

SAFF Club C'ship in Dhaka

Football

SPORTS REPORTER

The inaugural edition of the SAFF Club Championship will be held in Bangladesh from the 1st to the 15th of September, 2011. The inter-club tournament with teams from Bangladesh, India and other SAFF countries was coined during the 1st seminar for SAAD Member Association held in association with the All India Football Federation (AIFF) and the Federation of Indian Chambers of Commerce and Industry (FICCI) at New Delhi last week.

Two clubs from hosts Bangladesh, two from India and one each from other SAFF countries will take part in the tournament. Structure and modalities of the tournament will be decided in due course but it has been decided that the tournament will be held once ever two years.

The decision was also taken to hold an U 16 tournament with national teams sometime in July or August of this year.

Also, following the success of the first SAFF Women's Championship in Bangladesh last year, it was decided that the tournament will continue to be held, with the next edition set for 2012. Sri Lanka has preliminarily offered themselves as hosts for the tournament.



SAFF and BFF president Kazi Salahuddin (R) addresses a seminar for SAFF Member Associations at the Federation House in New Delhi recently. Sitting beside Salahuddin is AFC president Mohamed Bin Hammam.

Pakistan's good start

Cricket

AFP, Saint Lucia

Mohammad Hafeez retired out on 101 to lay the foundation for a 68-run victory for Pakistan in the opening match of their Caribbean tour against the University of the West Indies Vice Chancellor's XI on Monday.

The stand-in Pakistan captain struck 10 fours and two sixes from 93 balls to lead the visitors to 287 for seven from 50 overs, after they chose to bat in the one-day practice match at the Mindoo Phillip Park in the St. Lucia capital.

Left-arm spinner Abdur Rehman then captured four for 27 from his 10 overs, as the VC XI were restricted to 219 for eight in their turn at the crease.

This was the only match practice for the Pakistanis before they face West Indies in a Twenty20 International on Thursday at the Beausejour Cricket Ground in the coastal town of Gros-Islet about four miles outside of the capital.

Hafeez enjoyed a slice of

good fortune, when Keron Cottoy dropped him at backward point off West Indies fast bowler Fidel Edwards in the day's first over.

He went on to share an opening stand of 77 with Taufeeq Umar, and added 130 for the second wicket with Ahmed Shehzad before he gave another teammate a chance in the middle.

Umar Akmal supported with a boundary-studded 57, Shehzad scored 49, and Taufeeq made 44.

Carlos Brathwaite was the most successful VC XI bowler with three for 38 from 10 overs, and leg-spinner Nkrumah Bonner finished with two for 25 from four overs.

The VC XI ran into trouble on 75 for three before Dwayne Bravo, the West Indies vice-captain, and Bonner put them back on course.

Bravo, playing his first match since injuring his knee and being forced to return home from the recent World Cup, led the way with 63 that included four fours and two sixes, and Bonner added 43.

Rehman however, claimed them both, and scalped two more wickets to swing the balance of power decisively Pakistan's way.

The Pakistanis also contest five One-day Internationals and two Tests against West Indies over their six-week trip.

SCORES IN BRIEF

PAKISTAN: 287 for seven off 50 overs; (Mohammad Hafeez 101 retired, Umar Akmal 57 not out, Ahmed Shehzad 49, Taufeeq Umar 44; Carlos Brathwaite 3-38, Nkrumah Bonner 2-25)

UWI VICE-CHANCELLOR'S XI: 219 for eight off 50 overs; (Dwayne Bravo 63, Nkrumah Bonner 43, Miles Bascombe 26, Kevin McClean 23 not out; Abdur Rehman 4-27)

Result: Pakistanis won by 68 runs.

Bangladesh A

FROM PAGE 16
sixes and as many boundaries.

Apart from Ashraful, left-arm spinner Elias Sunny took two wickets in his first away match for the A side while Forhad and Nasir Hossain picked up one each.

Kochi post 2nd win

AFP, Kochi

Brendon McCullum smashed a rapidfire 47 to power Kochi Tuskers Kerala to a seven-wicket victory over Chennai Super Kings in an Indian Premier League match on Monday.

The New Zealander hit three sixes and four boundaries in his 33-ball knock as Kochi achieved a rain-revised target of 135 with two overs to spare in a match reduced to 17-overs-a-side.

