

Sport

Bubka does it again



SERGEI BUBKA
PADUA, Italy, Aug 30: Sergei Bubka set a world pole vault record of 6.12 meters (20 feet 1 inch) at the Industry Trophy track meeting in this northern city Sunday, reports AP.

The Ukrainian improved by 1 centimeter (1 half inch) his own world mark of 6.11 meters (20-0 1-2) set in Dijon, France, on June 13 this year.

It was the 31st world mark for Bubka, who also holds a world indoor record of 6.13 meters.

The defending world champion and 1988 Olympic gold medalist cleared 6.12 meters (20ft 1 in) on his first attempt, after faulting once at 5.85 meters (19-2 1/4).

He raised his arms in triumph after the record jump and walked toward the grandstand to receive the ovation of a sold-out crowd at the Arcella Stadium in Padua.

Sunday's record was revenge for Bubka who not only failed to win an Olympic medal in Barcelona earlier this month, but failed to clear any height at all there. He missed on two attempts at 5.70 and once at 5.74.

"I am very happy. I have a special feeling when I jump in Italy. This track, that I know very well, also helped," said Bubka, who set three of his previous world records during Milan meets.

"I can't predict when the next record may come. People think it's easy. But I am human, not a machine. I will train more and more to improve. I always try my best, in every meeting," Bubka told television interviewers.

Bubka added he was also happy for his family, who was upset following his failure in Barcelona.

"I am going to call my son Vitaly. He will have his first day of school Tuesday and this will be a great gift for him," said Bubka, who lives in Berlin.

Bubka's next competition will be in Turin Friday night, the IAAF Grand Prix final.

He will also compete in Rieti, near Rome, Sunday and in Tokyo later next month.

Div II soccer

Sports Reporter

Azad Sporting Club beat Muslim Institute by two goals to one in the Sonali Bank Second Division football league at the Dhaka Stadium yesterday.

Rabul Mahmud and Sajed scored for the winners while Md Selim reduced the margin for the vanquished.

Rabul Awal and Rabul Islam of Azad Sporting were cautioned with the yellow cards.

Shantinagar Club shared points with Prantik Krira Chakra in a one-all draw in the other match of the day.

Both goals were scored in the first half. Sanwar put Shantinagar ahead in the seventh minute while Rahat Hossain drew level for Prantik KC in the 27th minute.

Md Straj and Shahidul Huq Dinar of Shantinagar invited the yellow cards for rough play.

TODAY'S MATCHES

Dhaka WASA vs East Bengal (3 pm: Dhaka Stadium)
 East End Club vs Moltibagh Abhijatrik (4:30 pm: Dhaka Stadium)

Tangail, Sylhet reach semis



Sports Reporter

Tangail and Sylhet DSAs have made the semifinals of the 1992 Ma-o-Moni Gold Cup national under-14 soccer tournament by finishing as the Group A champions and runners-up respectively.

They shared points in a goalless draw in their last group league match at the Dhaka Stadium yesterday.

With this draw, Tangail and Sylhet collected five and three points respectively from three matches each to qualify for the semifinals.

Gaibandha and Jhenidah — the other two teams in the group — collected two points from three outings each and are out of this year's competition.

Tangail, needing only to draw yesterday's game, preferred a defensive strategy from the very outset. Sylhet, on the other hand, carried out repeated raids inside their opponents' territory but their goal-ship, wayward forwards failed to break the dead lock.

Sylhet were indeed lucky to make the semifinals since Jhenidah, who were a strong bidder for the semis, had their dreams shattered by underdogs Gaibandha who beat them by three goals to one in the other match of the day at the same venue.

Jhenidah, who had registered an emphatic 5-2 victory against Sylhet in their second match on Friday last, ran out of both gas and ideas yesterday. Abdullah Al-Baki of Jhenidah, who had scored four goals against Sylhet, was sadly out of touch despite scoring his side's consolation goal yesterday.

Gaibandha, beaten by both Sylhet and Tangail, seemed to have at last got their rhythm. All the Gaibandha players displayed good footballing talent. Shahedul Alam Babu, the goal keeper, the captain and defender Bakul and striker Mozammel Hossain Helal earned especial praise from the sizeable crowd for their skills.

Gaibandha shot into the lead in the very first minute of play when Mohammad Hannan scored from close (1-0).

