

TEN 1 HD
West Indies v Pakistan
2nd ODI
Live from 7:30pm

SONYESPN
Indian Premier League
Hyderabad v Gujarat
Live from 4:30pm
Mumbai v Kolkata
Live from 8:30pm

STAR SPORTS SELECT HD1
English Premiership
Sunderland v Man United
Live from 6:30pm
Everton v Leicester City
Live from 9:00pm

STAR SPORTS SELECT HD2
Bundesliga
Hertha Berlin v Augsburg
Live from 7:30pm
Ingolstadt v Darmstadt
Live from 9:30pm

TEN 1
La Liga
Bologna v Roma
Live from 7:00pm
Lazio v Napoli
Live from 12:45am (Monday)

Jimmy explains his actions

SPORTS REPORTER

National hockey team captain Rassel Mahmud Jimmy yesterday refuted all the allegations of indiscipline against him after appearing before a four-member committee at the Bangladesh Hockey Federation (BHF), but his explanations seemingly failed to impress the members.

The star forward has allegedly spoken openly to the media against BHF officials from time to time as well as behaved badly with Bangladesh Army players during the Victory Day tournament. He has also been alleged to have taken part and earned money from promotional activities regarding the recent Hockey World League (Round 2), which was held in Dhaka.

Jimmy, who has had a chequered fraught with disciplinary offences, however refuted the allegations appearing before the committee, which comprised of federation officials Ehsan Rana, Rafiqul Islam Kamal, Mamunur Rashid and Kamrul Islam Kismat.

"The federation had previously handed punishment to Jimmy, but he was later pardoned after he submitted a written bond. However, he went on to breach that bond," Ehsan Rana, who is also the coordinator of the national team, told reporters after the hearing.

"He appeared with his written explanation to our show cause notice and also verbally explained his defence. We also showed him the documents that we have and recorded the whole hearing. We will prepare a report on this hearing and produce it before the general secretary and the working committee within a couple of days," the former national team player added.

FIFA poised to seal Qatar Airways deal

AFP, Zurich

FIFA could seal a major partnership deal with Qatar Airways within weeks, a source said on Friday, the same day football's corruption-tainted world body announced a \$369 million loss.

"We hope to confirm it in the next few months, perhaps before the congress in Bahrain (May 10-11)," the source close to FIFA said in Zurich.



Atletico Madrid star Antoine Griezmann celebrates in trademark style after scoring the equalising goal against Real Madrid during their La Liga Madrid derby at the Bernabeu yesterday.

PHOTO: AFP

RCB defend meagre total

CRICINFO



IPL 2017 witnessed its second thriller in five games. Royal Challengers defending a meagre 157, by the M Chinnaswamy Stadium's standards, caught Delhi Daredevils by the throat and strangled the life out of Delhi Daredevils' chase to register a 15-run victory, their first win of the tournament. Daredevils needed 21 off the final two overs with Rishabh Pant, in tremendous hitting form, and Amit Mishra at the crease. Shane Watson conceded two runs off the penultimate over. Pawan Negi allowed just three runs off the final over, his first of the season. And for the first time since 2013, a team successfully defended under 160 in the IPL at this ground.

Royal Challengers surprised many when they chose to bat, and were quickly reduced to 55 for 3 in the ninth over. Kedar Jadhav not only resurrected a faltering innings but put his team on course for a par score at this ground. But the majority of the work was done by Royal Challengers' bowlers, all of who contributed with at least a wicket each, to complete one of the toughest tasks in the IPL.

On a small ground, in terrific batting conditions, Royal Challengers wanted to ensure they didn't suffer the same fate. In a data-driven format, they ignored all the stats, and opted to chase. It was only the second time a team has batted first at this ground since IPL 2015 - the only other time was the 2016 IPL final.

In the previous 10 T20s at the M Chinnaswamy Stadium, five totals of over 200 have been defended and the five under 200 have been chased down. Royal Challengers knew their target. But had no fail-safe if their batting malfunctioned.