It was Kochi's second win and Chennai's second defeat in four matches. McCullum, who hit two sixes off South African paceman Albie Morkel early in his innings, added 51 off just six overs for the second wicket with Parthiv Patel, who scored a 26-ball 34.

SCORES IN BRIEF

CHENNAI SUPER KINGS: 131-4 in 17 overs (Raina 50, Vijay 28)

KOCHI TUSKERS KERALA: 135-3 in 15 overs (McCullum 47, Patel 34; Ashwin 2-31)

Result: Kochi Tuskers Kerala won by 7 wickets.

Man-of-the-match: Brendon McCullum.

Sohal scripts Deccan win

AFP, New Delhi



Little-known opener Sunny Sohal hit a half-century and Kumar Sangakkara made a solid 49 to set up Deccan Chargers' 16-run win over Delhi Daredevils in the Indian Premier League on Tuesday.

Sohal top-scored with an impressive 62 as Deccan posted a competitive 168-4 before restricting Delhi to 152-7 for their second victory in five matches of the Twenty20 tournament.

Australian David Warner scored a 48-ball 51 with the help of one six and five fours for Delhi, who suffered their third defeat in four games. He added 52 for the fourth wicket with Venugopal Rao (21).

Seamer Harmmeet Singh bagged two crucial wickets, including that of skipper Virender Sehwag (12), to put Delhi under pressure, while Australian paceman Daniel Christian finished with 2-38.

Yogesh Nagar (23) and Australian James Hopes (17 not out) were the other main scorers for Delhi.

Sohal, who smashed a six and a four off successive balls from South African fast bowler Morne Morkel, earlier put on 92 for the second wicket with skipper Sangakkara, who hit one six and eight fours in his 35-ball knock.

Sri Lankan Sangakkara looked set to reach his half-century before falling in a bid to step up the run-rate. Australian Cameron White helped Deccan cross the 150-mark with a brisk 25-ball 31 not out in the closing overs.

SCORES IN BRIEF

DECCAN CHARGERS: 168-4 in 20 overs (Sohal 62, Sangakkara 49, White 31 not out)

DELHI DAREDEVILS: 152-7 in 20 overs (Warner 51, Nagar 23, Rao 21; Harmmeet 2-27, Christian 2-38)

Result: Deccan Chargers won by 16 runs.

Man-of-the-match: Sunny Sohal.

Pay rise at Wimbledon

AFP, London

Wimbledon's singles champions will benefit from a prize money rise taking their earnings to 1.1 million pounds at the 2011 Championships, organisers announced on Tuesday.

If men's champion Rafael Nadal and women's winner Serena Williams successfully defend the titles they won last year they will bank a cheque that represents a 10 per cent rise of 100,000 on the 1-million-pound prize awarded 12 months ago.

Although the rest of the world continues to endure tough times as the global financial recession continues, there is no sign of the All England Club tightening its belt.

Academy

FROM PAGE 16
Ahmed, Shuvogoto Hom Chowdhury, Mahmudul Hasan, Myshukur Rahman, Shaker Ahmed, Shubhashish Roy and Al-Amin Hossain in what could easily be described as brilliant and ruthless.

But unfortunately for the Witbank-born Viljoen, Christiaan Schoeman was adjudged the man-of-the-match for his first innings double-century.

SCORES IN BRIEF

SOUTH AFRICA CRICKET ACADEMY: First innings 581 all out.

GP-BCB NCA: First innings 218 all out and second innings 305 all out in 85.1 overs (Alauddin 80, Shuvogoto 47; Viljoen 7-55).

Result: South Africa Cricket Academy won by an innings and 58 runs.

Sk Russel thump Feni

FROM PAGE 18

Threaded the ball to Ugandan Dominic Kabuye who expertly put it past the diving keeper into the far corner of the net.

However, Sheikh Russel hit back eleven minutes later when Mohammad Yusuf, the diminutive forward, headed in a superbly worked cross from Sakhnevich. And with that strike, Yusuf found a spring in his steps, as he danced between three defenders into the penalty box two minutes later, only to be brought down for a penalty. Nigerian forward Effiong Duke stepped up and dispatched the ball with utmost calm.

Sakhnevich missed an open net on the 65th minute when he miscued a slide to see the ball roll past the post. The match remained end-to-end through to the end, but as legs grew weary, there wasn't any more goals coming.

Rafiqul era ends

FROM PAGE 16

Despite the selectors being given full freedom to pick their team, emergence of a technical committee with influential board directors meant that selection panel were more inclined to save their lucrative job instead of speaking their minds.

