

# Niraj comes to the rescue of Geno FC, nets equaliser

## Sannik guides Guardian Angel SC in collecting full points

Team Herald  
sports@herald-goa.com

**MAPUSA/RAIA:** A 94th minute strike by Niraj Parekh enabled Geno FC to hold Sporting Clube de Goa to a 1-1 draw in the Goa Professional (Super League) match played at Duler Stadium, here, on Sunday.

### GOA PRO LEAGUE

After drawn encounter, Sporting Clube still lead the GPL table with 35 points from 15 matches, while Geno FC has 29 points from 14 matches.

Geno FC did start aggressively and had better of ball possession and attacks at the rival goal.

Striker Chaitan Komarpant moved dangerously

inside the penalty box and drilled a stiff grounder but was collected by Sporting Clube's custodian Siddharth Rana at the first post.

Geno FC's another glorious chance went abegging in the 32nd minute when Meinam Musharaf got hold of the ball from Chaitan free-kick and latched a right footer which came off the far goal post to Gourav Kankonkar, who failed to score.

Sporting Clube got their acts together in the 42nd minute when Francisco Fernandes and Alton Vaz strikes from inside the 18-yard box were blocked by the Geno FC's defenders.

However, in the stoppage time, Sporting Clube surged ahead when Francisco Fernandes collected a cross from U-21 Shaniel Lucas

and fired the ball into the goal, 1-0.

Geno FC should have levelled terms in the very 2nd minute on crossing ends but substitute Sheldon Pereira tapped the ball over the crossbar from inside the 6-yard box off Abelson Jachi pass.

After 30 minutes of midfield tussle in the 83rd minute substitute Selwyn Miranda sent a pinpoint cross to well positioned Sairruatkima whose header from close was brilliantly blocked for a corner by Geno FC's goalkeeper Savio Pereira.

Minutes later, Mark Carvalho was a bit late to connect Francisco Fernandes through pass.

From the eight minutes of stoppage time, Geno FC time and again attacked the

rival citadel but Sporting Clube's goalkeeper brought two smart saves to deny Chaitan Komarpant from scoring.

However, finally in the 94th minute, Geno FC were awarded a free-kick outside the penalty box where defender Niraj Nikhil Parekh brilliantly curled the ball into the far corner of the goal to make it, 1-1.

In another match, Guardian Angel SC got the better of Calangute Association 2-0 in the Goa Professional League (Relegation Zone) match played at Nagoa Panchayat ground on Sunday.

Sannik Murmu gave an early lead to Guardian Angel SC in the 9th minute of the match and later he doubled the lead in the 50th minute to complete his brace.

# Forca Goa Foundation celebrates AFC Women's Football Day

Team Herald  
sports@herald-goa.com

**PANJIM:** The Forca Goa Foundation successfully celebrated AFC Women's Football Day and International Women's Day with a series of engaging initiatives aimed at promoting women empowerment in football.

The event witnessed participation from over 50 individuals, including young footballers, parents, coaches, and volunteers, who came together to celebrate the progress of women in the sport.

The event featured football matches, workshops, and interactive sessions, highlighting the importance of equal opportunities for women in football.

Nathaniel Da Costa, head of Grassroots Football at Forca Goa Foundation, emphasised on the growth of women's football in Goa, stating, "Women's football in Goa is gradually

progressing. There is still a long journey ahead. At Forca Goa Foundation, we are doing everything we can to create a safe and inclusive space for young female footballers while encouraging participation at all levels - be it as players, referees, coaches or volunteers. Our exclusive U-13 girls' category and mixed-gender leagues are small but significant steps in this direction. However, to truly develop the women's game, we need greater support and collective efforts to build a strong, sustainable ecosystem for the future

— Nathaniel Da Costa, head of Grassroots Football at Forca Goa Foundation

greater support and collective efforts to build a strong, sustainable ecosystem for the future," he added.

The day's highlight was undoubtedly the matches that displayed the raw talent and passion of young female footballers. St Thomas High School and El Shaddai faced off in an exciting encounter, demonstrating the high level of skill and teamwork present. Later, the FC Goa Football School clashed with Laxmi Prasad SC, further amplifying the excitement

and displaying the depth of talent in Goa.

Alongside the matches, Nathaniel Da Costa, Head of Grassroots Development and Premier League and Premier Skills Coach Educator conducted an engaging workshop on inspiring future generations. Young players reflected on who inspires them, what drives them to be a source of inspiration, and the key qualities needed to influence others positively.

As a symbolic gesture to celebrate the participation of young female footballers, the foundation distributed T-shirts to all the girls, reinforcing the message that they are an integral part of the football community.

The Forca Goa Foundation continues to lead the way in creating opportunities for young athletes, ensuring that football remains a sport where talent, passion, and dedication are the only defining factors, regardless of gender.

