

# Super-sub Dias seals vital win for Dempo

Team Herald  
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**MARGAO:** Substitute Nestor Dias proved to be Dempo SC's saviour, netting an 83rd-minute winner to secure a 1-0 victory over Delhi FC in their I-League 2024-25 clash, at the Nehru Stadium, Fatorda, on Wednesday.

## I-LEAGUE

The result ended Dempo's five-match winless run and lifted the five-time champions to seventh place with 14 points from 11 matches (4W, 2D, 5L). Delhi FC, on the other hand, continued their struggles, slipping to 11th place with just nine points.



Dempo created the better opportunities in the first half but were let down by a lack of clinical finishing. Early on, Pruthvish Pednekar delivered a dangerous cross from the right to Knerkitalang Buam, who managed to outpace his marker but failed to generate enough power behind his shot, allowing Delhi goalkeeper Lalmuansanga

to collect comfortably. Buam had another golden opportunity in the second half, only to see his weak effort easily saved. Vieri Colaco reacted quickly to the rebound, but Lalmuansanga was once again equal to the task. Delhi FC, usually sharp in attack, looked uncharacteristically off-colour and struggled to break down a

resolute Dempo defence.

## TODAY'S FIXTURE

**Churchill Brothers FC Goa vs Real Kashmir, at Raia Panchayat Ground, at 3.30 pm**

The deadlock was finally broken in the dying moments when Kapil Hoble made a determined run down the right flank and delivered a precise cross to the far post. Nestor Dias, perfectly positioned, took an exquisite first touch before calmly slotting home his first goal of the season, sending the Dempo supporters into celebration.

With a crucial three points secured, Dempo will now aim to build on this momentum as they continue their I-League campaign.

# NorthEast United FC thrash Hyderabad FC

## TODAY'S FIXTURE

**Chennaiyin FC vs Kerala Blasters FC, at the Nehru Stadium, Chennai, at 7.30 pm**

**AGENCIES, GUWAHATI:** NorthEast United FC ended their four-match winless streak with a 4-1 victory over Hyderabad FC, at the Indira Gandhi Athletic Stadium, in the Indian Super League (ISL).

The Highlanders took an

## ISL

early lead with Guillermo Fernandez's goal, before Alaaeddine Ajaraie doubled the advantage with a brilliant free-kick just before half-time. Hyderabad FC fought back in the second half, with Manoj Mohammed pulling one back, but late goals from Asheer Akhtar and Mohammed Bemammer sealed a commanding win for NorthEast United.

The match began with

both sides neutralising each other in midfield. However, NorthEast gradually gained momentum, controlling possession and threatening Hyderabad's defence. In the 17th minute, Guillermo pounced on a defensive error and slotted home after a poor clearance from Abdul Rabeeh.

Ajaraie nearly added another soon after, but was flagged offside. NorthEast's pressure continued, and just before the break, Ajaraie hammered in a direct free-kick from 25 yards to make it 2-0.

made an early change at half-time, replacing Edmilson Correia with Cy Goddard due to a knock. Hyderabad FC began the second half with urgency, but NorthEast defended well and looked dangerous on the counter. Despite some close calls in their box, the Highlanders held firm.

Hyderabad's hopes were revived when Manoj Mohammed scored from a well-delivered free-kick by Chhanga Hmar in the 70th minute. However, NorthEast restored their two-goal lead in the 79th minute, with Asheer Akhtar heading in from a corner.

The hosts sealed the win in the 89th minute when Mohammed Ali Bemammer fired a powerful strike from outside the box to make it 4-1.

# Valpoi FC clinch North Zone title

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**MAPUSA:** Valpoi FC were stretched into the sudden death where they finally defeated Super Goans FC by 6-5 margin to clinch the GFA's Boys U-13 North Zone title, played at Duler stadium, on Wednesday.

## GFA'S BOYS U-13

Super Goans were all over their opponents territory time and again but it was Valpoi's goalkeeper Vihan Gaonkar who came with a couple of saves.

