

Hridoy's DPL appearance creates controversy

SPORTS REPORTER

Mohammedan returned to winning ways in the Dhaka Premier League's (DPL) Super League on Sunday, but the day's highlight was Mohammedan skipper Towhid Hridoy's appearance in the match against Agrani Bank.

He was handed a two-match ban [Level 2] following two counts of misconduct -- first due to an altercation with on-field umpires and then due to public criticism of umpiring.

However, Hridoy returned, serving just a one-match ban as multiple stakeholders offered varying explanations as to how it was allowed.

The Bangladesh Cricket Board (BCB) as of yet has provided no clear explanation for it.

"We appealed on the decision, and they responded and reduced the sentence by a game. We got the letter from the Cricket Committee of Dhaka Metropolis (CCDM) that the ban had been reduced," Mohammedan official Sajid Ahmed informed.

However, neither CCDM nor Mohammedan agreed to show the letter.

"I can't say anything regarding this. If the sentence was reduced from high level in the board, that's up to



them," Niamur Rashid, who was the match referee of the said game in which Hridoy had an altercation with the umpires, told The Daily Star.

Another technical committee member of DPL, Enamul Haque Moni, was also unsure.

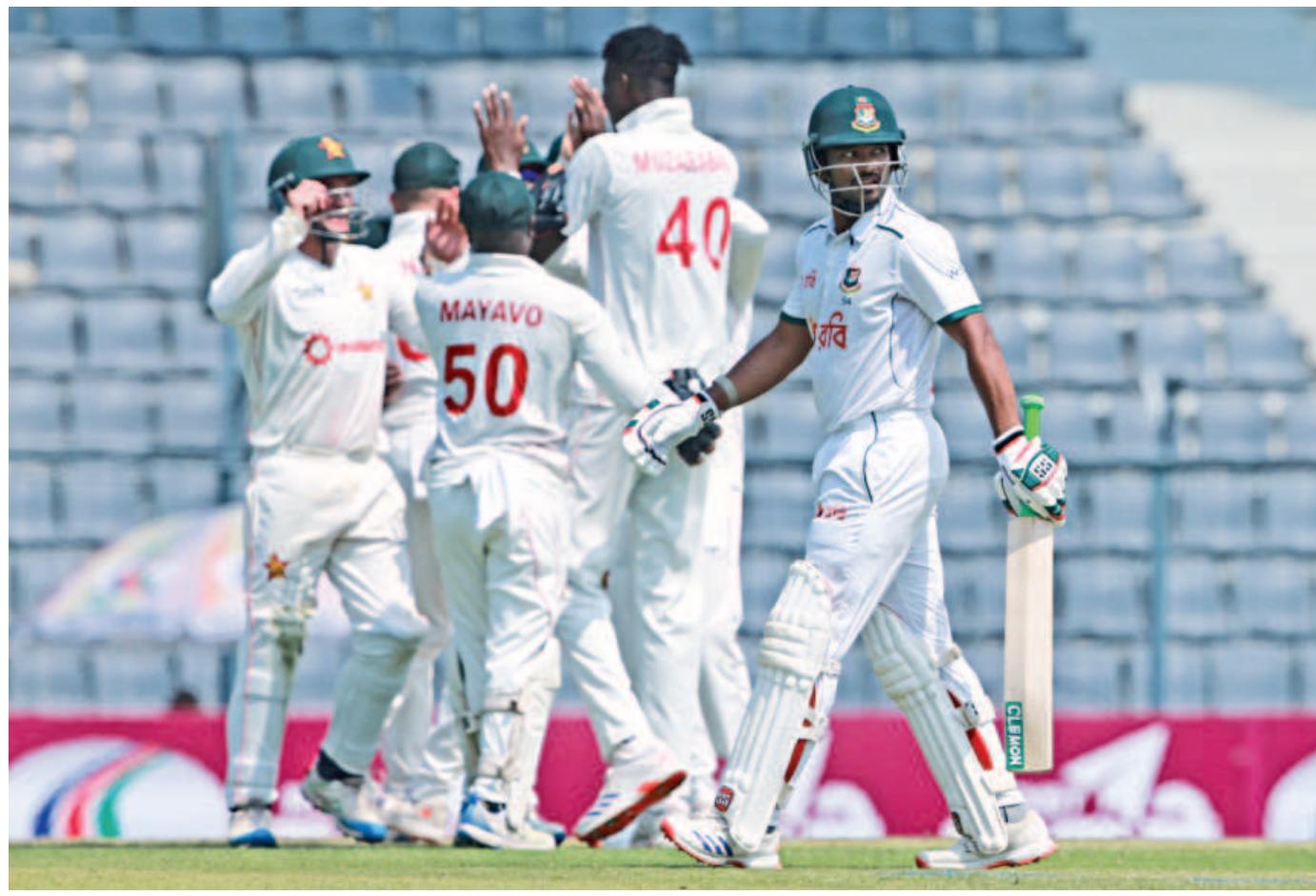
"He [Hridoy] told the technical committee that he was sorry. They [Mohammedan] had sent a letter to reduce the suspension, but I don't have it. I don't know how he still played," Moni told this newspaper.

