

# SPORT

## Transfers level field

SPORTS REPORTER

Ever since the new format of the players' transfer of this year's Dhaka Premier League was announced-- where clubs would have to depend on a lottery-based, rotational system to buy their desired players -- there were talks about how the clubs with the earliest calls would go after the likes of Shakib Al Hasan and Tamim Iqbal in the very first round of bidding.

However, as it turned out, of the four players from the A+ category it was national captain Mushfiqur Rahim who was bought first by Sheikh Jamal for Tk 22 lakh, the fixed grade price, in the transfers which took place at a city hotel yesterday.

Last year's champions Victoria, who were second in line for the round, bought Nasir Hossain. Tamim, who is set to return from the West Indies today, was bought by Brothers Union.

The fourth buyer in line was Abahani and with three out of the four players of the grade already sold, everyone expected them to buy Shakib. However, in a rather surprising move Abahani decided against buying the ace allrounder and passed their chance to Kalabagan Krira Chakra, who seized the opportunity.

Abahani officials stated that they were focussed on building a young team without

national players since a majority of them would be busy with the New Zealand series midway through the league.

Pacer Mashrafe Bin Mortaza, due to his consistent injury worries did not find a buyer until the sixth round of the bidding when he was bought by Mohammedan Sporting Club. Along with Mashrafe the club also bought promising batsman Shamsur Rahman, veteran Rajin Saleh and slow left armer Saqlain Sajib.

Victoria, signed up national players Anamul Haque Bijoy and pacer Robiul Islam to go with their A+ grade signing of Nasir.

Sheikh Jamal, after signing Mushfiqur in the first round, also bought Abdur Razzak and Jahurul Islam in the second and third rounds.

Last year's runners up Gazi Tank bought national vice-captain Mahmudullah Riyad. Imrul Kayes, Rubel Hossain and Rakibul Hassan are among the other players bought by the club.

The league is scheduled to begin on September 3. However, it might be delayed by a few days since some of the clubs are yet to fix their jerseys and contact their foreign players. With regards to the payment of the players, 40 per cent of the fees are supposed to be paid when the contract is signed, 30 per cent after the first round of the tournament and the remaining within one month of the end of the league.

### PLAYERS LIST

**Abahani:** Liton Kumar Das, Alauddin Babu, Taposh Ghosh, Nabil Samad, Shahriar Nafees, Alamin, Mosaddek Hossain, Mohammad Alamin, Aslam Ali, Iftekar Nayeem, Md Nazimuddin, Md Rabbi, Md Shahjada, Rejaul Islam, **Sheikh Jamal:** Mushfiqur Rahim, Abdur Razzak, Jahurul Islam, Elias Sunny, Junaed Siddique, Subhasish Roy, Tanvir Hyder Khan, Shaiful Islam, Tushar Imran, Abul Basher, Yasin Arafat, Ashikuzzaman, Nahid, Didar Hossain Emran, Rubaiyat Huq,

**Gazi Tank:** Mahmudullah Riyad, Imrul Kayes, Arafat Sunny, Naeem Islam Jr, Nur Hossain, Rakibul Hossain, Aftab Ahmed, Md Shaheed, Anwar Hossain, Sheikh Tariquzzaman, Kazi Rijalul Islam, Mohd Emon Ahmed,

**Victoria:** Nasir Hossain, Anamul Haque, Saumya Sarkar, Myshukur Rahman, Monir Hossain, Robiul Islam, Jubair Ahmed, Mohammad Sharif, Shaker Ahmed, Sajidul Islam, Lablur Rahman, Raseel Al Mamun, Neamul Hasan Taj, Nadim, **Brothers Union:** Tamim Iqbal, Sohrwardi Shuvo, Sanjamul Islam, Alok Kapali, Mehab Hossain Jr, Nafees Iqbal, Jasimuddin, Imtiaz Hossain, Tarek Aziz, Abu Jahid Chowdhury, Rahi, Nazmus Sadat, Raihanuddin Arafat, Iftekar Sajjad Rony, Md Ahsanul Haque, Victor Barua,