Earlier in the match Super Goans lost a glorious chance to surge ahead when striker Te Gabriel Pyres dribbled past a host of rival defenders including the onrushing keeper but to his team's dismay shot out.

In the 20th minute Valpoi



stunned their opponents with Kashinath Gaonkar nodding the ball into the goal 1-0.

On crossing ends in the very 3rd minute Valpoi's Mohammad Beig drove a 30-yard strike which beat

Super Goans custodian hands down.

Super Goans do or die spirit not only pulled a goal through Ajay Rathod (55th min) but saw Te Gabriel Pyres level terms scoring from the penalty spot, to

send the teams large supporters into raptures 2-2.

With the match ending in a 2-2 draw the penalty shoot out was enforced where Valpoi lads proved to be better shooters winning the match by 4-3 margin.

# Mormugao Utd down St Rock

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**RAIA:** Mormugao United defeated St Rock YSC Majorda, 6-5, via the tie-breaker to enter the quarterfinals of the Lourdes soccer inter-village football tournament, organised by Ambelim SC, at Ambelim ground.

On Tuesday, Parish Youth Nuvm defeated Navelim Sporting Club, 3-2, via the tie-breaker to enter into the quarterfinals.

Both the teams got equal numbers of scoring opportunities but failed to break the deadlock till the final whistle.

In the resultant tie-breaker, Parish Youth Nuvm netted through Nicolau Colaco, Shenoy Colaco and Shubert Colaco while Meliston dias and Aden Pereira on target for Navelim Sporting Club

# Guardian Angel overcome Sporting Club Davorlim

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**RAIA:** Guardian Angel SC, Churchorem, secured a 2-1 victory over Sporting Club Davorlim, in the 17th all-Goa inter-village Seraulim Panchayat Cup football tournament, organised by United Sports Club of Seraulim and played at the Seraulim Panchayat ground.

Guardian Angel took an

early lead in the 2nd minute when Regan Costa capitalised on a goalkeeping error, calmly placing the ball into an open net after the keeper failed to intercept.

At half-time, Guardian Angel maintained their 1-0 advantage.

Sporting Club Davorlim emerged stronger in the second half, creating dangerous opportunities and twice striking the crossbar.

However, Guardian Angel capitalised on a counter-attack, doubling their lead in the 46th minute when Godwin Fernandes smartly chipped the ball over the goalkeeper to make it 2-0.

Sporting Club Davorlim pulled one back just before the final whistle, with Beny Figueroa finding the net to reduce the deficit to 2-1, but it was too late to alter the outcome.

# Sao Jose de Areal in quarters

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**RAIA:** Sao Jose de Areal defeated Parish Youth Nuvm, 1-0, to move into the quarterfinal of the 1st Vauradencho Ixtt Trophy 2025, organised by Batora United Curtorim, in association with Margao Sports Club, at DSYA ground, Curtorim, on Wednesday.

Sao Jose de Areal netted the match winner through David Colaco in the 48th minutes.

Daryl Costa of Sao Jose de Areal was presented man-of-the-match award from chief guest Joaquim Gunja in the presence of Roque Carneiro and Frankly Rebello.

Earlier on the inaugural



Daryl Costa of Sao Jose de Areal receives man-of-the-match award from Joaquim Gunja, Roque Carneiro and Frankly Rebello

day, on Tuesday, Curtorim XI defeated Pillar Father XI, 2-1, in the exhibition match.

Pascoal Fernandes and

Agnelo Gomes scored one goal each for Curtorim, while Fr Denzil reduce the margin for Pillar Father's.

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**PANJIM:** Dempo Challengers and Prescon Panthers both secured vital victories in their respective matches, on Sunday, at Panjim Gymkhana, keeping their playoff hopes alive in the ongoing PGML 4.0.