Umpires' committee, however, provided a completely different explanation. "We sent a memo to CCDM in this regard. There was a meeting of the match referees, usually convened during the mid-point of the tournament for reviewing purposes. The rule of seven demerit points equating to a two-match suspension has been changed. That's why he could play," an umpires' committee official informed.

Meanwhile, the umpires' committee chairman, Iftekhar Ahmed Mithu, informed that the second sentence, relating to the three demerit points, is "still under process and has not been completed," and the player can play till it is completed.

Anamul Haque Bijoy became the first Bangladeshi to score 50 tons in recognised cricket when he notched up an unbeaten 105-ball 110 to lead Gazi Group Cricketers to a comfortable seven-wicket win over Legends of Rupganj in a Dhaka Premier League Super League fixture at the BKSP-4 ground yesterday. Bijoy's record-setting ton means that the 32-year-old now has 23 List A centuries, 24 in first-class cricket, and three in T20s. He had already gone past Naeem Islam (46 tons) in January this year with a century in the Bangladesh Premier League. In the other matches on that day, league-leaders Abahani beat Gulshan Cricket Club by 50 runs in Mirpur, while second-placed Mohammedan picked up a seven-wicket victory over Agrani Bank at BKSP-3 ground.

PHOTO: BCB



What to WATCH

T SPORTS

DPL
Live from 9:00 am
IPL
Kolkata vs Gujarat
Live from 8:00 pm

NAGORIK TV
PSL
Karachi vs Peshawar
Live from 9:00 pm
STAR SPORTS

SELECT HD1
Premier League
Tottenham vs Nottingham Forest
Live from 1:00 am
(Tuesday)

SA YOUTH TT C'SHIPS

Bangladesh eye medals

SPORTS REPORTER

Bangladesh table tennis teams are scheduled to leave for Kathmandu today to take part in South Asian Youth Table Tennis Championships, which will be held from April 24-27, with the hope of securing medals.

The regional championships will also serve as qualification platform for upcoming Asian Youth Table Tennis Championships, with the champions in both men's U-19 and women's U-19 team events advancing to the 24th edition of continental championships.

Bangladesh, who became champions in men's U-19 team event in 2022 and finished behind champions Sri Lanka in 2024, are hoping to fight for the final in absence of India.

"We have a good team this time around. Bangladesh, Nepal and Sri Lanka are of similar strength. So we believe we can play the final and win a medal," head coach Mostafa Billah told the reporters at a press conference at BOA Auditorium yesterday.

BTTF general secretary captain AM Maksud Ahmed Sonet said, "The preparation started on March 12, about a month after we took responsibility in the federation. There was flexibility in the camp due to Ramadan and Eid but we hope the players will produce good results as we also emphasised on fitness by appointing a fitness trainer."

Sonet informed that they will simultaneously train the players and test them through different tournaments in a bid to sharpen their skills and that they would also consider appointing a Chinese and a Japanese coach to groom players from the grassroots level.

