

## BCB reduces opening ceremony tickets

SPORTS REPORTER

Bangladesh Cricket Board (BCB) has decided to increase the ticket rates for the World Cup opening ceremony to be held at the Bangabandhu National Stadium on February 17.

The decision was taken during the local organising committee (LOC) meeting held at the Sher-e-Bangla National Stadium in Mirpur yesterday.

"We felt after the response of the selling of match tickets that we can earn more revenue from the ticket selling of the opening ceremony," informed BCB's media committee chairman Jalal Yunus after the meeting.

About seven thousands tickets will go on sale for public and the rates will be from Tk 2000 to Tk 20,000.

"Earlier the lowest rate for gallery tickets was Tk 500

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India spinner Harbhajan Singh (C) celebrates the prize wicket of South Africa batsman Hashim Amla (R), on his way to picking up seven wickets on the fourth day of the third Test at Newlands yesterday.

PHOTO: INTERNET

## India face a mountain

AFP, Cape Town

Jacques Kallis's stonewalling century on the fourth day of the third Test against India at Newlands tilted the scales in the hosts' favour yesterday. Last man Lonwabo Tsotsobe holed out off Harbhajan Singh to what turned out to be the last ball of the day to leave India needing 340 runs on the last day to win the series, which is currently level at 1-1.

Jacques Kallis and Mark Boucher restored South Africa's fortunes on a topsy-turvy fourth day of the third and final Test against India at Newlands on Wednesday.

The veteran pair came together when South Africa were 130 for six, in deep trouble after Harbhajan Singh struck twice early in the day and seamers Zaheer Khan and Ishant Sharma each took a wicket.

The pair then put on 103 for the seventh wicket, before Boucher was out to Sachin Tendulkar for 55.

Kallis carried on with the tail, and was unbeaten on 109 when the last wicket fell with the score on 341.

Harbhajan Singh was the standout bowler, finishing with figures of 7 for 120.

If India manage to chase the target, it will be the highest successful chase at the ground.

**SCORES IN BRIEF**  
**SOUTH AFRICA:** First innings 362

**INDIA:** First innings 364

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# Anisur Tarun's hero

SPORTS REPORTER



Gazi Tank and Kalabagan Kriira Chakra picked up comfortable victories while Surjo Tarun prevailed over BKSP by 18 runs thanks to a fighting century from Anisur Rahman in the Premier Cricket League yesterday.

Kalabagan crushed Orient Sporting Club by 106 runs but even before their game ended at the Sher-e-Bangla National Stadium, Gazi Tank had easily cruised past Prime Doleshwar in an eight-wicket win at the BKSP.

### SURJO TARUN-BKSP

Anisur Rahman rescued Surjo Tarun from a desperate 55 for four, hitting a fighting century as the Dhanmondi outfit prevailed in a surprisingly tight contest.

Surjo Tarun had slipped to 147 for six but Anisur and Sohrawardi Shuvo added 94 runs for the seventh wicket, taking their side to the comfort of 250-9 from 50 overs.

The Rajshahi veteran slammed a six and 13 boundaries in his 116-ball

knock of 112. Incidentally, Anisur was not considered for the game and was only selected because Rajin Saleh had to sit out due to his one-match suspension.

BKSP also lost their four wickets quite early, only for Jupiter Ghosh and Asif Ahmed to stage a fightback. The two added 107 runs for the fifth wicket with Jupiter hitting a 92-ball 67 and the fast improving Asif making 55. But when the latter fell, BKSP's hopes ended. Surjo Tarun's Indian pace-man Devendra Singh and Tigers left-arm spinner Abdur Razzak took three wickets each.

### DOLESHWAR-GAZI TANK

It was trial by spin for newcomers Prime Doleshwar who have officially lost their initial spark as the Gazi Tank slow bowlers tied them down.

Put into bat, Prime Doleshwar had little to say in reply to Gazi Tank's spinners who took eight of the ten wickets to fall. Naeem Islam took three while Sabbir Rahman and Nasir Hossain took two each and Sanjamul Islam picked up one.

Mithun Ali's 63 off 82 balls ensured a smooth passage as Gazi

Tank picked up their third win in a row after a less than impressive start.

### KALABAGAN-ORIENT

Big-hitting Ijaz Ahmed smashed two sixes and five boundaries in his 85-ball 73 as Kalabagan piled up 288-6 from 50 overs.

Then it was Arafat Sunny's turn to consign Orient to the huge defeat, the left-arm spinner picking up five for 26 from his 10 overs.

