

SL's lone CWG gold medalist fails dope test

Sri Lanka's only gold medalist at this month's Commonwealth Games, boxer Manju Wanniarachchi, has tested positive for a banned steroid, a report said on Sunday. The privately run Lakkima News newspaper said Wanniarachchi, 30, who had brought home the island's first Commonwealth boxing gold in 72 years, had tested positive for the performance-enhancing steroid nandrolone. The paper said the Commonwealth Games organisers had sent a report to Sri Lanka's National Olympic Committee and informed the boxer of the result with his urine "A" sample.



Brothers Union's Brazilian playmaker Everton (L) stretches along with his teammates prior to a practice session at the club ground in Gopibagh yesterday.

Abahani-BU 1st semi today

SPORTS REPORTER



Title aspirants Abahani are looking forward to making it to the final of the season's curtain-raising tournament for a record 15th time when they take on Brothers Union in the first semi-final of Grameenphone Federation Cup at the Birshreshtha Mostafa Kamal Stadium in Kamalapur today.

Despite possessing the record of playing the fed cup final a joint-highest 14 times in the 30-year history of the tournament, the title has eluded Abahani in the last decade. Their seventh and last-to-date triumph came in the 2000. They made it to the final in the last two editions, but each time were beaten by archrivals Mohammedan, a record 10-time title holders, who have already been eliminated this time from the group stage.

On paper, Abahani are definitely the superior side in today's game against Brothers but the Dhanmondi-based outfit have failed to do justice to their names in three matches they have played so far on way to confirming the semifinals. With every match, their performances went downhill and the ability to score was a cause for concern for the Sky Blues, managing only three goals in as many matches.

In fact, Abahani were lucky enough to reach the semifinals after Sheikh Russel captain Samir Omari wasted a penalty kick which would have otherwise eliminated the Sky Blues.

It is evident that whenever Abahani and Brothers square off, entertainment is on the menu. This time the clash is even more mouthwatering with the spice added by the recruitment of Brazilian playmaker Everton and Ghanaian striker Enock Bentilo to the three-time champions Brothers attack-line that makes them real a force to be reckoned with.

However, the Abahani officials said they are not fearing the Brothers attack and are hopeful of a good performance and looking to fire on all cylinders to reach the final for record 15th time.

"We played well in the first match, then missed some scoring chances in the second game and our backline looked feeble in the third match. But we are hoping that the boys will come up



Abahani's Iranian coach Ali Akbar juggles with the ball during a practice session of the Sky Blues at the club ground in Dhanmondi yesterday.

CONTRASTING PICTURE

Here is a brief comparative look at some of the salient clauses of the Bangladesh Cricket Board's constitution regarding the functionalities of a Chief Executive Officer (CEO) and the proposed amendments that will see a Chief Operating Officer (COO) replacing the CEO.

CEO	COO
Sub clause 14.1 (BA): Appointment of Chief Executive Officer: Bangladesh Cricket Board will nominate, select and fix the salary and other facilities before appointing a chief executive officer. The CEO will carry out the following duties on the sidelines of duties entrusted by the executive committee from time to time.	Amendment Sub clause 14.1 (BA): Appointment of Chief Operating Officer: Bangladesh Cricket Board will nominate, select and fix the salary and other facilities before appointing a chief operating officer. The COO will carry out the following duties on the sidelines of duties entrusted by the board of directors from time to time.
Sub clause 14.1 (BA) 3: He will always through the president remain under the guidance and supervision of the board of directors and will work on the suggestions of the board of directors.	Sub clause 14.1 (BA) 3: omitted
Sub clause 14.1 (BA) 7: He will always thrive to expand and develop Bangladesh Cricket Board's economic, corporate, administrative and sporting activities through his highest quality of administration and management.	Sub clause 14.1 (BA) 7: omitted
Sub clause 14.1 (BA) 9: He will, if needed, prepare report, prepare proposal for the executive committee or for any standing committee and will submit those to the board of directors or to any related standing committee through the president.	Sub clause 14.1 (BA) 9: omitted
Sub clause 14.1 (MA): Appointment of chief financial officer (He) will nominate, select and fix the salary and other facilities before appointing a chief financial officer. The chief financial officer, under the supervision of the CEO, will carry out the duties entrusted by the board of directors.	Sub clause 14.1 (MA): The words "under the supervision of CEO" will be replaced by "Chairman Finance Committee".
Sub clause 14.1 (ZA) He will give his consent or sign a contract on behalf of the Bangladesh Cricket Board relating to any financially beneficial international and regional agreements or understandings.	Sub clause 14.1 (ZA): The section is to be deleted since it is mentioned in the responsibilities of the chief operating officer. But what is written in Sub Clause 14.1 (BA) section 4 is: He (chief operating officer) will sign agreement papers and jointly sign cheques for Bangladesh Cricket Board according to the decision of the board of directors.

