

THE DAILY EXHAUST

Issue One



Editorial

It is 3:33 AM (it's just a pretty number).

I always wondered what my editors thought about while writing their editorials and now that I am in the same position, I can assure you, we do not think at all. At the time when you actually sit down to write your editorial, you are at a loss of words because everything is done and you just want to sleep (yes, I want to sleep). The booth has reached the stage where the writers are done and soaring high, the proofreading is wrapping up, and the designers hate us all with a burning passion.

I've read through a hundred fonts today trying to find the perfect one. A small tidbit, but it just made me realize, a fest press is so much more than covering an event. From picking a theme, to designing cover pages and selecting elements for every page, it is a whole process. The writers are reading through the archives to understand the sport better and it is so wholesome as someday BOSM 2023 will be in the archives for a random batch of EPC.

Alright, I'll sign off for the day before I get too emotional and now I have to go allot articles for Day One (it is the worst thing ever).

**Keep Slaying,
Harshita**

Team

Aarjav, Adaa, Anurag, Anushka, Avi, Keshav, Mizaan, Nandinee, Riya, Sahaj, Shaz, Zehaan;

Aditi C, Aditi M, Aditya, Akshatha, Anantshree, Gowrav, Harshita, Iyer, Kavya, Krishnam, Navin, Samarth, Sury, Vedit, Yash;

Adhvaith, Aniruddha, Anshuman, Esha, Ishaan, Garvit, Gurekas, Harsh, Nandini, Nishit, Shreyas Shivansh, Siddharth, Stuti, Tarun G, Tarun S, Vagisha, Vivegan;

Aditya Kumar Sriram

With preparations for the upcoming edition of BOSM in full swing, the Sports Secretary, Aditya Kumar Sriram, took some time out of his busy schedule to talk with the BOSM English Press about the functioning of the Sports Council (SC) and the work it had been doing in the run-up to the sports fest.

Aditya started by talking about the work done by the SC. The SC is responsible for facilitating all sports activities on campus. This includes hiring referees for fests, appointing coaches for all the sports teams, procuring jerseys, taking stock of and ordering inventory, organising various tournaments besides BOSM, like BITS Premier League (BPL) and Inter-BITS, as well as the screening of various sports matches. Aditya also spoke of his responsibilities going into the fest and how they differed from those during the fest. He said that the latter largely consisted of managing the dynamic nature of the fest, where proceedings can change for the worse at the blink of an eye. Hence, a large part of the SC's duties during the fest involve mitigating such adverse changes. As for his pre-fest work, Aditya said that it mostly consisted of meticulous planning — ensuring that all departments work together seamlessly and that the requirements of sports team captains are fulfilled.



When asked about his post-fest work, Aditya stated that most of it pertained to managing the budget, identifying any mistakes made in the organisation of the fest, and ensuring that such mistakes are not repeated.

Speaking of his experience as the Sports Secretary, Aditya felt that the position brought up more challenges for him than he had anticipated. However, he added that taking on such a responsibility had helped him grow as a person. He also said that his interactions with the rest of the CoSSAc had been very smooth.

The coming edition of BOSM will feature some new events. Aditya was particularly excited about the introduction of Boxing as a sporting event. Another event being introduced for the first time in BOSM is "Bollywood Nite". Aditya believed that such an event would allow participants the opportunity to come together and enjoy a night of dance and music. He also stated that the funds generated from the event would be invested into improving sports facilities on campus.

As he signed off, Aditya spoke of the unifying power that sports had, bringing together people of different cultures through healthy competition. He urged the GBM to enjoy the fest and wished everyone a positive experience.

Anushka Patil

As the institute prepares for the much-anticipated BOSM 2023, it is not just the athletes working hard behind the scenes. Anushka Patil, the CoSSAcn for the Department of

Controls, BOSM (BoCo) in an interview with the BOSM English Press, explained her department's pivotal role in ensuring the smooth operation of the fest.

