

# Kanetkar, Fadnis, Xavier & Amrish storm into main draw

Goan players also make an impact in qualification rounds, main draw



Nikhil Kanitkar and Upendra Fadnis in action at the Peddem Indoor Stadium, Mapusa, on Monday. (Right) Jaison Xavier and Amrish Shinde compete in the qualification round

**PEDDEM:** Former India internationals Nikhil Kanetkar, Upendra Fadnis, Jaison Xavier and Amrish Shinde delivered commanding performances to storm into the main draw of 47th Indian Masters National Badminton Championship 2025 played at the Peddem Indoor Stadium, Mapusa, on Monday.

Kanetkar, partnering with Upendra Fadnis (Maharashtra/Karnataka), dominated Govind MK and Dhinakar Shankha with a 15-11, 15-2 win in the Men's Doubles 45+ category.

Xavier, alongside Amrish Shinde (Gujarat/Kerala), was equally ruthless, dismantling Rajan Chandvaskar and Sandeep D (Ma-

harashtra) 15-4, 15-5 in the Men's Doubles 50+ qualification round.

The tournament also saw strong performances from Goa's top shuttlers, keeping local fans engaged with thrilling matches.

Goan players made a strong impact in both the

## 47TH INDIAN MASTERS NATIONAL BADMINTON CHAMPIONSHIP

qualification rounds and the main draw.

Wilfred Jacques (Goa) cruised past Niranjan Mantri (Maharashtra) 15-4, 15-7 in Men's Singles 50+, while N Cardozo and D Nilesh (Goa) powered through Rajeev Malik and Nandkishore (Uttar

Pradesh) 15-6, 15-4 in the Men's Doubles 45+.

In the main draw, Betty Dourado (Goa) opened her Women's Singles 40+ campaign with a 21-11, 21-10 win over Devi Manda (Andhra Pradesh), while Supriya Pai Kuchelkar (Goa) fought back in a

nail-biting clash to defeat Rajul Bhandari (Rajasthan) 19-21, 23-21, 21-19 in the Women's Singles 45+.

Arnaldo Rodrigues (Goa) secured a 21-11, 21-13 victory over Murali Krishnan Bakthavachal (Tamil Nadu) in the Men's Singles 45+ and Parag Chauhan (Goa)

edged out Rahul Barua (West Bengal) 21-14, 21-19.

The Goa duo of Navaneet Nasnodkar and Jatinder Singh showcased their skills in the Men's Doubles 35+, defeating Rudra Kumar Dasari and Sudhakar (Andhra Pradesh) 21-19, 21-12.

Meanwhile, Kamlesh Kanji and Suja Das Nair (Goa/Maharashtra) clinched a hard-fought 21-18, 21-17 victory over Veera Swamy Narra and Shikha (Telangana/Karnataka) in Mixed Doubles 45+. With the competition intensifying, fans eagerly await the next rounds, where more top Indian shuttlers will take center stage.

# Cortalim Villagers SWSC cruise past Sesa FA

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**RAIA:** Cortalim Villagers SWSC secured a 3-1 win over Sesa Football Academy in the Goa Professional League Super League match played at the Nagoa panchayat ground, on Monday.

Sesa FA struck the first goal with the efforts of Omkar Shetgaonkar's incisive run down the left, cutting it back for Clencio Pinto, who rifled a first-time finish into the bottom corner.

Cortalim Villagers SWSC got the equaliser when Prathmesh Gaonkar set up Norman Dias inside the box, and the forward kept his composure to slot home.

The second half saw Cortalim Villagers SWSC take control, with Gaonkar putting his side ahead in style.

Latching onto Pushkar Prabhu's lofted pass, he outpaced the defence before executing a delicate chip over the onrushing goalkeeper. Ronil Vaz then put the result beyond doubt, capitalising

on Norman's cushioned header off a Sydney Lucas long ball to loft another clever chip past the goalkeeper, sealing a commanding win.

Cortalim Villagers SWSC enjoyed the lion's share of possession in the first half, dictating play through midfield. However, Sesa FA nearly drew the first blood when Pinto's defence-splitting pass sent Chaitan Dhabolkar through on goal.

## GOA PROFESSIONAL LEAGUE SUPER LEAGUE

The forward weaved into the box and attempted a curling strike to the far post, but his effort failed to find the target.

Minutes later, Sesa FA made their pressure count. Shetgaonkar burst into the box before laying it off for Pinto, who made no mistake with a clinical first-time finish to break the deadlock.

