

# Red-hot FC Goa target full points against struggling Hyderabad FC

Team Herald  
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**MARGAO:** FC Goa will look to continue their strong form and move up to second place in the table, while struggling Hyderabad FC will be eager to turn their season around as the two teams face off in

## ISL PREVIEW

the Indian Super League on Wednesday.

A win for FC Goa, especially with a clean sheet, would mark a significant milestone as they aim for their first-ever streak of four consecutive shutouts against a single opponent in ISL history.

Hyderabad FC, meanwhile, are battling a poor away record, having lost

their last three games on the road without scoring.

Currently third in the table, FC Goa have 25 points from 13 matches, courtesy seven wins and four draws and a win will take them to second spot ahead of Bengaluru FC.

In stark contrast, Hyderabad FC are languishing at the bottom with just eight points from 14 games.

Goa's form has been red-hot, with four wins in their last five outings, while Hyderabad FC have suffered four losses in the same span.

The Gaurs have been lethal in attack, scoring in each of their last 13 games and netting 27 goals during this streak.

A goal in this fixture will take them closer to their longest scoring run of 16 games in ISL history.

## COACH TALK

**We have to be ambitious. The target is to win the shield. If that doesn't happen, then at least finish in the top-2. We want to get points from this away match – Manolo Marquez, FC Goa head coach**

**There are some key players in FC Goa, whom we have assessed. We will try to stop them. The focus is to get points from this away match**

**– Shameel Chembakath, Hyderabad FC interim head coach**

**MATCH STARTS AT 7.30 PM**

Their defence has also played a crucial role, conceding just eight open-play goals from inside the box this season, second only to Mohun Bagan.

FC Goa head coach Manolo Marquez has reiterated

his team's ambition of winning the Shield.

"We have to be ambitious. The target is to win the Shield. If that doesn't happen, then at least finish in the top-two," he said.

For Hyderabad FC, the

season has been a struggle.

They've trailed for 57.4% of their game time -- the highest in the league -- while conceding a league-high 16 open-play goals from inside the box.

Interim head coach Shameel Chembakath is determined to end their poor away run, emphasising the need for his team to stay compact and capitalise on chances.

"There are some key players in FC Goa whom we have assessed. We will try to stop them. The focus is to get points from this away match," said Shameel.

In 11 previous encounters, FC Goa have the upper hand with six wins.

Hyderabad FC have managed three victories, while two games ended in draws.

# Curtorim Gymkhana book quarterfinals berth

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**RAIA:** In a thrilling football encounter, Curtorim Gymkhana edged past Raia Sporting Club, 6-4, in a penalty shootout to secure their place in the quarterfinals of the 1st Fernando Abranches Memorial Trophy 2025, organised by the United Club of Verna, at the Verna Panchayat ground, on Tuesday.

The match began with Curtorim Gymkhana's Anselm Fernandes drawing first blood in the first half, scoring a stunning goal to give his team the lead. Raia Sporting Club created several chances to equalise but failed to capitalise, leaving spectators on the edge of their seats.

In the final moments of regular play, Raia's Garri-son Fernandes emerged



Velroy Borges of Raia Sporting Club receives star of the match award from Constancio Fernandes.

as the saviour for his side, finding the back of the net to secure a crucial equaliser. His late heroics pushed the game into a dramatic penalty shootout.

During the tie-breaker, Silviano Oliviero, Patric D'Souza and Harrison Fernandes successfully converted their chances for Raia Sporting Club. However, Curtorim Gym-

khana outperformed their opponents with precise strikes from Aliston Fernandes, Amar Estiberio, Fredy Helario, Frazier Fernandes, and Rhay Dias, clinching the match 6-4.

Velroy Borges of Raia Sporting Club was presented the star of the match award by ex-sarpanch of Verna, Constancio Fernandes.

# Salgaocar thrash Panjim Footballers to extend winning run

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**MAPUSA:** Clube de Salgaocar secured a resounding 4-0 win over Panjim Footballers SC in the Goa Professional League, at Duler stadium, on Tuesday.