BoCo is the department linking all clubs, departments, and sports teams involved in BOSM. Their varied responsibilities include coordination with all organisations and departments, event planning and scheduling, inventory management, audiovisual necessities, and much more.

However, BoCo's involvement does not end there. This year, they took on added responsibilities in coordinating the prof shows. BoCo is also responsible for the inauguration, from event scripting to collaborating with organisations and departments performing at the ceremony, everything falls under their purview. Anushka said they handle rehearsals and logistics, to ensure the inauguration goes off without a hitch. For the prof shows, they navigate the complexities of permissions, venue arrangements, crowd management, and coordination with various other departments.

Anushka mentioned that while BoCo's core functions may have remained consistent, the challenges faced in 2022 due to the pandemic prompted the department to refine its processes. Anushka shared that they took active measures to improve their working process and the overall organisation of the fest this year.

Anushka found immeasurable satisfaction in her role as CoSSAcn by fostering relationships with her department and various institute employees. She valued the life skills she gained through fest organisation, including interpersonal communication and interacting with multiple stakeholders. She mentioned that her job is gratifying when institute staff and administrators recognise and greet her regularly.

Anushka envisioned BOSM continuing to develop and change in the future. She expects each upcoming fest to be bigger and better, with exciting new additions. She pictured her successors introducing new elements and enhancing the fest's grandeur each year. She invited all BITSians, whether sports enthusiasts or not, to participate in BOSM. She emphasised that even those who do not pursue sports can find something to enjoy. 'We've poured a lot of time and hard work into this fest, and I'm confident that every BITSian would enjoy it', she concluded.



Ayush Bhandari

With the preparations for BOSM in full swing, the CoSSAcn of the Department of Sponsorship and Marketing, BOSM (BOSM Sponz), Ayush Singh Bhandari, took some time out of his busy schedule and sat down with the BOSM English Press to discuss their work leading up to the fest.

The department works towards procuring cash and in-kind sponsorships, setting up food stalls, and overseeing merchandise signings. Ayush stated that they are diligently striving to meet its



projected target of INR 3 lakh in sponsorships. He remarked that the market's condition had only declined since APOGEE, due to which it had become exceedingly difficult to persuade companies to sponsor a fest that was neither technical nor cultural in nature. To counter this problem, the department approached companies to sponsor only specific fest expenses or a few sporting events. He mentioned that although the department had started working for BOSM in the month of April, InterBITS had impeded their progress.

Further elaborating on the department's work procedure, Ayush stated that after the negotiations with vendors and corporations are finalised, the department works towards meeting the deliverables promised to the sponsors. This involves branding the sponsors effectively by placing their banners, standees, and backdrops around campus. He added that since the food stalls are a major source of the fest's revenue, the majority of the workforce's attention is concentrated on ensuring they get sufficient traction and also address any issues or accidents they may encounter. Additionally, they manage a merchandise stall that mainly targets off-campus visitors.

Ayush said that although being the CoSSACn had been extremely exhausting for him, it was wonderful working with the other CoSSACns. He expressed his regrets about the market being in a poor state during his tenure, but highlighted that the department did its best to adapt to the circumstances.

To conclude, he wanted to let the BITSians know that the department had worked hard to increase the scale of the fest and that they should enjoy it to the fullest.