Royal Challengers opened with their best batsmen in the XI - Chris Gayle and Shane Watson. Both looked fluent, choosing timing over their preferred modus operandi of brute force. It worked well until Gayle mis-timed a full toss from Chris Morris to mid-off. Mandeep Singh chopped on. Shane Watson was stumped for just the third time in IPL. Shahbaz Nadeem delivered 4-0-13-1, his most economical four-over figures in the IPL. It was Royal Challengers' first bear market.

Club cup after Asia Cup

SPORTS REPORTER

Bangladesh Hockey Federation's (BHF) general secretary Abdus Sadeque hoped that the installation of floodlights at the Maulana Bhasani National Hockey Stadium will be completed by September and that the new hockey season will kick off under floodlights after the Asia Cup.

The legendary hockey player also said the players' transfers could start towards the end of October and the Club Cup could be held from the middle of November.

Even though the venue and schedule for the Asia Cup has not yet been decided, it is expected that the event will be held in Dhaka, likely in October.

"We have decided to hold the transfers after the Asia Cup and start Club Cup by 15 November," Sadeque told reporters after a meeting with clubs regarding the premier league and the club cup. "We have had a few proposals. We have decided on principle to reduce the number of registered foreign players in each team from five to four and set a bar on fielding foreign players at three. We have also talked about umpiring and prize money issues of the premier league."

Griezmann halts Real charge

AFP, Madrid



Antoine Griezmann's classy finish five minutes from time dealt Real Madrid's La Liga title chances a huge blow as Atletico Madrid rescued a 1-1 draw at the Santiago Bernabeu.

Pepe's towering header early in the second half looked to have Madrid heading five points clear at the top.

However, Barcelona now have a third straight title back in their own hands after Griezmann rounded Keylor Navas to slot home at the near post.

"We know we are a strong team with an incredible mentality," Griezmann told Spanish TV station Movistar.

"I could see my teammates had confidence, desire and the truth is we played a great game."

Real lead Barcelona by three points with eight games left, but the two face each other at the Bernabeu on April 23.

Barca can move top later on Saturday with victory at Malaga.

"It is a draw but we've lost two points. Clearly we deserved all three points today," said Madrid boss Zinedine Zidane.

"We played very well, but we lacked

the second goal that would have allowed us to relax."

Atletico had won their three previous league visits to the Bernabeu and enjoyed the brighter start as Saul Niguez was inches away from opening the scoring inside five minutes when his header from Koke's cross flew just wide.

Cristiano Ronaldo's hat-trick separated the sides in a 3-0 Real win earlier this season and the World Player of the Year was first to threaten for the hosts as his near post drive was beaten away by Jan Oblak.

Real took control of the game as the first half wore on and only two stunning stops prevented Zinedine Zidane's men from taking a half-time lead.

Firstly, Oblak tipped over Karim Benzema's effort after a neat one-two with Ronaldo had freed the Frenchman inside the box.

Moments later Ronaldo couldn't believe his eyes when his fierce goal-bound effort was turned to safety by Stefan Savic's incredible headed clearance from under his own crossbar.

Griezmann was nearly gifted the opener just before half-time as he intercepted Sergio Ramos's wayward crossfield pass and bore down on goal.

But Griezmann narrowed his own

angle by verging left onto his favoured foot and his low effort was turned behind by Keylor Navas.

Real started the second half with intent as Ronaldo headed just wide before Oblak had to rush from his goal to block Benzema's volley from point-blank range.

The European champions finally made the breakthrough seven minutes into the second period when Pepe rose highest in a crowded penalty area from Toni Kroos's free-kick to power a header into the far corner.

However, Atletico responded to falling behind and should have been level on the hour mark when Yannick Carrasco played in Fernando Torres clear on goal.

The former Spanish international failed to finish, though, as he fired straight at the onrushing Navas.

Navas has faced a barrage of criticism this season, but he made another smart stop to deny Griezmann levelling with an outrageous overhead kick attempt.

The French international wasn't to be denied from an excellent through ball from Angel Correa with five minutes remaining, however, as he coolly fired past the advancing Navas at the near post for his 23rd goal of the season.

