



Celebrating The Remarkable Journey of Mrs. Saroj Sitaram Sawant

Mrs. Saroj Sitaram Sawant's journey in badminton exemplifies passion, perseverance, and pure dedication. A towering figure in Indian badminton, her contributions as a player and coach have inspired countless enthusiasts to embrace the sport.

Born and raised in an environment conducive to fostering a love for sports, Mrs. Sawant's early education saw her traversing various cities – from Kolhapur for primary schooling to Malvan, Satara, and finally Kolhapur again for higher secondary and college education. These formative years played a crucial role in shaping her sportsmanship and competitive spirit.

The Genesis of a Champion

Mrs. Sawant's love for badminton began in her school years, where she excelled at taluka, district, division, and state levels. Her game underwent a transformative evolution when she moved to Kolhapur and trained under Shri Manohar Tawade. The nurturing badminton culture in Kolhapur, coupled with her rigorous practice, paved the way for numerous accolades at district, regional, and state levels. Her college years saw her representing Shivaji University at the

national stage, a remarkable feat that highlighted her exceptional talent.

The Coach and Competitor

In 1999, Mrs. Sawant extended her expertise to coaching in Ratnagiri, shaping aspiring players for over 25 years. Her dual role as a coach and competitor reflects her undying commitment to the sport. Since 2013, she has actively participated in senior state and national badminton championships, demonstrating that age is no barrier to excellence.

A Legacy of Achievements

Mrs. Sawant's career is adorned with prestigious titles and accolades:

- **2013** : Mixed Doubles title (45+ category) at the State Championship in Pune.



- **2014** : Singles and Mixed Doubles titles (45+ category) at the State Championship in Nagpur.
- **2015** : Represented India at the World Championship in Sweden and achieved runner-up in Mixed Doubles (45+ category) at the National Championship in Dharamshala, Himachal Pradesh.
- **2016** : Women's Doubles champion and runner-up in Singles and Mixed Doubles (45+ category) at the State Championship in Nagpur. Won Women's Doubles and was runner-up in Singles (50+ category) at the National Championship in Coimbatore.
- **2017** : Triple crown winner (Singles, Doubles, Mixed Doubles – 50+ category) at the State Championship in Pune. Represented India in all three



categories at the International Championship in Kochi, Kerala.

- **2018** : Achieved titles in Doubles and Mixed Doubles (50+ category) at the State Championship in Mumbai and national recognition at Visakhapatnam.
- **2019** : Represented India at the World Championship in Poland.
- **2022** : Bronze medal in Mixed Doubles at the Senior National Championship in Chennai.
- **2023** : Gold and silver medals in Women's Doubles and Mixed Doubles at National Championships in Udaipur, Visakhapatnam, and Goa. Represented India at the International Championship in South Korea.

THE 45TH INDIAN MASTERS (BADMINTON CHAMPIONSHIPS)



An Inspiration to Generations

Mrs. Sawant's accomplishments transcend titles and medals; her legacy lies in the inspiration she provides to young athletes and her role in nurturing the next generation of players. Her indomitable spirit and lifelong dedication to badminton continue to resonate within the badminton community, especially within KDBA.

As we celebrate 50 glorious years of the Kolhapur Badminton Association, it is a privilege to honor stalwarts like Mrs. Saroj Sitaram Sawant, whose journey epitomizes the very spirit of our sport.

 Golden Era of
Kolhapur Badminton