



Joshua Kimmich celebrates scoring the winning goal with Robert Lewandowski as his incredible strike -- even if not as majestic as his vital strike in Dortmund in May this year (c) -- was enough to secure Bayern Munich their fifth piece of silverware in five months. The Bavarians lifted the DFL Supercup with a 3-2 win over a spirited Borussia Dortmund, who bounced back from 2-0 down.

PHOTO: TWITTER

Magical Kimmich and quintuple

AGENCIES

There are important goals and there are beautiful goals. Sometimes they are both, as Joshua Kimmich proved against Borussia Dortmund again on Wednesday night in the DFL Supercup. The German's incredible 82nd-minute winner saw Bayern Munich prevail 3-2 against a surging Dortmund, ensuring the Bavarians could boast about a quintuple.

It wasn't long ago that Kimmich had called his sumptuous winner in the 1-0 victory against the same opposition on May 26 this year the most beautiful goal of his life.

He spotted Roman Bürki a step too far off his line and went for an audacious lob from 20 yards and the ball sailed perfectly into the far top corner and turned out to be the only goal of the game, which was voted by fans as goal of the month



by an overwhelming majority.

On Wednesday night, Kimmich lay on the floor in front of goalkeeper Marwin Hitz as the ball slowly rose. Surging into the box after a quick one-two, he was initially denied by Hitz, but in an incredible feat of defiance he flipped the ball over the keeper's

head and into the back of the net while going to ground.

"Actually, I passed the ball way too early, Lewy played it back well and on the second try, I then put it in," Kimmich said.

"Joshua has a very special mentality, enormous quality", said Bayern coach Hansi Flick. "That's

why he's on a really good path to be one of those players who shape this club. Compliment!"

Bayern captain Manuel Neuer also approved.

"We brought Dortmund back into the game. It's also not normal to always score three goals. Fortunately, Joshua scored in the end."

In 226 appearances for the Bavarians, Kimmich has 26 goals and 59 assists.

Filling the boots of the legendary Philipp Lahm, Kimmich is intelligent enough to play across defence and midfield.

His vision enables him to chip in passes from tight spaces, most notably in for his assist to Kingsley Coman in last season's Champions League final against PSG.

Kimmich joined Bayern after two seasons with RB Leipzig and was introduced to the team by then coach Pep Guardiola's last season, never looking back since.

We were far from brilliant: Zidane

REUTERS

Real Madrid coach Zinedine Zidane said his side still have to make many strides after riding their luck to beat Real Valladolid 1-0 at home on Wednesday, although he is not worried about their rusty play so early into the new season.

Substitute Vinicius Jr. struck the winner soon after coming on, to the relief of Zidane. "The win tastes good because this was not a simple night for us," Zidane told a news conference. "We knew we would suffer and have a difficult game but at least we've got the points. We weren't brilliant but we've only just started the season, so we need to stay calm and be patient because we know little by little we're going to improve."

The French coach, who cut a frustrated figure on the sidelines, put their rusty form down to a short pre-season. "I always get annoyed about something during a match, today it was when we kept losing the ball in our own half which is something we need to be very careful about," he added. "But I'm choosing to focus on the positives, we've just started, this is not a normal season, we've had no friendly games and we'll take everything step by step."



Former French Open champion Jelena Ostapenko played some of her best tennis since capturing her maiden major title in 2017, shocking No.2 seed Karolina Pliskova in straight sets to reach the third round.

PHOTO: REUTERS

'We can bring change without a presidential candidate'

SPORTS REPORTER



Keeping the presidential post open, the Integrated Panel comprising members from districts and some Dhaka Clubs yesterday announced that they would compete in 19 posts out of 21 in the October 3 Bangladesh Football Federation polls.

They made the announcement while disclosing a 24-point manifesto at a city hotel.

The Integrated Panel has not extended their support to any of the two independent presidential candidates -- Badal Roy and Shafiqul Islam Manik -- but said the presidential post will remain open. Incumbent president Kazi Salahuddin is leading the Combined Panel.

"We don't have any candidates beyond 19 [one for senior vice-president, three for

Facebook page that he has been in the race of the president and expected a "silent revolution" from the delegates.

Before introducing the candidates, Ashiqur Rahman Miku, secretary general of Bangladesh District and Divisional Sports Organisers' Council and chairman of Integrated Panel's election organising committee, said, "There may be questions about why we are roaming around so much ahead of the BFF polls? The answer is simple: We want to give Bangladesh Football Federation a national shape by electing the representatives from the districts because the national federation is not a Dhaka-based organisation.

"It is not just a panel of district representatives but it is a panel of the representatives from clubs and it is high time to work together. I urge the delegates



vice-president and 15 for members] and the post of president will remain open for the delegates," vice-presidential candidate Mohiuddin Ahmed Mohi, who had been with Salahuddin for the last four years, told the reporters after reading out the 24-point manifesto.

Asked how they would lift the country's football from its low state without a presidential candidate, Brothers Union director-in-charge Mohi said, "If we win a majority of the posts, we will have the key roles to take the decision through the executive committee and the president won't have much to say because the president is not a man with supreme authority."

The announcement to not support the independent president candidates by Integrated Panel may apparently give Salahuddin an edge over Manik and Badal, but there is still a chance to change the scenario ahead of tomorrow's elections.

