

Landslide victory for Salahuddin & Co

BFF POLLS RESULT 2020 (UNOFFICIAL)

PRESIDENT (POST: 1)

CANDIDATES (3):

Kazi Salahuddin (Vote: 94),

Badal Roy (Vote: 40),

Shafiqul Islam Manik (Vote: 1)

SENIOR VICE-PRESIDENT (POST: 1)

CANDIDATES (2):

Abdus Salam Mursheduy (Vote: 91), Sheikh Mohammad Aslam (Vote: 44)

VICE-PRESIDENT (POSTS: 4)

CANDIDATES (8):

Imrul Hasan (Vote: 89), Kazi Nabil Ahmed (Vote: 81), Ataur Rahman Bhuiyan Manik (Vote: 75), Tabith Awaal (Vote: 65), Mohiuddin Ahmed (Vote: 65), Sheikh Mohammad Maruf Hossain (Vote: 61), Amirul Islam Babu (Vote: 56), SM Abdullah Al Fuad (Vote: 48)



SPORTS REPORTER

Three-time president of Bangladesh Football Federation Kazi Salahuddin retained his helm for another four years as delegates gave the former star player the mandate to run the show of game's local governing body for a fourth consecutive term.

The 66-year left two independent candidates -- Badal Roy and Shafiqul Islam Manik -- far behind in the presidential race by bagging 94 out of 135 votes which were cast, pouring cold water on the anticipation of a battle between him and Roy, who got 40 votes.

Manik ended in third position with a single vote as a total of 135 delegates out of 139 turned up in the much-discussed polls. Delegates of Chattogram Abahani, Sheikh Jamal DC, Sheikh Russel KC and Faridpur DFA did not turn up in the congress as well as in the elections.

Though general football fans, who also turned up yesterday in front of the election venue forming a small human chain, raised their voices on social media platforms and took to the street protesting against the incumbent president in the past, the delegates eventually chose Salahuddin as the president.

Salahuddin, also president of South Asian Football Federation, was the strong candidate

submitted his withdrawal letter after deadline but started communicating with the delegates on Thursday, just two days before the election.

Roy, who was paralysed followed a brain haemorrhage in 2017 and did not turn up to t election venue yesterday, had urged the delegates to make it a silent revolution to bring change in the BFF leadership. But the delegates gave Salahuddin

An election was held and they passed it. That's all. To tell the truth, there was huge pressure on the delegates. You cannot always tell the truth and this kind of result is not unexpected.

BADAL ROY

inside the polling centre, with no access there for the journalists.

Defeated candidate Roy said "An election was held and they passed it. That's all. To be honest, there was huge pressure on the delegates. You cannot always tell the truth and this kind of result is not unexpected."

"The result was not according to what the delegates had promised to me. The return of Badal Roy in the race and the influence on the delegates might have been two of the major reasons behind my defeat," said Manik.

It was not only Salahuddin who shone in the much-hyped

BFF polls' chief election commissioner Mezbah Uddin Ahmed informed that voting ended before time and four DELEGATES out of 139 did not cast votes. The Sheikh Jamal DC councilor, Sheikh Russel KC councilor, Chattogram Abahani councilor and Faridpur DFA councilor did not exercise their rights.

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SHAFIUL ISLAM MANIK.

since the announcement of the withdrawal of Roy, who was completely silent during the election process. He had

another chance to complete his unfinished work of past 12 years. Salahuddin could not be reached for a comment as he was

Old friends meet on the touchline for first time

AGENCIES



In a highly-anticipated first clash between two former stars of Italy and AC Milan now chasing coaching glory, Gennaro Gattuso's Napoli test their 'Scudetto' ambitions at Andrea Pirlo's Juventus tonight.

It was one of football's most successful midfield partnerships: on the one hand, the snarling, combative Gattuso, and on the other, the thoughtful, elegant, unflappable Pirlo. The pair formed the backbone of a memorable AC Milan team for more than a decade and helped Italy win the 2006 World Cup.

Tonight, the old chums will face each other on the touchline for the first time. Napoli has made an impressive start to the season, winning both of its opening games, while Juve, chasing a 10th successive Serie A title, began with a win and a draw.

