

Brison's strike pushes FC Goa to 2nd spot

ISL MEDIA



FC Goa's Sahil Tavora tries to take control of the ball from East Bengal FC's Richard Enrique Celis during the Indian Super League match played at the Nehru Stadium, Fatorda, on Sunday

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FATORDA: FC Goa returned to winning ways in the Indian Super League edging past East Bengal FC with a narrow 1-0 victory at the Nehru Stadium, here, on Sunday.

ISL

In what is becoming a regular occurrence in the ongoing 2024-25 season, Brison Fernandes once again emerged as the difference-maker with a well-taken goal in the first half.

The Gaurs started brightly, and it took just 13 minutes for them to break the deadlock. A cleverly worked short corner between Borja Herrera and Boris Singh caught East Bengal's defence off-guard. Herrera's pinpoint cross found Brison, whose deft header lobbed over an onrushing Prabhukhan Singh Gill to find the back of the net.

It marked the youngster's sixth goal of the league season, and the 10th goal overall for him in the Club's colours. East Bengal, though stunned, responded well,

with Vishnu PV and Richard Celis

driving their attack. FC Goa's goalkeeper Hrithik Tiwari and their defensive unit were up to the task, however, repeatedly thwarting the visitors.

The Men in Orange came close to doubling their lead in the 35th minute when Iker Guarrotxena unleashed a thunderous shot from 30 yards that beat Gill but struck the post. Brison was quick to react to the rebound, but Gill redeemed himself with a superb save.

The second half saw

East Bengal ramp up the pressure, with Celis and Naorem Mahesh Singh creating multiple scoring opportunities. However, Hrithik Tiwari stood tall in goal, pulling off a series of outstanding saves, including a diving effort in the 67th minute to deny Celis from close range.

FC Goa's chances of extending their lead were squandered, with Armando Sadiku missing some clear opportunities, including a sliced effort from right in front of goal in the 75th minute. The Albanian striker's night went from bad to worse when he was sent off in stoppage time for a rash challenge, leaving his team to hold on with 10 men in the final moments.

Despite the visitors' dominance in the second half, FC Goa's defence held firm, ensuring that Brison's early strike proved decisive. The victory extended the Gaurs' unbeaten run to 11 matches and propelled them to second place in the standings with 30 points from 16 games.

With the league now heading towards its most important phase, Manolo Marquez and his boys will now look to continue their momentum when they host Chennaiyin FC coming Saturday.

RESULT

FC Goa 1 (Brison Fernandes 13') East Bengal FC 0

Raia Sporting Club take home 7th Martin's Cup

INACIO NORONHA



The champions along with chief guest Minister for Law and Environment Aleixo Sequeira, Our Lady of Remedios Church, Betalbatim, Parish Priest Fr Adriano Furtado, Founder Martins Corner Carafina Pereira, Our Lady of Remedios Church Fr Agapito D'Cunha, Fr Luciano Falcao (Pilar Society), Betalbatim Sarpanch Anthony Fernandes, Goa Football Association Vice-President Anthony Pango, Prinston Rebello (Punjab FC), Betalbatim SC President Bonny Pereira, Betalbatim Village Panchayat members and Goa Football Association Executive Committee members at the panchayat ground, Betalbatim, on Sunday

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INDIVIDUAL HONOURS

- Best disciplined team:** Canacona SC
- Last touch:** Roy (Raia SC)
- Best goal of the tournament:** Sheldon (UC Verna)
- First hat-trick of the tournament:** Sidney Gaukar (Raia SC)
- Best goalkeeper of the final:** Jake Madeira (Raia SC)
- Player of the final:** Delton Colaco (SC Davorlim)
- First goal of the final:** Reeve D'Costa (SC Davorlim)

RAIA: Raia Sporting Club outplayed Sporting Club of Davorlim 4-2 via tie-breaker to clinch the 7th Martin's Cup organised by Betalbatim Sporting Club at the panchayat ground, Betalbatim, on Sunday.

Both teams remained 1-1 draw at the full time. Reeve D'Costa scored for Sporting Club of Davorlim in the first half, while Raia Sporting Club equalised in

the second half through Swedon Barbosa. In the deceive penalty shoot-out, Raia Sporting Club proved to be the better shooters.