**Mohammedan Sporting Club:** Shamsur Rahman, Saqlain Sajib, Dhiman Ghosh, Mukhtar Ali, Mashrafe Bin Mortaza, Murad Khan, Jupiter Ghosh, Rajin Saleh, Delwar Hossain, Ejaz Ahmed, Md Shaheen Hossain, Sayem Alom Rijvi, Habibur Rahman,

**Kalabagan Cricket Academy:** Marshall Ayub, Sahagir

Hossain, Nazmul Islam APu, Mohammad Sharifullah, Mizanur Rahman, Zakaria Masud, Abhishek Mitra, Abdul Majid, Talha Jubair, Mohammad Nuruzamman, Arman Badsha, Ariful Hassain Sabuj, Md Asif Hasan, Mohd Tavhidul Islam.

**Prime Dowleshwar Sporting Club:** Sabbir Rahman, Mominul Haque, Farhad Reza, Tajul Islam, Rony Talukdar, Shohag Gazi, Robiul Islam Robi, Arman Hossain, Kazi Quamrul Islam, Ashrafal Haque, Aslam Khan, Mehdi Hasan Maruf, Shaful Alam, Golam Kabir Shohel.

**Kalabagan Krira Chakra:** Shakib Al Hasan, Naeem Islam, Mithun Ali, Arafat Salahuddin, Nadif Chowdhury, Naseerud Faruque, Saju Dutta, Tasamul Haq, Syed Raseel, Shahadat Hossain, Mahbul Karim Mithu, Imamul Hossain, Rakibul Hassan Rocky, Zabid Hossain,

**Cricket Coaching School:** Nazmul Hossain Milon, Nurul Hassan, Asif Ahmed, Vishwanath Halder, Amitab Kumar, Amit Majumdar, Kamrul Islam Rabbi, Uttam Sarker, Salman Hossain, Shafiq Al Jabir, Imamul Mustakin, Refatuzzaman Ovi, Subrata Sarkar, Islamul Abir,

**Prime Bank Cricket Club:** Ziaur Rahman, Enamul Haque Jr, Saikat Ali, Mahmudul Hassan Limon, Taiabur Rahman, Taposh Baisya, Rezaul Karim Rajib, Dollar Mahmud, Abdur Rahman Ronny, Fariduddin Masud, Golam Mahbud Chowdhury, Emon Das, Ariful Islam Sobuj,

**Khelaghar Samaj Kallyan Samiti:** Faisal Hossain Dickens, Shuvagata Hom, Arafat Salahuddin, Ariful Haque, Fazle Rabbi, Nizamuddin Ripon, Monwar Hossain, Rahi, Mohammad Azeem, Mohammad Furkan, Gazi Salauddin, Rakib Gomosta, Masum Khan, SM Zakaria, Niaz Murshed.



Bangladesh national football team's captain Mamunul Islam (L) speaks with teammate Zahid Hossain at the Hazrat Shahjalal International Airport prior to their departure for Nepal yesterday morning.

PHOTO: STAR

## WOMEN'S KABADDI BJMC beat Andhra

SPORTS REPORTER

The Bangladesh Jute Mills Corporation (BJMC) got off to a winning start in the Walton International Invitational Women's Kabaddi Tournament when they handed a 26-17 point defeat to Assam Women's Kabaddi team on the opening day of the tournament at the Kabaddi Stadium yesterday.

BJMC, the lone participating team from Bangladesh, earned a creditable 'lona' against the state side of India while another state team from India, West Bengal, recorded a fighting 37-33 win over Andhra Pradesh women's Kabaddi team.

## Booters reach Kathmandu

SPORTS REPORTER

The Bangladesh national football team reached Kathmandu yesterday at around 11:45am Bangladesh time after leaving an hour earlier by a Bangladesh Biman flight. The team is staying at the Everest Hotel, the official hotel for the teams, informed a Bangladesh Football Federation official from Kathmandu.

The booters will have their first practice session today, four days before the start of the SAFF Championship.

Skipper Mamunul Islam, who is nursing a slight injury to his knee, is expected to take part in today's training. "I am feeling much better now as the pain is easing," said Mamunul on the eve of their departure for Nepal yesterday.