Kamal's dramatic U-turn?

Cricket
SPORTS REPORTER

Bangladesh Cricket Board (BCB) president AHM Mustafa Kamal subtly moved from his refreshing 'professionalism' stance yesterday, suggesting the position of the chief executive officer (CEO) could soon

become history.

During a press conference after the Annual General Meeting at Pan Pacific Sonargaon Hotel, Kamal said that if the board moves from CEO to COO (chief operating officer), there would not be any difference in its job description.

He emphasised that not even a single punctuation will be changed in the functioning

of the COO from CEO.

But when asked then what's the point to change the name, the BCB boss apparently looked hapless and hinted of a future compromise deal.

"I want the CEO since it is my principle to uphold the constitution, but I'm not the only one in BCB. There are others and I want to take everyone's opinion in the

matter," said Kamal, who added that any change to the constitution would only be for the improvement of cricket in the country.

The amendment, like many of the other issues, is likely to be placed on the November 30 Extraordinary General Meeting (EGM) after further discussion in a board meeting on October 28.

Kamal also, quite inexplicably, drew an example of Pakistan Cricket Board, an institution that has become an international pariah through their activities over the last decade, while supporting his statement.

"The COO will not be belittled in any way. Some full member countries in the International Cricket Council (ICC) have CEO, some have COO; Pakistan has a COO while in India, the general secretary carries out the duties of a CEO," said Kamal, also an Awami League lawmaker.

His latest stance can be best described as a dramatic U-turn after his stubborn position of upholding professionalism in the face of a perceptible division among the board directors over the amendment to the constitution.

Kamal was earlier, against

any move to make the CEO into a glorified COO (chief operating officer) in the draft of the amendment, a move prepared by constitution committee chief Dewan Shafiqul Arefin, who was also present during the hour-long briefing to the journalists.

Meanwhile, the BCB Game Development committee will also go through changes in its overall function, by dividing up the different age-groups and school cricket and making sure all the districts participate in every section of the age-group. The idea is to have the Game Development committee to hold training of the different teams but not hold tournaments across the country.

"There are thousands of players in school cricket and one committee cannot take care of that and other age-group teams at the same time. Attending the final of the different competitions is not game development," said the BCB chief.

It was also ascertained that a board member would monitor

SEE PAGE 18 COL 8



Bangladesh Cricket Board (BCB) president AHM Mustafa Kamal (C) speaks during a press conference held after the annual general meeting at the Pan Pacific Sonargaon Hotel yesterday.

Where is Nimbus money?

Cricket
SPORTS REPORTER

There were many issues on the agenda during the press conference after yesterday's annual general meeting of the Bangladesh Cricket Board (BCB) but the subject that brought it to life was one word: Nimbus.

The groundbreaking six-year deal, penned in July 2008 (after the Head of Agreement of the contract was signed in November 2006), was worth 56.88 million dollars but has since become a constant thorn on the board's side.