Bayern floor Dortmund

AFP, Berlin



Robert Lewandowski overtook Pierre-Emerick Aubameyang in the race to be the Bundesliga's top scorer this season after netting twice in Bayern Munich's 4-1 thrashing of Borussia Dortmund on Saturday.

Runaway league leaders Bayern dominated the clash of Germany's giants and the win leaves them 10 points clear with six games left as Munich edge closer to a fifth straight league title.

Lewandowski netted either side of half-time at the Allianz Arena to leave him with 26 league goals this season -- one more than main rival Aubameyang who failed to find the net on Saturday.

Veteran wingers Arjen Robben and Franck Ribery also netted in Bayern's morale-boosting win before Wednesday's crunch Champions League quarter-final, first-leg, tie against Real Madrid.

Bayern took the lead after just four minutes when Thiago Alcantara's deft pass found Philipp Lahm on the right for Bayern's captain to fire in a cross and Ribery drilled his shot home.

The Bavarians doubled their lead on 10 minutes when Lewandowski launched a free-kick from outside the area, but Dortmund's Ousmane Dembele ducked to allow the ball to fly over the wall and hit the net.

In a frantic opening half, Dortmund pulled a goal back when Raphael Guerreiro unleashed a thunderbolt of a shot on 20 minutes as it stayed 2-1 at the break.

Robben extended their lead with a great shot off his left foot just after the break.

Lewandowski then added his second, and Bayern's fourth goal, when he was

brought down by Dortmund goalkeeper Roman Burki and converted the resulting penalty on 68 minutes.

The defeat leaves Dortmund, who host Monaco in the last eight of the Champions League on Tuesday, fourth in the table and 18 points behind Bayern.

Earlier, Yussuf Poulsen's goal deep in added time gave 10-man RB Leipzig a 1-0 victory over Bayer Leverkusen.

Second-placed Leipzig had captain Willi Orban sent off for a second yellow card on 88 minutes for a foul on Leverkusen's Germany forward Kevin Volland.

Despite the numerical disadvantage, Leipzig claimed the winner through their Scandinavian combination as Swedish playmaker Emil Forsberg put in the cross -- his 16th assist of the season -- for Denmark's Poulsen.

"We would have been happy with a point, but it was very impressive how the team showed the will to win in added time," said RB coach Ralph Hasenhuettl.

"Now we're in a great position for our next game," he added with RB at home to fifth-placed Freiburg next Saturday.

Leipzig's victory was a big step towards direct Champions League qualification next season and they are now seven points ahead of third-placed Hoffenheim, who crashed to a 2-1 defeat at Hamburg.

Aaron Hunt stole the show for Hamburg -- who are unbeaten in their last nine home league games -- with both goals as Hoffenheim suffered only their third defeat this season.

Wolfsburg, the 2009 champions, are just one point above the bottom three after a 4-1 hammering away to mid-table Schalke, for whom Guido Burgstaller netted twice.

Germany striker Mario Gomez scored his seventh goal in six games with a late consolation penalty for Wolfsburg.

Reza panel sweeps BOA polls

SPORTS REPORTER

The panel led by Syed Shahed Reza swept the Bangladesh Olympic Association polls which were held at the association's headquarters yesterday.

Reza, the former secretary general was elected unopposed in that post while the association's president and army chief general Abu Belal Muhammad Shafiqul Huq was also elected unopposed.

Among the other contestants though, Badal Roy, Bashir Ahmed Sumon and Nazim Uddin Chowdhury were elected as vice presidents.

Roy, a former national footballer who held the deputy secretary general in the previous committee, received highest 70 votes followed by 64 for both Sumon and Nazim, in the vice president posts. Ashiqur Rahman Miku was re-elected as one of the deputy secretary generals with 68 votes while Kazi Rakibuddin Ahmed Chapal got 60 votes to be re-elected as the treasurer.

The president and army chief general Abu Belal Muhammad Shafiqul Huq and the secretary general Syed Shahed Reza were elected unopposed. "Our full panel has swept the polls. We will soon hold a press conference and inform about our plans for the next four-year tenure. We will try to take forward the Olympic movement and meet the expectations that everyone has upon us," Reza told reporters after the election.