Abdullah-Al-Baki restored parity for Jhenidah in the 18th minute (1-1).

Mozammel Hossain Helal put Gaibandha ahead once again in the 66th minute (2-1).

Helal then scored his second goal of the game to seal the fate of the match in Gaibandha's favour in the 71st minute (3-1).

Toufiqul Islam Biddyt of Gaibandha invited the yellow card from referee Shahadat

Hossain for rough play.

The Group A champions Tangail and runners-up Sylhet will now take on the Group B runners-up and champions respectively in the semifinals tomorrow, September 1.

The Group B champions and runners-up will be known only after today's matches. All the four teams of the Group B have collected two points from two outings each.

Munshiganj will play Feni while Satkhira will clash with Natore in today's fixtures at 6 pm and 7:30 pm.

If there is no clear winners, goal difference, will determine the group championship.

In that case, Satkhira, who have netted four goals and conceded one, will be at an advantage. Natore have scored three and conceded two, while Munshiganj have netted two and conceded four and Feni have scored one and conceded three goals.

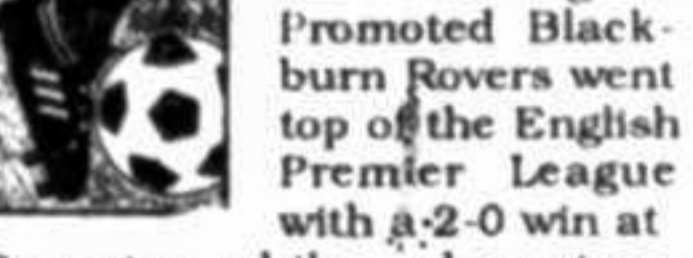
Eight teams in two groups are taking part in the final round which got under way on August 26.

POINTS TABLE

Following is the Group A points table:

	M	W	D	L	GF	GA	Pts
Tangail	3	2	1	0	4	1	5
Sylhet	3	1	1	1	5	3	3
Jhenidah	3	1	0	2	7	6	2
Gaibandha	3	1	0	2	4	5	2

Blackburn Rovers lead in Premier League



LONDON, Aug 30: Promoted Blackburn Rovers went top of the English Premier League with a 2-0 win at Coventry while champions Leeds salvaged a 2-2 draw at home to Liverpool with a last-gasp equaliser from Lee Chapman on Saturday, reports Reuter.

England striker Alan Shearer, Blackburn's record signing from Southampton, put Rovers ahead with a 70th minute penalty and Mark Atkins added the second eight minutes later.

Queen's Park Rangers, whose midweek win at Coventry had put them top, where topped 1-0 by arch London rivals Chelsea, whose first win of the season came from a Mick Harford goal.

Blackburn have taken 11 points from three wins and two draws, while Rangers were joined a point back in second by Norwich, 2-1 winners at Crystal Palace.

Arsenal's third win in a row, 2-1 at home to Sheffield Wednesday, put them on nine points with Coventry and Everton.

Chapman's 86th minute equaliser prevented Liverpool ending Leeds' unbeaten home run, now extended to 26 matches in 17 months, which began after the Merseysiders' last league win at Elland Road in April 1991.

Leeds who beat Liverpool 4-3 in the season opening charity shield, dominated for longer spells with French

striker Eric Cantona several times coming close to adding to his Wembley hat-trick against the FA Cup holders.

Scotland midfielder Gary McAllister gave Leeds an early lead, but Liverpool equalise a minute before half-time with a deft chip by Ireland's Ronnie Whelan and went in front when Danish midfielder Jan Mobbly settled home a 72nd minute penalty.

Manager Howard Wilkinson's double substitution, sending on Steve Hodge and Gordon Strachan when Leeds fell behind, paid dividends in one of the best matches of the season.

Hodge's low drive won a corner and Strachan floated the ball over for defender Chris Whyte to flick on and Chapman to lunge in and head his third goal of the season.

Leeds looked to have snatched a dramatic late winner when Liverpool's fine young goalkeeper David James could only parry a shot from Cantona and Chapman cracked in the loose ball.

But the referee disallowed the goal, ruling that Chapman had barged over Liverpool defender David Burrows.

Shearer's fifth goal of the season set up the win for Blackburn, who only scraped into the Premier League in the playoffs from the former Second Division.