# Nuvm Veterans march into semi-finals

Team Herald  
sports@herald-goa.com

**RAIA:** Nuvm Veterans edged past Mitra Veterans 6-5 via tie-breaker to move into the semi-finals of 10th Fatorda Veterans football tournament organised by Fatorda Veterans, at Don Bosco ground, Fatorda, on Sunday.

Both teams remained 1-1 draw at full time.

Vincent Fernandes opened the scoreline for Nuvm, while Navil Araujo equalised for Mitra Veterans through a penalty shoot-out.

In the resultant tie-breaker, Nuvm Veterans proved to be the better shooters.

Jamson Noronha popularly known as Abel of Nuvm Veterans was presented the man-of-the-match by Joaquim Fernandes.

INACIO NORONHA



Jamson Noronha popularly known as Abel of Nuvm Veterans receives the man-of-the-match from Joaquim Fernandes

# UB Ambaulim move past PY Nuvm



Visiton Fernandes of UB Ambaulim receives the man-of-the-match

Team Herald  
sports@herald-goa.com

**RAIA:** UB Ambaulim moved

past Parish Youth Nuvm 4-2 via the tie-breaker to enter into the quarter-finals of 14th Wilred Leisure Soccer

Cup 2025 at the DSYA ground, Curtorim, on Sunday.

In the full time no team could break the deadlock and remained 0-0 till the full time and made way for penalty shoot-out to decide the winner.

In the deceive penalty shoot-out that followed UB Ambaulim scored through Dialon Carvalho, Telen Fernandes, Visiton Fernandes and Bradley Carvalho, while for Parish Youth Nuvm, Shenoy Colaco and Cedro Colaco were on target.

Carmona Youth won the better of Benaulim

Youth 4-2 in the Benaulim Constituency Youth Football tournament played at Varca ground, on Sunday.

Carmona Youth netted

### WILRED SOCCER

a hat-trick through Falrus, while Darren netted the other goal. For Benaulim Youth, Alejo and keegan reduced the margin.

# Vorrad 5.0: Goa's duathlon witnesses enthusiastic participation

Team Herald  
sports@herald-goa.com

**PANJIM:** The 5th edition of Vorrad 5.0, South Goa's most awaited duathlon, successfully took place at Benaulim beach, drawing cycling and running enthusiasts from across the State.

Organised by ProPedalerz Cycling Club, one of Goa's oldest registered cycling clubs, the event delivered an exciting and energetic Sunday morning for participants and spectators alike.

The event was graced by chief guest Dr Venkatesh Prabhudesai, a PhD holder in MSc (Horticulture) and an ultra runner, whose passion for fitness and endurance sports resonated with participants.

In his address, Dr Venkatesh emphasised on the importance of an active lifestyle and commended the growing enthusiasm for cycling and running in Goa.

His presence and inspiring words motivated athletes to push their limits and enjoy the spirit of the duathlon.

Adding to the event, Goa IDC Chairman IAS Pravi-

HERALD PIC



mal Abhishek and Additional DGP of Goa Police Omvir Singh also participated, showcasing their commitment to fitness and community engagement.

Their presence and active involvement inspired participants, reinforcing the importance of endurance sports in promoting health and well-being.

Vorrad 5.0 featured a 60km cycling challenge along South Goa's coastal roads, followed by a 2.5km or 6km beach run. The event saw overwhelming participation, with 81 runners completing the 2.5km run and 98 runners taking on the 6km challenge.

Participants from various age groups and back-

grounds came together to celebrate endurance, fitness and community spirit.

This year's edition saw remarkable stories of determination and resilience. The youngest rider, a 15-year-old boy, took on the challenge with enthusiasm, showcasing the growing interest in endurance sports among the youth.

At the other end of the spectrum, the oldest participant, a 76-year-old man, demonstrated that age is no barrier to fitness. Adding to the inspiration, a 69-year-old cancer survivor participated for the second time, proving that with passion and determination, no obstacle is too great.

Participants flagged

off at 6.30 am, pedaling through picturesque landscapes before returning to Benaulim beach for the exhilarating run. The event concluded with a grand medal distribution ceremony, acknowledging the dedication and efforts of all participants.

To ensure a smooth experience, the organisers provided ample parking, security, hydration stations, washroom facilities, and a hearty breakfast at a beach shack. Music, camaraderie, and the thrill of the race made Vorrad 5.0 a truly memorable event.

With each edition, Vorrad continues to grow, inspiring more people to embrace an active and healthy lifestyle.

# South Goa Utd down Cortalim Villagers

Team Herald  
sports@herald-goa.com

**RAIA:** South Goa United defeated Cortalim Villagers SWSC 3-0 in the Goa Football Association U-13 Division I League match at Cansaulim Sports Complex, on Sunday.

Snyder Simoes, Mohammad Asif Mirch and Macklan Menezes scored a goal each for South Goa United.

Samuel scores hat-trick in Ponda Footballers win

Ponda Footballers

thrashed Verna Cultural and Sports Association 7-1 in the Goa Football Association Futsal League match played at Manohar Parrikar Indoor Stadium, Navelim, on Sunday.