While the coaches are good friends, there is no love lost between their teams. More than any other fixture in Italian football, it has come to be seen as a clash between the rich, industrial wealth of the north and the much poorer south.

Napoli has enjoyed the upper hand in the last two meetings, beating Juventus 2-1 in Serie A and winning last season's Coppa Italia final on penalties after a 0-0 draw.

It is a clash which Inter Milan coach Antonio Conte can't wait to see. "Juve v Napoli? I'll enjoy watching it," said Conte, who coached Pirlo as a player to the first three of Juventus's current run of nine Serie A titles. "Napoli are underestimated a lot," continued Conte.

"They are an excellent team, they are among the favourites for the Scudetto. They have a staff and a very good coach who will make life difficult for everyone."

In coaching terms, Gattuso, 42, has had a head start on his former team mate. He is already at his sixth club since embarking

on his new career at Swiss side FC Sion in 2013, where he was unceremoniously sacked after three months. The 41-year-old Pirlo, meanwhile, will be in charge of only his third game as a coach, having been handed the reins in August following the dismissal of Maurizio Sarri.

"He's lucky to be starting at Juventus, but this profession is one where a great playing career is not enough," warned Gattuso. "You have to study, work hard, and you don't get much sleep."

Despite their very different playing



styles, the two players complemented each other perfectly at Milan.

"When I saw him play it made me think I had to change profession," Gattuso once said. "I understood what I had to do, and he took care of the rest. He helped me much more in my career than I did him."

They would also play pranks on each other, with Gattuso's short temper making him a prime target.

Pirlo added: "We'd get out of his way when he got mad but once he'd calmed down and gone to his room, we'd come back out, pile up the sofas in front of the door and block his exit.



This picture probably best depicts the forlorn run of MS Dhoni's Chennai Super Kings in the ongoing IPL in UAE as they suffered their third loss in succession for the first time since 2014 season following seven-run defeat against Sunrisers Hyderabad on Friday.

PHOTO: TWITTER

Chilwell impresses as Chelsea storm Palace

REUTERS, LONDON



Chelsea beat Crystal Palace 4-0 at home in the Premier League on Saturday as Ben Chilwell marked his league debut for the Blues by scoring a goal and creating another for fellow defender Kurt Zouma before Jorginho sealed the win with two penalties.

Palace had stifled Chelsea in a goalless first half but Chilwell punished them for a rare defensive error, firing home from close range in the 50th minute after Mamadou Sakho fluffed a clearance, allowing Cesar Azpilicueta to line up a cross. Chelsea doubled their lead in the 66th minute when the visitors failed to clear a corner and Zouma rose above everyone else in the box to meet a cross by Chilwell and send a header past Vicente Guaita.

Jorginho made sure of the win when he converted two penalties in the space of five minutes late in the game.

Lampard made six changes to the team that salvaged a 3-3 draw after being 3-0 behind at West Bromwich Albion last weekend, four of them at the back as he gave league debuts to goalkeeper Edouard Mendy and left back Chilwell.

'Teammates make me want to work harder'

REUTERS

Inter Milan's Romelu Lukaku was named the Europa League player of the season for 2019-20 after the Belgian forward led the Italian side to the final with goals in every knockout round.

Lukaku, who scored 34 goals in all competitions in his first season in Italy, scored seven times in the



Europa League.

"I want to thank my family and my agents for their support. I also want to thank my coach and the club staff, the board, and the president for their trust and for helping me throughout this season."

"Most importantly, I want to thank my team mates, who have been great with me from the first day I joined. They've been like brothers to me... Every day I come to training, I come with a smile... they make me want to work harder."



Even though it was a two-day intra-squad practice match, Mominul Haque raised his bat to express happiness after making a hundred on the final day at the Sher-e-Bangla National Stadium in Mirpur yesterday. Mohammad Mithun scored 62. Bangladesh Test captain Mominul however heaped praise on the pacers' effort. "I was bit nervous initially but later enjoyed my batting. I think our pace bowlers bowled brilliantly in this match," Mominul said after the match. The cricketers will play another two-day match from tomorrow.

PHOTO: BCS