## Sampath Walimuni Memorial Elle Tournament

In a loving memory of Anura Sampath Walimuni also known as "Dura", the Old Boys of University of Colombo Elle team, in partnership with 4 university teams and current team of University of Colombo, have arranged the Sampath Walimuni Memorial Elle Tournament 2024. This competition is particularly meaningful since it honors Sampath Walimuni's passion for the Elle and serves as a moving reminder of the impression he left on everyone who had the pleasure of knowing him.

Sampath Walimuni had passion, skill, and sportsmanship; he was more than simply a name. Coming from the Balaharuwa in Wellawaya, Sampath had lofty aspirations when he enrolled at the University of Colombo. As a member of the 2009/10 batch pursuing a degree in Sociology University of Colombo Faculty of Arts.

Sampath was a key player in his university team's victory in the Sri Lanka University Games Elle Championship, which was hosted by the University of Moratuwa. He led his squad with style and grace. His efforts were outstanding. In addition to leading his team to victory, his talent and determination won over everyone who saw his talents on the field.

Sadly, a sad turn of events tarnished Sampath's trip. One of the biggest stars in the Elle community passed away in March, 2016 in a bike accident in Eheliyagoda.

Following Sampath's death, the University of Colombo Elle team came together to make sure his legacy remains forever. The Sampath Walimuni Memorial Elle Tournament was established as a result in 2018. In 2018, 2019 and 2022 the Tournament was successfully done by the Old Boys of University of Colombo. This event is a celebration of Sampath's life, his love for the game, and the legacy he left behind, more than simply a tournament. It is evidence of how much impact one person can have on a whole community.

Players from all walks represent Sampath on the field not just as rivals but also as keepers of his legacy, paying tribute to him with each hit at bat and catch made in the field. University teams and the University of Colombo Old Boys Elle team compete in this Elle Tournament.

The Sampath Walimuni Memorial Elle Tournament is a celebration of life, love, and the unwavering spirit of a true champion rather than just a sporting event. We pay tribute to Sampath's memory, celebrate his legacy, and come together to share the happiness of the game he so cherished through this tournament, and this will be held on 26<sup>th</sup> of May 2024 at University of Colombo Ground.

