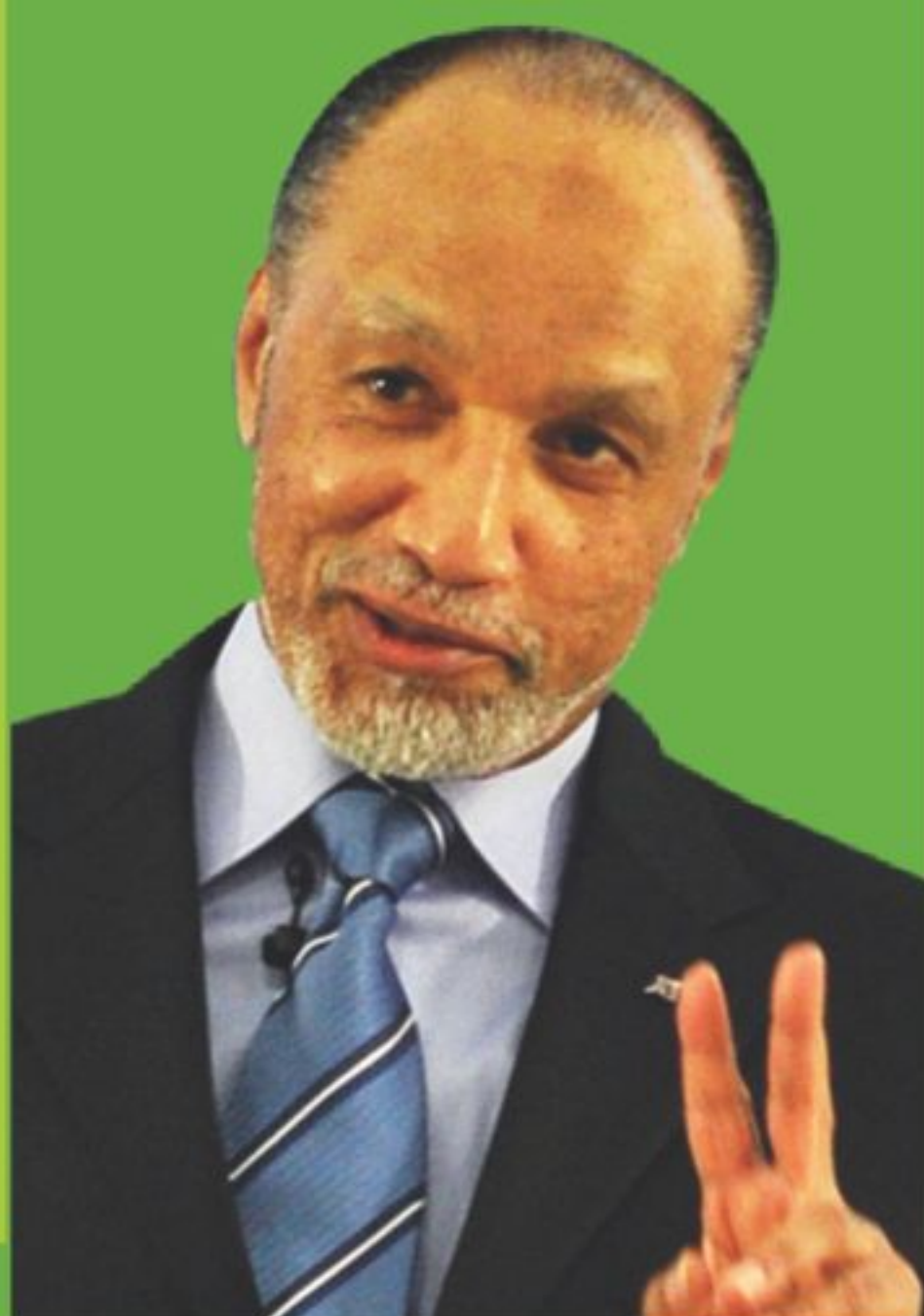


Star SPORT

DHAKA WEDNESDAY JULY 18, 2012, E-MAIL: sports@thedailystar.net

AFC suspends Bin Hammam

The Asian Football Confederation have suspended former President Mohamed Bin Hammam after a lengthy audit of their accounts revealed fresh allegations of financial wrongdoing, the body said in a statement on Tuesday. Bin Hammam was suspended for 30 days by the AFC. The governing body in Asia said he had been suspended for "events surrounding the negotiation and execution of certain contracts and with the financial transactions made in and out of AFC bank accounts and his personal account during the tenure of Mr. Bin Hammam's



Foreigners quota unchanged

SPORTS REPORTER

Against all the demand from Bangladesh Premier League clubs to reduce the number of foreign booters playing in a match, the Professional Football League Committee yesterday decided to keep the number to four. The committee also stuck to the old decision of registering seven foreigners per club.