### GFA LEAGUES

Samuel Fernandes scored a hat-trick, while Relino Carvalho, Ashwell Peixoto, Anshley Araujo and Chrisval Gonsalves scored a goal each for Ponda Footballers. Samuel Rodrigues reduced the margin for Verna Cultural and Sports Association.

### GOA DIARY

**Rebello Pandal's football tournament at Maina from March 24**

**RAIA:** Rebello Pandal, Maina, will organise their 18th All Goa Open Rebello Pandal's football tournament from March 24, at St Rita Church ground, Maina. Only 16 teams will be participating. The winners will be awarded Rs 40,000, while runners-up will get Rs 30,000. Interested teams should contact Angleous Rebello.

# Anurag, Sapna steal the show at Panjim Rotary Club run

Team Herald  
sports@herald-goa.com

**PANJIM:** Anurag Konkar and Sapna Patel won the 10km overall men's and women's Rotary Club of Panaji Mid Town Mathias Panaji Run 2025, a charity-driven fitness event that combined health, inclusivity and community service held outside the Dr Shyama Prasad Mukherjee Stadium, Taleigao, recently.

The event witnessed 1,200 participants that comprised athletes, fitness enthusiasts and community members. The inaugural edition attracted elite and passionate runners from across the country, elevating the event's competitive appeal.

The Mathias Panaji Run included a 10km timed race, a 5km walk/run, and a 1km walk with students from the National Association for the Blind (NAB) and People with Disabilities (PwD). The event coincided with the Carnival festivities,

HERALD PIC



with participants donning creative outfits in hopes of winning prizes for the Best Dressed Individual and Best Dressed Group. Winners were awarded cash prizes totalling Rs 1 lakh across various categories.

Beyond promoting fitness, the run also contributed to Rotary's flagship social initiatives that include Sak-

sharata - Educational grants for deserving students, Sudharata - financial aid for corrective surgeries, Sahayanta - nurse training for elderly care, Swachata - water purifiers for schools in remote areas, and Sanjivani - medical resources such as oxygen concentrators and fowler beds for those in need.

Dattatray Kamat, presi-

dent of the Rotary Club of Panaji Mid Town, expressed his delight at the success of the event.

"I am extremely happy that the first-ever Mathias Panaji Run was organized during my tenure. The overwhelming response and the grand success of the event give us the confidence to continue this initiative for years to

come. Most importantly, the funds raised will be directed toward great causes, making a meaningful impact on the community," he said.

While Sheetal Pai Kane, Convenor- Mathias Panaji Run 2025 said, "We are thrilled with the overwhelming response to the Mathias Panaji Run 2025, with 1,200 participants coming

together to celebrate fitness, inclusivity, and community service. Seeing individuals of all ages embrace the spirit of the event was truly heartwarming. This run was not just about fitness, but also about making a difference through Rotary's key initiatives," she said.

"A big thank you to all our participants, sponsors, and volunteers for their incredible support. We look forward to an even bigger and better Edition 2 next year," Kane added.

Neil Dsilva and Agnelo Desa from Team Yoska played a crucial role in overseeing the run with their technical expertise, ensuring a smooth and well-managed event.

Results: 10km overall men's, 18-29 yrs: 1. Anurag Konkar (race time 00:31:48). 2. Teddy Cardozo (00:33:59). 3. Rohit Mishra (00:34:30). 30-39 yrs: 1. Nihal Baig, (00:33:25). 2. Sunil Gaonkar (00:37:13). 3. Laxmikant Gaude (00:39:33).

**HOUSEFUL SHOW AT CANDOLIM**  
POSITIVELY LAST SHOW (PUBLIC HOLIDAY)  
14<sup>th</sup> MAR 3:30 PM  
PAI HALL MARGAO  
TICKETS AVAILABLE AT THE COUNTER

**MHOZO FAIDO TUZO KAIDO**  
FRANCIS DE JACARPALE

**SOUTH GOA CAR RENTALS (AQUEM)**  
9665536440 / 9890353110

**TICKETS AVAILABLE AT THE COUNTER**

**TODAY**  
10<sup>th</sup> MARCH 3:30 PM  
R.B. VASCO

**PANVDE NASLEEM GHOR**  
WILL & DRI: ROMA FERNANDES

**16<sup>th</sup> MARCH 3:30 P.M. MARGAO**

Galaxy Assolna, 9823244657

**TODAY AT MARGAO**  
AT 7.45 P.M. AT PAI T. HALL  
4<sup>th</sup> REPEAT SHOW

**BY PUBLIC DEMAND 3<sup>rd</sup> REPEAT SHOW AT PANJIM**  
16<sup>th</sup> MAR. 2025 AT 3.30 P.M. AT KALA ACAD. MARGAO

**GANVCHIT ZATRA BHANGODDI SOTRA**