

Bangladesh
in badminton
Grand Prix

SPORTS REPORTER

Bangladesh will take part in the Garg-Syed Modi International India Badminton Grand Prix which will be held at Babu Banarsi Das Indoor Stadium in Lucknow, India from December 18 to 23.

A six-member Bangladesh squad comprising four players will leave here for India today. The tournament features five events -- men's singles and doubles, women's singles and doubles and mixed doubles.

IHF handball

SPORTS REPORTER

Bangladesh men's handball team lost their second match in a row in the IHF Trophy Handball Tournament in Kathmandu, Nepal yesterday. Bangladesh lost against Yemen by 23-18 points, after trailing the first half by 14-8 points. Meanwhile, Bangladesh women's team won their match against Pakistan by 35-15 points. Bangladesh led the first half by 14-9 points. Shirin Akter, who scored 10 goals in the match, was adjudged man of the match.

Victory Day
basketball

SPORTS REPORTER

A three-on-three basketball tournament will be held at the Dhamondi Basketball Gymnasium on December 16 and 17 on the occasion of Victory Day, said a press release from Bangladesh Basketball Federation yesterday. 16 teams in the men's group and four teams in women's group will participate in the tournament.

Div I football

SPORTS REPORTER

Youngmen's Club of Fakirpul defeated Sunrise Sporting Club 1-0 in the Popular Life Insurance Senior Division Football League at the Birsreshtha Mostafa Kamal Stadium in Kamalapur yesterday. Mohammad Shamim scored the only goal of the match in the 44th minute. Badda Jagoroni Sangsad take on Jatrabari Krira Chakra in today's fixture at the same venue.

BDDSOC

FROM PAGE 16 ICC's (International Cricket Council's) guideline. And they also believed that the clause concerning the councillorship of the district and divisional organisations would only help manipulation.

Miku also informed about the High Court's ruling against the amended constitution. The High Court on Thursday issued a rule nisi on the NSC asking them why the amended constitution of the Bangladesh Cricket Board (BCB) should not be considered illegal and also issued a stay order on the amended constitution for three months.

Yousuf Jamil Babu, president of the BDDSOC, also spoke in the briefing.

Meanwhile, Manzur Kader, president of the DPDCS and president of Sheikh Jamal Dhamondi Club, demanded two councillors from each club of the Premier Division Cricket League instead of present two councillors from the top six clubs.



Australia's Phil Hughes ducks a bouncer on the first day of the first Test against Sri Lanka in Hobart yesterday.

PHOTO: AFP

Hughes paying back

Cricket

AFP, Hobart

Phil Hughes unfurled a couple of new shots in his comeback Test knock of 86 against Sri Lanka in Friday's Hobart series opener in his efforts towards remaining in the Australian team.

Hughes, batting at number three rather than his usual opening spot, narrowly missed out on a restorative century in his Test recall to offer early evidence that he has overcome the technical shortcomings that led to his sacking 12 months ago.

The compact left-hander showed more patience and greater shot selection at his latest and third Test recall in the wake of Ricky Ponting's retirement, batting for 221 minutes and hitting eight fours and an unorthodox slog-sweep six.

Hughes returned to Hobart's Bellerive Oval where he played his last Test in

December 2011 and scored just 24 runs in two innings against New Zealand.

In his first Test innings back Hughes was bowled by Chanaka Welegedara in the 59th over with a delivery that speared through a gap between bat and pad and crashed into his off-stump.

But in his time at bat the 24-year-old showed enough improvement in his technique to raise hopes that he may yet become a Test regular for Australia.

"It was nice to get a few, it would have been nice to get three-figures and a few more, but that's cricket. To get 80-odd was good for my confidence," Hughes said.

Hughes has been working on the leg-side facet of his game that was missing from his strokeplay in his earlier 17 Test appearances.

He hooked speedster Shaminda Eranga for four and hit a prodigious six over deep mid-wicket to unveil new shots in his scoring repertoire.

T20 FOR BLIND India thrash Pakistan for World Cup

IANS, Bangalore

A defiant India beat Pakistan by 30 runs in a thrilling final of the T20 World Cup for the sightless at the Central College ground here Thursday.

Batting first on a warm day, India scored 258 runs for eight wickets in the stipulated 20 overs and restricted Pakistan to 228 runs for eight wickets in their 20 overs to lift the World Cup.

