture credit: Shaik Ahmed)*

As the game began to spread and the Mumbai Scrabble Club (MSC) was formed, more people started to convert themselves from enthusiasts to

competitive players. These early entrants included Varisht Hingorani, who would go on to become one of India's top-rated players. "I have some really pleasant memories of my early years at the Mumbai Scrabble Club which somehow coincided with my early years in Scrabble. I learnt the basics of tournament Scrabble at the weekly sessions at JVPG arranged by Dr. Dutia, along with P.C. Jose and Mr. Verghese", recalls Varisht.



From the archives: (Top left to right) Brian D'Souza, Varisht Hingorani and P.C. Jose representing Mumbai at a team tournament in Hyderabad in 1998

The early 2000s saw the arrival of a young Sherwin Rodrigues on the Mumbai Scrabble circuit. He quickly established himself as a force to

reckon with and has grown to become India's most prolific Scrabbler with multiple achievements under his belt, both nationally and internationally. His trophy cabinet includes a seemingly unsurpassable nine National Championship titles.

In January 2003, JVPG played host to the first international WESPA-rated tournament to be played in India. Known as the JVPGC Mumbai International, the tourney featured 32 players and was won by Akshay Bhandarkar. Prior to that, in 2002, Akshay became the first player from Mumbai to win the Nationals. He has since gone on to become one of the world's best players and clinched the 2017 WESPA Championship (WESPAC) in Nairobi while representing Bahrain.



Rahil Parkar (left) playing against Dr. Tushar Shah at the 2016 Nationals

From 2005, the annual National Championship began to be played in Mumbai, and the city has since hosted every edition of the prestigious tournament. So far, as many as 16 of the 21 winners of the Nationals have been from Mumbai – Sherwin (nine times), Akshay (four), Varisht (two) and Nakul Prabhu (one).

In November 2007, the ninth edition of the World Scrabble Championship was played at the Taj President Hotel in Mumbai. This was the first of many world championships to have been won by the GOAT Nigel Richards of New Zealand, who beat Malaysia's Ganesh Asirvatham in the final.



Nigel Richards receiving the winner's cheque at the 2007 World Scrabble Championship in Mumbai (picture source: wscgames.com)

In 2015, the Mumbai Scrabble scene saw the first edition of a unique team-based tournament called the Wordaholix Scrabble League, thanks to the Wordaholix team of Varisht, Mimi Hingorani, Neeta Bhatia and Harvinderjit Bhatia.

The current MSC Committee comprises P.C. Jose (Chairman), Sherwin (Secretary), V. Ramachandran (Treasurer), Bhushan Pradhan, Sanjay Bijlani and Rustom Deboo. At present, there are 56 SAI-rated players from Mumbai, the most from a city.

Over the years, the MSC has been served well by many other past committee members and volunteers, such as Nakul, Jose de Abreu, Carolann Pais, Rahil Parkar, and everyone else who has contributed to the development of Scrabble in Mumbai.

About the National Championship

with inputs from Ranganathan Chakravarthy, Varisht Hingorani, Bhushan Pradhan, Romilla Thakur and Sherwin Rodrigues

The 22nd edition of the National Championship is set to be played from 22nd to 24th April 2022 at the Otters Club in Mumbai. Especially considering that Covid-19 had forced the cancellation of the Nationals in both 2020 and 2021, India's top Scrabblers would certainly be raring to go for a shot at the most coveted title on the Indian Scrabble circuit.

The latest edition in 2019 was won by India's number one Scrabbler Sherwin Rodrigues, who has clinched nine of the 21 National Championship titles so far – five more than anyone else. With his emphatic win at the recent Pune All-India Open, Sherwin has thrown down the gauntlet as he sets his sights on a tenth title.

The inaugural edition of the National Championship was played in Hyderabad in 1999. Organised by the Zygomatic Scrabble Club run by V.R. Damaraj, the tournament was won by Mohan Chunkath, who by virtue of this win became the first player to represent India at the World Scrabble Championship played in Melbourne later that year. Hyderabad hosted the Nationals until the third edition in 2001.

The location shifted to Pune for the 2002, 2003 and 2004 editions, with the Zygomatic Club continuing to organise it. All of these three editions were won by Akshay Bhandarkar, who would also go on to win in 2005 to complete four consecutive titles. The

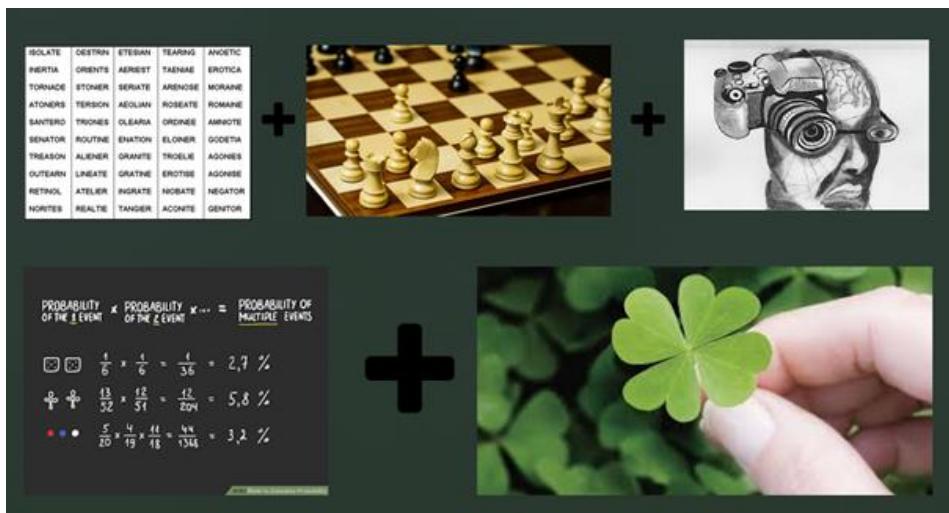
2005 edition was the first to be played in Mumbai and organised by the Mumbai Scrabble Club. Since then, Mumbai has been the scene for the Nationals.

From 2008 to 2011, Sherwin won his first four titles in a row to match Akshay's feat. So far, seven players have had the distinction of winning the Nationals at least once, and it remains to be seen whether we have a new winner in store this time around.

National Championship winners	
Year	Winner
1999	Mohan Chunkath
2000	Shaik Ahmed
2001	Mohan Chunkath
2002	Akshay Bhandarkar
2003	Akshay Bhandarkar
2004	Akshay Bhandarkar
2005	Akshay Bhandarkar
2006	Varisht Hingorani
2007	Varisht Hingorani
2008	Sherwin Rodrigues
2009	Sherwin Rodrigues
2010	Sherwin Rodrigues
2011	Sherwin Rodrigues
2012	Irineu Gonsalves
2013	Sherwin Rodrigues
2014	Sherwin Rodrigues
2015	Mohan Chunkath
2016	Sherwin Rodrigues
2017	Sherwin Rodrigues
2018	Nakul Prabhu
2019	Sherwin Rodrigues

My view of the beautiful game

by Suchindra Potnis



Football lovers would cringe at me for using this headline!

I am a self-confessed ‘Scrabbloholic’. I have been a late bloomer; having watched my son and wife play for three years, I contemplated taking the plunge every day of those three years – should I? Should I not? The blooming eventually did happen, slowly but surely. The interest remains as fresh as the clover leaf in the picture!

I have always loved dissecting situations, events, people (!). I have always thought about the why, what, where, when and how of things. Now, put this in perspective. I have always been the kind who loves to be on the move, always loved the outdoors, always loved physical sports, hated English as a language in school, and till date, have never been able to

complete a single crossword puzzle in my life – even the simplest of simple ones. No kidding.

I had to put a simplistic explanation of why I absolutely love a game which I thought was often perceived as mundane, slow-moving, sedentary, and monotonous. But I realised over a period of time that those perceptions could have never been further from the truth.

For me, the picture above is what Scrabble is all about and what I am going to elaborate upon below.

Anagramming and knowledge of words: It's a given that for a Scrabbler to be good at her game she ought to know the nuts and the bolts. Knowledge of as many of the valid 200K+ words in the dictionary is a huge plus. Start small, grow small,

and keep learning. The real skill is anagramming. A skill of conjuring words out of a bunch of alphabets, a skill of putting vowels in between consonants and creating valid words.

It's an art form that can't be taught but grows on you over a period of time, and at some stage, becomes intuitive, even instinctive. I was once walking the streets of Paris with two youth Scrabble players, aged 15 and 18 respectively. They spent the best part of the day doing nothing but dissecting every sign board in French and creating as many English words out of them as possible!!

Strategy: Think chess. It's no exaggeration that this game is about extreme thinking and extreme strategy, as much as chess is... probably more? What words does she play, how many tiles does she play, when does she change her tiles, when does she deliberately not take the maximum points available on the board, how does she read her opponents' body language, how does she keep a poker face and not show any emotion. Each game lasts about 45 minutes and an average tournament involves eight games a day over a period of three days. That makes it a minimum of 18 hours of intense concentration.

Photographic memory: A skill very unique to this very unique game. When a Scrabbler studies words (through the various study apps available), she visualises a pattern in the form of an alphagram and tries to remember all possible combinations of words that could be played on the board. She associates the alphagram

pattern and the words as some kind of a picture deep inside the brain. She slowly imbibes this skill to remember the word or the pattern as a picture.

Again, a skill that can't be taught, but grows on you, albeit very slowly. Unless you have an elephant's memory, the relative utility of remembering the meanings of 200K+ words in the dictionary is infinitesimally low. It's extremely common, in fact recommended, that she does not take an effort to remember the meaning of each and every word she studies.

Probability: For somebody who has always liked the concept of probability, you would pardon me for saying that this game is more about math and probability than about the English language. Understanding and following the concept of probability is as important while studying words, as it is while playing a game. There are a finite number of tiles for each alphabet. For instance, there are 12 Es, six each of N, R and T, and only one each of the 'power' tiles J, K, Q, X and Z.

A Scrabbler naturally has a higher chance of drawing N, T or R as compared to J, Q or X. She has a higher chance of winning if she knows highly probable words (however fancy they might be) as compared to knowing lower probability words. Knowing the spelling of a word as common as COMMON is probably not too useful in Scrabble as the chances of it appearing on your rack are very small. But knowing the spelling of ETAERIO (a fruit like a blackberry) is far more important. The chances of you picking up those exact tiles are huge.

When you understand this concept, Scrabble becomes a lot easier.

The clover leaf: The term ‘luck of the draw’ was probably written for this game. No other game has much going on with ‘luck’ as Scrabble. A Scrabbler has no control over the tiles she draws from the bag. She has no control on what her opponent draws from the bag. Phenomenal luck in drawing favourable tiles gives an average Scrabbler a realistic and practical chance of winning against even the world champion.