Minister for Law and Environment Aleixo Sequeira was the chief guest and gave away the prizes in the presence of Our Lady of Re-

medios Church, Betalbatim, Parish Priest Fr Adriano Furtado, Founder Martins Corner Carafina Pereira, Our Lady of Remedios Church Fr Agapito D'Cunha, Fr Luciano Falcao (Pilar Society), Betalbatim Sarpanch Anthony Fernandes, Goa Football Association Vice President Anthony Pango, Prinston Rebello (Punjab FC), Betalbatim SC President Bonny Pereira, Betalbatim Village Panchayat members and Goa Football Association Executive Committee Members.

St Anthony FC emerge champions

INACIO NORONHA



Winners St Anthony FC team along with chief guest Parish Priest of Paroda Church Fr George Ratos, Assistant Parish Priest Paroda Church Fr Jose Antonio, Vice-Chairperson of South Goa Zilla Panchayat Sidharth Gauns Desai, Acedem-Cotombi-Chaiy Sarpanch Bhupendra Gauns Desai, Goa Football Association Executive Committee Member Patwin Fizardo, GFA Senior Vice-President Anthony Pango, Sanzil D' Costa, Adv Peter John Alphonso, founder secretary of Fr Agnelo Youth Sports Club, other dignitaries and club members at the panchayat ground, Avedem-Paroda, on Sunday

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INDIVIDUAL AWARDS

- Best goalkeeper:** Oswin Rodrigues (St Anthony FC, Assolda)
- Best defender:** Enjoy Clement (Fr Agnelo YSC, Paroda)
- Best forward:** Ashwin Fernandes (Fr Agnelo YSC, Paroda)
- Man-of-the-match:** Sunny Fernandes (Fr Agnelo YSC, Paroda)

RAIA: St Anthony FC, Assolda, piped hosts Fr Agnelo Youth Sports Club, Paroda, 1-0, in the 15th inter-village football tournament organised by Fr Agnelo Youth Sports Club, Paroda, at panchayat ground, Avedem-Paroda, on Sunday.

Sunny Fernandes of St Anthony FC scored the decisive goal with a long-range shot, placing the ball perfectly into the corner of the goal, leaving the Fr Agnelo Youth Sports Club goalkeeper helpless.

FR AGNELO YSC PARODA FOOTBALL

Winners St Anthony FC took home the Rs 50,000 cash prize and a trophy, while runners-up Fr Agnelo Youth Sports Club received Rs 40,000.

Chief guest Parish Priest of Paroda Church Fr George Ratos gave away the prizes in the presence of Assistant Parish Priest Paroda

Church Fr Jose Antonio, Vice-Chairperson of South Goa Zilla Panchayat Sidharth Gauns Desai, Acedem-Cotombi-Chaiy Sarpanch Bhupendra Gauns Desai, Goa Football Association Executive Committee Member Patwin Fizardo, GFA Senior Vice-President Anthony

Pango, Sanzil D' Costa, Adv Peter John Alphonso, founder secretary of Fr Agnelo Youth Sports Club, other dignitaries and club members.

Dempo SC salvage a point

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JAIPUR: Dempo Sports Club ended their three-match losing streak with a hard-earned 1-1 draw against Rajasthan United in their ninth-round I-League 2024-25 clash at the Vidyadhar Nagar Stadium, here, on Sunday.

The result sees Dempo SC secure their first point of the year, taking their tally to 11 points and staying within striking distance of their hosts, who sit one point ahead with 12. After a tense and cagey first half, young goalkeeper Ashish

Sibi found himself in the spotlight.

The Dempo SC custodian was involved in a dramatic sequence of events that defined the opening period. In the 31st minute, Sibi spilled a cross from Alain Oyarzun under pressure from Naoba Meitei, allowing Gerard Artigas to pounce and give Rajasthan United the lead.

However, Sibi displayed remarkable resilience to bounce back just minutes later. In the 38th minute,

he produced a heroic save to deny Oyarzun's penalty, diving sharply to his right and pushing the ball clear to keep Dempo SC in the game.



The penalty had been awarded after a handball in a chaotic goal-mouth scramble, but Sibi's intervention proved pivotal, inspiring his teammates to fight back.

The second half saw Dempo SC grow into the game, stifling Rajasthan's attacking efforts while

mounting dangerous moves of their own. Their persistence bore fruit in the 76th minute when Shaheer Shaheen found the equaliser. Pruthvesh Pednekar's intelligent header set up the Syrian midfielder, who arrived at the far post to slot home from close range and ignite celebrations among the visitors.