## PGML 4.0

In the day's first match, Prescon Panthers triumphed over table-toppers Priority Titans by 7 wickets, securing a vital win to stay in contention for the knock-out phase. Despite a strong start from the Titans, who posted a modest 112/8 after electing to bat, the Panthers chased down the target with ease. Captain

# Dempo Challengers, Prescon Panthers secure crucial wins

Prajyot Rivonker led from the front, scoring 36 runs and taking 2/13, and was named 'Grant Thornton' Man-of-the-Match. Suraj Hirani (26\*), and Itikhar Agha (24\*) ensured their side crossed the line with almost three overs to spare.

Priority Titans, who had previously won their first four matches, suffered their first loss of the tournament. Top-order batsmen Sachin Sardesai (27), Samir Chodankar (21), and Vedant Naik (20) got starts, but failed to build partnerships, leaving their side short of a competitive total.

In the second match, Dempo Challengers overcame Desserts N'More Avengers by 21 runs in a thrilling contest that had massive playoff implications for both

teams. Dempo's captain Tunish Sawkar played a match-winning knock of 40 runs off 24 balls, including 3 boundaries and 2 sixes. He also contributed with the ball, claiming a wicket and winning the 'Grant Thornton' Man-of-the-Match award. Om Fadte (34) and Niraj Lotlekar (33) supported well, as Dempo posted a competitive 168/7.

In response, Avengers' openers Sairaj Dhond (28) and Saandip Dhaadha (24) provided a strong start, but Dempo clawed back with disciplined fielding and tight bowling, dismissing key players Saif Ali Karajgi and Rajshekhar Harikant cheaply. Despite a valiant effort, Avengers were bowled out for 147 in 19.5 overs, handing Dempo their second win in four outings.

**NEW KONKANI MOVIE**

*Mog Asim*

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**TIATRA MILAGRES DE CHANDOR TIATRA**

**Last Kiss**

# UC Verna clinch Fernando Abranches Memorial Trophy



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**RAIA:** United Club of Verna stormed to victory in the 1st Fernando Abranches Memorial Rolling Trophy, thrashing Parish Youth Nuvm 5-1 in a thrilling final at the Verna Panchayat Ground. The tournament was organised by United Club of Verna.

The match saw Verna dominate from the outset, with Beneston Barretto opening the scoring in the 13th minute. He then

## INDIVIDUAL WINNERS

**Best Disciplined Team:** Shiroda Youth Club

**Best Player of the Tournament:** Desmond Pereira (United Club of Verna)

**Star of the Tournament & First Scorer:** Beneston Barretto (United Club of Verna)

**Player of the Match:** Nicolas Colaco (Parish Youth Nuvm)

struck twice more in the 19th and 21st minutes, completing a stunning first-half hat-trick that left Parish Youth Nuvm struggling to recover.

In the second half, Ver-

na's Stephen Saterkar further extended the lead, netting two quick goals to make it 5-0. Parish Youth Nuvm managed a consolation goal in the closing moments through Jeff

Dias, but it was too little, too late.

The prize distribution ceremony was attended by chief guest Lyndon Monteiro and guest of honour Rev Fr Victor Rodrigues. Celina Abranches, wife of the late Fernando Abranches, was a special invitee, alongside Sarparch Nazia D'Costa, Deputy Sarparch Mario Pereira, and members of the Verna Village Panchayat. GFA executive members (South) were also present to lend their support.

## TODAY'S SPORTS

**GFA Second Division League 2024-25 (Ilhas zone):** Nauxim Sports Club vs Portais Sporting Club, at Agassaim ground, at 3.45 pm

**1st Vauradeancho Ixtt Trophy 2025:** Raia Sporting club vs United Boy's of Ambaulim, at DSYA ground, Curtorim, at 4.30 pm

**17th All-Goa Inter-Village Seraulim Panchayat Cup:** Don Bosco Oratory Fatorda vs Wilred Leisure Sports Club, Curtorim, at Seraulim Panchayat ground, at 4.30 pm

**Lourdes Soccer 2025:** Fr Agnelo paroda vs Guardian Angel Sports Club, at Ambelim ground, at 4.30 pm

**TIATRA LAWRY TRAVASSO NEW TIATRA**

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**1st Feb 7.30pm**

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