The probability of that happening is still low, but far higher than in any other game (for a very average player to beat a world champion). That’s the unique combination of probability and luck. A Scrabbler feels a high like never before when that happens, and indeed it can happen once in your Scrabble lifetime. Over a period of time, the luck evens out and one often ends up thinking how lucky the best players always are. But luck, they say, favours the brave. In Scrabble, the brave are the ones who know the most words.

The game kind of imitates life. Irrespective of how good a player she is, Scrabble gives plenty of opportunities. It offers her a chance to compete with the absolute best. Most importantly, it offers her plenty of hope. A hope to start afresh and play better. At the end of the day, the game teaches her that the race to improve is primarily with her own self and not with others. It offers her a chance to be the queen on her day.

By far, the most important reason why I love the game is how amazingly comfortable I feel with nearly all of my Scrabble friends. Be they kids, the young at heart, the millionaires, the IT professionals, the lawyers, or players from across the world. They all seem to have a similar energy and bring in a similar kind of zen to the game.

I wouldn’t trade that for anything. Got to say that I have been lucky, very lucky!

Endgame Extra: ABCERST?

Words that can be formed if you get a rack of ABCERST and a floater:

+A

ABREACTS
BEARCATS
CABARETS
CABRESTA

+E

ACERBEST

+H

BATCHERS
BRACHETS

+K

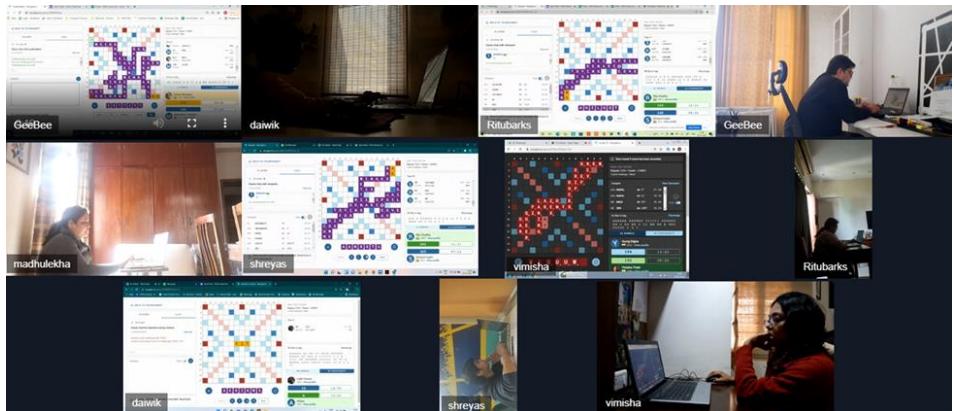
BACKREST
BRACKETS

+O

CABESTRO
CABRESTO

Monitored online tourneys demystified

by Hema Shah and Vimisha Patel



Fear of the unknown and discomfort surrounding the entire fair-play monitoring process have deterred a few players from participating in rated online tournaments. However, based on our experience with the KSSA Virtual Tourney held in January 2022, we are pleased to report that the monitoring process has gradually become much easier and streamlined.

The monitors need to watch the player and their environment to satisfy themselves that the player is not accessing any reference material while playing. They do this by monitoring two audio-video streams presented to them from each player's space:

1. A video stream that lets them watch the player and their work area from a distance.
2. A video stream that shows them what the player is viewing on their screen.

In order to present these streams, the player needs:

1. A mobile or similar device that can be set up about 3-4 feet away from the player, presenting a 'wide-angle' view of the player and their space. While most people prop it up on a small stand or mini tripod-like device, several improvise by propping it against a stack of books or something similar.
2. The device on which they are playing, ideally a computer – a PC or a laptop.
3. WhatsApp running on the playing device, using WhatsApp Web. This allows the monitors to communicate with the players.

A single link is provided to each player. The same link is to be opened

on both devices. The monitors will be able to start seeing the player and their environment in a minute or two after the links have been opened.

Once the monitor confirms that they are satisfied with what they are seeing, the player can turn their full attention towards playing their game. As long as the streams proceed uninterrupted, the players do not need to worry about the monitoring software anymore. They will repeat this verification at the start of each session.

From a tournament organisers' perspective too, the setup is relatively straightforward, though there is some cost involved.

1. Tournament Monitors

a) Identify a set of people who will watch the streams and manage issues. Monitors can operate from home, provided they have good network bandwidth and a reasonably powerful computer with a good-sized screen.

b) Depending on the size of the screen, the monitor can manage observing anywhere from four to eight players. There will be two views per person being monitored.

c) While you might get away with paying the monitors about Rs. 750/day, Rs. 1000 is optimal.

2. Setting up the Monitoring Rooms

a) Use the SAI-provided instructions to create a virtual 'room' for each

monitor and generate the links for players to transmit their streams to that room.

b) Create WhatsApp groups for each monitor so that the monitors can communicate directly with the players they are monitoring.

c) Verify each player's setup prior to the tournament.

A big thank you to the entire SAI Managing Committee for investigating, streamlining, and championing this process. This monitoring process makes tournament Scrabble accessible to a much larger population.

Endgame Extra: DDELORS?

Words that can be formed if you get a rack of DDELORS and a floater:

+B
BRODDLES

+C
CODDLERS

+E
SOLDERED

+O
DOODLERS

+P
PLODDERS

+T
STRODDLE
STRODLED
TODDLERS

Wordle fever grips Scrabble folk

In the past few months, word lovers across the world have taken to an addictive daily puzzle like a duck takes to water. Created by Welsh software engineer Josh Wardle and now owned and published by The New York Times, Wordle was opened to the public in October 2021, and since then, it has not only gained massive popularity, but has also inspired a plethora of variants.

The premise of Wordle is simple. Every day, players have to guess a five-letter word within six tries. After every guess, each letter is marked as either green, yellow, or grey; green indicates that the letter is correct and in the correct position, yellow indicates that the letter is in the answer but not in the correct position, while grey indicates that the letter is not in the answer at all.

A	R	I	S	E
R	O	U	T	E
R	U	L	E	S
R	E	B	U	S

Needless to say, it has not taken long for the Scrabble community to join the Wordle bandwagon. With our natural affection towards words and puzzles, many of us have become Wordle devotees – whether we like to share our results or not – and have also mastered variants such as Quordle (four words to guess instead of one), Octordle (eight words,

because bigger is better!), Sedecordle (you guessed it right... 16 words!), Nerdle (for the math buffs), Nurdle (for the cricket buffs) and Goble (for the geography buffs), to name a few.

We all have our techniques and strategies to ensure that the word is cracked at the earliest, though there are also rare euphoric moments when sheer luck plays an enormous part.

Here is what a few Scrabbler have to share about this much-loved game:

I think Wordle has appealed to a large share of the populace, especially the lexophiles, as it is simple, quick, and precise. It is simpler than Scrabble in that it exactly deals with a five-letter word. It is a little more challenging than Scrabble as there is an additional step, discovering the letters.

I generally go for unmasking the vowels first, with a consonant or two that are most common. Mostly, the first words I use are ADIEU or OUTER. For unearthing more consonants at first, I use RENTS, and if highly successful, then STERN to find the spots.

There is a catch in the game though, that there is no way of knowing if the same letter is used more than once in the word at any other spot. However, I believe it adds a touch of excitement in the form of an extra layer of possibility. I would also love to see the constraint of time added to the game. – Dhaval Rathod

*I usually use ADIEU as the first word and SHORT as the second to cover all vowels and top consonants. Sounds like a basic strategy, but it has worked until now. – **Pravesh Saha***

*I usually play ALIEN or ADIEU to get the vowels right, though my son goes with CRANE. The instinct and the flair for words takes over once the yellow and the green start flashing. By the fourth try, you have cancelled out the consonants that won't work, and the task gets easier. I enjoy solving and sharing my score with my son and cousin (not only the score, but who posts it first also matters!). It makes for a terrific competition and is an excellent adrenaline rush, especially in times of isolation. You feel connected to lakhs of others who are glued to the same puzzle daily. My best result has been getting ULCER in the second attempt. Learning Scrabble hooks have often come in handy. – **Meena Kalyan***

*For Scrabble-loving folks
For whom time is a hurdle
A modern love story
Gave us the word game Wordle*

*Pull yourself away from Instagram
And muster your skills of anagram
Takes six guesses of words five-letter
I did it in three, can you do better?*

*– **Siddesh Sarma***

BOWLDER
CLOWDER
DOWLIER
GROWLED
LOWBRED
LOWERED
PROWLED
ROWELED
WELDORS
WHORLED
WOOLDER
WORLDDED
WORLDER
WORLDIE

WORDLE?? (24)

BOWLDERS
CLOWDERS
DEFLOWER
FLOWERED
GLOWERED
LEADWORK
LEADWORT
LOWRIDER
OVERLEWD
POLEWARD
REFLOWED
REGLOWED
REPLOWED
ROWELLED
ROWNDELL
SCROWLED
TROWELED
WELLDOER
WOODLORE
WOOLDERS
WORDLESS
WORDLORE
WORLDER
WORLDIES

Endgame Extra: Learn a few sevens and eights with the help of Wordle

WORDLE? (14)

A lowdown on CSW21

by Udayan Grover

It was in January last year that WESPA was contacted by Mattel regarding the official Scrabble word list. Mattel meant to change the box rules of Scrabble to specifically exclude words that were hateful slurs from the scope of playable words.

Working with Collins, they developed a list of a few hundred words (including inflections) designated as slurs, to be removed from official Scrabble-branded products including the Collins Official Scrabble Words dictionary (CSW), which eventually has led to the update from CSW19 to CSW21. WESPA, as a Mattel licensee, was asked to implement this change in officially sanctioned tournament play. It had been made clear that WESPA's continued licensing agreement with Mattel would be conditional upon the acceptance of this request.

Upon considerable deliberation and debate on the matter, WESPA realised that giving up the Mattel licence would also mean having to forego the right to call our tournaments as 'Scrabble' tournaments; they could then be referred to as 'crossword game' or any such term. This change though would have necessitated amending the WESPA constitution and required the consent of 75% votes. The voting essentially implied:

FOR the motion: Reject the proposed modification to CSW
AGAINST the motion: Accept the proposed expurgation to the lexicon

An Extraordinary General Body Meeting was then scheduled for late February 2021. Only 47% voted FOR the motion against the required threshold of 75%. Hence the constitution did not have to undergo any change, and the new expurgated list of words proposed by Mattel was accepted by WESPA.

As far as SAI's stance on the matter is concerned, we voted against the motion in the larger interests of the game and the Indian Scrabble community. The SAI Managing Committee agreed that having to give up a few hundred words in return for having Mattel's association was but a minor trade-off. Our decision also aligns with our constitution's objectives to promote and play 'Scrabble' and not any other word game. We are anyway a very niche discipline that is perennially vying for greater attention and visibility as a competitive mind sport, and we felt that we'd be worse off at not having the liberty to the usage of the SCRABBLE trademark.

