

What to WATCH

SONY SIX
Australia v Pakistan
Third T20I
Live from 2:30pm
STAR SPORTS SELECT 1
New Zealand v England

Fourth T20I
Live from 11:00am
English Premier League
Norwich v Watford
Live from 2:00am (Saturday)

STAR SPORTS SELECT 2
Bundesliga
Koln v Hoffenheim
Live from 1:30am (Saturday)

TEN 2
Serie A
Sassuolo v Bologna
Live from 1:45am (Saturday)

BD win practice match 3-1

SPORTS REPORTER

The Bangladesh national football team's preparations for the joint qualifiers for the World Cup and Asian Cup tie against hosts Oman seems to be going swimmingly as they notched an easy 3-1 win over Muscat Club in their lone practice match in Oman yesterday.

Nabib Newaj Jibon, Biplu Ahmed and Towhidul Alam Sabuz netted one goal apiece against Muscat Club, who are currently in seventh position of the Oman professional football league.

Bangladesh coach Jamie Day's intention was to scope out all his players ahead of the Oman tie as the players have had nearly two weeks off since a 1-1 draw against India last month. Day did not waste the opportunity to test all 22 of his players, fielding a separate squad in each half.

Even so, the boys in red and green did not disappoint the Englishman, scoring three goals despite the fact that the defenders made two great mistakes, both of which led to penalties. The first penalty was duly converted in the first half to hand Muscat their only goal of the game while the second was thwarted by goalkeeper Shahidul Alam Sohel in the second half.

Bangladesh took the lead in the 12th minute when midfielder Rakib Hossain ran down the left flank to whip in a cross which was brought down by Biplu Ahmed before Jibon



(From L-R) Nabib Newaj Jibon, Biplu Ahmed and Towhidul Alam Sabuz, who scored one goal apiece for Bangladesh, pose for a photo following their 3-1 win over Muscat Club in Oman yesterday.

PHOTO: BFF

drove it home from close range.

The lead lasted only five minutes though as right-back Bishwanath Gosh brought down an opposition player inside the box, allowing Muscat's Tareq to equalise from the spot in the 17th minute.

The visitors then restored the lead in the 28th minute following a tactful move from Saad Uddin and Jibon, who broke the opposition backline by playing a one-two before Jibon's shot was denied by Muscat's goalkeeper, however, Biplu made no mistake in tapping

in the rebound from close range.

After resumption, coach Day sent in a new set of players, with the exception of defender Tutul Hossain Badsha. Substitute Sabuz then extended their lead in the 65th minute with another tap in after Muscat's goalkeeper lost his grip on the ball following a long throw-in from Raihan Hossain.

Later, Bangladesh awarded a second penalty to Muscat when Badsha committed a foul inside the box but goalkeeper Shohel, who

came on in place of Anisur Rahman Zico, stopped the spot kick in the 73rd minute.

"The boys played well even though it was just a match to see where the players stand at the moment. There were also some mistakes made in areas such as position, covering and others. The coach will now work on those areas to rectify those mistakes in training sessions," said team manager Satyajit Das Rupu over the phone.

'Happy to perform moderately'

SPORTS REPORTER

Hosts Bangladesh will not have high expectations to accomplish something special when the girls in red and green start afresh through the inaugural Bangamata Asian Senior Women's Central Zone International Volleyball Championship at the Surawardi Indoor Stadium in Mirpur tomorrow.

Bangladesh will take on Afghanistan in one of the two opening day fixtures with the five-nation championship turning to the round-robin league format after Turkmenistan pulled out at the last moment.

"We will be really happy if our team can just perform moderately in the championship," said Bangladesh Volleyball Federation general secretary Ashikur Rahman Miku during a press conference at the BOA Bhaban yesterday.

Explaining why they had low expectations, Miku said: "There were no women's volleyball activities in the country since 2013 though the women's volleyball team had previously taken part in international meets such as the South Asian Games. We revived women's volleyball by forming a women's committee which reintroduced inter-district volleyball and open tournaments for the girls."

"This group of girls played an international invitational tournament in Nepal in 2017. Now they have been training for the last three months for this competition. I think this competition will help the girls perform better in the upcoming South Asian Games in Nepal," he added.

The Uzbekistani Volleyball Central Asian zone general secretary, Kylych, praised Bangladesh for taking a step in the right direction by hosting inaugural tournament for women in the country, just as they had in 2015 by introducing the Asian Senior Men's Central Zone championship. Kylych went on to say that Bangladesh has played a key role in developing Asian central zone volleyball by hosting four tournaments in the last six years.

Afghanistan, Bangladesh, Kyrgyzstan, Maldives and Nepal are participating in the six-day meet.

Karate C'ship from today

SPORTS REPORTER

The South Asian Karate Championship 2019 is set to begin today at the Shaheed Tajuddin Ahmed Indoor Stadium in Palta.