Only the selection for the World Cup team was strongly fought by Rafiqul but some have pointed it out as a "separate incident".

Since August 2007, eleven players made their Test debuts and thirteen made their ODI debuts (though some of these players were already part of the national setup system before Rafiqul's reign began).

Batsmen Imrul Kayes, Rokibul Hasan,

Jahurul Islam, all-rounder Naeem Islam and pacemen Rubel Hossain and Shafiqul Islam were some of newer players who made their places regular during this tenure. The selectors' inability to promote a number of youngsters as well as the way they handled questions regarding experienced duo Mohammad Ashraful and Mashrafe Bin Mortaza on occasions left a lot to be desired.

Though it would termed as a successful tenure in terms of results, one of the lessons for the next panel would be to fully use the freedom provided by the board although the same organisation have curiously, put up a committee to overrule this very panel on a number of occasions.

Farewell party for Siddons

FROM PAGE 16

The 46-year-old Australian, who was slightly taken aback by the formal nature of the event, said how much he would miss the country.

"I had a great time in Bangladesh. The family and I fell in love with the country and the people," he said, "I learned as a coach and during my tenure there were some I could help, some one could not."

But Siddons said that the board should be wary of challenges with player development, citing the latest tours of the different selections.

"We still need to improve, as we can see in the recent performances of the A team and Academy. Improvement has to come all through the system, not just coaches," said Siddons.

He also thanked his coaching staff and other management members, singling out the departing chief selector Rafiqul Alam. "I would like to thank the management who stuck by me, especially Rafiq. He didn't always give me the team I wanted, we had one or two conflicts but he was strong," he said.

Why hand timing?

FROM PAGE 16

"We have asked the NSC repeatedly to reinstall the time-house but they suggested us to hold the meet with hand time device and would take care of it in the next meet," said BAF general secretary Shah Alam adding that they had managed two laptops from their own sources to run the meet.

Even if it is true Slah Alam's claim hardly reflect a real effort to install the electronic device.

State minister for youth and sports Ahad Ali Sarker, who is also chairman of the NSC, inaugurated the meet where Shah Alam and his president ASM Ali Kabir, a retired bureaucrat who also served as NSC secretary for a long time, tired to stick to the sports boss as close as

possible during the traditional opening ceremony.

Whether Shah Alam has addressed the non-cooperation from the NSC to the sports supreme?

Besides, as former NSC secretary, the BAF president also knows how things operates in the all-powerful custodian of country's sports. Moreover, this electronic device was bought solely for the purpose of athletics federation.

The effort or the lack of it from the federation is also certainly visible in more than one way. The championship, deferred four times, not only started in stifling heat but also nakedly the real purpose from those who runs the glamour event.

CROSSWORD By Eugene Sheffer

ACROSS	37 Tending to nitpick	DOWN	16 Parcel of land
1 Hydrox competitor	38 See 11-Down	1 Hooter	20 Spanning (Abbr.)
5 Scoff	40 Help a crook	2 Shad product	21 On in years
9 Police officer	42 Chicken — king	3 Work unit	22 Cupola
12 Labor	43 Some skate-boarders' protection	4 They look like short-necked giraffes	23 Computer accessories
13 Wheel-base terminus	48 Scoundrel	5 Mock	24 Male deer
14 Regret	49 Marsh plant	6 Reason to cram	26 Proper partner?
15 Tablets of ruled yellow paper	50 Loosen temporarily	7 Time gone by, once	27 A billion years
17 Venomous viper	51 Type measures	8 Saved	28 Throws in
18 Verse	52 Faction	9 Places to stay	29 Inquisitive
19 Society layer	53 Body artwork, for short	10 Eject	31 Milwau-kee team
21 Fess up		11 With 38-Across, cartoon skunk	34 — -de -France
24 Quite			35 Product
25 Sticky substances			37 Not many
26 Collar style			38 Chantilly, e.g.
30 Ostrich's cousin			39 Verve
31 Wide			40 Not up and about
32 Fuss			41 Presage
33 Wanting			44 Hawaiian neckwear
35 Probability			45 Literary collection
36 Periodic table entry (Abbr.)			46 Banned insecticide
			47 "Help!"

Solution time: 21 mins.