The WESPA Initiation Kit was made available in early January this year while the paper edition of the new word list was published on 20th January. CSW21 is already effective for tournament play since the beginning of the year; the recently held Pune All-India Open conducted from 18th to 20th March was the first live tournament in India to adopt CSW21.

List of words (two-letter to eight-letter) deleted from CSW21

Threes	GIPPO	BOCHES	NANCES	GIPPOES	REDSKIN	PAPISHES
ABO	GOYIM	BOHUNK	NIGERS	GOYISCH	SCHIZOS	PAPISTIC
GOY	GYPPO	BOONGA	NIGGER	GOYISHE	SCHIZZY	PAPISTRY
JEW	HAOLE	BOONGS	PAPISH	GRINGAS	SHEENEY	PICCANIN
LES	HONKY	BOSCHE	PAPISM	GRINGOS	SHEENIE	PICKNEYS
LEZ	HORIS	BUBBAS	PAPIST	GYPPERS	SHEGETZ	POOFIEST
WOG	JEWED	BUCKRA	PIKEYS	GYPPING	SHEMALE	POOFTAHS
YID	KAFIR	BUFTIE	POLACK	GYPSTER	SHICKSA	POOFTERS
Fours	KIKES	BUMBOY	POOVES	HARELIP	SHIKSAS	POOVIEST
ABOS	LESBO	CHOLOS	POPERY	HASBIAN	SHIKSEH	POPERIES
BINT	LESES	COOLIE	POPISH	HONKEYS	SHIKSES	POPISHLY
CRIP	LEZES	CRACKA	REFFOS	HONKIES	SPAZZED	POOFTAHS
DAGO	LEZZA	DAGOES	SAKAIS	HUNKEYS	SPAZZES	POUFTERS
GOYS	LEZZY	DARKEY	SCHIZO	HUNKIES	UMLUNGU	QUADROON
HORI	LUBRA	DARKIE	SCHIZY	JESUITS	WETBACK	QUASHEES
JEWS	MICKS	DIKIER	SHIKSA	JIGABOO	WHITEYS	QUASHIES
KIKE	MUNTS	DOGANS	SHIKSE	KAFFIRS	WHITIES	QUEERDOM
LEZZ	MUNTU	DYKIER	SKIMOS	KANAKAS	WIGGERS	RAGHEADS
MICK	NANCE	GAMMAT	SPICKS	LEZZIES	WOGGISH	REDNECKS
MUNT	NANCY	GINZOS	SQUAWS	MOFFIES	WOOTAH	REDSKINS
OFAY	NEGRO	GIPPOS	VENDUS	MONGOLS	WOOTTER	SCHIZIER
SPAZ	NIGER	GOYISH	WIGGAS	MULATTA	Eights	SEMIMUTE
SPIC	OFAYS	GRINGA	WIGGER	MULATTO	BOSSBOYS	SHEENEYS
SPIK	PIKEY	GRINGO	ZAMBOS	NANCIER	BULLDIKE	SHEENIES
TAIG	POOFS	GYPPED	Sevens	NANCIES	BULLDYKE	SHEMALES
WOGS	POOFY	GYPPER	BACKRAS	NEGRESS	CHINKIES	SHICKSAS
YIDS	POOVE	GYPOS	BINGHIS	NEGROES	FAGGIEST	SHIKSEHS
Fives	POOVY	HAOLES	BOHUNKS	NEGROID	FAGGOTRY	SHKOTZIM
ASPIE	REFFO	HONKEY	BOONGAS	NIGGERS	GOLLIWOG	SHVARTZE
BAKRA	SAKAI	HONKIE	BOSCHES	NIGGERY	GOLLYWOG	SPASTICS
BANTU	SKIMO	HUNKEY	BOSSBOY	NITCHIE	GYPSTERS	SPAZZING
BINTS	SPAZZ	HUNKIE	BUCKRAS	PAPISMS	HARELIPS	SQUAWMAN
BOCHE	SPICS	JESUIT	BUFTIES	PAPISTS	HASBIANS	SQUAWMEN
BOONG	SPIKS	JEWING	BUMBOYS	PICKNEY	JESUITIC	UMLUNGUS
BUBBA	SQUAW	KAFFIR	CHINKIE	POLACKS	JESUITRY	WETBACKS
BUFTY	TAIGS	KAFIRS	COOLIES	POOFIER	JIGABOOS	WOOTAHS
CHOLO	VENDU	KANAKA	CRACKAS	POOTAH	MULATTAS	WOUFTERS
COOLY	WIGGA	LESBOS	DARKEYS	POOFTER	MULATTOS	
CRIPS	ZAMBO	LEZZAS	DARKIES	POOVERY	NANCIEST	
DAGOS	Sixes	LEZZES	DIKIEST	POOVIER	NEGROIDS	
DARKY	ASPIES	LEZZIE	DYKIEST	POUFTAH	NEGROISM	
DIKEY	BAASES	LUBRAS	FAGGERY	POUFTER	NIGGERED	
DOGAN	BACKRA	MOFFIE	FAGGIER	QUASHEE	NITCHIES	
DYKEY	BAKRAS	MONGED	FAGGOTY	QUASHIE	OCTAROON	
FAGGY	BANTUS	MONGOL	GAMMATS	RAGHEAD	OCTOROON	
GINZO	BINGHI	MUNTUS	GINZOES	REDNECK	PAPISHER	

Nominees for the SAI Committee election

The election of seven members to the new SAI Managing Committee for the next two years will take place during the 2022 National Championship to be held in Mumbai from 22nd April. Following are the nine candidates as nominated by the SAI members, in alphabetical order:

Abhijit Shilotri (Bangalore)

I am extremely grateful to Ashok Bhandarkar and Romilla Thakur for considering me for this post.

I started my Scrabble journey in the newbie category at the 2016 Capgemini, finishing third in the process. I am proud to say that I have not missed a single tourney across India in the last four years. My passion for the game has been so high that during the pandemic, with all the Covid protocols, I still managed to play despite all the possible hurdles. My role has been to push people across India to take part in in-person tournaments and I will continue to do so.

I have been conducting a morning quiz for the Karnataka State Scrabble Association (KSSA) at 9 a.m. for almost two years and though I have now culminated into doing a weekend quiz, I have made sure that people think of Scrabble early morning every day!

The last Mu Sigma tournament in Banaglore was completely organised by me and Shankar Prasad right from its conception to completion. I was also involved in organising the

Phoenix One Open in 2018 and have been actively involved in getting sponsorships for the KSSA to promote the game.

I feel one does not need to be on a committee to do the good work of spreading the game. Though I have never been on the KSSA Committee, I have served and will continue to serve KSSA with all my efforts in the future too. Similarly, whether I am elected for the SAI Committee or not, I will always be available to help anyone to promote Scrabble in all walks of life.

Also, anyone who has not received their personalised rack from me, please message at 9845012040 as I have made new tile racks for the upcoming Mu Sigma KSSA Indian Open in Bangalore. Even if you are not participating in the tourney, you will get your rack delivered to you.

Archana Aggarwal (Delhi)

Thank you for this nomination. I am thrilled and humbled, and I look forward to this opportunity to help shape the future growth of Scrabble in India.

I have been hooked on tournament Scrabble since 2016. I am a very active member of SAI and the Scrabble Association of Delhi, helping organise informal meets, one-day tournaments, the annual GAIL Cup, as well as online tournaments. Every tournament organiser knows they can count on me for support either upfront or behind the scenes. Through this

work, I have built a strong network of connections and friendships across different clubs, which I can leverage for SAI.

I've also been actively engaged in helping people improve their Scrabble skills and introducing more people to the game. I've partnered with schools, a Delhi-based skills development group, and the KSSA to conduct training programmes for beginners and children. Through the online Word Study practice we've created, which is now going strong over the past two years, I've myself seen the power of consistent word study.

If given the opportunity to serve as a SAI Committee member, my focus will be on introducing more people to this wonderful game and helping them excel at it.

We have several clubs in India, some of which are developing some really innovative concepts. I will work to share best practices across the clubs and support them in increasing their Scrabble membership base. I would like to push SAI to take a more proactive approach towards partnering with clubs and helping develop new clubs in other cities across India.

I look forward to your vote and the opportunity to serve all of you lovely Scrabble players!

Ela Ghose (Delhi)

I feel that to bring more people in and get them to stay with Scrabble, there needs to be a pathway offered to new entrants: what are the steps, the study options, the teachers, the

games, the practice sessions to finally get to the biggies – the face-to-face competitions.

So, while there is a lot on offer, I'd like to help by consolidating all that information in one place, e.g., in a Facebook group, which would get regularly refreshed and updated.

Therefore, my one objective would be to curate all the great things happening across the country – both virtually and face-to-face, in one, easily accessible space. And of course, profile rising stars so as to get them 'stage-ready'!

While the curation would require collecting and consolidating information from other committee members (in addition to the larger group) and would be a primary task, I'd be happy to work with the other committee members to achieve the overarching objectives set for the committee. I have previously contributed to the Scrabble Association of Delhi's efforts for meetups as well as tournaments, and compiled profiles of many Scrabblers at a private Facebook group at <https://www.facebook.com/groups/190535118913020> which many of you might have seen.

Harry Bhatia (Mumbai)

Hi, fellow Scrabblers. I belong to a family of Scrabblers with Samrath, Rehet and Neeta being members of the Scrabble fraternity since 2011. I may have joined the playing circuit a lot later but have been actively involved in scouring corporate engagements and sponsorships for Scrabble

events, most notably the Wordaholix Scrabble League.

I have been on the SAI Committee since 2018, serving as the Treasurer. My primary responsibilities include ensuring that the financial statements are prepared and audited in time and the regulatory compliances are always in order and up to date e.g., timely filing of audited financial statements with the Income Tax Office and Charity Commissioner Office on a yearly basis.

I have been actively involved to build a relationship with Mattel India to support and promote Scrabble in India through SAI. I intend to continue with my efforts to build a cordial relationship with Mattel India and with corporates to get larger sponsorship deals for the community and promote Scrabble in schools and corporates.

Professionally, I am CEO and co-founder of Radiowalla, and co-founder of Sochcast and Frenzi. An alumnus of Columbia Business School, New York, I am a Chartered Accountant and hold an Executive Master's in International Trade from Indian Institute of Foreign Trade.

I sincerely thank all the fellow members of the Managing Committee over the last two years, who have done a commendable job led by Sudhir Kamath as the President. Looking forward to your continued support in the ensuing elections for 2022-24.

Lloyd Pearse (Kochi)

Greetings to one and all in the Scrabble Association of India.

I started playing competitive Scrabble in 1991 when I was working in Dubai and was part of the Dubai Scrabble League team that represented the UAE at the Gulf Scrabble Tournaments between 1992 and 1996.

