



SCORES IN BRIEF

Scotland vs Ireland
Scotland:
176 for five in 20 overs (Jones 86, Berrington 37, Cross 28; Campher 2-9, Adair 1-23)
Ireland:
180 for four in 19 overs (Campher 72*, Dockrell 39*, Tucker 20; Leask 1-16, Wheal 1-25)
Result:
Ireland won by six wickets
Player-of-the-match:
Curtis Campher

West Indies vs Zimbabwe
West Indies:
153 for seven in 20 overs (Charles 45, Powell 25, Ho-sein 23; Raza 3-19, Muzarabani 2-38)
Zimbabwe:
122 all out in 18.2 overs (Madhevere 27, Jongwe 29, Raza 14; Joseph 4-16, Holder 3-12)
Result:
West Indies won by 31 runs
Player-of-the-match:
Alzarri Joseph

WHAT TO WATCH

T SPORTS & GTV
T20 World Cup
Sri Lanka vs Netherlands
Live from 10:00 pm
Namibia vs UAE
Live from 02:00 pm
TEN 2
UEFA Europa League
Arsenal vs PSV
Live from 11:00 pm
STAR SPORTS SELECT 1
EPL
Fulham vs Aston Villa
Live from 12:30 am (Friday)
STAR SPORTS SELECT 2
EPL
Leicester City vs Leeds United
Live from 01:15 am (Friday)



Ireland's Curtis Campher euphoric as his brilliant 32-ball 72 led his side to a six-wicket victory while chasing a challenging 177 against Scotland in the T20 World Cup's Group B fixture at the Bellerive Oval in Hobart yesterday.

PHOTO: AFP

Rain denies Tigers final warm-up

SPORTS REPORTER

Bangladesh missed the last opportunity to iron out any chinks in their armour ahead of their opening match of the T20 World Cup on October 24 after their second official warm-up game against South Africa was abandoned due to rain in Brisbane yesterday.

Shakib Al Hasan and his troops lost the first warm up game against Afghanistan by 62 runs after a poor show with the bat. The Tigers who were bundled out for 98 runs in chase of 161.

Bangladesh's technical consultant Sridhar Sriram again opted for a makeshift opening pair against Afghanistan as Najmul Hossain Shanto and Mehedi Hasan Miraz opened the innings but failed to make an impact.

Bangladesh have been going through a lean patch in the shortest format of the game, with the latest in a long list of defeats coming with flour straight losses in the tri-series in New Zealand.

However, the Tigers can take some positives from Shakib's recent form. The southpaw struck two fifties during the tri-series in New Zealand and moved to the top of the ICC's all rounder's ranking, leapfrogging Afghanistan's Mohammad Nabi.

The champion all rounder will



guide a relatively inexperienced side, who will be playing T20Is in Australia for the first time. There have been a lot of experiments in the Bangladesh camp since Sriram was appointed in August this year.

Bangladesh made last-minute changes to the final World Cup squad as Soumya Sarkar and Shoriful Islam replaced out of form Sabbir Rahman and Mohammad Saifuddin.

The game between India and New Zealand was also abandoned without a ball being bowled while Pakistan would be happy even if rain halted their victory charge against Afghanistan earlier in the day.

Pakistan's pace bowling

sensation Shaheen Afridi, returning from a knee injury, sent an ominous signal to the batters as he bowled four overs at full rhythm and picked up two wickets for 29 runs.

The left-arm speedster removed both the Afghan openers in his first two overs and the danger he poses was best illustrated when he trapped Rahmanullah Gurbaz leg before with a toe-crushing yorker.

Gurbaz was carried off on the back of a teammate and was subsequently sent to hospital for a scan.

Afridi had bowled two overs in the warm-up match against England but completed his full quota against Afghanistan, who managed 154-6.

"Good to see that he has not taken long to get back into it," Pakistan's fast bowling coach Shaun Tait said of Afridi, who returned to action after hurting his knee in July during a Test match in Sri Lanka.

"That would have been tough for him, I suppose, being away from the side. But touch wood, it seems like they (medical staff) have done a pretty good job."

Pakistan captain Babar Azam and his deputy Mohammad Rizwan were looking to get some batting practice but were forced off the ground as rain stopped played in the third over.

Mills replaces injured Topley

AFP, London

England bowler Reece Topley has been ruled out of the Twenty20 World Cup with an ankle injury just days before their tournament opener against Afghanistan.

The paceman rolled his left ankle during a fielding drill ahead of England's warm-up win over Pakistan in Brisbane on Monday.

Scans confirmed significant ligament damage and the giant left-arm seamer was withdrawn from the squad, with fellow left-armer Tymal Mills promoted from his previous status as travelling reserve.

A statement from the International Cricket Council (ICC) on Wednesday confirmed that Mills had been drafted into the squad.

The ICC also approved three other player replacements due to injuries. Sri Lankan bowler Kasun Rajitha has replaced the injured Dushmantha Chameera while all-rounder Danushka Gunathilaka will be replaced by travelling reserve Ashen Bandara. In the UAE squad, travelling reserve Fahad Nawaz has replaced Zawar Farid.

