

# SPORTS



### ENG-NZ SCOREBOARD

ENGLAND	R/R	46/6
Roy White	13/23	2/0
Wade	56/62	3/1
Roach	64/65	4/2
Morgan	64/65	4/2
Buttler	61/46	2/2
All-rounder	12/21	0/1
Richard	12/21	0/1
Plunkett	15/10	1/1
Wood	0/1	0/0
Ball	0/1	0/0
Extras	(B-5, N-1)	1/0
Total (all out 493 overs)	310	
Fall of wickets: 1-27, 2-118, 3-214, 4-318, 5-216, 6-230, 7-268, 8-309, 9-310, 10-310.		

### NEW ZEALAND

Bowler	O	M	R	W
Southey	9.3	0	44	2
Ball	10	0	56	1
Miller	10	0	79	1
Anderson	9	0	55	3
Santner	8	0	54	1
Roach	8	0	57	0
Wicket-keeper	3	0	17	0

### NEW ZEALAND

Bowler	O	M	R	W
Williamson	8/16	0/0	8/16	0/0
Taylor	8/16	0/0	39/59	0/0
Brom	8/16	0/0	11/21	0/0
Hutchinson	10/14	1/1	10/14	1/1
Samuel	10/15	1/0	10/15	1/0
Buttler	3/9	0/0	3/9	0/0
Miller	10/11	0/0	10/11	0/0
Southey	9/16	0/0	2/6	0/0
Roach	10/11	0/0	0/0	0/0
Extras	(B-4, N-4)	1/0		
Total (all out 443 overs)	223			
Fall of wickets: 1-1, 2-243, 3-138, 4-168, 5-16, 6-194, 7-255, 8-211, 9-223, 10-223				

## Tigers' way forward

STAR SPORT DESK

After the washout on Monday, Bangladesh find themselves in contention to go through to the semifinals as they reached Cardiff yesterday morning ahead of their last group game against New Zealand on June 6.

The winning lot through is for England to win all their matches and for Bangladesh to beat New Zealand.

The struggling way through to the semis, in the event of a Kiwi win against England today, a loss against Bangladesh will bring it down to net run-rate calculations. An Australia win against New Zealand game also being washed out and the teams currently on one and two points respectively, Bangladesh will then have three points and go through to the semis.

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# Shakib bemoans unusual dismissal

SPORTS REPORTER from London

Bangladesh were lucky to escape with a crucial point against Australia in their rain-abandoned second game of the Champions Trophy on Monday.

Australia were just four overs away from the minimum 20 overs of play required to arrive at a result in their innings when rain first interrupted the proceedings and then washed out the game. But Bangladesh's key all-rounder felt that he was not as lucky as far as his dismissal was concerned.

"Normally they [umpires] don't give a batsman out when he is well forward but the umpire deemed it out, so you cannot help it. I have not seen such a decision before. It has started [with my dismissal] and if they [umpires] are consistent with it, that's okay. Let's see what happens next," said Shakib Al Hasan about his dismissal while talking to reporters in the mixed zone after the game on Monday.

He was playing well before umpire Nigel Long adjudged him leg-before off-off-spinner Travis Head for 29. It was a crucial decision that denied Bangladesh a fighting total. Shakib added 69 runs for the fifth-wicket with Tamim, the lone ranger with a superb 95 in Bangladesh's modest 182 all out.

"If I were with Tamim we could have scored something like 260. It was a different wicket from the one we played on against England on June 11. It was not a wicket to produce 320 to 330 runs. The ball was bouncing up and down. It could have been a different game had I been there with Tamim. He could have batted freely," added Shakib

with a tinge of regret.

The southpaw reviewed the decision but even though the point of impact was marginal it was overruled as the on-field decision was not.

Shakib also spoke about the team combination and felt that if Bangladesh are to win they will have to use five bowlers, including an all-rounder.

"Normally in one-day matches seven batsmen and five bowlers is an ideal combination. There is an all-rounder in the team. I think our combination was better today [Monday]. If we want to win a game we should have five bowlers," Shakib observed.

He admitted that Bangladesh were lucky to win a point.

"We are definitely a bit fortunate. It's disappointing for Australia. But this is something you can't control. Hopefully this luck will help us. There are a lot of options. It's not just England winning their next two games. Our job is to win our next game and we will try to win it and then let's see what happens," he said.

Bangladesh's final game is against New Zealand on June 9 and Shakib has always performed well against the Black Caps.