Although I have never won top honours, I have always managed to average above 400 points at any tournament. I had been out of touch with Scrabble since my return to India in 1996.

In 1999, I participated in the first National Championship in Hyderabad. My next encounter with competitive Scrabble was in 2014 when I overcame all opposition at the first all-Kerala Scrabble Championship. In January 2019, I played and won the newbies division (D) at the Capgemini – Bangalore's primary international tourney.

Then came Covid-19. There were occasional online tourneys thanks to Rahil Parkar and Vimisha Patel. The ARFS (Always Ready For Scrabble) group happened because they asked me to try organising an online tourney. I did and am still at it since 12th December 2020 – daily tourneys back-to-back. With the help and guidance of my co-directors of ARFS – Kala Ganesh, Rekha Sanzgiri and Savio Rebello – I have been able to have a dedicated club room on the Woogles platform for ARFS.

This year I am contesting to become a part of the SAI Committee, for which I do have an immense amount of time on my hands as I am a retired person,

and I am currently using the time to organise these daily tourneys.

I am a team player, and if considered dedicated and capable to assist on the Managing Committee, then put me on the Committee. Thank you.

Rajiv Antao (Goa)

Thank you for the opportunity to continue to be on the SAI Management Committee.

I have been closely involved with the working of SAI for the last 20 years, and in particular have been responsible for the ratings and the website.

My focus will continue to be on those areas as well as helping with compliance (which Harry has been doing an excellent job of) and see that rules are maintained or updated where needed, keeping in mind the primary objective of SAI being the representative organisation of all tournament Scrabble play in India. SAI is the primary organisation for Indian players and clubs, and I look to help bring further recognition to the Association in India and overseas.

Tournament Scrabble players in India are still a very small number, but this has increased significantly over the last two years, and I look forward to helping SAI fuel further growth through schools and the youth – several individual members have done a great job towards that and hopefully we can put a good framework in place for further growing the Association.

Rustom Deboo (Mumbai)

I am deeply grateful for having been nominated for re-election to the SAI Managing Committee and would also like to thank the members for all their encouragement during the tenure of the outgoing Committee.

Having joined the Scrabble community in 2018, it has been an enriching experience thus far. I would like to share with you a few words on some of the assignments I had the pleasure of working on as part of the outgoing Committee, and on what I intend to offer to the best of my abilities on the journey ahead.

Being part of the Committee gave me the opportunity to bring into reality and nurture my desire of founding Endgame, the SAI Quarterly Magazine.

Going forward, I envisage Endgame as being a key component in our collective push towards recognising Scrabble as a sport. Irrespective of whether I am re-elected or not, I intend to continue editing Endgame for as long as I can.

I was further able to contribute through writing in the form of press releases and liaising with the media for Scrabble coverage, which is no doubt a great factor for the bright future of Scrabble in India. Going forward, I intend to work towards enhancing the frequency of Scrabble coverage in various media. Likewise, I intend to keep promoting Scrabble through creative ways like quizzes and theme boards.

Finally, it was a pleasure to be able to smoothly welcome and onboard new members into the Scrabble fold as well as to record the minutes of the Committee meetings, and I intend to continue doing the same if I am re-elected.

I believe that the world of words is boundless, and I intend to make the most of it to further the growth of Scrabble in India.

Udayan Grover (Pune)

Thank you for the nomination.

I have successfully conducted a large number of both rated and unrated tourneys over the last two decades, having dealt in every aspect of organisation, with the most recent being the Pune All-India Open 2022.

I have also actively sought opportunities to conduct Scrabble workshops for adults and kids alike to propagate the game.

I am humbled to be SAI's representative on WESPA's Executive Committee, which affords us an insight into the workings of Scrabble's apex global body. It offers SAI a great platform to engage with the larger community, and push India's agenda to further its cause on the global Scrabble map.

It will be my endeavour as a SAI representative to facilitate effective communication and exchange of ideas between the two bodies to align our common goals and objectives and translate the same into tangible outcomes.

I hope to pursue the following goals that I envision for the Indian Scrabble fraternity:

- a) Assisting the conduct of SAI-rated events, both live and virtual
- b) Promoting the game among youth by improving outreach to boost participation and obtain recognition as a mind sport
- c) Ensuring stricter vigilance at tournaments to ensure fair play
- d) Making efforts to solicit sponsorship to incentivise the game and create visibility

I savour the prospect for the incoming Committee to be a catalyst to India's steady rise to Scrabble prowess.

Vimisha Patel (Vadodara)

I have been an avid Scrabbler and a SAI member since 2018. Having always had a desire to introduce my favourite mind sport to my hometown Vadodara, I took steps towards establishing the Vadodara Scrabble Club in 2017, which is the first-of-its-kind Scrabble club affiliated to SAI in Gujarat.

After working at the grassroots level to bring in new members, especially youth players, into the Vadodara Scrabble Club, I realised my dream of organising a WESPA-rated tournament in Vadodara in March 2020. When the initial lockdowns were imposed soon after, I was at the forefront of organising regular virtual tournaments in different formats,

which quickly gained popularity and inspired others to do the same.

Having been elected to the SAI Managing Committee in 2020, I continued to introduce innovative formats for virtual tournaments to enable players to enjoy playing Scrabble from their homes. With help from other organisers, I also gained the skills to be a Tournament Director.

In February 2021, I got an opportunity to host the first multi-day in-person tournament after the pandemic disrupted face-to-face Scrabble and since then, have helped organise three other live tourneys in 2021.

Event management is my forte and I wish to organise a global-level event in India soon with your support.

If I get re-elected, I will continue to serve the purpose of Scrabble further and strive to do my best towards making Scrabble a recognised sport, to spread its wings wider and encourage more participation at the competitive level, locally as well as nationally.

On a personal level, I will extend help to all those who seek to organise Scrabble-related events anywhere in India.

Thank you for your love and support, and I hope to garner the same in the coming years. Looking forward to a great Scrabbling season.

Endgame Extra: Know the 52 seven-letter words having A, P, R, I and L

AIRPLAY	PALMIER	PRALINE
APPERIL	PALSIER	PRAWLIN
APPLIER	PARBOIL	PREDIAL
ARIPLLE	PARIALS	PREVAIL
BIPOLAR	PARLIES	PRIMULA
CALIPER	PARLING	PUPILAR
CLIPART	PARTIAL	PYRALID
DIPOLAR	PARULIS	PYRALIS
GRAPLIN	PATRIAL	RAPIDLY
HARELIP	PEARLIN	REPLICA
IMPALER	PEDRAIL	SPIRALS
IMPARLS	PELORIA	SPIRULA
IMPEARL	PERILLA	TOPRAIL
LEMPRIA	PHILTRA	UPRISAL
LIPREAD	PILLARS	
LIPURIA	PILULAR	
PAIRIAL	PLAINER	
PALIKAR	PLAITER	
PALLIER	PLATIER	

Tournament round-up

Pune All-India Open

by Udayan Grover

A total of 44 Scrabblers converged upon Hotel Parc Estique in Pune over the Holi weekend to compete in the inaugural edition of the Pune All-India Open held from 18th to 20th March 2022.

In true festive spirit, players engaged in some Teeka Holi upon arrival before assuming competitive mode.

The first 18 games were played under the lagged Australian draw format, of which nine games each were played on the first two days.

Notably, this was the first live rated tourney in India to adopt the newly updated CSW21 lexicon. The tourney was rated by both SAI and WESPA.



Winner Sherwin Rodrigues flanked by Sunny Bhatia (second place, right) and Samrath Bhatia (third place, left)

It was a great coming together of sorts for a good number of players who hadn't played an in-person tourney in over two years, and it was endearing to witness the bonhomie amongst the participants. It was also a welcome departure from the now-burgeoning online format, for the social element it brings to the fore.

The tourney was officiated by the genial and ever-dependable Ashok Bhandarkar with support from Mangala Bhandarkar and Eulalia Fernandes. I must also acknowledge the support that several players lent us in the course of the tourney.

Evenings were reserved for players to mingle amongst each other, and for poker aficionados to indulge in their favourite post-game activity. This was also made possible as a large chunk of the participants had put up at the venue. It was great to unwind and fraternise with friends over chatter, food, merriment, and laughter.

Day 3 was actually the business end of the tourney in a seven-game King of the Hill scenario where all the contenders battled it out over the board for top honours. With the last two games to be played, Sherwin Rodrigues needed only one win to emerge as the winner and had to be beaten twice and by a sizeable margin for him to be toppled from his top position.



Participants at the Pune All-India Open

He and I locked horns in the penultimate game. It was a high-scoring encounter which he won by five points, and with it the tourney. With Sherwin now Gibsonised, it was a four-way battle between Sunny Bhatia, me, Samrath Bhatia and Hriday Samtani

for making it to the top three. I slugged it out on Table 1 with Sunny, who handed me my biggest loss of the tourney to take the second place; while Samrath won his encounter against Hriday to finish third.

The hotel provided us with a fine setting and great hospitality for the conduct of the tourney. All amenities, which included the playing area and rooms, were quite satisfactory while the food in particular was much appreciated.

A dozen spot prizes were given out across categories. Our chief sponsor that made this event possible was Kaizen Institute. A total of ten cash prizes were accorded to the winners.

Final standings – Pune All-India Open

	Player	Wins	Spread
1	Sherwin Rodrigues	19 (+1)	1546
2	Sunny Bhatia	17	1165
3	Samrath Bhatia	16	1101
4	Udayan Grover	16	697
5	Rajeev Menon	16	606
6	Hriday Samtani	15	955
7	Ishika Shivalingaiah	15	693
8	Shaik Ahmed	15	421
9	Pankaj Bolaki	15	227
10	Vraj Jain	14	896
11	Sneha Thadhani	14	723
12	Sujana Somasekar	14	516
13	Bhushan Pradhan	14	307
14	Sanjay Bijlani	14	254
15	V Ramachandran	14	88
16	Suchindra Potnis	14	19
17	Danish Shahna	14	-495
18	Ekansh Arora	13	607
19	Sridhar Paidikondala	13	500
20	Rehet Bhatia	13	-35
21	Shreyas Gupta	13	-42
22	Radhika M	13	-74
23	Nikheel Ruparel	13	-1037
24	Ritu Chadha	12.5	-580

25	Kala Ganesh	12	649
26	Dipankar Chatterjee	12	48
27	Rustum Deboo	12	41
28	Virendra Braganza	12	-168
29	Neeta Bhatia	12	-447
30	Viji Ramachandran	12	-635
31	Pramit Rao	11	227
32	Rekha Sanzgiri	11	180
33	Asha Kamath	11	-238
34	Zeba Sultan	11	-393
35	Hyder Quraishi	10.5	-309
36	Vimisha Patel	10	108
37	Abhijit Shilotri	10	-281
38	Meena Kalyan	10	-324
39	Harvinderjit Bhatia	10	-572
40	Aruna Grover	10	-897
41	Collin Pereira	9	-485
42	Srushti Gandhi	9	-641
43	Parvathy R	8	-666
44	Freny Printer	0 (+0)	-4255
High game: Zeba Sultan 655			
Bye treatment explained in brackets			

Barking Women's Tourney

by Kala Ganesh

The Barking Women's Tournament on International Women's Day was indeed enjoyable and mesmerising. I pity those who missed it!