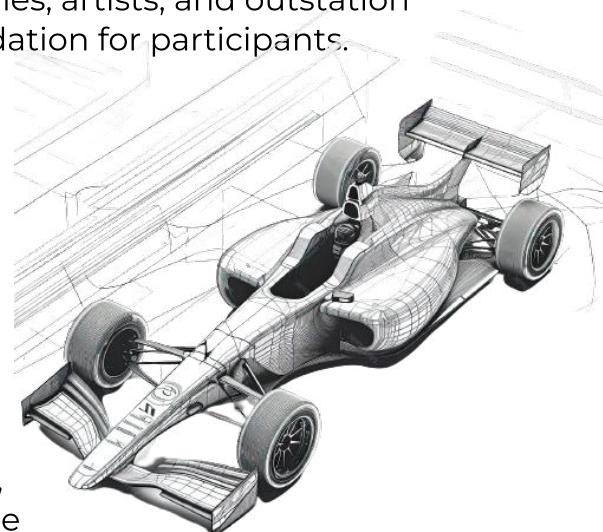


Shirish Kumaravel

The BOSM English Press spoke to Shirish Kumaravel, the CoSSACn of the Department of Reception and Accommodation (RecNAcc), to understand more about their work for the fest. RecNAcc deals with the reception of coaches, artists, and outstation participants. They help arrange in-campus accommodation for participants.

The department also works with vendors to set up accommodation centres outside the campus.

Apart from that, they also look after all the inventory and infrastructure requirements of the fest. Shirish added that the department would also oversee the travel arrangements of all important guests and dignitaries coming to campus, from their arrival to their departure. This BOSM, many participants are staying outside campus because of the lack of single rooms and staff quarters available inside the campus, as opposed to the last BOSM. This, coupled with the feedback RecNAcc received from the last fest, led to the decision to host participants outside. Hence, they are also managing a shuttle service for participants staying off-campus, that would drop them off for their matches in the morning and pick them back up in the evening.



The major problem the department is facing right now is workforce constraints, Shirish said. He explained that since everyone has other commitments and varying schedules, delegating work was difficult. He also mentioned how the administration tended to be unresponsive at times.



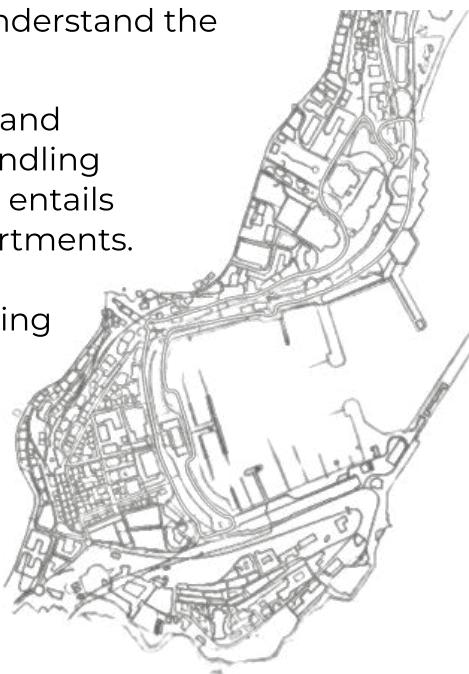
As the conversation moved along to his experience as a member of the CoSSAc, Shirish told us that it had taught him to look at things differently. He mentioned that every suggestion that was floated in a meeting required him to check its feasibility so that the work of other clubs and departments would not be affected adversely. This was something he did not have to consider before, he acknowledged. Since the same CoSSAc had worked together to organise InterBITS last semester, he said that they all had learned to work in a team, keeping all perspectives in mind and doing right by the fest. This also led him to remark that the most rewarding aspect of his job was seeing everyone happy and enjoying the fest, as it was the tangible impact of the hard work that had gone into making it happen. The conversation ended with Shirish saying that this edition of BOSM would not be like last year's. With a lot of big names coming, both in the sports category as well as in the prof show, the CoSSAc said they're 'pushing the boundaries of the last fest by a huge extent', urging everyone to be there and enjoy BOSM to its fullest potential.

Shreyas Sesham

The BOSM English Press (BEP) spoke with the CoSSAcn of the Department of Publications and Correspondence (PCr), Shreyas Sesham, to understand the department's role in the upcoming fest.

The department's primary duty is to manage correspondence and reprography. This includes contacting prospective colleges, handling registrations and collecting payments. Their reprography work entails addressing the printing requirements of other clubs and departments. Furthermore, they are responsible for designing the logo, the brochure, and the access passes. They are in charge of conducting the fest snaps as well.