"We have played a lot of matches [against New Zealand] and it will help us to play better against them. We played against Australia after six years. Most of the players have not played against them. There are only five players including me who have played

England batsman Jos Buttler's quickfire 61 powered his side to 310 against New Zealand in the Champions Trophy Group A match at the Sophia Gardens in Cardiff yesterday.

PHOTO: REUTERS



**PROUD TO BE A PART OF THE NATION'S PRIDE, THE PADMA BRIDGE**

**ANWAR CEMENT**

# 'Another chance like the 2015 World Cup'

AL-AMIN from London



When Mashrafe Bin Mortaza was sitting beside Steven Smith, he looked the more disappointed of the two captains before the post-match presentation, which normally takes place at the ground but was shifted to the press conference room due to the rain.

Apparently he was trying to hide how happy he was to escape with a point from an abandoned game in which they were saved by four overs.

After the presentation, which was very brief, when he attended the press briefing Mashrafe said that he was very happy with a point that they did not deserve.

"You never know. If I remember correctly, in the 2015 World Cup we got one point from Australia and it helped us go through [to the quarterfinal]. This time we have got another chance. We will have to play very hard against New Zealand and if we can win - you never know," said the Bangladesh captain with an air of satisfaction.

He admitted that they were extremely lucky.

"In today's [Monday's] game Australia were far ahead of us. They were in a similar situation as us when they were playing against New Zealand. So, this is something you can't control. Both teams are now in a similar situation. They will have to beat England to go through and if we can win against New Zealand we have a great chance," he said, adding that he was not sure what would happen when the umpires called for drinks after 16 overs.

"When 16 overs were completed it was raining and I was thinking whether there will be one or two more overs. They [umpires] called the drinks break and we did not know whether they called off the game due to rain when we all had heading to the dressing room. We were only aware that rain will come at around 7:00 to 7:30pm," said the Bangladesh captain while reflecting on those uncertain moments.

He said Australia were only four overs away and they could have won even if they did not score a single run in those four overs.

"When asked if it was part of the plan to use pace bowlers for 15 out of those 16 overs, he smiled and said: "Our effort was to take the game as long as possible. We introduced

[Mehedi Hasan] Mirza for just one over. When paces operate they normally take more time to complete an over. And it's fair."

Mashrafe bowled six of those 15 overs while Mustafizur Rahman had five and Rubel Hossain four.

He also defended the decision to bat first after winning the toss.

"If they had won the toss they would have batted first. It was a good wicket and we wanted to post a good total. It was not a 300-330 wicket. A total of 270 would have been a good total on this wicket and we were heading in the right direction before Shakib got out. He was batting well with Tamim and had they been together we could have scored 260," said Mashrafe.

He said Tamim has been amazing with the bat.

"The way Tamim batted against the two best teams, it showed they type of form he is in. Not only that, if you look at his last eight innings he has been scoring heavily. He scored a hundred against Pakistan in the practice game; he hit a century against Sri Lanka. He has been batting like one of the best batsmen in the best of form," added the Bangladesh captain.

He said that Australia's pace bowlers bowled really well and the extra pace was uncomfortable for most of his batsmen. He also defended the decision in the shuffle of the batting line-up with Sabir playing deep in the lower-order from a crucial number three position, saying that the team management decided to accommodate Imrul Kaysy in the order.

"Sabir played the last eight innings at number three. But we thought it would be good for the team if he bats down the order when we were in need of quick runs. Imrul has a good average batting at that [number three] position," Mashrafe explained.

He also said that he was not surprised to see a lot of Bangladesh fans turning up to the ground to cheer them.

"In England we expect a lot of Bangladesh supporters to follow us. There was a lot of support when we played against England. Today was no exception; we are expecting many of them when we play New Zealand in Cardiff.

"Bangladesh's last and most important group stage game in Cardiff will take place on June 9.



Bangladesh captain Mashrafe Bin Mortaza admitted that his side were lucky that the game against Australia was washed out, but he chose to focus on the road ahead.

PHOTO: AL AMIN

# Doleshwar beat champs to finish 2nd

SPORTS REPORTER

Champions Gazi Group Cricketers ended their Dhaka Premier League campaign with a six-wicket defeat yesterday at the hands of Prime Doleshwar Sporting Club, who finished as runners-up for the third consecutive season in the most covered 50-over domestic competition. Gazi however celebrated their maiden title a day earlier on Monday after Abahani defeated Sheikh Jamal Dharmadhami Club at the BKSIP.