Ray Parlour's second goal in league soccer put Arsenal ahead after eight minutes, striker, Ian Wright set up both Arsenal goals, the second for Paul Merson in the 27th minute.

David Hirst, hoping for a

place in the England squad for the friendly in Spain on Sept 9, pulled a goal back for Wednesday six minutes later with his fifth of the season.

Goals from Welsh strikers Mark Hughes and Ryan Giggs gave Manchester United a second successive win, 2-0 at Nottingham Forest, a move into the top half of the table for the first time this season.

Manchester City looked set for a second successive victory when they went 2-0 up at home to Oldham inside eight minutes through Ireland striker Niall Quinn and Michael Vonk.

They led 3-1 after 23 minutes following further goals from Oldham's Richard Jobson and City striker David White.

But 15 minutes later Oldham, 5-3 winners at home to Forest last weekend, pulled back to 3-3 with goals from Mike Milligan and Norwegian Gunnar Halle and held out for a draw.

In Scotland, Dundee United beat Falkirk 2-0 to take a one-point lead at the top of the Premier Division as Glasgow Rangers topped leaders Aberdeen 3-1 to move second, level on points with Hearts and Celtic.

Veteran Roy Aitken gave Aberdeen a 1-0 half-time lead but Rangers came back with goals from Ian Durrant, Scotland striker Ally McCoist and Ukrainian Alexei Mihalichenko.

Celtic, the only unbeaten side, were held 1-1 at Airdrie, while Hearts beat Motherwell 1-0 at home.

Div III soccer

Gandaria Famous Sporting Club and Dhaka Sporting Club won their respective matches of the Pragati Insurance Third Division football league at two different city venues yesterday.

At the Outer Stadium, Gandaria Famous edged past Rahmatganj Sporting Club 1-0 in the day's first match.

Mahabub Bashar Mintu scored the decider in the 16th minute of the first session.

Md. Faruk of Rahmatganj was booked.

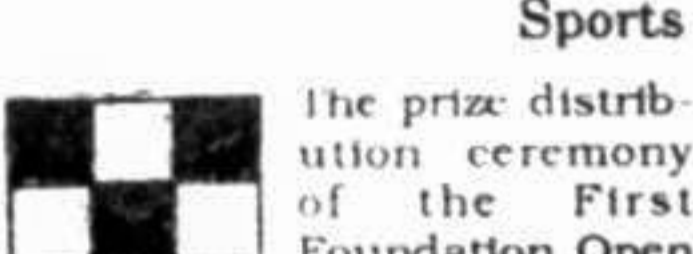
Fire Service SDS Club shared points with Purbachal Parishad in a goalless draw at the same venue.

All Hossain of Purbachal was warned for foul play.

Dhaka Sporting Club earned full points by beating Lalmatia Club by two goals to one at the Mohakhali T & T ground in the other match of the day.

Details of the encounter was not available.

Chess awards distributed



Sports Reporter

The prize distribution ceremony of the First Foundation Open chess competition was held at the National Sports Council chess room yesterday.

National runner-up FIDE Master Ziaur Rahman of Bangladesh Biman, who finished as unbeaten champion by earning seven and a half points, was given a cash award of four thousand Taka.

Eight players with seven points each clinched the positions ranging from second to ninth. They are, national champion Reefat-bin-Satter, Kalimullah Kalam, Khandaker Kayes Hassan Ziaul Kader Tuhin, Neyamul Huq Niru, Syed Tahmidur Rahman, Arifuzzaman Sikder and Almasur Rahman.

They got 1287 Taka each.

Five players earned six and a half points each and were placed from tenth to fifteen position. They are Shabana Parveen, Abul Kasem Bhuiyan, Manzur Hossain Jimmu, Tanima Parveen and Khorshed Alam.

Eleven players earned six points each while 13 others collected five and a half points each.

Twenty thousand taka was distributed among the 38 winners as prize money.

Speaking on the occasion as a special guest general secretary of the Bangladesh Chess Federation (BCF), Mujibur Rahman said that Dr Kazi Motahar Hossain International Masters chess tournament will begin from October 2 in Dhaka.

The BCF has already invited the respective federations of Pakistan, India, China and Sri Lanka in this connection.

The BCF secretary also said that International Grand Masters tournament, will be held in next January.