Talking about their pre-fest work, Shreyas explained that they start updating their contact sheet and reaching out to colleges around a month or two before the fest. Currently, they have 2200 registered students for this BOSM and are expecting more. He said that compared to last year's number, they expect fewer last-minute cancellations and aim to bring in more than 200 girls and over 900 boys. Shreyas added that a lot of colleges that were not able to come previously are attending the upcoming BOSM, including IIT Delhi, IIT Roorkee, O. P. Jindal Global University, Ashoka University, and many more.



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He shared that one of the issues they encountered was the limited accommodation available, especially for the female participants. This constraint impacted the number of students they were able to invite. However, Shreyas expressed his appreciation for RecNAcc's efforts to improve the situation, stating,

"RecNAcc is doing a very good job with respect to increasing the accommodation. I'm impressed with the way they have pulled it up". Additionally, the department had planned to introduce a 'variable sports registration fee' but it couldn't be implemented due to certain limitations. Nevertheless, they are eager to refine the process and incorporate it in the following year.

Talking about his interactions with the CoSSAc and the institute, Shreyas remarked that they had been pleasant and smooth. He also credited the CoSSAcns for being understanding of each other. Additionally, he mentioned that collaborating with other clubs and departments, especially Firewallz, BoCo, SFC and RecNAcc had been effortless for them.

Providing insight into his role as CoSSAcn, Shreyas described it as an 'eye-opening experience'. He emphasized that he had gotten to learn a lot and interact with a variety of people. 'To understand different viewpoints and work together to make it a better version compared to the last BOSM was something really exciting to me,' he added.

To conclude, Shreyas encouraged BITSians to attend the fest and support BITS' sports teams. He urged the 2023 batch by saying, "Watch the games, eat at the food stalls, play in the adventure zone, go around various tents with your friends and you're gonna have the best five days of your college life."



Sports Financial Committee

The BOSM English Press sat down with the members of the Sports Financial Committee (SFC), Pradyut Sood, Vidhatra Shukla, and Vinayak Bhattacharya, to talk about their workings for BOSM 2023.

The SFC plays a largely advisory role to the CoSSAc. Particularly, their responsibilities entail the formation of the budget, planning of the reimbursement schedules as well

as advances, and coordination with the administration. The formulation of the overall budget also entails forming smaller budgets for each club and department and is a tedious task owing to the miscellaneous costs involved, according to the members. Another key role taken up by the SFC is that of the Auditor of the fest. The SFC has also started integrating UPI as a payment method for fests since BOSM 2022. When asked about the small size of the committee and its implications, they admitted that the size posed challenges in managing the workload.

However, it was necessary due to the handling of sensitive information, considering the high stakes involved.



It is essential for the entire committee to be in agreement with each other and take decisions that are in the best interest of the Sports Union, which is easier to achieve with a smaller workforce. The members mentioned a 70-80% increase from the previous budget of 3.4 lakhs in prize money for BOSM 2023, despite keeping the registration fee the exact same. The SFC has also introduced a new system of cancellations to combat the problems of overcharging and non-consensual signings. This has been implemented primarily to provide transparency.

Discussing the BOSM Review Meet (BRM), Pradyut said, 'Often review meets are seen as a place with plenty of drama, we don't really like that image.' He went on to elaborate that the BRM exists as a platform for discussion on potential improvements by addressing all the concerns of various stakeholders and ensuring they are resolved. To make this process even more transparent, the minutes of the meet of BRM 2022 were compiled and shared with the GBM.

Talking about the BRM, the SFC expressed how they want everyone involved to work along with them and the BRC to keep the charter updated through the removal of redundant processes and the addition of updated and relevant ones. The primary challenge being faced by the SFC recently is adapting to the changing internal processes of the institute. Despite agreeing that the changes towards a formal procedure are necessary, the members stated that the situation does present difficulties especially when working with time-sensitive payments or agreements.

Finally, when inquired about the changes they would like to see in the SFC's operations in the future, they said that they expect the future batches to establish a definitive workflow, which has not been flawlessly implemented due to differences in schedules of the present batches due to the pandemic.