For India, Ketan Bhai Patel hit a hurricane 98, while Prakash Jayaramaiah contributed 42 and vice-captain Ajay Kumar Reddy 25. For Pakistan Mohammed Jameel posted a breezy 47, Ali Murthaza 38 and Mohammed Akram 32.

Faf to captain SA T20 side

Cricket

AFP, Cape Town

The South African cricket selectors kept faith with their Test team but made major changes to their Twenty20 squad ahead of a forthcoming home series against New Zealand.

Announcing the squads in Cape Town, selection convener Andrew Hudson said the Test side earned their vote of confidence when they confirmed their ranking as the world's number one Test team by defeating Australia earlier this month.

The squad for two Tests against New Zealand, in Cape Town from January 2 and Port Elizabeth from January 11 includes the 11 players who won the final Test against Australia in Perth as well as batsman Jacques Rudolph and fast bowler Rory Kleinveldt.

SQUADS

TEST: Graeme Smith (captain), Hashim Amla, AB de Villiers, Faf du Plessis, Dean Elgar, Jacques Kallis, Rory Kleinveldt, Morne Morkel, Alviro Petersen, Robin Peterson, Vernon Philander, Jacques Rudolph, Dale Steyn. TWENTY20: Faf du Plessis (captain), Farhaan Behardien, Henry Davids, Quinton de Kock, AB de Villiers, Rory Kleinveldt, Richard Levi, David Miller, Morne Morkel, Chris Morris, Wayne Parnell, Robin Peterson, Aaron Phangiso, Dale Steyn, Lonwabo Tsotsobe.

BPL auction on Dec 20

FROM PAGE 16

stated that official agreements between the franchises and the board would be signed by December 20. "We didn't have any agreement with the franchisees in the previous edition," said Mallick.

"There will be a few guidelines regarding players' payment in the agreement. For instance, after the auction and before the tournament begins, 25 per cent of the money have to be paid. Before the last match, another 25 per cent should be paid and the rest of the money will have to be paid within six months from the end of the last match," he added.

It was also stated that the payment of the players in the second edition would be done through the board. "The franchises will pay us and we will pay the players, unlike last time," informed Sinha.

President of the Bangladesh Cricket

Board, Nazmul Hassan Papon, who was also present in the press conference, said that while the financial disputes haven't seen a clear cut solution, majority of the problems have been resolved.

"One of the biggest problems during the previous edition was that Game On, the franchises and the players didn't have much to do with the BCB. Whether people agreed to the rules or not, whether the players got paid or not, we didn't have any control over anything since there weren't any written agreements between the parties. We didn't have a clear cut agreement and therefore couldn't take any action," said Papon.

The president however stated that such problems would not recur, once the board has a written agreement with the franchises. "If any party doesn't go by the rules this time, we can always take a action against them," said Papon.

Aussies on front foot

Cricket

AFP, Hobart

Australia took the upper hand against Sri Lanka following half-centuries by Phil Hughes, David Warner and Michael Clarke on the opening day of first Hobart Test on Friday.

The Australians always had the measure of the unthreatening Sri Lankan bowling attack, but Mahela Jayawardene's team kept a lid on the scoring rate to just above three runs an over with alert ground fielding.

Hughes hit 86 on his Test comeback a year after being sacked for a second time, while Warner ran himself out for 57 just before lunch.

At the close, Australia were 299 for four after winning the toss with inform skipper Clarke unbeaten on 70 and veteran Mike Hussey not out on 37 in an unbroken 101-run stand.

Clarke in the process raised 1,400 runs for the calendar year, averaging over 116.

"Overall at four for 299 the ball's in our court," Hughes said.

"I thought we were outstanding today with Pup [Michael Clarke] and Huss [Mike Hussey] putting on a 100 at the end, so that really gives us momentum going into tomorrow."

The Australians are coming off a crushing 309-run loss to world number one South Africa in Perth and found the sixth-ranked Sri Lankans -- without a win in 10 Tests in Australia -- less menacing opposition.

Hughes, batting at number three, was out shortly after tea when he was bowled by Chanaka Welegedara, which left the home side at 183 for three in the 51st over.

Watson had shared in an 86-run stand with Hughes as Australia were looking in command.

Watson was run out in the final over before lunch

to take some of the gloss off Australia's solid first morning.

Looking set for a big score, a communication breakdown with Hughes saw him sacrifice his wicket four balls before lunch.