FIFA asks BFF to pay Day's due wages

SPORTS REPORTER

The Bangladesh Football Federation (BFF) has clearly failed to learn lessons from its past mishaps as the local game's governing body received an instruction from FIFA to clear the due wages of former national team head coach Jamie Day, who was relieved off his duty in September last year, prior to the beginning of SAFF Championship.

Neither the BFF nor Day, currently staying in England, disclosed the amount FIFA Players' Status Committee asked the BFF to pay to the English coach within a month and a half. However, it has been learned that the amount is 86 thousand US dollars.

Replying to a query from The Daily Star, Day said, "Yes, BFF will have to pay as FIFA have awarded me the payment but there isn't much to say on it just yet."

Previously in 2016, FIFA had before instructed the BFF to clear the due wages of sacked Dutch coach Rene Koster, which amounted to 80 thousand euros, including the interest accrued over the unpaid period. Back then, the BFF was also ordered to pay 8000 Swiss francs to FIFA and Koster as proceedings of the case. Ultimately, the BFF took more than a year to transfer payments to the Dutch coach.

In a video statement, BFF general secretary Abu Nayeem Shohag said, "Former coach Jamie Day appealed to FIFA about his unpaid wages and FIFA has asked us to give away the compensation to Jamie. Our legal department is working on it."

Mugdho drives Rangpur to victory

SPORTS REPORTER

Rangpur Division's bowlers took advantage of the conditions to help their side to their first win in the ongoing National Cricket League in their second-round match against Chattogram Division at the Sher-e-Bangla National Cricket Stadium yesterday. Meanwhile, Sylhet Division and Rajshahi Division were in strong positions at stumps on the third day of their respective matches.

Rangpur's Mukidul Islam Mugdho followed up his four-wicket haul in the first innings with three for 41 in the second as Chattogram were skittled for 199. Carrying on from an overnight score of 126 for six after skipper Irfan Shukkur had provided resistance on day two, Mugdho picked up the left-hander early in the morning for 67.

Tanbir Hayder (36) and Nasir Hossain's (45) 74-run stand for the fourth-wicket then saw Rangpur coast to a seven-wicket win.

At the BSKP, Sylhet were in a strong position after pacer Tanzim Hasan Sakib bagged a fiver to bowl Dhaka Division out for 256 before opener Imtiaz Hossain's unbeaten 42 saw them reach stumps at 110 for three, needing 108 runs on the last day.

Mushfiqur Rahim added just two to his overnight score of 108 as Rajshahi were bowled out for 366. Unbeaten fifties from Marshall Ayub and Zahiduzzaman saw Dhaka Metro reach 191 for four at close, still trailing by 41 runs.

At the Sheikh Kamal International Cricket Stadium in Cox's Bazar, Mohammad Ashraful remained unbeaten on 55 off 206 deliveries during a patient knock, supported by Sohag Gazi's unbeaten 64 as Barishal Division reached 195 for four, leading by 230 runs against Khulna Division.



Joy for Sri Lanka or heartbreak for the Dutch?

AGENCIES

A revitalised Sri Lanka's quest to the Super 12 hangs in the balance as they take on group-topper Netherlands at the GMHBA Stadium in Geelong, while Namibia face a feeble UAE in the final match of Group A in the T20 World Cup today.

The Netherlands sit top with four points, while the other two realistic contenders for qualification -- Namibia and Sri Lanka -- are second and third respectively with two points each.

Net run-rate is expected to play a major role in who goes through. The Dutch might not make it to the main stage if they lose to Sri Lanka and at the same time if Namibia win against UAE.

Netherlands have the lowest net run-rate amongst the three expected to fight for qualification, while Namibia have the highest. So, in order to cement qualification, the Dutch find themselves in a must-win situation or else they will have to pray that Namibia lose to the UAE in the latter match.

On the other hand, former champions Sri Lanka, who are playing in the group-stage for the first time, find themselves in a sudden-death situation quite early on in the tournament, surely an unfamiliar territory for the current Asia Cup champions.

The Lankans, who have had a serious buff to their net run-rate following their 79-run win over UAE, have made a turnaround and a win against the Dutch would surely take them through to the Super 12.

Sri Lanka and Netherlands have faced each other on two occasions previously, both times it was in a T20 World Cup. Despite the two wins in their record book, Sri Lanka captain Dasun Shanaka pointed out the unfamiliarity and unpredictability of facing an associate nation in a sudden-death situation.

"Rather than playing well-known countries, it is somewhat different playing against these nations. We don't know what exactly comes at us," Shanaka said on Wednesday. "Normally, when you play against the Test-playing nations, we know the bowlers and combinations they play. There are advantages and disadvantages both when we play this kind of rounds."

For Namibia, it has been an up-and-down start. They toppled Sri Lanka in their opening fixture but were edged by Netherlands in the second match.

The African nation also are in a must-win situation if they are to qualify and UAE seem to offer the perfect opportunity for them to not only win but better their net run-rate in the process, leaving no question for qualification.



The youth team of Sheikh Jamal Dhanmondi Club, comprising players of Jashore's Shams-UI-Huda Academy, celebrate after clinching the inaugural BFF U-18 Football League title with a game in hand after a 1-1 draw against Bashundhara Kings at the Physical Education College ground in Dhaka yesterday. The 11-team tournament featuring youth teams of BPL will conclude on October 24.

PHOTO: FIROZ AHMED