Presided over by Abdullah Al-Mamun, a vice president of the organisers of the meet, Imam Anwar, another vice-president of the organisation, distributed the prizes as chief guest.

In his speech, Imam stressed the need for holding open chess tournament frequently for the development of chess.

Harun-ur-Rashid the chief judge of the meet and Almasur Rahman also spoke on the occasion.

A record number of 128 players took part in the nine-round Swiss league meet which concluded on Saturday last.

The competition began on August 21.

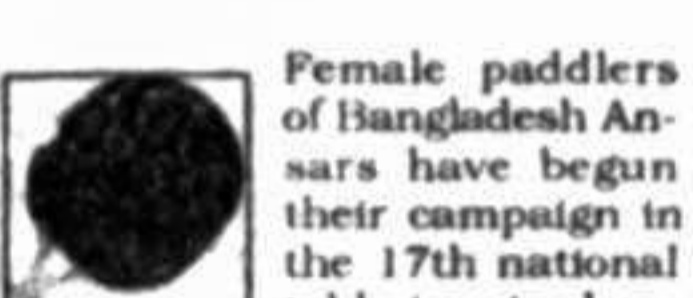


Ziaur Rahman is seen receiving his prize-money from Imam Anwar, vice-president of Dhaka Chess Foundation at NSC chess room yesterday. Zia became champion in the Foundation Open chess tournament which concluded Saturday. — Star photo



National women's champion Zobera Rahman Linu (left) of Bangladesh Biman is about to make a forehand return in the women's doubles quarterfinal of the 17th Danish national table tennis competition at the NSC gym yesterday. Linu and Jyotsna (right) beat Ruma and Bilkis of Dinajpur DSA in straight sets en route to the semifinal where they were beaten by Rinu and Bachchi of Bangladesh Ansar. — Star photo

Ansars girls crowd doubles final



Sports Reporter

Female paddlers of Bangladesh Ansars have begun their campaign in the 17th national table tennis championship with a vengeance.

This was evident yesterday as the Ansars quartet of Zulkha, Shamima, Rinu and Bachchi packed the final line up for the finale of the women's doubles at the National Sports Council gymnasium.

The dark but vivacious Zulkha paired with teammate Shamima Tarmeen to waltz their way into the final dismissing the combined challenge of Trishna and Lita of Narail DSA in the first semifinal at 21-8, 21-8 and 21-11.

In the second semifinal Tania Tarmeen Rinu, sister of Shamima, and Noor-e-Sheba Bachchi shocked favourites Zobera Rahman Linu and Jyotsna of Bangladesh Biman, with a hard-fought and highly commendable victory of 21-17, 21-18 and 21-17.

It was the second setback for 'queen bee' Linu who a couple of days back lost to Zulkha Akhtar in the final of the women's team championship which the Ansars eves won dethroning Bangladesh Biman. No matter which pair wins the women's doubles final today Ansars will have another unwritten feather in their cap, good enough to make up for the disappointment caused by their male players.

The other three doubles contests — the boys, men's and mixed — entered the semifinal stage with the quarterfinals be-

ing held yesterday.

Former national champion Kishu and his disciple Akhlaque strolled into the semis of the men's pair event with a cushy win against Kamrul and Hasnu at 21-15 and 21-17.

Sadi and Munna won their quarter-final tie against Jhinu and Badal 21-11, 16-21, 21-18.

Defending singles champion Musaddequl Haq Rochi and Sohul of Biman lound Tapas and Ritu of Tangail no pushovers. The fancied pair of champions Biman won the first set at 21-9, lost the second one 17-21 but pocketed the third at 21-13.

Gias Atiq Akhi and Mustafa of Ansars defeated Kochi and Happy 21-19, 21-15.

In the boys' quarterfinals, Hamlet and Mahub muck sweated to overpower the cocky and shouting pair of Tanmoy and Monir 18-21, 25-23 and 21-12.

Sagar and Shaon got the better of the outstation pair of Mubel and Bulbul at 21-12, 16-21 and 21-16.

It was a piece of cake for Rumman and Fayez who disposed of Riad and Rabbi of Jhenidah at 21-18 and 21-9.

Manas Chowdhury and Joyal were eliminated by Rubel and Selim Reza of Ansars 20-22, 21-12 and 15-21.