Ritu Chadha was the perfect hostess at The Bark in Lonavala and organised everything perfectly. The food was delicious, and the surprise was curd rice on the menu! It was prepared in the perfect South Indian style. In my 59 years, this was the International Women's Day I enjoyed to the utmost.

It was a special day for me as I finished first in the first ever rated Women's Day tourney. The icing on the cake was when I was asked to cut the Women's Day cake as the winner. I was really excited and there was an adrenaline rush in my body with my heart pumping fast. I will cherish this win forever.

Ritu took care of minutest of minute details. Not a chance for anybody to grudge or complain! Moreover, no registration fee was taken from the participants. Instead, what we received in return were loads of gifts.

I must also thank Vimisha Patel, who travelled all the way from Vadodara to be the Tournament Director as well as a participant, and Neeta Bhatia, who stood by Ritu and helped her in organising the event to perfection.



The participants at the Barking Women's Tournament held on 8th March 2022

Apart from Scrabble, there were prizes for non-Scrabble games too. There were innovative games like 'Pushpa dance', 'winking your eye', 'wearing blue bra', 'Mawali dance', 'pick-up lines', and so on and so forth. Parvathy Raghunathan ended up winning a cash prize of Rs. 250 for winking! There was also an awesome game by Vimisha, where we became tiny tots by grabbing nail polish bottles – Rekha Sanzgiri and Ritu got two each, while I managed to snatch one.

Further, there were spot prizes for making the words BRA and PANTY, cuss words, and bingos starting with W. Meena Kalyan got a gift for making the word BRA (and I got one for making ZABRA!), while Meena Bakhrus got one for making PANTY. It was great fun and thoroughly enjoyable with full credit going to Ritu.

The gifts were amazing and beautifully and artistically packed by Ritu – I got dress material and a beautiful tray for standing first and a lovely stole for making the word ZABRA. My dear friend Rekha took great pains in making colourful and attractive rings,

which were gifted to all 12 participants.



The beautiful rings made by Rekha!

As I was penning this, there were tears filling in my eyes for a truly exciting and memorable day!

Final standings – Barking Women’s Tournament

Player	Wins	Spread
1 Kala Ganesh	7	393
2 Caryl Gonsalvez	4.5	-83
3 Meena Bakhrus	4	585
4 Meena Kalyan	4	-56
5 Rekha Sanzgiri	4	-135
6 Neena Shahani	3.5	89
7 Neeta Bhatia	3	126
8 Vimisha Patel	3	31
9 Romilla Thakur	3	-225
10 Parvathy R	2	-86
11 Aruna Grover	2	-306
12 Ritu Chadha	2	-333

High game: Meena Bakhrus 530

KSSA Virtual Tournament

by Hema Shah

On Saturday, 22nd January, 42 Scrabblers, who would really have preferred to be going to Bangalore to play in an in-person tournament, powered up their computers and phones and logged into the special Woogles Tournament room from their homes. The KSSA Indian Open had been postponed indefinitely due to the Omicron variant, and this was the next best thing.

Seven tournament monitors sat in their home offices, monitoring live streams from each of the players. Instead of having to activate three links for each player as they had done in the past, the monitors simply entered a monitoring ‘room’ where all the live streams were presented to them on a single screen. There were a handful of glitches, but nothing that slowed down the tournament.



A screen grab showing players and games in action

Inside the Woogles Tournament Room, the 42 players battled it out in two separate divisions. The software processed the list of players and pairing specifications provided by Tournament Director Anuj Shetty and generated the pairings for each round. It

also sent a message to each player with a button to start their next game.

Players could watch other games while waiting for their opponent. They did not need to step outside the game area to check standings and pairings or to look up their opponents' name. Nor did they have to worry about having set the wrong game parameters.

At the end of each round, standings were computed and posted in the Tournament Room.

GAMES		STANDINGS	
PLAYERS	W/L	SCORE	
Arindam	3-peat	(10-5)	404
Centrestar		(10-5)	507
meetsumeet	Repeat	(10-5)	525
Stacked		(9-6)	386
mgk28	Repeat	(9-6)	512
rajeer		(8-7)	372
Rnalini	Repeat	(9-6)	407
Sammy2000		(8-7)	405
shub	3-peat	(8-7)	454
amogh		(7-8)	366
elideticve	Repeat	(7-8)	408
Ekansh27		(8-7)	411
Examine		Examine	
Round 14		Round 15	

The Woogles tournament room

The winners stood on a virtual podium, receiving their prize money electronically. Udayan Grover and young Shreyas Gupta won Division A and Division B respectively. Ekansh Arora and Yuvraj Dige took away the awards for the best under-18 player in Division A and Division B respectively.

While the tournament looked and felt very different from the in-person meetings we all love, the same

sportsmanship, same spirit and love for the game was present in the KSSA Virtual Tournament as well. Our favourite compliment came from Vimisha Patel, who has organised multiple tourneys herself: "Best online tourney till date...enjoyed every minute."

Final standings – Division A

Player	Wins	Spread
1 Udayan Grover	12 (+0)	1080
2 Sanjoy Gupta	10	932
3 Sumeet Sachdev	10	382
4 Arindam Basu	10	163
5 Madhav Kamath	9	675
6 R Nalini	9	414
7 Sudhir Kamath	9	117
8 Rajveer Rawlin	7 (+1)	298
9 Ekansh Arora	8	291
10 Samrath Bhatia	8	7
11 Shubha S	8	-142
12 Amit Sood	8	-206
13 Ishika Shivalingaiah	7	263
14 Amogh Bhamerkar	7	133
15 Suyash Manchali	6 (+1)	-229
16 Pankaj Bolaki	6 (+1)	-661
17 Rohaina Tanveer	6	229
18 Kala Ganesh	5 (+1)	-423
19 Pramit Rao	6	-564
20 Shaik Ahmed	5 (+1)	-571
21 Bhushan Pradhan	5 (+0)	80
22 Sridhar Paidikondala	4 (+1)	-306
23 Vignesh S	4 (+1)	-812
24 Rajiv Antao	3 (+1)	-1150

High game: Madhav Kamath 629

Bye treatment explained in brackets

Final standings – Division B

Player	Wins	Spread
1 Shreyas Gupta	12 (+0)	760
2 Vimisha Patel	10 (+1)	772
3 Savio Rebello	10	197
4 Swagat Nukala	9	443
5 Triambak Eashwar	8	909
6 Rajnikant Singh	8	725
7 Gaurav Bhargava	8	365
8 Yuvraj Dige	8	323
9 Collin Pereira	8	281

10	Ritu Chadha	8	-68
11	Samarth Manchali	7	78
12	Lloyd Pearce	7	-670
13	Daiwik Bansal	6	182
14	Akshay Hiremath	6	-764
15	Ahana Goyal	5	-414
16	Bhavya Todi	5	-732
17	Madhulekha B	5	-825
18	Arhav Thakkar	3 (+1)	-1562

High game: Swagat Nukala 587

Bye treatment explained in brackets

Upcoming Tournaments

22nd National Championship from 22nd to 24th April at Otters Club, Bandra West, Mumbai; register at mumbaiscrabble@gmail.com

KSSA Indian Open from 26th to 29th May at Mu Sigma, Aviator Building, Whitefield, Bangalore; register at https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSdHwGuN-LRyD2xpV_bICwKVDDKXgEJmt_jlGZvzEGB1YovEMTQ/viewform

Poona Club Scrabble Tournament from 15th to 17th July at Poona Club, Pune; details to follow soon

7th GAIL Scrabble Cup from 2nd to 4th September in Delhi; details at 9910444681 (Sudhir), 9810044519 (Sunny)

Endgame Extra: A few pictures from the Pune All-India Open



Rajeev Menon (left) vs Ekansh Arora



View from the top table: Udayan Grover (left) battles it out against eventual tournament winner Sherwin Rodrigues



A Bangalore battle: Pankaj Bolaki vs Sujana Somasekar



Meena Kalyan (left) vs Asha Kamath



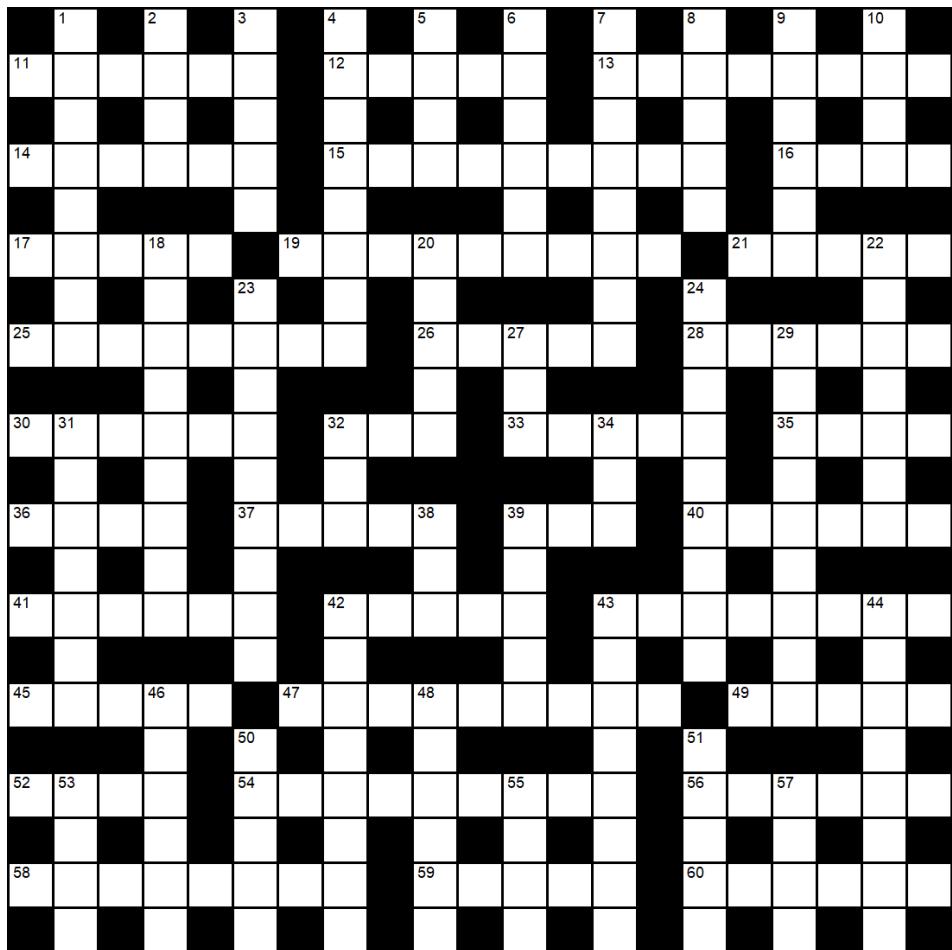
The women wordsmiths at the Pune All-India Open

