

Khelaghlar, Bashabo in Second Division cricket league

Sports Reporter

Bashabo Tarun Sangha and Khelaghlar Samaj Kalyan Sangha became the newest member of the Second Division cricket league as the two teams entered the final of the Lotus-Kanthal qualifying tournament with wins of identical margin in their respective semifinal encounters at different city venues yesterday.

In a reduced 25-over-a-side match due to overnight rain Bashabo Tarun Sangha thrashed Gopibagh Seven Brothers by seven wickets at the Jagnath Hall ground.

Chasing target of 101 runs for victory, Bashabo attained their goal in 21.1 overs with Sabder hitting an excellent half-century.

Sabder, who came into bat at number four with Bashabo tottering at three for only 22 runs, steered his side to a comfortable victory hitting an unbeaten 55 with the help of four hits to the fence.

He shared an unbroken 79-run partnership for the fourth wicket with Monir who scored 20 not out.

Rashid, the only successful Brothers bowler, claimed two wickets for 11 runs in his five-over spell.

Earlier, sent in to bat first Gopibagh Seven Brothers managed 100 runs before being all out in the 25th over.

Seven Brothers, who made a good start scoring 46 runs for the first wicket crumbled against the spinners losing nine wickets for only 54 runs.

Spinner Sabahat Ali, who broke the backbone of the Seven Brothers' innings, returned with a superb analysis of 5-0-6-4. He was well assisted by Nadim who took two for 18.

Openers Tapan and Sadat with 30 and 20 respectively were the only double-digit scorers for the vanquished.

In the other semifinal played at the Dhamondi Cricket Stadium Khelaghlar earned a facile seven-wicket win over Sunrise SC.

Batting first, Sunrise could muster 99 before being skittled out in 29 overs.

Ashraf and Imran with 17 runs each were the top scorers while Mustafa and Mahfuz scored 15 and 11 respectively.

Mehdi claimed three wickets for 26 runs while Rownak captured two for 12.

In reply, Khelaghlar posted 101 in 26.2 overs for three wickets with opener Jewel making 48.

Jewel's patient 73-ball innings included only one boundary.

Shamsul with 28 was the other notable scorer for the winners. Mahfuz of Sunrise took two wickets for 22 runs.

The final between Khelaghlar SKS and Bashabo Tarun Sangha will be held on Wednesday.

Hockey team off to India

Sports Reporter

A 21-member Bangladesh hockey team left Dhaka yesterday afternoon to take part in the 57th Obaidulla Gold Cup hockey tournament which is already underway in the Indian city of Bhopal.

Bangladesh play their first match on June 9.

CROSSWORD By Eugene Sheffer

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