Tunisia sack Kasperczak

AFP, Tunis

Tunisia, aiming to qualify for their first World Cup finals since 2006, have sacked their coach Henryk Kasperczak, the country's football federation announced on Saturday.

The 70-year-old Pole, who guided Tunisia to the final of the 1996 Africa Cup of Nations, returned for a second spell in charge in 2015.

Tunisia were beaten quarterfinalists at the 2017 edition in Gabon, and friendly defeats since to Cameroon and Morocco spelt the end of the road for the well travelled manager.

"The decision was made yesterday (Friday)," federation spokesman Kais Reuez told AFP.

A successor will be named "by the end of the month," he added.

Chelsea respond to Spurs

AFP, London



Marcos Alonso netted a picture-perfect free-kick as Chelsea triumphed 3-1 at Bournemouth on Saturday to restore their seven-point advantage at the top of the Premier League.

Tottenham Hotspur had cut Chelsea's lead to four points by crushing Watford 4-0, but Antonio Conte's men responded to take another step towards the title.

Liverpool remain third after Brazilian substitutes Philippe Coutinho and Roberto Firmino inspired a 2-1 comeback win at Stoke City, while fourth-place Manchester City beat Hull City 3-1.

Chelsea went 2-0 up inside the first 20 minutes at Bournemouth, Diego Costa's mishit shot ballooning in off Adam Smith for an own goal before Eden Hazard added a second.

Freed by N'Golo Kante's pass, the Belgian sprinted in on goal, rounded goalkeeper Artur Boruc and slipped in his 14th goal of the campaign.

Benik Afobe volleyed against the post for Bournemouth before Josh King reduced the arrears in the 42nd minute with an effort that fizzed past Thibaut Courtois via a deflection off David Luiz.

But Alonso settled the visitors' nerves with 22 minutes to go, the Spanish wing-back arcing a sumptuous free-kick over the wall and into the top-right corner, leaving Boruc rooted to the spot.

Earlier, South Korean forward Son Heung-Min scored twice as Tottenham overpowered Watford at a sun-soaked White Hart Lane, with Dele Alli and Eric Dier also on target.

"The message for us is to keep pushing, winning games," said Spurs manager Mauricio Pochettino, who also welcomed back top scorer Harry Kane after an ankle injury.

"The team deserve full credit because the energy and the way they played was fantastic."

Alli opened the deadlock with a sublime effort in the 33rd minute, arcing a shot into the top-right corner from 25 yards, before his England teammate Dier battered in Spurs' second.

Son struck either side of half time -- a left-foot curler followed by an adroit right-foot volley -- to seal Spurs' 11th consecutive home win in the league.

Liverpool sit five points below Spurs, having played a game more, after Firmino's stunning strike secured victory at Stoke.

Jonathan Walters's header -- his seventh league goal against Liverpool -- put Stoke ahead shortly before half-time.

Liverpool manager Jurgen Klopp made a double change at the break, sending on Coutinho and Firmino for teenagers Trent Alexander-Arnold and Ben Woodburn, and it proved a winning move.

Coutinho, a pre-match doubt due to illness, levelled in the 70th minute and two minutes later Georginio Wijnaldum freed Firmino to thump in a glorious, dipping winner from 20 yards.

"Second half was really good, but we played a big gamble on a low battery bringing on Firmino and Coutinho," said Klopp.

"No team in the world wins only the very, very good games. You need to win games like this."

Manchester City trail Liverpool by two points, but have a game in hand, after seeing off Hull at the Etihad Stadium to end a run of four league games without victory.

City manager Pep Guardiola, who recalled goalkeeper Claudio Bravo, saw his side take a 31st-minute lead when Ahmed Elmohamady turned in Jesus Navas's cross for an own goal.

Sergio Aguero made it 2-0 early in the second half, polishing off Raheem Sterling's cross after a sweeping team move, and Fabian Delph lashed in the hosts' third.



Chelsea winger Eden Hazard (R) jumps into the arms of striker Diego Costa after scoring the second goal against Bournemouth during their Premier League encounter at the Vitality Stadium yesterday.

PHOTO: AFP