Puzzles and quizzes

SAI Crossword #005

by Mohan Chunkath

Each clue has one anagram that has to be entered into the grid



Across

- 11** RUFFED (6)
12 SOREE (5)
13 TENORMAN (8)
14 CADEES (6)
15 CRAFTIEST (9)
16 WELD (4)
17 MALMY (5)
19 COKERNUTS (9)
21 LAXED (5)
25 EARTHPEA (8)
26 BOUGE (5)
28 IPECAC (6)
30 BETOIL (6)
32 BEY (3)
33 TERFS (5)
35 MIDI (4)
36 CUIF (4)
37 GAGED (5)
39 REI (3)
40 RAYING (6)
41 BEEZER (6)
42 STOKE (5)
43 GAMINESS (8)
45 BOUTS (5)
47 SIBILATED (9)
49 RAVIN (5)
52 KNAG (4)
54 MANTICORE (9)
56 PINTLE (6)

- 58** RACEMISE (8)
59 ENATE (5)
60 SKEENS (6)

Down

- 1** EPURATES (8)
2 FOUS (4)
3 DORTS (5)
4 RAINDATE (8)
5 BIOG (4)
6 DETUNE (6)
7 CATHOUSE (8)
8 SHANS (5)
9 LAXISM (6)
10 WEEN (4)
18 MARBLEIZE (9)
20 OBEYS (5)
22 TOENAIL (7)
23 SPERLINGS (9)
24 SKIAGRAMS (9)
27 FIG (3)
29 POLIANITE (9)
31 OVERUSE (7)
32 DEB (3)
34 VEE (3)
38 LEK (3)
39 MIHIS (5)
42 TREDILLE (8)
43 GINNIEST (8)
44 GLACIERS (8)

- 46** GIBING (6)
48 DEGAMI (6)
50 ERICK (5)
51 FILKS (5)

- 53** AALS (4)
55 OINT (4)
57 DEEP (4)

Anagram quiz – Proper and common

by Rustom Deboo

In this quiz, each question has two clues, the first for a word that is a proper noun (invalid in Scrabble) and the second for a common word (may or may not be a noun, valid in Scrabble) that is an anagram of the proper noun. You can send in your answers to *indianscrabble@gmail.com* by 15th May 2022. One entry getting all answers right will win a cash prize of Rs. 500 in a lucky draw.

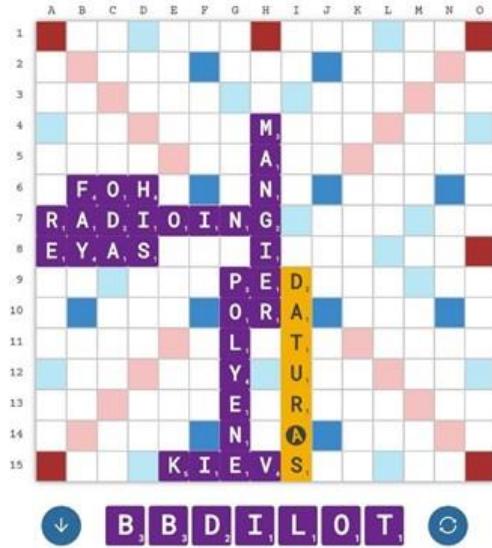
Congrats to Kala Ganesh for winning the lucky draw prize for the quiz featured in the December 2021 edition.

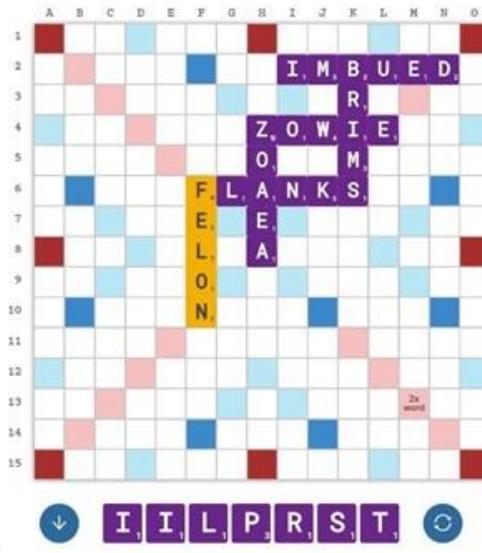
- 1) i. A country in Africa
ii. A place where cattle are housed
- 2) i. Name of a singing legend
ii. To split
- 3) i. An automobile brand
ii. Units of illumination
- 4) i. An island state
ii. Poisonous mushrooms
- 5) i. A city in Europe
ii. Large smartphones
- 6) i. Surname of an Indian cricketer
ii. A ballroom dance
- 7) i. A hygiene products brand
ii. Residue of tobacco in a pipe
- 8) i. A city in India
ii. A sudden, violent incursion
- 9) i. Surname of a great poet
ii. An almond-flavoured syrup
- 10) i. An electronics brand
ii. Small animals of Java

Find the best play

by Hriday Samtani

Find the best/highest-scoring play on offer in each of three board situations below:





3

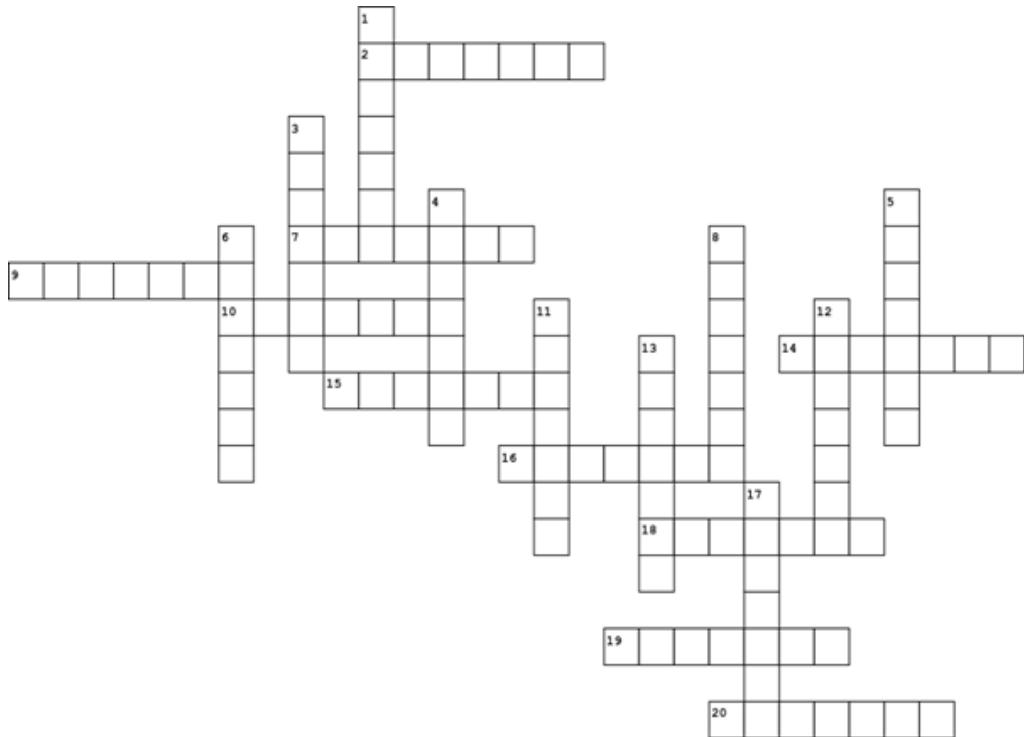
Endgame Extra: Know the 85 seven-letter words containing three Ns

ANNONAS	GUNNING	NONANES	RUNNING
ANTENNA	HENNING	NONBANK	RUNNION
BANNING	HENNINS	NONFANS	SINNING
BINNING	INCONNUE	NONIRON	SUNNING
CANNING	INNINGS	NONKINS	SYNANON
CANNONS	KENNING	NONNEWS	TANNING
CONNING	KONNING	NONNIES	TANNINS
CUNNING	LINNING	NOONING	TINNING
DENNING	MANNANS	NUNDINE	TUNNING
DINNING	MANNING	NUNNERY	UNCANNY
DONNING	MUNNION	NUNNISH	UNFUNNY
DUNNING	NANDINA	PANNING	UNKNOWN
FANNING	NANDINE	PENNANT	UNSUNNY
FENNING	NANDINS	PENNINE	VANNING
FINNANS	NANKEEN	PENNING	WANNING
FINNING	NANKINS	PENNONS	WANNION
FLANNEN	NANNIED	PINNING	WINNING
FONNING	NANNIES	PUNNING	WONNING
FUNNING	NEMNING	RENNING	YENNING
GANNING	NINEPIN	RENNINS	
GENNING	NINNIES	RINNING	
GINNING	NONAGON	RONNING	

Twin blank challenge

by Rustom Deboo

Given in the clues are combinations of letters that, when taken together with both the blanks, form words that are valid in Scrabble. Some of the combinations lead to more than one valid Scrabble word, which is indicated by the numbers in the brackets.

**Across**

- 2. CIOIO (1)
- 7. UAOLU (2)
- 9. VELMB
- 10. TNTNM
- 14. UAOLU (3)
- 15. XLPAS (2)
- 16. HMKIE (3)
- 18. DOULZ
- 19. LNFGGB
- 20. QSRNE

Down

- 1. UAOLU (1)
- 3. HMKIE (1)
- 4. CIOIO (2)
- 5. HMKIE (2)
- 6. IJDMR
- 8. APRCW
- 11. XLPAS (1)
- 12. TYUBP (1)
- 13. TYUBP (2)
- 17. YATEZ

Note from the outgoing President

The outgoing SAI Managing Committee (MC), comprising Harry Bhatia, Rahil Parkar, Rajiv Antao, Rustom Deboo, Udayan Grover, Vimisha Patel and yours truly was elected by the SAI members on 21st November 2020, and its tenure comes to an end at the forthcoming National Championship to be held in Mumbai from 22nd April 2022. A new Committee will take over for the next two years.

On behalf of the Committee, I would like to thank all SAI members for their support through what has been a rather challenging period for the Scrabble circuit. We've tried our best to navigate this period, and hope we've left SAI in at least as good a shape as we found it.