"We have worked very hard. If everyone

can do their jobs, we can achieve success. But the first match against Nepal will be like a final as it may decide our fate in the competition," added Mamunul.

"The group is tough but we are confident about doing well. If we can make it through the group stages, we have a great chance of reaching the final. The first match will be a big match for us," said striker Wahed Ahmed, who is in good scoring form.

Bangladesh take on Nepal in the opening match of the competition at the Dashrath Stadium in Kathmandu on August 31. Bangladesh's second match is on September 3 against defending champions India and their last group match is on September 5 against Pakistan.

Pakistan have already had their first practice session yesterday, having reached Nepal on the previous day. India will reach Nepal tomorrow.

## ASHES RETURN-LEG Snicko could rule out DRS

REUTERS, London

The International Cricket Council (ICC) is considering using "Snicko" technology in the next Ashes series in Australia, the ruling body's chief executive Dave Richardson told the BBC on Sunday.

The current series between England and Australia has been dogged by controversy surrounding the Decision Review System and there have been problems with the "HotSpot" technology which is supposed to show whether the ball makes contact with the bat.

"Snicko will probably be the first bit of technology introduced," Richardson said. "It's always been reliable."

## Big defeat in hockey

SPORTS REPORTER

The Bangladesh hockey team got their 9th AHF Asia Cup campaign off to a frustrating start, losing 0-9 against three-time champions South Korea at the Azlan Shah Stadium in Ipoh, Malaysia yesterday.

They conceded four goals in the first half and five more in the second, three of those coming in the last three minutes.

Bangladesh took defensive approach from the beginning, pulling down the midfielders in the backline. The Koreans, who launched attacks one after the other, won nine penalty corners in the first half, converting only 2, and five more in the second, converting two more.

Goalkeeper Zahid Hossain had to be at his best to deny a number of attacks and penalty corners.

At 6-0 and into the last five minutes, Bangladesh looked like pulling a goal or two back, but lack of control from strikers cost them as instead they conceded 3 more goals in the last 3 minutes.

Coach Naveed Alam said it is never easy to contain a team like Korea and thinks a 6-0 defeat would have been far more ideal.

Bangladesh had lost by an identical margin against the powerhouse in their last meeting in the 2009 Asia Cup.

"Our boys forgot their duty. The first 45 minutes was good from us even though we conceded four goals. But we lost in the last few minutes," said Naveed adding that he was hopeful of winning today's match against Oman.

## Serena, Andy the ones to beat

### Year's final Grand Slam begins today

AFP, New York



Once the hunter, now the hunted, Andy Murray is braced for an all-out assault on his US Open title from rejuvenated Rafael Nadal and world number one Novak Djokovic.

Murray ended Britain's 76-year wait for a Grand Slam men's champion by triumphing in New York in 2012 and backed it up with his historic Wimbledon victory this year, the first by a British man since Fred Perry in 1936.

The Scot beat Djokovic to win the US Open 12 months ago and repeated

the dose against the Serb at the All England Club six weeks ago.

But it is Nadal, rather than Djokovic, who is tipped to win a second title in New York, to add to his 2010 victory, and clinch a 13th career major.

The 27-year-old Spaniard missed the 2012 tournament as he rested his troublesome knees, part of a seven-month injury lay-off which stretched from the second round at Wimbledon to Vina del Mar in Chile in February.

Since his return, Nadal has racked up nine titles, including five Masters, and boasts a win-loss record of 53-3.

His only blip was a first round

trauma at Wimbledon, his bitter-sweet relationship with grass courts rekindled far too quickly after the draining march to an eighth French Open just two weeks earlier.

Meanwhile in the women's draw, world number one Serena Williams enters the US Open as a heavy favourite to defend her title, but second-ranked Victoria Azarenka leads a host of rivals looking to dethrone her.

Williams is seeking her 17th Grand Slam singles crown and fifth US Open title, which would move her one shy of Chris Evert's Open-era record for most titles at the year's final major event on the Flushing Meadows hardcourts.