After the end of the final round matches Gazi, Doleshwar and Abahani secured 24 points each and the winner was decided through the head-to-head record between the three sides, and Gazi came out on top having won three of those matches while Doleshwar won two and Abahani one.

There was no shortage of excitement in terms of performance this season despite the fact that the national players' appearances were limited to a few initial round matches before leaving for England. The batsmen showed their character on the batting-friendly pitches while spin bowlers basically dictated terms but refreshingly Gazi Group pacer Abu Hider finished as the highest wicket-taker

## DHAKA PREMIER LEAGUE ROLL OF HONOUR

Season	Champion	Last to Champions	Runners up
2016-17	Gazi Group Cricketers	Prime Doleshwar	Prime Doleshwar
2015-16	Abahani	Prime Doleshwar	Prime Doleshwar
2014-15	Prime Bank CC	Sheikh Jamal DC	Sheikh Jamal DC
2013-14	Gazi Tank	Old D.H.S	Old D.H.S
2011-12	Victoria SC	Mohammedans SC	Mohammedans SC
2010-11	Abahani	Mohammedans SC	Mohammedans SC
2009-10	Mohammedans SC	Biman	Biman
2008-09	Abahani	Surjo Toran	Surjo Toran
2007-08	Abahani	Mohammedans SC	Mohammedans SC
2006-07	Abahani	Mohammedans SC	Mohammedans SC

while another pacer, Al-Amin Hossain of Prime Bank, was third on the list.

The league however ended with a demand from all corners for an earlier start to subsequent seasons so that they players can avoid the scorching heat. Many, including former national captain and Prime Bank coach Khaled Masud and Gazi coach Mohammad Salahuddin said that it was inhumane to ask players to play in such heat.

Back to yesterday's matches which took place on the reserve day, Gazi resumed their

### TOP FIVE BATSMEN OF DPL 2016-17

Player	Team	Inns	Runs	Ave	Highest	100	50
Liton Das	Abahani	14	752	53.71	136	2	5
Marshall Ayub	Prime Doleshwar	15	661	44.06	84	0	7
Imiaz Hossain	Prime Doleshwar	16	641	42.73	128	2	1
Mehedi Maruf	Prime Bank	16	630	45	127	2	4
Shakibur Nafies	Prime Doleshwar	15	600	42.85	78*	0	5

### TOP FIVE BOWLERS OF DPL 2016-17

Player	Team	Inns	Wkts	Ave	Best	Sw	Aw
Abu Hider	Gazi Group	16	35	18.42	6/25	1	3
Arafat Sunny	Prime Doleshwar	15	34	19.26	6/56	2	1
Al-Amin Hossain	Prime Bank CC	14	29	17.58	5/49	1	1
Tajul Islam	Mohammedans SC	16	29	24.79	6/24	1	1
Manan Sharma	Abahani	11	27	15.59	5/47	1	2

innings on 142 for five in 33 overs and eventually bowled out for 222 in 49.1. Imrul Islam top-scored with 87 with the help of seven wickets and two sixes. Forhad Reza took three wickets while there were two each for Delwar Hossain, Arafat Sunny and Sharifullah.

Prime's Bisht hit an unbeaten 89 with 11 fours in a 91-ball innings as Doleshwar cruised to their target with ease. He added 59 for the fourth wicket with Marshall Ayub and 119 runs for the unbroken fifth wicket with Sharifullah who made 51 off 78 balls.

At the Fatullah Cricket Stadium, Prime Bank Cricket Club signed off with six-wicket win over Mohammedan Sporting Club.

Resuming the reserve day on 187 for six, Mohammedan were bowled out for 215 in 49.4 overs. Nazmul Hossain struck a run-a-ball 53 while Al-Amin Hossain finished with four for 35.

Prime Bank took two wickets for 24 runs but Mehedi Maruf (57) and Rafatullah Mohmand (88) added 78 runs as Prime Bank chased down the total with 37 balls to spare.

## Samuels pummels Afghans

AFF, Basantare

Marlon Samuels was at his most imperious with an unbeaten 89 to guide the West Indies to a seven-wicket victory over Afghanistan in the final fixture of the three-match T20 International series at Warner Park in St Kitts on Monday.

Replying to the tourists' total of 146 for six, the right-hander's highest-ever T20 innings took the home side to the target with four balls to spare and completed a 3-0 series sweep.

Samuels' innings occupied 66 deliveries and was embellished with three sixes and nine fours.

He deservedly won both the "Man of the Match" and "Man of the Series" awards in a format of the game in which he has excelled in the latter stage of his long international career.