In the mixed doubles quarterfinals, Sadi and Shamima got a walkover against Srimita and Shakila of Gaibandha.

Rinu and Anki got past Shabana and Akhlaque 23-21 and 21-17 while Zulkha and Mustafa made short work of

Munna and Bachchi at 21-16 and 21-12.

Reigning women's champion Zobera Rahman Linu and Saduddin Kishu had the easiest passage to the semifinals beating Jyotsna and Sohul 21-13 and 21-14.

WOMEN'S SINGLES

Earlier, in the group finals of the women's individual event, svelte Linu brushed aside the challenge of Gaibandha's Iti 21-12, 21-5 and 21-11, in Group A.

A dumpy Zulkha, who is going great guns this year, won her Group B final quite easily against Shabana of Biman 21-13, 21-11 and 21-9.

Shamima of 'Ansars had' Gaibandha's Neela packing 21-12, 21-12, and 21-14, in Group C.

Rinu of Ansars was the Group D winner at the cost of Bzechchi of the same team, the margin there being 21-17, 21-13 and 21-11.

The four finalists will play in the league.

BOYS' SINGLES

In the boys' singles finals, Manas Chowdhury won against Mona of Munshiganj 21-16, 21-18, 21-17 in Group A.

Shamim of Rangpur overcame the stifling heat and the fancy value when he defeated Selim Reza of Ansars quite easily 21-16, 21-17 and 21-16, in Group B.

In Group C, Mahid of BTMC got rid of Bulbul of Rangpur 21-11, 18-21, 12-21 and 21-13.

In Group D, Mahub of BTMC nipped the ambitions of unheralded Milton of Narail

21-8, 21-12, 19-21 and 21-11.

In Group E, Hamlet of Ansars cakewalked against Monir of Munshiganj at 21-13, 21-10 and 21-12.

Rubel who has just got past his school days, made a pleasant blend of good looks and abilities when ended Mahub's hopes with 21-10, 21-16 and 21-17 victory, in Group F.

Sagar got a walkover against Sadhan of Mymensingh in Group G while Shaon of BTMC defeated Tanmoy of Munshiganj 17-21, 21-16, 21-12 and 21-14.

MEN'S SINGLES

In the men's group finals, Rochi showed fine form to top Group A with a 23-18, 21-14 and 21-19 victory against Mahub of BTMC.

In Group B Akhi emerged as the champion winning his tie against Ibrahim, 21-14, 21-14, 21-19 and 21-17.

Happy of Ansars was the Group C winner stopping Badal of Dhaka at 21-10, 16-21, 21-19 and 21-9.

Mustafa of Ansars sneaped Jhinu of BTMC 21-7, 18-21, 21-19 and 21-9 in Group D.

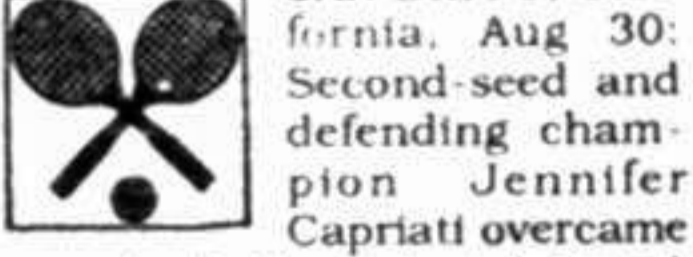
In Group E, Kishu of BTMC knocked off teammate Mohammad Ali, 21-9, 21-13, 21-10.

Rubel of Ansars was the Group F champion edging past Sohul of Biman at 14-21, 21-19, 15-21, 21-14 and 21-19.

Kochi of Biman put a kibosh on the hopes of Rubel of Dhaka 14-21, 21-19, 15-21, 21-14, 21-19, in Group G.

Biman's Sadi defeated Akhlaque of Ansars in Group H 21-18, 14-21, 21-11 and 21-18.

Capriati, Martinez in Mazda Classic final



SAN DIEGO, California, Aug 30: Second-seed and defending champion Jennifer Capriati overcame a tough challenge but defeated fourth-seeded Anke Huber of Germany 7-6 (8-6), 3-6, 6-1 to advance to the final of the dollar 225,000 Mazda Tennis Classic on Saturday, reports Reuter.