Manik was seen campaigning during the Integrated Panel candidates' introduction programme. Badal, whose withdrawal after the deadline means he is technically still a candidate, hinted strongly on his

to elect us because it is a question of survival, honour and establishing our rights. If you don't understand, I don't have anything to say. If we can't win, I will quit sports," said Miku, who has been involved with sports for more than four decades.

The manifesto promised to frame a realistic 12-year plan with the involvement of all stakeholders in the first point and introduction of some new tournaments such as U-13, U-15, U-17 across the country as well as a premier league on a home-and-away basis with the involvement of eight divisional teams.

The Integrated Panel also promised to revive some tournaments such as the national championship, youth championship, club championships, district leagues and women's football league regularly.

The manifesto also promised the introduction of a unique players' registration system, appoint BFF coaches in each district, increase international stadiums in eight divisions, investigate BFF's financial irregularities and reveal the financial statement each year by holding the annual general meeting.

Salma 'glad' after call-up in UAE T20 League

SPORTS REPORTER

Bangladesh women's team stars Salma Khatun and Jahanara Alam are set to feature in the upcoming Women's T20 League in UAE, slated to take place between November 4 and 9.

While pacer Jahanara previously featured, Salma was glad to have the opportunity to represent her country in the tournament for the first time.

"It's a very good feeling. Before, only Jahanara had played there and this time my name is also there so definitely it's a good feeling. Since this is my first opportunity, I will try to give my best and that's my target," Salma, who had led Bangladesh during their Asia Cup triumph in 2018, said.

Currently ranked eighth in the T20 all-rounders' rankings, Salma added: "Wherever I get the chance, I will want to do something for the team. Since I am a representative of my country, I want to perform."

However, she reiterated that her off-spin will be her focus. "Actually, bowling will be prioritised and I want to put more focus on it."

"I started working at home during the lockdown before also getting the opportunity to start practicing in the field at Khulna Stadium."

'We want to return to competitive cricket'

SPORTS REPORTER



Following a three-day break, Bangladesh players returned to the second phase of their skill training camp at the Sher-e-Bangla National Stadium yesterday. The players underwent the coronavirus tests on Wednesday before returning to the bio-secure bubble following negative results yesterday.

The Bangladesh Cricket Board (BCB) had started the camp with the three-Test tour of Sri Lanka in mind, but focus will shift to domestic cricket after the planned tour of the island nation was postponed due to the boards disagreeing on quarantine protocols.

"We want to return to competitive cricket soon. We want to at least start a domestic league on a minimum scale so that the players can get back to playing competitive cricket," BCB

CEO Nizamuddin Chowdhury told The Daily Star yesterday.

National players involved in the camp are scheduled to play two two-day and a three-day intra-squad match, with the first two-day practice match starting at 9:30am today at the Sher-e-Bangla National Stadium. The Tigers will play the second two-day practice match from October 5 and the three-day practice game will begin on October 13.

"We have a few informal intra-squad matches scheduled for the players. And I think these games will give us an idea about how the players are doing," hoped Nizamuddin.

Meanwhile, with no international fixtures in the near future, premier all-rounder Shakib Al Hasan returned to his family in the United States. The all-rounder was scheduled to board a flight at 3:45am today. Shakib's ban --

imposed by the ICC -- is set to end on October 28, making him eligible to return to cricket the day after.

The resumption process in Bangladesh has been on the somewhat slower side, but Nizamuddin said that the board was slowly gaining the confidence to go ahead and bring cricket back.

"There haven't been any critical conditions in the camp with the way the BCB has been handling and managing the camp till now. This is actually giving us some sort of confidence that we can start and manage other projects. Even though the resumption process has been slow, we are now gaining the confidence to start," said Nizamuddin.

Since the start of the training camp last month, only one of the 27 members -- right-arm pacer Abu Jayed -- tested positive for the virus on September 22.



Australians set guidelines for trans athletes

REUTERS

Eight Australian sports federations, including peak bodies for tennis, rugby union and Australian Rules football, issued guidelines on Thursday aimed at encouraging the participation of transgender athletes.

The initiative is designed to break down the stigma faced by trans and gender-diverse people and offer pathways from community sport onwards, tackling an issue where sports have grappled to find a balance between fairness and inclusion.

"This is a world first to see so many national sporting organisations in Australia coming together to collectively show their support for a particular part of our community," Beau Newell, National Program Manager of Pride in Sport Australia, an NGO promoting inclusiveness, said at the launch of the guidelines.

Tennis Australia, Rugby Australia and national federations for Australian Rules football, hockey, netball, water polo, Touch Football and university sports issued guidelines governing inclusion at grassroots and community level.

Netball Australia and the Australian Football League (AFL), the Aussie Rules governing body, also issued fresh guidelines for the elite level.



LIGUE 1'S BEST, BUT FOR HOW MUCH LONGER?

Kylian Mbappe posted a picture on Twitter on Wednesday after scooping the award for Ligue 1 2019-20 player of the season. He helped PSG finish the previous season with a quadruple, although there was heartbreak in the Champions League final. In the league, the 21-year-old netted 18 times and picked up seven assists. Mbappe has reportedly told Paris Saint-Germain he is to play his final season with the club, before seeking a move during next summer's transfer window. Mbappe is contracted to PSG until 2022, meaning next summer is the last opportunity for them to sell their star before running the risk of losing him as a free agent.

PHOTO: TWITTER