## Market opens today

SPORTS REPORTER



The window of the inter-club players' transfers opens today as the Bangladesh Football Federation (BFF) yesterday approved the bylaws of the

upcoming 7th Bangladesh Premier League. The game's governing body approved the professional football league committee's proposal to incorporate suspension for players and monetary fine for clubs in the bylaws of the league but rejected another proposal of allowing members of the BFF executive committee at the dugouts during the league.

The decisions were taken at an emergency meeting of the BFF executive committee after the professional football league committee

had on Saturday sent their proposals to the highest body for final approval.

The game's governing body however kept last season's decision of not allowing any members of its executive committee at the dugouts during the league matches, though it relaxed the rules to allow the BFF members to stay at dugouts during the Super Cup last season.

The meeting also exempted the remaining 10-month suspension on Rahmatganj MFS official Salahuddin Kala, who was handed over a three-year suspension for his involvement in designing a 'compromised match' with eventual champions Sheikh Jamal DC in the fourth professional league.

The season will start with the Federation Cup, slated to begin at the end of October, after the completion of the transfers on October 20.



Bangladesh national women cricketers take part in a training session at the Mirpur Sher-e-Bangla National Stadium yesterday.

PHOTO: STAR

## Test drawn in bad light England clinch Ashes series 3-0

AFP, London



England and Australia drew the fifth Ashes Test at The Oval on Sunday as the hosts wrapped up a 3-0 series win.

England, set a target of 227 for victory in a minimum of 44 overs, after Australia declared their second innings, needed just 21 more runs to win off 24 balls on the final day when the umpires, controversially, took the players off the field for bad light at 7.35pm local time.

As play had gone beyond the scheduled close, a restart was impossible and England finished on 206 for five off 40 overs with Chris Woakes 17 not out.

This draw meant Australia had failed to win

a single Test in an Ashes series for the first time since a 3-0 loss in England in 1977, and left them winless in their last nine Tests against all opponents.

### SCOREBOARD

AUSTRALIA: First innings 492-9 declared

ENGLAND: First innings (overnight 247-4)

Bowler	O	M	R	W
Cook c Haddin b Harris	25			
Root c Watson b Lyon	68			
Trott lbw b Starc	40			
Pietersen c Watson b Starc	50			
Bell c Haddin b Faulkner	45			
Woakes c Clarke b Harris	25			
Prior c Starc b Faulkner	47			
Broad b Starc	9			
Swann b Faulkner	34			
Anderson c Haddin b Faulkner	1			
Kerrigan not out	4			
Extras: (lb-11, lb-10, w-5, nb-3)	29			
Total: (All out in 144.4 overs)	377			
Fall of wickets: 1-68, 2-118, 3-176, 4-217, 5-269, 6-299, 7-315, 8-363, 9-368				

Bowler	O	M	R	W
Starc	33	5	92	3
Harris	28	10	64	2
Faulkner	19.4	3	51	4
Siddle	28	7	74	0
Lyon	28	8	59	1
Smith	8	3	16	0

AUSTRALIA: Second innings  
Warner c and b Anderson  
Watson c Pietersen b Swann  
Faulkner c Prior b Broad

Haddin c Prior b Broad	0
Clarke not out	28
Smith c Swann b Broad	7
Harris b Broad	1
Starc not out	13
Extras: (lb-2)	2
Total: (For 6 wks decd in 23 overs)	111
Fall of wickets: 1-34, 2-44, 3-50, 4-67, 5-83, 6-85	

Bowler	O	M	R	W
Anderson	6	1	27	1
Broad	10	2	43	4
Swann	7	0	39	1

Bowler	O	M	R	W
Cook lbw b Faulkner	34			
Root c Haddin b Harris	11			
Trott lbw b Faulkner	59			
Pietersen c Warner b Harris	62			
Bell run out (Starc)	17			
Woakes not out	17			
Prior not out	0			
Extras: (lb-4, nb-2)	6			
Total: (For 5 wks in 40 overs)	206			
Fall of wickets: 1-22, 2-86, 3-163, 4-170, 5-206				

Result: Match drawn and England win the 5-Test Ashes series 3-0.

Players-of-the-match: Shane Watson.

Players-of-the-series: Ian Bell and Ryan Harris.