### BRIEF SCORES

**SURJO TARUN:** 250-9 in 50 overs (Anisur 112 not out, Shuvo 37; Sarkar 3-20).

**BKSP:** 232-9 in 50 overs (Jupiter 67, Asif 55; Devendra 3-39, Razzak 3-38). **Result:** BKSP won by 18 runs.

**DOLESHWAR:** 113 all out in 40.2 overs (Nadif 35; Naeem 3-11, Nasir 2-16).

**GAZI TANK:** 117-1 in 22.2 overs (Mithun 63 not out, Nafees 27 not out).

**Result:** Gazi Tank won by nine wickets.

**KALABAGAN:** 288-6 in 50 overs (Ijaz 73, Rokibul 53; Ashraful 3-65).

**ORIENT:** 182 all out in 45.5 overs (Robiul 75, Shahzad 43; Arafat 5-26).

**Result:** Kalabagan won by 106 runs.

## ICC CRICKET WORLD CUP TALK

## 'Lucky to play all three'

*As the only man to play all three World Cups for Bangladesh, Mohammad Rafique has seen the best of days and also the other side. He spoke to The Daily Star about his experiences.*

**Daily Star Sport (DSS):** How did it feel when you heard that you would play the 1999 World Cup?

**Mohammad Rafique (MR):** There is only one Cup and that is the World Cup. You can make history in an instant in this tournament. I am lucky that I have played the first World Cup and am the only player to play all three World Cups. You can guess that it was a completely different feeling for me.

**DSS:** You have played three World Cups. Which was the best campaign?

**MR:** I became a part of history by playing the first World Cup, but the 2007 edition was most memorable for me, performance-wise. We really played good cricket and we let the world know that we are indeed a team.

After the 2007 performance, a lot of foreigners started supporting us. Some of



MOHAMMAD RAFIQUE

them came up to me and told me that we are a good team.

**DSS:** Was the 2003 campaign a poor one?

**MR:** We lost to the smaller teams, played very badly. Actually there was a shortage of spirit in that team. There was a lot of trouble as Mohsin Kamal was the coach back then.

**DSS:** What was your most favourite memory?

**MR:** There are many incidents attached to cricket that is very dear to me. You know what makes me really happy? People now know where Bangladesh is.

Previously they only knew we were a small country next to India, but since we started doing well in cricket, Bangladesh is known to everyone.

**DSS:** There were some controversies surrounding you. After the 1999 tournament,

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# Sohel lifts BPGA title

SPORTS REPORTER



Shakhwat Hossain Sohel outshone his more illustrious opponent Siddikur Rahman to win the BTI Professional Championship 2011, the first professional golf event in the country, which concluded at the Kurmitola Golf Club yesterday.

The 25-year-old, who just turned pro last month, edged Siddikur by two strokes to take the title of the ten-lakh taka event. Sohel scored a par (72) in the last round yesterday for an overall score of 11-under-par (277), while Siddikur finished with two-under-par (279) with a par score in the last round. Jamal Mollah finished behind them in third position.

"This title will certainly help me to qualify for the Asian Circuit and make me more confident for the Indian Circuit (PGTI). I am looking forward to a great season," exclaimed an elated Sohel.

Sohel started with an overnight lead of two strokes over Siddikur and made a bogey at the first hole, and the chasing pack followed suit. But Sohel bounced back with an overwhelming eagle in the third hole to take a five-stroke lead over Siddikur.

"I was very fortunate to make an eagle to add to my

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PHOTO: STAR

Upcoming professional golfer Shakhwat Hossain Sohel is hoisted up in victory celebrations after his triumph in the BTI Professional Golf Championship at the Kurmitola Golf Club yesterday.

# Brothers in dull draw

## Clash of the new giants today

SPORTS REPORTER



Brothers Union and Arambagh KS played out a goalless draw in the lone match of the Bangladesh League yesterday.

Brothers Union, who gave their mighty opponents Muktiyoddha Sangsad a run for their money before going down 2-0 in their league opener, struggled against Arambagh, who lost to Rahmatganj 2-1 in their first match.

However, Brothers were lucky enough not to lose three points as the Gopibagh-based outfit saw Arambagh rattle the woodwork through a 30-yard strike from Subair Muhammed 10 minutes into the game while Arambagh forward Benjamin Cooper and Faisal squandered two easy chances.

Brothers Union pressed hard in the latter part of the game and came close thrice to a lead but their Cameroon striker spoiled all three chances.

Meanwhile, star-studded Sheikh Jamal Dhanmondi Club will be looking for a new lease of life after the departure of Serbian coach Zoran Kraljevic when they take on a rejuvenated Muktiyoddha Sangsad in their second match

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