Rajasthan United pushed hard for a late winner, with Gerard Artigas coming close in stoppage time, but his header drifted just wide of the far post. Dempo SC's defence held firm, ensuring they returned to Goa with a valuable point.

Valpoi FC, Mormugao United win

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MAPUSA/RAIA: Valpoi FC played their hearts out to register a hard-fought 3-2 win over Bidesh XI SC in the Goa Football Association's Division II League Bardez Zone match played at Duler Stadium, here, on Sunday.

GFA DIV II LEAGUE

After Sunday's win, Valpoi FC now have 9 points from 7 matches, while Bidesh XI stays on 10 points from 7 matches.

Zaid Khan was star of the evening as he scored the opening and closing goals for Valpoi FC in the 5th and 90th minute of play. Mohammad Khan netted his team's third goal.

For Bidesh XI, U-21 Narayan Chodankar (62nd minute) and Krish Naroji (82nd minute) scored.

In another match played at Tilak Maidan, Vasco, Mormugao United defeated Chicalim SC by a solitary goal.

Substitute Saurav Singh scored the winning goal.

Both the teams started the match with a promising note but Mormugao United had upper hand later in the match.



Students of Thivim Karate Dojo 11-year-old Mahaj Porob, brown belt, bagged silver in kata and a bronze medal in kumite; 11-year-old Nishant Malgi, orange belt, secured gold in kata; 7-year-old Aryan Shinde, green belt, secured silver in kata and a bronze medal in kumite at the 5th SCKFI International Karate Championship held at the Manohar Parrikar Indoor Stadium, Navelim, on Sunday. The karatekas were trained by Sensei Sandesh Santosh Kolikar (Black Belt 3rd Dan) Coach of Thivim IJKA Dojo and Chief Instructor Sensei Mahendra Naik

Curtorim Gym, Mandopa SC in semis

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RAIA: Curtorim Gymkhana scored a solitary goal victory over Parish Youth Nuvem to move into the semi-finals of Simon Barreto memorial inter-village football tournament organised by Maina Sports Club at the DYSA ground, Curtorim, on Sunday.

In an exciting quarter-final match, both teams kept the Sunday crowd on their toes and played at fast pace from end to end.

The all-important goal came from the boots of

Mario Mascarenhas of Curtorim Gymkhana and that goal turned to be match winning goal.

CURTORIM FOOTBALL

In the earlier match, Mandopa Sports Club secured a convincing 3-1 win over SCC Loutolim to book

Sesa FA, Dempo SC split points

MAPUSA: Sesa FA and Dempo SC were locked in a goalless draw in the Reliance Foundation Development League U-21 match played at Duler Stadium, here, on Sunday.

Dempo SC's Myrick Hilario received the man-of-the-match award.

PY Nuvem book final berth

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RAIA: Parish Youth Nuvem edged past Guardian Angel Sports Club 7-6 via tie-breaker in an electrifying semi-final match to move into the final of 1st Fernando Abranches Memorial Trophy football tournament organised by the United Club of Verna at the Verna panchayat ground, on Sunday.

The match witnessed a packed crowd cheering for their teams.

PY Nuvem took an early lead in the first half, courtesy of a well-placed goal by Nicolas. However, the second half saw Guardian Angel SC dominate possession, with Cyril Dias delivering



Former MPT player Agnelo Fonseca presents the man-of-the-match award to Guardian Angel SC's Cyril Dias for his brilliant performance

a stunning equaliser. The tie-breaker saw Nicolau, Hudson, Drawin, Shenoy, Shubert and Inacio finding the net for PY Nuvem, while Glenson, Ivo, Godwin, Ryan and Gerito scored for Guardian Angel SC.

India defender Pritam joins Chennaiyin FC

PTI, CHENNAI: India defender Pritam Kotal on Sunday joined Indian Super League side Chennaiyin FC, leaving Kerala Blasters FC on a two-and-a-half-year deal.

The 31-year-old Kotal, who has more than 50 caps for India has been a regular feature in the ISL for the last decade.

Kotal began his youth career with Chirag Unit-

ed before moving to the I-League and eventually to ISL.

The West Bengal player has captained Mohun Bagan Super Giant in the past, leading them to eight consecutive wins in Kolkata derby. He has also been a member of the ISL winning sides in 2016 and 2019-20.

The move will strengthen the defence line of the Marina Machans.

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