S	A	G	A	C	B	S	R	E	D	O
A	G	E	G	R	O	U	P	E	V	I
C	O	L	L	A	P	S	E	M	I	L
E	N	E	C	O	L	L	I			
P	L	E	A	D	K	U	R	T		
H	A	R	M	C	O	L	L	E	G	E
D	I	G	A	R	R	A	Y	L	A	W
C	O	L	L	I	E	R	P	I	S	A
I	O	T	A	F	I	B	E	R		
B	R	U	N	E	I	E	E	L		
E	I	R	E	C	O	L	L	O	Q	U
A	L	G	A	A	R	M	A	T	U	R
D	E	E	R	L	E	O	S	A	N	S

BCB to start legal battle with Nimbus

SPORTS REPORTER

While the decision on the selection committee drew the most attention, the 29th meeting of the Bangladesh Cricket Board (BCB) also took the decision that it would try to recover the money from Nimbus.

After the meeting, the board's media release stated, "The board has decided to initiate legal proceedings to recover the outstanding dues in connection with television broadcast rights from its international marketing agency Nimbus Sports International."

The groundbreaking six-year deal was penned in July 2008 after the Head of Agreement of the contract was signed in November 2006 and was worth 56.88 million dollars. But the deal that ends on July 2012 has since become a constant thorn on the board's side.

Nimbus owes BCB in excess of 22 million dollars and the board has been trying to figure out a way to realise the money.

Earlier last year, BCB president AHM Mostafa Kamal went to Mumbai to hammer out some kind of understanding with Nimbus so that they pay BCB 10 million dollars immediately and the remaining 12 million later but during the AGM last year, Kamal confirmed that the company still owed them.

During the meeting yesterday, the BCB president was given the responsibility of forming a five-member team comprising board members to select a new selection panel.

"There won't be any special committees but the president with a few others will form a committee and make the selection committee. By the virtue of his portfolio, CEO might also be included," said Jalal Yunus.

About one of the existing selectors being retained in the new panel, Yunus said, "If the committee decides on any of the current selectors, it might be so."

He also informed that the BCB will go into fresh contracts with Julien Fountain and physio Mike Henry, if the two agree on terms.

Abbas comes up with new idea

Cricket

AFP, Karachi

Batting legend Zaheer Abbas said Tuesday that a new stadium should be built straddling the India-Pakistan border as a way of reviving cricket relations between the arch rivals.

Pakistan last month played their first cricket match in India -- the World Cup semifinal -- since the November 2008 terror attacks in Mumbai that left 166 people dead and which New Delhi blamed on extremists across the border.

The deadly incident badly strained relations between the two countries and also stalled sporting ties.

But since the semifinal there have been suggestions that a resumption of cricket and other sports between the two countries could be on the cards.

Abbas, a Pakistani who -- unusually -- is also hugely popular in India for his batting exploits which fetched him the title of "the Asian Bradman", suggested a shared stadium could play a vital role in improving relations.

"Build a stadium at Wagah border so that there are no problems of India not coming to Pakistan, and Pakistan not going to India," Abbas, a former Pakistan captain, told AFP.

"Half of the portion should be in Pakistan and half should be in India so that fans don't need any visa. Pakistani fans should support their team from their side and Indians from their side and this example could also be followed in other sports."

Abbas, who played 78 Tests and 62 one-dayers for Pakistan during an illustrious career, said sports should not suffer as a result of often tricky diplomacy.

"Sports of both the countries have suffered because of the politics, but people from both the sides want to see their teams playing -- be it hockey, cricket or any other sport," said Abbas, who acted as an expert for an Indian television channel during the World Cup.

Pakistan Cricket Board officials have said they are in discussion with their Indian counterparts for a short cricket series later this year, although security fears for travelling teams in Pakistan remains a stumbling block.

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	
12				13					14		
15			16						17		
		18				19	20				
21	22	23				24					
				26	27				28	29	
30			31						32		
33			34					35			
		36					37				
38	39				40	41					
42				43	44				45	46	47
48				49					50		
51				52					53		

CRYPTOQUIP

Y X Q L T D N S M E T A M H L O L E H
N V L X X Y B M D M D L T E Y V F
H K M O A L O A M X N E H M V M A ,
Q L T ' A M L V H K M A Y F K H H N B S .

Yesterday's Cryptoquip: ADVANCED CLASS IN WHICH STUDENTS STUDY MANY DIFFERENT WAYS TO DECEIVE FOLKS: TRICK-ONOMETRY.
Today's Cryptoquip Clue: D equals M