A number of clubs including Mohammedan, Abahani, Muktijoddha Sangsad and Sheikh Russel KC had demanded that the maximum number of foreigners playing in a match be reduced to three from four, though no written demand was placed by the clubs to the Bangladesh Football Federation (BFF).

The maximum size of the squad of both Premier League and Championship League clubs has been increased from 27 to 30 and the minimum size has been increased from 18 to 22. The name for new clubs in the Championship League will be announced on July 31 and a new player may be registered. The committee also made the medical tests for players in both leagues mandatory alongside beep

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COLLEGE RUGBY

Imperial champs

SPORTS REPORTER

Dhaka Imperial College emerged champions in the Diamond Melamine College Rugby Competition beating Dr. Malika University College by 20-5 points in the final at the Kamalapur Stadium yesterday.

The winners dominated the first half by 5-0 points. Mehdi of Imperial College was adjudged the best player of the tournament.

Managing Director of the meet's sponsor Diamond Melamine, Mosharraf Hossain Pradhan witnessed the final as chief guest and later distributed the prizes.

Wins warm up Tigers

3-match series against Ireland starts today



SPORTS REPORTER

Mohammad Ashraful's half-century and two wickets from Elias Sunny set up Bangladesh's second warm-up Twenty20 victory on Monday evening.

They rounded off the NCU President's XI by 48 runs via the Duckworth-Lewis method after rain stopped play midway through the home side's chase at The Green in Comber. The Tigers had also won the first game against Ireland XI by seven wickets earlier in the day.

And the rain hasn't relented in Belfast with the Tigers unable to take part in practice. They had to make do with some light gym work. The visitors are focussed on winning the series to get themselves on the ICC Twenty20 rankings, as well as correct their record against Ireland in the shortest format.

Bangladesh nearly have a full-strength team with the return of Shakib Al Hasan for the short tour while the pace attack too received a boost with the return of Shafiul Islam, with only Rubel Hossain left to recover from a shoulder surgery. Skipper Mushfiqur Rahim and coach Richard Pybus seem to be happy with letting Mohammad Ashraful open the innings with Tamim Iqbal, while it is also likely that Shakib and the captain himself would bat up the order to take most of the overs in the 20-over format.

In the second game, Bangladesh had

made 164-5 in 20 overs with Ashraful hammering four boundaries in his anchor-like 49-ball unbeaten 52. He shared a 65-run stand with Mahmudullah Riyad, who made a quickfire 43 off 27 balls with the help of six boundaries and a six. Ziaur Rahman, Jahurul Islam and Junaed Siddiqui struck one six apiece as the Tigers reached a respectable total.

Under-19s left-arm spinner Gary Kidd took two wickets while the two Thompsons - Stuart and Johnny - and Andrew White picked up a wicket apiece.

The home team's reply began disastrously with Rory McCann getting caught behind off Nazmul Hossain off the third ball of the innings. Sunny then removed Lee Nelson and James Shannon in a tidy three-over spell; Ziaur took the wicket of Andrew Poynter before it started to pour down in Belfast.

SCORES IN BRIEF

BANGLADESH: 164-5 in 20 overs (Tamim 24, Ashraful 52 not out, Riyad 43, Nasir 0, Ziaur 22, Jahurul 9, Junaed 12 not out; S Thompson 1-35, J Thompson 1-11, Nelson 0-21, Kidd 2-43, Jones 0-14, Eakin 0-20, White 1-20). **NCU PRESIDENT'S XI:** 61-5 in 13.2 overs (Shannon 16, McCann 0, Nelson 14, White 19 not out, S Thompson 4; Poynter 3; Nazmul 1-11, Hasan 0-12, Razzak 0-8, Sunny 2-7, Riyad 0-2, Nasir 0-10, Ziaur 1-8).

Result: Bangladesh won by 48 runs (D/L method).