This, the fifth edition of the tournament, will see approximately 245 players from India, Nepal, Sri Lanka, Bhutan and hosts Bangladesh participating across 60 events under different categories -- cadet, junior, under-21 and senior. The competition will come to an end on Saturday.

"Bangladesh players have recently trained in Malaysia and they will remain in games and practice through this tournament which will be a part of their preparations for the SA Games next month," said Bangladesh Karate Federation president Dr Md Mozammel Haque at a press conference yesterday.

Lloris goes under knife

AFP, London

Tottenham Hotspur captain Hugo Lloris has had surgery on his elbow injury and remains on course to return early in the New Year, the club announced on Thursday.

The 32-year-old goalkeeper, who captained France to World Cup glory last year, suffered a dislocation to the joint when he landed awkwardly on his left arm early in the 3-0 defeat at Brighton on October 5.

The club were monitoring the problem but after specialists said his elbow remained "unstable", Lloris was put under the knife.

The surgery is not expected to lengthen his recovery time, with the club saying he is due to return to training early next year.

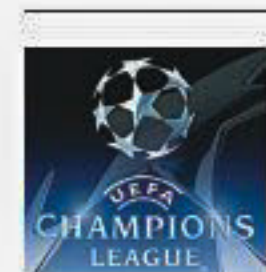
"Following further clinical testing and examination, Hugo Lloris has now undergone surgery on his left elbow," Spurs said in a statement on their website.

"The France goalkeeper dislocated his elbow and sustained ligament damage during our Premier League match against Brighton and Hove Albion last month.

"Surgery was advised after further reviews by specialists found the elbow remained unstable."

Juve, Bayern, PSG seal passage

AFP, Paris



Douglas Costa scored a dramatic injury-time winner to send Juventus into the Champions League knockout stages after a 2-1 win at Lokomotiv Moscow on Wednesday, while Paris Saint-Germain and Bayern Munich joined the Italian champions in the last 16.

Mauro Icardi's first-half goal was enough for PSG to edge past Club Brugge 1-0 at the Parc des Princes, as Bayern laboured to a 2-0 victory over Olympiakos.

Manchester City missed the chance to progress from Group C after a dramatic 1-1 draw at Atalanta which saw right-back Kyle Walker end the game in goal.

Juventus knew three points in Russia would be enough to secure their passage to the knockout rounds, and took a fourth-minute lead through Aaron Ramsey.

Cristiano Ronaldo's free-kick bounced in front of Lokomotiv

goalkeeper Guilherme, who inexplicably allowed the ball to squirm through his legs, with Ramsey prodding in from on the goalline.

Aleksei Miranchuk quickly levelled for the hosts by tapping in the rebound after his own header had struck the post, with Maurizio Sarri's Juve then struggling to break their hosts down.

But Brazilian winger Costa came off the bench and netted a magnificent 93rd-minute winner, slipping the ball through the hapless Guilherme's legs after a mazy run.

ICARDI FIRES PSG THROUGH PSG reached the last 16 for the eighth straight season, but a nervy display against Brugge will not have boosted hopes of the French champions making the semis for the first time since 1995.

Icardi swept Thomas Tuchel's men into the lead midway through the first half with his eighth goal since joining on loan from Inter

Milan.

But Belgian outfit Brugge should have grabbed a late equaliser, only for Mbaye Diagne to see his penalty saved by PSG 'keeper Keylor Navas.

Managerless Bayern Munich had earlier become the first side to go through, as late goals from Robert Lewandowski and Ivan Perisic ended Olympiakos' resistance at the Allianz Arena.

Bayern lead Tottenham at the top of Group B by five points, after last season's runners-up thrashed Red Star Belgrade 4-0 in Serbia.

Son Heung-min scored twice just three days after being left devastated by his tackle which caused a horrific injury for Everton's Andre Gomes, with Giovanni Lo Celso and Christian Eriksen also finding the net.

GOALKEEPER WALKER HELPS CITY TO POINT

Premier League champions Man City were made to wait after Atalanta's second-half fightback at the San Siro.

Raheem Sterling, who scored a

hattrick in City's 5-1 victory in the reverse fixture two weeks ago, put Pep Guardiola's men in front after only six minutes, but Gabriel Jesus dragged a dreadful penalty well wide shortly before half-time.

Chilean Bravo saw Mario Pasalic's header fly past him in the 49th minute, but worse was to come when he was sent off with nine minutes remaining for hacking down Josip Ilicic.

Walker was brought on to play as 'keeper, and despite almost fumbling Ruslan Malinovsky's effort from the resulting free-kick into his own net, helped City secure a point.

Atletico Madrid also missed out on booking a last-16 place as they slumped to a 2-1 defeat at Bayer Leverkusen.

A bizarre Thomas Parthey own goal and Kevin Volland's second-half strike kept the Germans in contention to finish second behind Juventus in Group D despite Alvaro Morata's late consolation.