All four goals came in the second half, with Isac Zomuanpuia scoring twice, while Suraj and skipper Pratesh Shirodkar added one goal each.

The match held promise as the new entrants, Salgaocar, began with 14 points from eight matches, while Panjim Footballers, struggling at the bottom of the table with just one point from the same number of games, managed to hold their opponents goal-less until half-time.

Salgaocar looked more threatening in the first half, creating several opportunities. In the 8th minute, Tipanna Bhavikaiti sent a teasing cross into the box, but Panjim's goalkeeper Bhaskar Jalmi made a fine save, tipping it over for a corner.



Clube de Salgaocar and Panjim Footballer player vie for the ball at Duler stadium

Salgaocar's skipper, Pratesh Shirodkar, was pivotal in orchestrating attacks. In the 17th minute, he played a neat pass to Tipanna on the right flank, but Panjim's defender Prasil Kankonkar made a timely clearance to avert the

danger. Two minutes later, Shirodkar initiated another move, setting up Isac Zomuanpuia, who played a through ball to Boinao Singh. However, Singh's chip over the onrushing goalkeeper went just over the crossbar.

Panjim's goalkeeper Bhaskar Jalmi was kept busy, making back-to-back saves to deny efforts from Zomuanpuia and Shrine Clemente.

In the second half, Salgaocar intensified their attacks. In the 55th minute, Zomuanpuia failed to connect with a shot from Umang Gaikwad from just outside the six-yard box.

The breakthrough finally came in the 69th minute. Skipper Shirodkar found Zomuanpuia unmarked, and the latter expertly controlled the ball before unleashing a powerful volley to make it 1-0.

Ten minutes later, Suraj rose above the defenders to head home a corner from Shrine Clemente, doubling the lead to 2-0.

Salgaocar showed no signs of slowing down. Zomuanpuia scored his second goal of the match, and Shirodkar sealed the emphatic win with a stunning 30-yard strike into the far corner, making it 4-0.

# Sesa FA edge past Vasco; Sporting down Pax of Nagoa

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**RAIA:** Sesa Football Academy secured a narrow yet well-deserved 2-1 victory over Vasco Sports Club in the Goa Professional League match held at Tilak Maidan, Vasco. The winners went into the break with a slender 1-0 lead.

Sesa eventually found the breakthrough, albeit through an own goal. Vasco defender Khongsai, in an attempt to clear a cross from Olencio, inadvertently deflected the ball into his own net.

Olencio had chances to extend Sesa's lead but squandered two golden opportunities. His first attempt—a weak shot—was easily deflected for a corner, while his second, which seemed destined for the back of the net, struck the upright.

At Nagoa panchayat ground, Sporting Clube eased past Pax of Nagoa

pam helpless.

However, Vasco's momentum waned as they eased off, allowing Sesa to regain control of the game. Beckham, particularly dangerous on the left flank, created havoc in the Vasco defence. In the 55th minute, he came close to restoring Sesa's lead, but his delicate chip narrowly missed the target.

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At Nagoa panchayat ground, Sporting Clube eased past Pax of Nagoa

# Fr Agnelo YSC crush Benfica YC

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**RAIA:** Fr Agnelo YSC, Paroda, blanked Benfica Youth Club, 5-0, to enter the quarterfinals of 1st Simon Barreto memorial inter-village football tournament, organised by Maina Sports Club, at DYSA ground, Curtorim, on Tuesday.

Fr Agnelo stuck the first goal in the 2nd minutes of play by Ashwan Fernandes while Benfica's Dominic missed the equaliser later. Paroda scored the second goal through Alfiano Fer-

nandes in the 27th minutes and remained 2-0 at the lemon break.

In the second session, Fr Agnelo scored three goals. Alfiano Fernandes completed his hat trick by scoring two goals in the 37th and 44th and Savio Vales rounded up the tally in the 47th minutes.

Earlier the tournament was declared open by chief guest Alfred Barreto to ex-president of Maina Sports Club and later presented man-of-the-match to Sushant Borkar of Benfica Youth Club.