I would like to take the opportunity to share with you all that we worked upon during our tenure as well as a few highlights:

- SAI membership**

We started with an effort to streamline our membership database, move members to life memberships, and put in place a smoother onboarding process for new members (including a new welcome email with all essential details and with links to key Scrabble resources). The old Yahoo group also had to be migrated to Google Groups, as Yahoo shut down that service. Despite there being multiple hiatuses in the live tournament calendar over the

last two years, we welcomed 40 new members into SAI in the last 17 months, which forms nearly 15% of the current total membership.

My thanks to Hema Shah and Archana Aggarwal who volunteered their time on this effort, along with Rustom and Vimisha.

- New monitoring system for online tournaments**

In 2020, we didn't know when in-person tournaments would start again. We therefore felt it was necessary to put in place a more fool-proof anti-cheating system for online tournaments. We developed a monitoring system, set up through the OBS Ninja platform and involving constant surveillance of the players by observers (instead of the simple camera system that was used for earlier lockdown tournaments), and tested this in December 2020. Over time, the system was used in multiple online tournaments and further refined to make it easier to use for players as well as observers.

My thanks to Rahil who developed the system, and to Vimisha, Neeta Bhatia, Hema, Marisha Sharma, Archana and many others who volunteered their time on this effort.

- Online ratings and rated online tournaments**

With no clarity on the return to the normal live tournament calendar, we decided to create a separate series of online tournaments with their own online rating system, starting 27th March 2021. Since then, there have

been another five such SAI-rated online tournaments over the last year. We moved from ISC to Woogles as the platform of choice, and all the practice here turned out to be very useful for our under-18 and adult teams that participated in world championships that were held online during the year, and produced India's best ever results.

Credit to Rajiv and Rahil for developing the system, with inputs from Udayan, Anuj Shetty, and others.

- **Endgame, the SAI quarterly magazine**

SAI launched its quarterly magazine in March 2021, and both physical (at a cost) and electronic (free) versions have been published every quarter since then. I am one of many members who look forward to each issue – Endgame definitely enhances the community feel and provide members with an avenue to voice their thoughts and share their experiences.

All credit to Rustom for conceptualising Endgame and driving the execution. He's received generous support from many contributors – and not to forget Nikheel Ruparel, who prints and despatches the hard copies!

- **SAI on social media**

We were (and still are) woefully under-represented on social media. We made a small step forward with the SAI Facebook page getting more active, and a new Twitter handle and Instagram page were created. However, a lot more needs to be done here – something the new MC will have to

take up (possibly with the assistance of some Scrabbling youngsters!)

- **SAI title system**

The SAI accreditation system, loosely inspired by the GM system in chess, envisages awarding titles to consistent performers in rated tournaments. This is an idea developed by Vraj Jain and Aditya Iyengar, with assistance from Rahil and Rajiv. It is now live but needs to be taken up with greater vigour in the coming months!

- **Collaboration with Mattel and issue of expurgation of words in CSW21**

'Scrabble' is a trademark of Mattel in India, so it is absolutely essential that SAI should have a harmonious working relationship with Mattel India. Unfortunately, this has been difficult to do in practice as Mattel is focussed on board sales and SAI on tournaments, and the intersection was limited. Thanks to the tireless efforts of Harry, we now have a good connect with the new brand team at Mattel, and an opportunity to shape a mutually beneficial relationship in the coming years – increasing the reach of Scrabble in schools across India, for instance. Watch this space!

At the same time, there was a lot of angst felt by many Scrabblers around the world about Mattel's unilateral deletion of certain words from Collins Scrabble Words 2019 (CSW19). As SAI, our view was that the expurgation of words from the official dictionary at the behest of Mattel was a decision we couldn't influence and

opposing it at the cost of losing access to the ‘Scrabble’ name was not in our best interests. Accordingly, the Committee decided to vote in favour of the expurgation at the WESPA General Meeting held for this purpose in February 2021.

- **SAI on the WESPA Executive Committee**

As a committee, we felt that SAI should have a voice on the global WESPA Executive Committee. After a call for candidates, Udayan was selected as the SAI nominee, and he was elected to the WESPA Executive Committee at the WESPA Biennial General Meeting held virtually on 31st October 2021.

- **WESPA Youth Cup 2021**

Madhav Gopal Kamath and Suyash Manchali achieved India’s best ever performance at the WESPA Youth Cup 2021, which was held online in August 2021 – two players in the top ten for the first time, and our highest placing of #2! In addition, we were very proud that Team India received the ‘Spirit of Scrabble’ award for playing in the best spirit of the game.

A big thanks here to Team Wordaholix (Neeta, Harry, Mimi Hingorani, Varisht Hingorani, and Sherwin Rodrigues) who helped the youngsters prepare for the tournament, and also helped conduct a three-day tournament to determine the qualifiers for the Indian team, using the new monitoring system.

- **Sherwin shines at WESPAC 2021**

In November 2021, the WESPA Championship (WESPAC) was played in a virtual avatar as well, featuring over a hundred players. Our inimitable ace Sherwin made it to the quarterfinals and finished sixth in a world-class field, making it India’s best finish at any senior Scrabble world championship.

- **News and PR outreach**

While Team India recorded its best ever performance at the WESPA Youth Cup at the 2021 virtual edition, the Scrabble community also scored a few wins in terms of getting the news out to a wider audience!

Their feats deservedly found a slot on primetime news on the India Today TV channel, as part of the News Today show hosted by Rajdeep Sardesai on 25th August; many newspapers also carried news items and interviews with the SAI youngsters (*Links to the TV interview and news clips are available in the ‘news’ section on the SAI website*).

Many thanks to Manisha Mohite, Ela Ghose, Vidya Goggi, Suchindra Potnis, Radhika Mahalingaiah, Mahesh Nayak and others who helped with the outreach to journalists – and to Suyash and Madhav for patiently dealing with the actual interviews!

- **Guidelines for in-person tournaments**

Considering the delicate pandemic situation in the country at the start of this Committee’s tenure, it was decided to allow for resumption of SAI-rated in-person tournaments in

February 2021 subject to a set of precautions being in place (thanks to Vimisha and Marisha for helping refine those guidelines). Since then, the in-person tournament scene has gradually returned to a semblance of normalcy, though we need to be vigilant still.

- **SAI club room on Woogles**

With more and more players and tournament organisers starting to prefer the Woogles platform due to reasons of convenience, it was decided to create a SAI club room on Woogles with a view to encourage regular games between members. Thanks to Rahil, the SAI club room was created and can be accessed at woogles.io/club/sai.

- **Committee working guidelines**

The SAI bye-laws don't clearly lay down how Committee functions. This time we all felt it would be good to codify some of these practices and thereby improve our governance, as the Committee changes every two years, and all its members are volunteers with day jobs. Thanks to Rustom, we now have more clearly defined working principles, decision-making guidelines, and diligently maintained minutes of all decisions!

- **Accounts and compliances**

On the same lines, we felt we needed to update the SAI banking accounts so that online transfers could be facilitated. This however could not be completed due to pandemic-related challenges but should happen in the

near future. Harry (Treasurer) and Rajiv (Secretary) also worked diligently to ensure that all our accounts are now fully up to date (including closing the accounting for the WESPAC held in Goa) and our registration and filings with the Charity Commissioner are fully updated.

- **Last but not the least...**

The Committee unanimously felt that a modern logo should be designed for SAI. For the same, SAI members were invited to submit their designs in February 2021, which were then voted upon by SAI members. The logo by Nidhi Singhvi (featured below) was accordingly selected as the winner. With live tournaments returning, we look forward to the possibility of Scrabble merchandise in the near future.



SCRABBLE
ASSOCIATION OF INDIA

In closing, I'd like to say a fond farewell to the Committee – it was a great experience working with all of you! Vimisha, Udayan, Rustom, Rajiv and Harry are up for re-election, and I hope they will continue in the new Committee. I am sure the two (or

(more) new members who join the Committee will bring new ideas, and I hope they all work well together.

Best wishes,

Sudhir Kamath
President
SAI Managing Committee 2020-22

strike good friendships. Nowadays, she spends an hour every other day playing Scrabble with her children.

4. **Pradyot Anand** (Bangalore, currently based in Singapore) has been an avid board gamer for the last decade and has a personal collection of 150+ games. He was seeking a strategy game that required multiple skills to master, had a tournament scene, and allowed for progressively developing competence based on deliberate effort. Not surprisingly, his first stops were Chess and Checkers, but neither really appealed to him. He then tried competitive Scrabble at the Jurong Green CC Scrabble Open in 2018, and was hooked, primarily because he lost all games and figured the only way was up. His handle is Drizzt (his favourite Dungeons & Dragons character) on Woogles and PlayScrab.
5. **Tithi Wakhariya** (Bangalore)
6. **Shaurya Bhasin** (Bangalore)
7. **Anirban Paul Chowdhury** (Kolkata) has been a marketing professional since the last 25 years and has also

New members

The following members were welcomed into SAI in the last three months:

1. **Ajay Sheth** (Nagpur)
2. **Anika Dalwani** (Mumbai)
3. **Suditi Jindal** (Chandigarh) is a renowned mentor and award-winning author and has conceptualised unique training programmes and methodologies in the fields of self-actualisation, executive coaching, and career development. With an intent to provide the best guidance in unfolding potentials of a variety of individuals, she laid the foundation of Philyra Training and Consultancy. Her videos on corporate coaching are available on her YouTube channel. She has been playing Scrabble since she was 11, when she used to play it with her father. It has helped her enrich her vocabulary and to be articulate and

ventured into the F&B space. He has been playing Scrabble since college, when it was like an addiction as he and three other friends (including fellow SAI member Dipankar Chatterjee) used to play for six to seven hours a day. For him, Scrabble is still an addiction, and he plays it at every given opportunity. It offers him a great bonding experience, a challenge to his mind, and a great source of entertainment.

Endgame Extra: Down memory lane



The top tables at the 2017 National Championship



Players in action at the 2016 Nationals



Games in progress at the first Wordaholix Scrabble League (WSL) in 2015



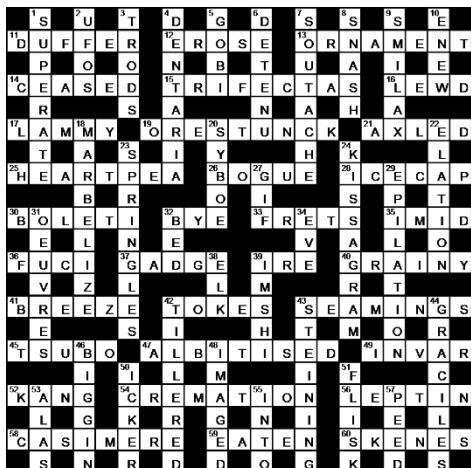
The top three at the 2018 GAIL Cup in Delhi – winner Udayan Grover (centre), followed by Varisht Hingorani (right) and Goutham Jayaraman (left) in second and third place respectively



The top three at the 2019 Collins National Schools Scrabble Championship – winner Ekansh Arora (centre), followed by Arvind Iyengar (right) and Dhruv Kamath (left) in second and third place respectively

Solutions to puzzles and quizzes

SAI Crossword #005



Find the best play

1



Three best moves:

- 12D – BOD(Y)B(U)ILT – 130
- 12C – DOBB(Y) – 26 (ILT)
- 12C – LOBB(Y) – 24 (DIT)

2



Three best moves:

- E5 – MOSk(ON)FYT – 114
- D5 – MOSk(ON)FYT – 82
- 11C – MOY – 36 (FST?)