9 June 2008 FILE PHOTO: ANISUR RAHMAN

KHOKA also belong to sports

SPORTS REPORTER

Freedom fighter Sadeque Hossain Khoka was better known as politician and former mayor of an undivided Dhaka City Corporation.

However, he was also very popular as a sports organiser. Brothers Union was the outfit where he flourished with his sports organizing capacity, making the Gopibagh-based outfit the country's third force to be reckoned with in football after Mohammedan SC and Abahani after taking charge as general secretary in 1975.

Khoka, who died of kidney cancer in the United States of America on Monday, was yesterday taken to his beloved outfit -- Brothers Union -- for a final homage with former and current Brothers' players and organisers paying their last respects by covering the coffin with the club's orange flag while a group of freedom fighters, led by Mozzamel Hossain Helal, gave a guard of honour by saluting Khoka, who was a member of the guerrilla operation under sector-2 during the liberation war.

Later, a few thousand people took part in his namaz-e-janaza at the club ground before he was buried in Jurain Graveyard.

Khoka was made chairman of the governing body of Brothers Union in 2003 and he played a key role in helping the side taste their maiden trophy in the now-defunct Dhaka Premier Football League in the 2003-04 season. They retained the prestigious title the following year in 2005.

The 67-year-old deceased organiser was also one of main architects behind the introduction of the country's Pioneer Football League (1980), which produced numerous star footballers like Monem Munna, Rummon Bin Wali Sabbir, Samrat Hossain Emily, Imtiaz Ahmed Nakib, Jakir Hossain and many others. During his tenure as secretary of the Dhaka Metropolis Football Committee from 1977 to 1984, the then FIFA president João Havelange was the sport's first world's governing body chief to visit Bangladesh to inaugurate the Pioneer Football League. He was then the joint secretary of the Bangladesh Football Federation.

When the Bangladesh Football Federation struggled to stage the Pioneer Football League due to a lack of sponsors, Khoka came forward once again to revive the league by tagging Dhaka City Corporation as sponsor in 2003, when he was mayor of an undivided Dhaka City Corporation. The league continued till the last edition in 2017.

His love for sports made him the state minister for youth and sports in 1991 and he took the initiative to insert a sports policy, holding a mega gathering with the invitation of all stakeholders of sports though he could not finally complete his initiatives.

"He was a complete sports organiser, who I think was a great organiser among all. It was a big damage for country to lose an organiser like him," said former national and Brothers Union's striker Wasim Iqbal.



PHOTO: AFP

Rodrigo scored a sensational hattrick and the fastest two goals in Champions League history as Real Madrid humiliated Galatasaray 6-0. The 18-year-old had his double after just six minutes and 14 seconds at the Bernabeu on Wednesday.

Saif SC appoint foreigner again

SPORTS REPORTER



Saif Sporting Club once again kept their faith in foreign coaches, appointing Mohammad Nizam of Maldives for the upcoming edition of the Bangladesh

Premier League.

Nizam is the fourth foreign coach to ply his trade for Saif SC, who first appointed Serbian Nikola Kavazovic for the Bangladesh Championship League before roping in Englishmen Ryan Northmore and Johnny McKinstry for the last two seasons of the Bangladesh Premier league, where Saif SC finished fourth on both occasions.

"We were actually looking forward to having a result-oriented coach because we saw in the last two seasons that the European coaches went through some experiments by playing the players in different position and we could not achieve our expected results in the league.

"We interviewed at least 10 coaches and selected Nizam, who I think is a performance-oriented coach who delivered two runners-up trophy to TC Sports of Maldives in three years as well as helped them clinch Sheikh Kamal International tournament in 2017," managing director of Saif SC Nasiruddin Chowdhury told The Daily Star.

Chowdhury elaborated further on the appointment of Nizam, who got took part in his AFC A license coaches' course in Bangladesh and last year, when he watched about 10 matches of the Bangladesh Premier League.

"Most of our players played for Saif SC for nearly four years, so they are proven campaigners and Nizam also knows the standard of Bangladesh football, so we believe Nizam can do better in Bangladesh," said Chowdhury, adding that they have signed a contract for one season with Nizam, who will be paid a monthly salary.

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SPECIAL FEATURES

- ▶ Number of floors: 14
- ▶ Total commercial space: 60,000 sqfts. (aprx.)
- ▶ Number of car parking: 50 (parking space 21,200 sqfts)
- ▶ Total Land: 10 Katha (W 100' x Depth 72')
- ▶ Construction type: RCC Fair-face cast
- ▶ Full load stand-by Generator (with AC), 650 KVA, Caterpillar, UK Origin
- ▶ 800 KVA Sub-Station
- ▶ Double layer heat & sound proof curtain glass (SYP)
- ▶ On demand Multi VRF type air conditioning system
- ▶ 3 high speed (1.75 m/s) Italian lifts (1000 Kg, each stretcher-cum-passenger)
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