# FC Goa continues winning run

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**MAPUSA:** Unbeaten FC Goa continued on their winning streak as they registered a 2-0 win over Dempo SC in the U-21 Reliance Foundation Devel-

## U-21 LEAGUE

opment League, played at Duler stadium, here, on Tuesday.

Young Gaurs netted both their goals in the second session of play, with Malsawmtluanga (52nd) and Lalhangliana (70th) minute, to collect full three points.

# Seraulim advance into last eight

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**RAIA:** United Club of Seraulim advanced to the quarterfinals of the Fr Agnelo Youth Soccer tournament, with a convincing 3-1 victory over Guirdolim Club. The tournament, organised by Fr Agnelo Youth Sports Club, Paroda, was held at the panchayat ground, Avedem-Paroda.

Seraulim got off to a strong start, taking the lead in the 8th minute with a well-placed strike by Keith Rodrigues. Just two minutes later, Gladson Fernandes capitalised on a defensive lapse to double

the advantage, putting Seraulim in control.

In the second half, Guirdolim regrouped and displayed improved coordination. Their efforts paid off when Rivaldo Cardoso scored in the 55th minute, converting a brilliant through pass from Sevaray D'Costa to reduce the deficit.

Despite putting Seraulim under sustained pressure, Guirdolim couldn't find the equaliser. In the final moments of the match, Keith Rodrigues struck again, securing a 3-1 win and a place in the quarterfinals for Seraulim.

# Vagator PYSC win over FC Tuem

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**MAPUSA:** Vagator PYSC managed to edge past FC Tuem by 2-1 margin in the GFA's Second Division league, played at Vagator ground, on Tuesday.

## GFA'S SECOND DIV LEAGUE

Umesh Pujar put Vagator ahead in the 23rd minute only to find Vismay Daware level terms for FC Tuem in the 52nd minute.

In the 84th minute Sahil Mohammad scored the winning goal for Vagator PYSC 2-1.

# Five young chess players achieve Int'l Rapid Ratings



Divesh Priyolkar  
Rapid Rating-1468



Kaushik Pednekar  
Rapid Rating-1437



Shlok Desai  
Rapid Rating-1547



Ishan Paramshetti  
Rapid Rating-1537

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**PONDA:** Five talented chess players from Ponda have secured FIDE International Rapid Ratings, showcasing their exceptional skills on the global stage.

Shlok Desai, a 13-year-old student of GVM's MIBK High School, Khandepar-Ponda, achieved an impressive rating of 1547, while Ishan Paramshetti, an 11-year-old stu-

dent of GVM's Utkarsh Vidya Mandir, Ponda, earned a rating of 1537.

Divesh Priyolkar, a 13-year-old from Swastik Vidyalay, Priol-Ponda, secured a rating of 1468, while Kaushik Pednekar, a 20-year-old student of PES's College of Arts and Science, Farmagudi-Ponda, achieved a



Anaar Vishal Prabhu  
Rapid Rating-1401

rating of 1437.

Anaar Vishal Prabhu, an 11-year-old student of SS Samitti's IVBD High School, Dhavlim-Ponda, attained a rating of 1401.

All these players have been trained under the guidance of FIDE Instructor Wilson Cruz at Champion's Chess Academy.

## TODAY'S SPORTS

**GFA Second Division League (Bardez zone):** Valpoi FC vs Benny XI SC, at Poriat ground, at 3.45 pm; BAFF vs Sangolda Lightning Club, at Duler stadium, Mapusa, at 3.45 pm

**GFA Second Division League (Ilhas zone):** Carambolim SC vs Agassaim YC, at Agassaim ground, at 3.45 pm; Nauxim SC vs Amaravati SC, at Taleigao ground, at 3.45 pm

**Simon Barreto memorial football tournament:** Arlem Youth Association vs Dicarpal SC, at SAG ground, Curtorim, at 4.30 pm