He also claimed that they started the activities of federation with a Tk 4.5 lakh debt but they are optimistic about continuing all activities soundly in coming days, adding that they have requested the National Sports Council to have the federation's accounts audited to find out whether they have been any irregularities.

SHORT CORNER

Tahsin secures final IM norm



FM Tahsin Tajwar Zia earned the third and final norm for turning an International Master after beating Hungarian Grandmaster Gergely Aczel in the 10th and final round of Farago Ivan Memorial GM Chess tournament in Hungary on Sunday. The 19-year-old, however, will have to wait to get the IM title till taking his rating to 2400, which currently is 2354.

Bangladesh scrape past Indonesia in AHF Cup

Bangladesh survived a second-half scare to notch up a hard-fought 3-2 win over hosts Indonesia in their second match of the AHF Cup in Jakarta, Indonesia, yesterday. With two consecutive victories, the four-time champions sit top of Pool B with six points, followed by Thailand, who secured four points from two matches.

Read full stories on The Daily Star's website

It was a great day for Zimbabwe cricket, I think the bowlers were too short in the first session. They didn't make the batters play enough. I told them to string a few overs together without giving away runs. We eventually removed [Najmul Hossain] Shanto, which led us to initiate a mini collapse.

Zimbabwe's pace bowling coach Charl Langeveldt

Shanto had spoken about how he has been guilty of throwing away his wicket after getting set and how the batters in the team are working hard to do better.

However, there was no reflection of his words on the field.

After openers Shadman Islam (12) and Mahmudul Hasan Joy (14) departed in space of two overs, leaving Bangladesh at 32-2 in 11 overs, Mominul Haque and Shanto repaired the early damage by putting up a 66-run stand.

But just when it looked like Bangladesh

could post an imposing first innings total, Shanto, on 40, slashed an ordinary ball of Blessing Muzarabani to a man at point.

Mushfiqur Rahim, Bangladesh's most experienced batter, tried to pull left-arm spinner Wellington Masakadza only to be caught at mid-wicket after making only four runs.

Bangladesh's top scorer Mominul Haque (56) never looked at ease and ended his innings trying sweep the ball against the turn only to top-edge it and get caught at mid-wicket.

Unlike in many recent Tests, lower-order batters Mehedi Hasan Miraz and Jaker Ali could not perform a rescue act and Bangladesh got dismissed for a below par total.

Batters making the same mistakes repeatedly naturally draws questions over their commitment to improvement.

However, Salihuddin claimed that the players are trying to get better, even if the fruits of their efforts are still not visible.

"The boys are trying to change a lot of things mentally and they are very conscious about self-improvement. We have played very poorly today [yesterday]. But we can't say that they aren't trying and they don't have the urge to become great players. You can make mistakes. But if you repeat the same mistakes, it is a big problem. We need to be careful about repeating the same mistakes."

Arsenal delay Liverpool's title party

REUTERS, Ipswich

Arsenal cantered to a 4-0 victory over Ipswich Town to end Liverpool's hopes of winning the Premier League title on Sunday, with Leandro Trossard scoring twice and the hosts' Leif Davis sent off.

Arsenal moved on to 66 points in second spot but Liverpool, who face Leicester City later, still only need to win two of their remaining games to secure the crown.

Arsenal took the lead through Trossard in the 14th minute and Gabriel Martinelli doubled the advantage with a simple finish in the 28th minute before Reid was shown a straight red card for raking his studs down the back of Bukayo Saka's leg.

Trossard grabbed his second in the 69th minute and Ethan Nwani added a late fourth to leave Ipswich stuck in 18th place. They will be relegated if they drop points again or 17th-placed West Ham pick up one more point.



SUMMER 2025
Admission going on

MBA & EMBA

Application Deadline
Saturday, May 03, 2025

Admission Test
Friday, May 09, 2025

For details To apply

<https://admission.iub.edu.bd> | 09612939393, Ext. 2114 & 2119 | gsb@iub.edu.bd

School of Business and Entrepreneurship, Independent University, Bangladesh (IUB)