In the other semifinal, third-seeded Conchita Martinez of Spain outlasted unseeded Leila Meshki of the Commonwealth of Independent States 3-6, 7-6 (7-5), 6-2 in two hours and four minutes at the hard court tournament, which serves as a final tune-up for the US Open.

Martinez, eighth in the world, scored the decisive break at 2-2 in the final set against the 19th-ranked Meshki, who upset top-seeded Gabriela Sabatini of Argentina in the quarterfinals this week.

Capriati, seventh in the world, who also defeated Huber on the way to winning

gold medal at the Olympics, was in top form most of the match against the 10-ranked Germans.

Capriati, who has established herself as one of the top contenders for the US Open, said she is concentrating on tennis, not short-term goals.

"I'm not putting that kind of pressure on myself to win the US Open," Capriati said.

"I am playing well but not as well as in the Olympics, except in the third set today when I turned it up a notch. I feel pretty good overall."

Huber broke Capriati in the first and longest game of the match, which lasted six deuces, and raced to a 4-0 lead by hitting winners on nearly every short ball the American hit.

Capriati became more

consistent from the baseline and found her rhythm to pull to 4-4 in the set, which eventually went to a decisive tiebreak.

In the tiebreak, Huber took a 5-4 lead and on the 10th point Huber got a questionable line called on a backhand that would have given her two set points. Capriati reversed the momentum and closed out the tiebreak 8-6.

Huber played her best tennis of the afternoon to win the second set, but Capriati wore Huber down physically with

her deeply hit, well placed groundstrokes to win the final set 6-1.

"She played unbelievable in the third set," Huber said. "I couldn't do anything. I was tired and she didn't miss two balls."

"It was just there all of the sudden in the third set," Capriati said. "I said, 'OK, I've got to change what I'm doing.' It wasn't working. I wasn't doing much of anything. I decided to be more aggressive."

India name their Davis Cup squad to play Britain

NEW DELHI, Aug 30: Tennis veteran Ramesh Krishnan and Leander Paes will once again be at the forefront when India play Britain here next month in the Davis Cup world group qualifying round, reports AFP.

Zeehan Ali and Gaurav Natekar completed the squad named by the All India Tennis Association (AITA) here Saturday for the September 25-27 tie. Ali's father Akhtar continues to be coach and Naresh Kumar the non-playing captain.

Touch artist Krishnan, 32, and Paes, 18, helped India thrash Indonesia 5-0 in an Asia-Oceania Group I tie this year to set up the match with Britain.

The British team is expected to be chosen from among Jeremy Bates, Mark Petchey, Chris Wilkinson, Neil Broad and Chris Bailey with Tony Pickard as the non-playing captain. The AITA said in a press release.

Bayern onslaught continues

BONN, Aug 30: Bayern Munich continued their winning streak in the German Bundesliga on Saturday, beating Dynamo Dresden 3-1 to remain at the top of the table, reports Reuter.

Brazilian Jorginho gave the Bavarians their first goal a minute before the interval and Bruno Labbadia hammered home two goals in two minutes late in the second half.

Striker Torsten Gutschow scored Dresden's only goal from a penalty in the 87th minute.

Bayern have won all three of their matches and are level on points with Bayer Leverkusen and one ahead of Eintracht Frankfurt, the only other unbeaten sides.

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Chapinawabganj soccer from today

CHAPAINAWABGANJ, Aug 30: The Chapinawabganj football league '92 will begin tomorrow at the local stadium, reports UNB.

In the opening day Huzarpur Cosmos Club will take on Nawabganj Moktomohadal at 4 pm.

The Deputy Commissioner Asraf Ali will inaugurate the meet.

12 teams are participating in the tournament.

Div II chess

Sports Reporter

The Second Division chess league will begin from September 1, at the chess room of the National Sports Council, says a Bangladesh Chess Federation press release.

The stipulated time for submitting entry fees has been extended till eight pm today.

Interested chess players have been asked completed their entry formalities by the deadline.

The championship will begin on Tuesday next at 3 pm.

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S Bima judo from Sept 7

Sports Reporter

The three-day long Sadharan Bima Judo and Karate cup '92 will begin from September 7 at the National Sports Council gym, says a Bangladesh Judo and karate federation press release.

Interested clubs have been asked to enrol within September 5.

The rules and classification for the competition will remain the same as circulated earlier.