**1st Fernando Abranches Memorial Trophy 2025:** Guirdolim Club vs Shiroda Youth Club, Verna panchayat ground, at 4.30 pm

**Cavelossim Panchayat Cup:** United Club of Seraulim vs Santa Cruz Club of Cavelossim, at Fr Druston and Wellington ground, Cavelossim, at 4.30 pm

**Fr Agnelo Youth Sports Club Paroda soccer:** United Boys of Ambaulim vs Ugem Rising SC, at panchayat ground, Avedem-Paroda, at 4.30 pm

# Navelim Villagers storm into quarters

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**RAIA:** Navelim Villagers Union showcased exceptional teamwork to defeat a spirited and in-form Parish Youth Nu-vem, 2-0, securing a spot in the quarterfinals of the Cavelossim Panchayat Cup football tournament, organised by Santa Cruz Club of Cavelossim, at the Fr Druston and Wellington ground, Cavelossim.

Navelim adopted a controlled, passing style of play that caught their opponents off guard. In just the 5th minute, Brandon Gomes initiated a clever exchange of short passes with Aliston Gomes, who backheeled the ball to Presley Gomes. Presley's first-time shot left Nuvem goalkeeper Mackwino Colaco with no chance, giving Navelim an early 1-0 lead.

After the break, Parish Youth Nuvem made determined attempts to level the score, pri-

marily through attacks from the left flank. However, efforts by Maclin and Francis were thwarted by Navelim's goalkeeper, Selvin Gomes, who had an outstanding match.

Navelim sealed their victory with a spectacular goal from Ronaldo Pereira. Starting from midfield, Pereira squared the ball to Brandon Gomes, whose through pass was perfectly timed. Ronaldo latched onto the pass and calmly slotted it past the keeper, making it 2-0.

Parish Youth Nuvem had a golden opportunity to narrow the deficit when Ivo Colaco unleashed a close-range shot, but Selvin Gomes under the Navelim bar pulled off a brilliant punch to deny the effort, ensuring the scoreboard remained unchanged.

Presley Gomes of Navelim Villagers Union was awarded the man-of-the-match trophy by the chief guest, John Colaco, secretary of VP Cavelossim.

**AFTER SUPER SUCCESSFUL FULL HOUSE SHOW AT MARGAO 2ND REPEAT SHOW ON SATURDAY 11<sup>TH</sup> JAN 3:30PM PAI THEATRIST HALL MARGAO**

TICKETS AVAILABLE ON THE COUNTER

GODS GIFT AVERLY PRODUCTION

**BANK OF LOVE**

MUSIC: ARMANDO & EFFIO STAGE SET: ANTHONY DE AMALIA LIGHT: ROBERTO

**SUNDAY 12<sup>TH</sup> JAN 10:30AM KALA ACADEMY PANJIM**

TICKETS AVAILABLE ON THE COUNTER

THANKS TO CARLOS FERNANDES (UK TIATR ORGANISER)

Sandeep Ads 9756953662

**LAST SHOW IN MARGAO 10<sup>TH</sup> JAN - 7.30 PM - PT MARGAO**

TICKETS AVAILABLE AT THE COUNTER. ONLINE BOOKING: 7798944546

**KONN NHOI KONNACHO**

FOR VILLAGE SHOWS CONTACT: 9923033704/7798944546

**TICKETS AVAILABLE AT THE COUNTER**

**SUNDAY 12<sup>TH</sup> JAN 3.30PM PAI HALL MARGAO 7.30PM DANDO A/C HALL CANDOLIM**

**8888718809 / 9822393408**

**TODAY 8<sup>TH</sup> JAN 7:30 PM PAI HALL MARGAO**

TICKETS AVAILABLE AT THE COUNTER

**NEXT SHOW -13<sup>TH</sup> JAN 3:30 P.M. PAI HALL MARGAO**

TICKETS AVAILABLE AT THE COUNTER

**11<sup>TH</sup> JAN 7:30 P.M. CANDOLIM DANDO AC HALL**

FOR TICKETS CONTACT: 9860727590

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