

Jamil made
MSC cricket
head

SPORTS REPORTER

Khandaker Jamiluddin has been made the chairman of Mohammedan Sporting Club's cricket committee, the club announced yesterday.

The 12-member panel for the 2011-12 season also includes Habibullah Don as the senior vice-chairman and five other vice-chairmen.

National cricketer Naeem Islam has been named skipper for the season while Sohel Islam is the coach.

Meanwhile, ASM Faruque will be the convenor of the newly-formed technical committee.



India fast bowler Umesh Yadav exults after cleaning up Australia opener David Warner on the third day of the first Test at the Melbourne Cricket Ground yesterday.

PHOTO: REUTERS

Knife-edge MCG Test

Cricket

REUTERS, Melbourne

India struck back with four late wickets while Australia's Mike Hussey posted a defiant half-century to leave the first Test delicately poised at the close of the third day on Wednesday.

In a pulsating day of high drama at the Melbourne Cricket Ground, paceman Zaheer Khan dismissed Ricky Ponting for 60 to end a 115-run stand with middle-order batsman Hussey and spark another batting collapse for the hosts.

Hussey, under pressure to retain his place in the rebuilding team after a pair of golden ducks in his last two innings, hung on doggedly for 79 as his partners wilted, pushing Australia to 179-8 at stumps and an overall lead of 230.

The grizzled 36-year-old will resume with James Pattinson, a 21-year-old paceman on three not out in

his third Test, as they negotiated a wicket that showed enough on Day Three to encourage the seamers and keep a crowd of 40,000 at the MCG enthralled.

Despite Ponting and Hussey's defiant partnership, the day belonged to the bowlers with 15 wickets falling.

Australia paceman Ben Hilfenhaus, back in the Test side after a year in the freezer, played a key part early by taking five wickets to help skittle India for 282 after the tourists resumed on 214-3.

The 28-year-old bowled Rahul Dravid for 68 with the second ball of the day and blitzed India's middle-order to finish with a career-best innings haul of 5-75.

That gave Australia a lead of 51 after lunch, but any hopes of grinding India into the dust were dashed when the hosts' top-order collapsed spectacularly in the face of a pace onslaught from Umesh Yadav.

The rangy 24-year-old had opener David Warner (five) and number three Shaun Marsh (three) both play onto their stumps and trapped Ed Cowan lbw for eight after he failed to offer a shot.

Paceman Ishant Sharma bowled skippered Michael Clarke through the gate for one to leave the hosts reeling at 27-4.

Hussey and Ponting doggedly dug in for their half-centuries to swing the momentum to the hosts, but Zaheer stole it back when he struck with a devastating spell after tea.

Zaheer coaxed Ponting into a misjudged drive with his second ball that went straight to Virender Sehwag in the gully.

SCOREBOARD

AUSTRALIA: First innings 333 (Cowan 68, Ponting 62; Zaheer 4-77)

INDIA: First innings (overnight 214-3)

Gambhir c Haddin b Hilfenhaus 3

Sehwag b Pattinson 67

Dravid b Hilfenhaus 68

Tendulkar b Siddle 73

Sharma c Haddin b Hilfenhaus 11

Laxman c Haddin b Siddle 2
Kohli c Haddin b Hilfenhaus 11
Dhoni c Hussey b Hilfenhaus 6
Ashwin c Haddin b Siddle 31
Zaheer b Pattinson 4
Yadav not out 2
Extras: (w-1, nb-3) 4
Total: (All out in 94.1 overs) 282

Fall of wickets: 1-22, 2-97, 3-214, 4-214, 5-221, 6-238, 7-245, 8-254, 9-259

Bowler O M R W
Pattinson 23 6 55 2
Hilfenhaus 26 5 75 5
Siddle 21.1 2 63 3
Lyon 17 2 66 0
Hussey 5 0 15 0
Warner 2 0 8 0

AUSTRALIA: Second innings
Warner b Yadav 5
Cowans b Yadav 8
Marsh b Yadav 3
Ponting c Sehwag b Zaheer 60
Clarke b Sharma 1
Hussey not out 79
Haddin c Laxman b Zaheer 6
Siddle c Dhoni b Yadav 4
Lyon lbw b Ashwin 0
Pattinson not out 3
Extras: (b-4, lb-2, w-1, nb-3) 10
Total: (For 8 wkt in 60 overs) 179

Fall of wickets: 1-13, 2-16, 3-24, 4-27, 5-142, 6-148, 7-163, 8-166

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