3



Three best moves:

- 8A – PISTI(L)L(A)R – 86
- 8D – PI(L)L(A)RIST – 65
- 1D – PISTIL – 35 (R)

Twin blank challenge

Across: 2) OOLITIC, 7) HAULOUT,
 9) MOVABLE, 10) MONTANT,
 14) OUTHAUL, 15) EXPOSAL,
 16) MIKVEHS, 18) TOUZLED,
 19) FABLING, 20) REQUINS

Down: 1) ROULEAU, 3) METHINK,
 4) COITION, 5) KIMCHEE,
 6) JEMIDAR, 8) SCRAWPS,
 11) SALPINX, 12) SUBTYPE,
 13) PUBERTY, 17) AZYMITE

Endgame Extra: Know the 103 seven-letter words containing three Ts

ATTAIN	RATATAT	TATTERL	TOFUTTI
ATTASKT	SESTETT	TATTLES	TOMTITS
ATTEMPT	SEXTETT	TATTOOS	TONETTE
ATTENTS	STATANT	TATTOWS	TOTIENT
ATTESTS	STATIST	TAUTEST	TOTTERS
ATTRACT	STATTOS	TECTITE	TOTTERY
ATTRIST	STATUTE	TEKTITE	TOTTIER
ATTRITE	STETTED	TESTATA	TOTTIES
ATTRITS	STOTTED	TESTATE	TOTTING
ATTUENT	STOTTER	TETOTUM	TRITEST
ATTUITE	STOTTIE	TETRACT	TROTTED
BATTUTA	STRETTA	TETTERS	TROTTER
BATTUTO	STRETTE	THATCHT	TUTTIES
ETATIST	STRETTI	THRETTY	TUTTING
FATTEST	STRETTO	TITBITS	TWATTED
FATTIST	STUTTER	TITLIST	TWATTLE
FITTEST	TARTEST	TITRANT	TWITTED
GUTTATE	TARTLET	TITRATE	TWITTEN
HOTTEST	TATHATA	TITTERS	TWITTER
LATITAT	TATTERS	TITTIES	TZITZIT
MOTETTS	TATTERY	TITTING	VITTATE
OCTETTE	TATTIER	TITTISH	WATTEST
OCTETTS	TATTIES	TITTLED	WETTEST
OUTTROT	TATTILY	TITTLES	WOTTEST
PATTEST	TATTING	TITTUPS	WOTTETH
PITTITE	TATTLED	TITTUPY	

Ratings

Below are the SAI top 60 (official) and top 15 (online) as on 31st March 2022. To see the full rankings, please visit indianscrabble.com.

Official ratings

	Name	Club	Rating	Games
1	Sherwin Rodrigues	MUM	1843	1564
2	Eeshan Malhotra	MUM	1809	451
3	Akshay Bhandarkar	OSI	1806	540
	Irfan Siddiqui	OS	1743	314
4	Goutham Jayaraman	OSI	1732	461
5	Ralph Lobo	OSI	1695	218
6	Mohan Chunkath	CHN	1681	1086
7	Udayan Grover	PUN	1675	1927
8	Nakul Prabhu	MUM	1673	1526
9	Ranganathan Chakrav	CHN	1648	935
10	Aditya Iyengar	PUN	1637	522
11	Varisht Hingorani	MUM	1588	1221
12	Charles Carneiro	OSI	1587	787
13	Rajveer Rawlin	BLR	1572	494
14	Nidhi Singhvi	OSI	1558	950
	Puneet Sharma	OS	1549	170
15	Mohsin Ahmed	BLR	1537	264
16	Sanjoy Gupta	BLR	1534	1285
	Michael Tang	OS	1534	434
17	Samrat Singh Bhatia	MUM	1529	881
18	Douglas Lobo	GOA	1510	1397
19	Sunny Bhatia	DEL	1481	1090
20	Rahil Parkar	MUM	1472	585
21	A Krishnan	CHN	1464	513
22	Hriday Samtani	MUM	1437	577
23	Manju Sood	BLR	1428	829
24	Jose de Abreu	MUM	1426	931
25	Selwyn Lobo	OSI	1420	251
26	Vraj Jain	MUM	1391	593
27	Carolann Pais	MUM	1387	1592
28	Mangala Bhandarkar	PUN	1380	1513
29	Ishika Shivalingaiah	BLR	1365	264
30	Shaik Ahmed	HYD	1364	1743
31	Yash Potnis	BLR	1360	529
32	Anuj Shetty	BLR	1356	284
33	Mehul Arora	DEL	1332	264
34	Sujana Somasekar	BLR	1329	374
35	Amit Sood	PUN	1328	368
36	Pankaj Bolaki	BLR	1323	248
37	Sudhir Kamath	DEL	1310	948
38	Madhav Gopal Kamath	DEL	1301	540
39	Rajeev Menon	HYD	1299	750
40	Sanjay Bijlani	MUM	1298	535
41	Pramit Kamath	DEL	1289	498

	Name	Club	Rating	Games
42	Rohaina Tanveer	OS	1288	520
43	Cecil Fernandes	OSI	1275	464
44	Bhushan Pradhan	MUM	1246	1815
45	Lennie D'Souza	BLR	1236	1189
46	Vedika Hingorani	MUM	1229	589
47	Amogh Bhamerkar	GUJ	1214	24
48	Sumeet Sachdev	MUM	1212	494
49	Sridhar Paidikondala	HYD	1192	842
50	V Ramachandran	MUM	1189	1330
	Neelam Agrawal	BLR	1186	306
51	Rajiv Antao	GOA	1183	993
52	Dipankar Chatterjee	BLR	1181	558
53	Abid Hussain	BLR	1174	276
54	R Nalini	BLR	1172	876
55	Suchindra Potnis	BLR	1164	376
56	Rehet Singh Bhatia	MUM	1159	864
57	Brian D'Souza	OSI	1151	210
58	Nikhel Ruparel	MUM	1142	978
59	Marie Fernandes	OSI	1132	512
60	Meena Bakhru	PUN	1132	357

Online ratings

	Name	Club	Rating	Games
1	Rahil Parkar	MUM	2613	27
2	Udayan Grover	PUN	2516	80
3	Sanjoy Gupta	BLR	2455	51
4	Samrat Singh Bhatia	MUM	2361	70
	Brian Po	OS	2345	10
5	Madhav Gopal Kamath	DEL	2344	96
6	Sumeet Sachdev	MUM	2254	109
7	Pankaj Bolaki	BLR	2246	41
8	Amit Sood	PUN	2223	51
	Shaila Amalean	OS	2202	48
9	Sudhir Kamath	DEL	2196	36
10	R Nalini	BLR	2169	100
11	Ishika Shivalingaiah	BLR	2142	71
12	Rajveer Rawlin	BLR	2110	14
13	Bhushan Pradhan	MUM	2102	70
14	Shubha Shivashankar	BLR	2099	25
15	Sridhar Paidikondala	HYD	2089	55

Note that the online ratings are provisional and may not be indicative of true performance; ratings will stabilise only after several tournaments

BLR – Bangalore (KSSA)

CHN – Chennai

DEL – Delhi

GOA – Goa

GUJ – Gujarat (Vadodara)

HYD – Hyderabad

KOL – Kolkata

MUM – Mumbai

PUNE – Pune

OSI – Indian national residing overseas

OS – Overseas foreign player (no rank)

Links to key Scrabble resources for improving and knowing more about your game

1. Stay updated with the latest in Indian Scrabble on the SAI website at <http://indianscrabble.com/>. You can also follow us on Facebook at <https://www.facebook.com/scrabbleindia/>
2. Find out all you need to know about global Scrabble on the WESPA website at <https://www.wespa.org/>
3. Play Scrabble online on Woogles at <https://woogles.io/> or at the Internet Scrabble Club at <https://www.isc.ro/>
4. Play Scrabble on the move on Scrabble Go at https://play.google.com/store/apps/details?id=com.pieyel.scrabble&hl=en_IN&gl=US
5. Check the validity of words with the Scrabble Word Checker at https://play.google.com/store/apps/details?id=com.pisanu.scrabblechecker&hl=en_IN&gl=US
6. Hone your word knowledge and keep your Scrabble skills sharp with word-study tools such as (i) Scrabble Word Expert at <https://play.google.com/store/apps/details?id=com.pisanu.scrabbleexpert.free&hl=en&gl=US>,
(ii) Anagram Quizzer at https://play.google.com/store/apps/details?id=com.JGBBGGames.AnagramQuizzer&hl=en_IN&gl=US,
(iii) Zyzzyva at http://www.scrabbleplayers.org/w/NASPA_Zyzzyva:_The_Last_Word_in_Word_Study and
(iv) Aerolith at <https://www.aerolith.org/>
7. Simulate your games on Quackle at <http://people.csail.mit.edu/jasonkb/quackle/>
8. Check out the complete lists of valid two-letter words at <https://www.scrabble.org.au/words/twos-19.htm> and three-letter words at <https://scrabguys.home.blog/3lw/>

Note: The clickable links are embedded in the virtual edition of the magazine, which can be downloaded from the SAI website.



ENDGAME

Let us know your feedback

What did you like about this edition of Endgame? What would you like to see more of in future editions? Would you like to contribute content for the next edition? Do you have any suggestions for improvement? We await your valuable feedback and submissions, which you can send across to indianscrabble@gmail.com.

About SAI

The Scrabble Association of India (SAI) is the apex governing body for Scrabble players in India and oversees the organisation and conduct of several tournaments in the country. It maintains a tournament rating system for every SAI-rated tournament and accords a SAI rating to all its members. It is affiliated to the WESPA (World English-Language Scrabble Players Association), the global body that oversees the competitive English-language Scrabble scene throughout the world.

How to become a SAI member?

If you are a Scrabble enthusiast or know someone who is, we welcome you to join SAI. Becoming a SAI member is easy. All you need to do is visit the SAI website and apply for membership at indianscrabble.com/join-us/. You can either become a life member or an annual member. We invite Scrabble lovers of all ages to join us.

Contact us

For details about Indian Scrabble, you can visit our website at indianscrabble.com.

For general inquiries about anything related to Indian Scrabble and feedback and submissions for Endgame, you can reach out to us at indianscrabble@gmail.com.

You can also follow the Scrabble Association of India page on Facebook for updates.

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