Inauguration Ceremony

The Inauguration Ceremony, marking the start of the thirty-sixth edition of BOSM, began at 6:15 PM in the Main Auditorium, after a delay of 15 minutes. The ceremony began with the write-ups of the CoSSAcns. This was followed by a performance by Gurukul. After that, the promotional videos for Dhwani — the semester production for Gurukul — and Amalgam 2.0 by the Hindi Drama Club were played. Post this, the aftermovie for InterBITS was played to the audience.

Following this, KalamVansh conducted its first official performance since its establishment, wherein they performed the BOSM 2023 Anthem, which they also wrote and produced. This was followed by the curtain-raiser prepared by the Coding Club and various other promotional videos introducing the BOSM App, the Bollywood Nite featuring Benny Dayal, and the N2O comedy event featuring Rahul Dua and Sorabh Pant. The official Oasis 2023 theme — "Grimoire Galore" — was revealed via a video prepared by the Department of Visual Media.

BITS Embryo then screened video messages from Unmukt Chand, the former U-19 Indian Cricket Team Captain and Vicky Chandhok, an Indian Motorsports Administrator.

The event proceeded with the lighting of the ceremonial lamp by the Chief Guest, paralympian Devendra Jhajharia, and the Director, Dr Sudhirkumar Barai. The Director then addressed the gathering and presented Mr. Jhajharia with a token of appreciation. The Chief Guest then proceeded to deliver an inspiring address to the audience. He also expressed his appreciation for the enthusiasm of the students and reminisced about his college days. He shed light upon the virtue of patriotism and encouraged the students to support their country in every way. This was vigorously cheered for by the audience.

As the ceremony approached its end, the Sports Secretary, Aditya Sriram administered the sportsmen's oath, followed by the vote of thanks. After the administration of the oath, BOSM 2023 was declared "open" by the Chief Guest. The ceremony drew to a close with the compère requesting the audience to proceed to Gym-G for the official torch-lighting ceremony.

Chief Guest Interview

The BOSM English Press interviewed Devendra Jhajharia, the Chief Guest of BOSM 2023, to talk about his experiences so far as an international javelin throw athlete. A recipient of the Padma Bhushan, Mr Jhajharia is a Paralympic gold medalist and has represented India in several competitions over the years.

Mr Jhajharia has roots in the Churu district of Rajasthan, and he noted that he had several pleasant memories of the nearby Pilani region. He expressed that returning to Pilani as a Chief Guest and observing the young players rejuvenated him and brought back fond memories of his college days. He added that he was awestruck by the Inauguration ceremony and the fact that it was organised by students rather than professionals. He shared that as a kid he tried shot put, discus throw, and various other sports in the athletics category, but javelin throw appealed to him the most. He explained that his talent for the sport was first discovered by Mr R. D. Singh during an inter-college event. Mr Singh commended his passion and discipline, and offered him a scholarship to study at his college. This ultimately led to him securing a gold medal for India in the 2002 Asian Para Games. 'Mr Singh made me a better person as well as a better sportsman,' he said.

Speaking of the challenges he had faced, Mr Jhajharia mentioned that he had seen people be condemned for pursuing sports professionally, and his impairment only caused him to receive more hate. However, unwavering support from his parents allowed him to continue playing the sport.

Talking about his experience of playing at the international level, he explained that it was every athlete's dream to represent India at the Olympics or Paralympics and earn a gold medal. He stated that he felt extremely proud having achieved this dream, and having earned two gold medals and one silver medal for the country.

He felt joyful sharing that one of the best aspects of playing internationally was the bond he shared with his competitors. He talked about another athlete, Herath Dinesh Priyantha, and how they always support each other despite being each other's main competitors. When asked about future competitions he would be targeting, he shared that he is currently training in Gandhinagar, Gujarat for the 2024 Paralympic Games to be held in Paris.

On a parting note, he wished to tell the participants to not be discouraged by losses or boastful about their wins, as both teach an important lesson to a sportsman.

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