

# A passion for paintball

City student Melvin Richard will represent India at the Paintball World Cup Asia in November; he has been runner-up at two big meets earlier

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Playing fun games could also make you popular at the international level and this is what Melvin Richard, 22, has demonstrated. An MBA student of CMS Business School, Melvin will represent India at the forthcoming Paintball World Cup Asia (WCA) 2013 in Malaysia from November 14 to 17. The best paintball players in India are being

paired in teams of two.

For Melvin, what started as a pastime an year ago, has now become a passion. "I started playing paintball since December 2012. I have participated in three India International Paintball leagues so far and I have emerged as runner up in two," Melvin told BANGALORE MIRROR.

In paintball, players eliminate opponents by striking them with balls that have coloured liquids inside and are fired from a paintball gun. "The

game is nothing but a rush of adrenaline!" Melvin said.

Melvin and his friends took to the game accidentally during a weekend. "I liked the game from the first time I played it. I took short-term summer training in paintball. I also started practicing it outside my house in JP Nagar to perfect my shots," Melvin said.

His involvement with the game did not prevent him from excelling in academics. "I never miss my classes. I



Melvin says paintball gives him an adrenaline rush

practice it during weekends. I am proud to represent my country in this competition."

Despite the growing craze and interest among youngsters towards paintball, Melvin said the game is yet

to be considered as a serious sport in India. "Many are clueless about how the game is played. But I feel that in days to come, it will emerge as the favourite sport of youngsters," Melvin added.