Fatematuz Zohra of Abahani serves the ball as her partner Lucky Akhter watches during their doubles final of the Lotto Open Table Tennis Competition at the Wooden Floor Gymnasium in Paltan yesterday.

PHOTO: STAR

LOTTO OPEN TT

Abahani win women's team title

SPORTS REPORTER

Abahani clinched the women's team event title of the Lotto Open Table Tennis Competition beating Destiny TT Club in 3-2 sets in a keenly contested match at the Shaheed Tajuddin Ahmed Wooden Floor Gymnasium yesterday.

Abahani emerged unbeaten champions securing 12 points from four matches while Destiny TT Club finished runners-up with nine points from four outings.

In the men's team event quarterfinals, Sheikh Russell KC beat Islamic Union by 3-0 sets, Eleven Star beat Ping Pong by 3-2 sets, Arunima defeated Narail district by 3-1 sets while Destiny TT Club beat Bangladesh Biman Red Team by 3-0 sets.

In Group B, Palalik beat Ekota Sripur by 3-0 sets, Biman Blue team beat Muller TT by 3-0 sets, North South University got walk-over against Gaibanda while Shishiron beat Jagannath University by 3-0 sets.

KFC WOMEN'S FOOTBALL

Narayanganj, Sylhet post wins

SPORTS REPORTER

Narayanganj defeated Patuakhali by 4-0 goals in their KFC Women's Football Super League match at the Sylhet Stadium yesterday, thanks to a hat-trick from Eti. All the three goals by Eti were from the penalty spot. The other goal was scored by Mithila.

In the other match at the same venue, hosts Sylhet beat Sunamganj 1-0, with the all-important goal coming from Deepa Rani.

The two matches scheduled for the Kamalapur Stadium in Dhaka were called off due to rain.

Bangladeshi Fahim becomes French



AFP, Paris

Once threatened with expulsion for living in the country illegally, a Bangladeshi chess prodigy will now represent France at next month's European Championships, chess officials said Monday.

Fahim Alam, 11, won France's under-12 chess championship in April but was facing expulsion because he arrived illegally in France in October 2008 with his father Nura and in 2010 was issued with an order to leave the country.

After his case received widespread media attention, Alam's father was granted a work and residency permit in May after obtaining a job as a dishwasher and social housing in the Paris suburb of Creteil.

The director of the French chess federation, Laurent Verat, said there was now no obstacle to Alam taking part in the European Championships in Prague from August 16 to 26 as part of the French team.



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WAR OVER DISABLED ATHLETES

NSC's ad-hoc solution

SPORTS REPORTER

The National Sports Council (NSC) on Tuesday formed an ad-hoc body in an apparent effort to put an end to a long legal war between two parties over representing Bangladesh as a valid entity in the International Paralympic Committee.

The governing body of country's sports took the decision at its working committee meeting "in an effort to uphold the interest of physically disabled athletes as well as to ensure Bangladesh's participation in the forthcoming London Paralympics", read a circular of the NSC after the meeting chaired by State Minister for Youth and Sports Ali Ahad Sarker. The names of the members or the convenor of the committee, however, could not be learnt despite repeated efforts to

communicate.

The meeting also decided to upgrade the status of Rugby Association to a full federation, increasing the number of federations under its umbrella to 33.

However, the decision to form an ad-hoc committee for disabled athletes was a more pressing issue for the NSC as it will eventually allow Bangladesh to regain IPC membership that has been suspended from June 2011.

Bangladesh's participation in the London Paralympics, which starts on August 29, is also under jeopardy as they cannot participate without IPC membership which was suspended due to battle between two organisations, namely National Paralympics Committee (NPC) and National Games for Disabled Association (NGDA), both of whom claimed to be the rightful

member. IPC had earlier asked the Ministry of Youth and Sports to clarify which organisation had the right to represent Bangladesh in IPC, but the ministry failed to provide an answer, resulting in the suspension of both organisations.

It may be mentioned here that the NPC was registered at Joint Stock Welfare Office while NGDA was registered at District Welfare Office under the Social Welfare Ministry.

Mentionable here also is the fact that NGDA was turned into the NPC in 2004 by former president ASM Mofazzal Hossain and former general secretary Maksudur Rahman without informing other members know and they continued its activities under the new name which originally gave rise to the wrangle.



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