Board president AHM Mustafa Kamal said Nimbus owes a lot of money to BCB, in excess of 22 million dollars, and they are trying to figure out a way to bring the money.

"We are supposed to get a lot of money from Nimbus, like 20 to 22 million dollars. The deal, signed during the caretaker government, was not done properly," said Kamal.

"We are trying to arrange two events with India in near future but it has to be within the time frame of our contract with Nimbus.

"I hope that we can make something out of it because it can offset some of the 14 to 17 million dollars they owe us and through the tours, we can also earn 4 million dollars," he said, adding that the tours could be confirmed within a month.

The board chief also said that Nimbus, due to several reasons, is unable to keep their end of the bargain. "According to them, there were material changes like matches being held in March instead of November, or from Sunday to Friday or day matches being played day-night. They faced obstacles due to these and some other issues," informed Kamal.

"It is surprising that such a deal was signed. They [Nimbus] did not implement the bank guarantee. It is almost like a blank paper that we have had to work on," he added.

A vital component of the big-money contract -- bank guarantee -- has never been implemented although it was incorporated in the Long Form Agreement (LFA) during Sina Ibn Jamali's reign as board chief, some 20 months after the Head of Agreement was signed without a clause for the guarantee.

"We couldn't go out of the Head of Agreement due to its limitations. For the board's interest, we had to make sure we get the best out of the deal and made sure we incorporated the bank guarantee in the LFA," said BCB vice-president Ahmed Sajjadul Alam, who was part of the board when the LFA was penned.

"One has to bear in mind that without the LFA, Nimbus was not paying us any money. I would stress that the LFA wasn't perfect simply because there were compulsions in the Head of Agreement," he added.

SEE PAGE 18 COL 1

Women's h'ball gets underway

SPORTS REPORTER

Holy Cross School and College recorded a 3-1 win over Central Women's College in the opening match of 13th Delta Life Women's College Handball Tournament at the Handball Stadium yesterday.

The first-half of the game was locked at 1-1.

In other matches, Viqarunnisa Noon School and College, Eden Women's College (Junior), Holy Cross, Siddeshwari Girls' College and Eden Women's College won their respective matches on the day.

Viqarunnisa crushed Central Women's College 22-1, Eden (Junior) beat Dhaka Imperial College 6-1, Holy Cross beat Home Economics College 3-2, Siddeshwari blanked Dhaka Imperial 12-0 and Eden defeated Ispahani Girls' College 16-1.

Earlier, Syed Moazzem Hossain, chairman of Delta Life Insurance Company, declared the meet open as chief guest.



India captain Mahendra Singh Dhoni poses with the trophy after winning the ODI series against Australia 1-0 in Margao, Goa yesterday. The third and final ODI was abandoned due to rain.

SPORTS POLL
TODAY'S QUESTION
Do you think the rewards given to the Tigers are over the top?
Visit the sports page of www.thedailystar.net to cast vote
Follow The Daily Star Sport on twitter
www.twitter.com/dssport

3RD ODI ABANDONED India clinch series 1-0

AFP, Goa
The third and final one-day international between India and Australia was abandoned without a ball being bowled due to a wet outfield on Sunday in Goa.

The hosts clinched the series 1-0 by virtue of their five-wicket victory in the second match in Visakhapatnam on Wednesday. The opening one-dayer in Kochi was also washed out by rain.

India completed a rare double against Australia at home, having earlier clinched the two-Test series 2-0.

What to WATCH
BTV
GP Federation Cup
Abahani v Brothers Union
First Semifinal
Live from 5:00pm
ESPN
Sportscentre India
Sports News
Live at 8:30pm
TEN Action
Serie A
Napoli v AC Milan
Live from 12:40am (Tuesday)

DAY'S EVENT
GP Federation Cup
Abahani v Brothers Union
First Semifinal
Time: 5:00pm
Venue: Kamalapur Stadium