SCOREBOARD

AUSTRALIA: Firstinnings

Warren run out (Mathews)	57
Cowan c Eranga b Welegedara	4
Hughes b Welegedara	86
Watson c M. Jayawardene b Welegedara	30
Clarke not out	70
Hussey not out	37
Extras: (b-1, lb-3, w-10)	15
Total: (For 4 wkt in 90 overs)	299

Fall of wickets: 1-18, 2-97, 3-183, 4-198

To bat: Wade, Siddle, Starc, Lyon, Hilfenhaus

Bowler	0	M	R	W
Kulasekara	22	2	51	0
Welegedara	20	1	99	3
Eranga	16	3	52	0
Mathews	11	2	35	0
Dilshan	4	0	11	0
Herath	17	3	47	0

SRI LANKA: Dilshan, Karunaratne, Sangakkara, M Jayawardene, Samaraweera, Mathews, P Jayawardene, Kulasekara, Herath, Eranga, Welegedara.

Toss: Australia.

BKSP set up Rajshahi final

SPORTS REPORTER

BKSP set up a final clash of the Agrani Bank 23rd National Youth Hockey Championship against Rajshahi when they handed a 4-0 defeat to Dhaka in the semifinal at the Maulana Bhasani Hockey Stadium yesterday.

Rummon Sarker struck two goals while Soaib Ali and Arshad Hossin netting one goal each for BKSP, who led the first half 1-0.

In the first semifinal on Thursday, Rajshahi beat Faridpur 7-0 on sudden death.

The final will take place on Sunday at the same venue with ATN Bangla telecasting the match live from the venue.

L'EQUIPE AWARDS
Bolt named
the best

AFP, Paris

French sports daily L'Equipe announced their annual awards for the 2012 year in sport this week with Olympic gold medalists Usain Bolt and Teddy Riner leading the list.

The well respected paper handed Bolt the men's Champion of World Champions' award for the third time following his second Olympic treble at the London Games where the Jamaican sprinter won the 100m and 200m before anchoring his country to the 4x100m crown.

Five-time world champion Riner added Olympic gold in the open category of men's judo to land the 'Champion of French Champions' trophy while 23-year-old swimmer Camille Muffat took the women's award thanks to her 400m freestyle gold, 200m silver and 4x200m bronze in the English capital.

"It warms my heart and I am sincerely honoured," said Riner.

"To be on the front page of this paper, I can tell you is really something. To win this is a bit like a footballer winning the Ballon d'Or [European player of the year] and now I have my Ballon d'Or," continued the 23-year-old Frenchman.

Muffat who became only the second French woman to win swimming gold after Laure Manadou in 2004 was equally thrilled.

Le Clos 1st, Lochte 3rd

Swimming

AFP, Istanbul

South Africa's Olympic 100m butterfly champion Chad Le Clos added the world short course crown to his collection on Thursday with a commanding victory in the final.

Le Clos won in 48.82sec, ahead of American duo Thomas Shields, in 49.54sec, with Ryan Lochte, who captured gold in the 200m freestyle and 4x100m freestyle relay on Wednesday, taking bronze in 49.59sec.

"I was a little nervous before the final. Lochte was a bit of an unknown. But I had him and Shields in the lanes next to mine, so it was a good set-up on both sides," said the 20-year-old Le Clos, whose time was a championship record.

Japanese teenager Daiya Seto won his first international title with victory in the 400m medley.

The 18-year-old's 3min 59.15sec pushed the great Hungarian Laszlo Cseh, who clocked 4:00.50, into second place.

Cseh, a seven-time European champion, has still to claim a world title.

"I did not feel good in the butterfly leg, but I tried to fight. In the backstroke leg I

could relax and finish well," said Seto.

"Even though this is short course, these are still world championships and I am very excited. This victory is going to give me confidence for the long course competitions."

Seto wasn't the youngest winner on the night.

That honour went to 15-year-old Lithuanian Ruta Meilutyte who won the women's 50m breaststroke, having taken a long spell out of the sport following her 100m gold at the Olympics.

The teenager won in a time of 29.44sec ahead of Jamaica's Alia Atkinson, in 29.67, and Sarah Katsoulis of Australia in 29.94sec.

"I really didn't expect it," said Meilutyte. "At the moment it feels just like I have swum a normal race, but it will start sinking in. It's crazy."

America's Olympic 100m backstroke champion Matt Grevers won his first individual world title over the same distance, dethroning favourite Stanislav Donets of Russia.

Grevers touched in 49.89sec with Donets in 49.91sec.

"Stan