Cortalim Villagers SWSC responded with intensity and almost found the equaliser when Espirito threaded a precise ball to Prathmesh, putting him

one-on-one with the Sesa FA goalkeeper. Rather than pulling the trigger, he opted to square it to Norman, but the pass was just out of reach.

They kept knocking at the door as Prabhu's chipped delivery over the defence found Prathmesh, who saw his initial strike blocked by Myran. The rebound fell back to him, but Akash produced another crucial defensive intervention to keep Sesa FA's lead intact.

Cortalim Villagers SWSC's persistence eventually paid off when Norman levelled the score. Under pressure, Gaonkar laid it off to him, and he coolly fired a low shot into the bottom right corner to restore parity.

With momentum on their side, Cortalim Villagers SWSC's came out firing after the break and wasted no time in grabbing the lead. Prabhu picked out Gaonkar with a perfectly weighted long ball, and the forward raced toward

goal before lifting a deft chip over the advancing goalkeeper.

Gaonkar nearly doubled his tally when Ronil Azavedo whipped in a low cross from the left, but he couldn't apply the finishing touch.

Cortalim Villagers SWSC's continued to press and their dominance was rewarded once again. Lucas sent a long ball into the danger area, where Norman's cushioned header found Vaz in space.

With the goalkeeper charging out, Vaz showed tremendous composure to dink the ball over him and into the net, putting the result beyond reach.

Sesa FA threw bodies forward in search of a late comeback, but Cortalim Villagers SWSC's defence stood firm, securing an emphatic 3-1 win and a crucial three points.

**KALA ACADEMY GOA**  
50<sup>th</sup> TIATR 'A' GROUP COMPETITION - (2024-25)  
TODAY'S TIATR 18/03/2025  
**BOGNAAR**  
Joaquim Dias  
Institution:  
St. Dominic Dramatic Troup, Merces  
Venue:  
Dinanath Mangeshkar Kala Mandir, Panaji  
Time: 7.00 p.m.  
Tickets of Rs. 100/- available at the Venue

# RF Youth Sports prodigy turned mentor Sevon inspires future football stars

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**MAPUSA:** In the open grounds of Cortalim, Sevon Costa's life has come a full circle, from playing as a top performer in the Reliance Foundation Youth Sports (RFYS) to mentoring the upcoming generation of budding talents at the Our Lady of Perpetual Succour High School, Mormugao, an institution that had a huge role to play in his growing up years.

In his recent stint as the assistant coach of the school, Sevon guided the U-15 team to the final of the tournament, where they finished runners-up.

Sevon's football journey kicked off at 12, when he played in his village ground. A chance encounter with a local coach led him to Cortalim Gymkhana, which marked his first foray towards professional football. His promising talent bagged him a position in Salgaocar FC's youth setup, resulting in him playing the I-League U-18 too.

However, it was at the Our Lady of Perpetual Succour High School, where Sevon captained the school to triumph in the inaugural Goa chapter of the RFYS in



Our Lady of Perpetual Succour High School Assistant Coach Sevon Costa (extreme left) during the Reliance Foundation Youth Sports 2024-25 Goa leg, where the U-15 team finished runners-up

2016, scoring a hat-trick in the final to clinch the Golden Boot. He spearheaded the side to a semi-final finish in Mumbai, the following year, ending up as the second-highest goal-scorer of the tournament.

"The RFYS gave me an opportunity to play at the top level and develop my skills alongside playing against the best players in the State. It helped me to improve my performances. Not just me, it gives an opportunity for young players from across the country to show their talent, which is otherwise hidden in the villages and towns," Sevon said. Sevon credited his

success to two people, his mother and his PE teacher Leroy Menezes, who played an important role in shaping his footballing journey.

"All I am today is because of him," he said.

It is this same mentorship that he now seeks to provide to the young footballers under his wing.

Now as an assistant coach at Our Lady of Perpetual Succour High School and Cortalim Villagers SC, Sevon aims to provide his expertise to the up and coming players in the State.

"My ambition as a coach is to nurture and develop upcoming players, producing top football talent for

my State and country. My ultimate ambition is to see my nation qualify for the FIFA World Cup in the near future," he added.

At just 23, Sevon has touched lives with his sheer love for the sport, particularly at the grassroots and youth development levels. Channelising this passion for football through competitions like Reliance Foundation Youth Sports, one can be rest assured that more stars are set to rise through the ranks with mentors like him.

# Sporting Clube pip KLSA

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**MANIPUR:** Sporting Clube de Goa secured a 1-0 victory over KLSA Keinou Library and Sports Association (KLSA) in the All India Football Federation I-League 2 match played at Khuman Lampak Stadium, here, on Monday.

## I-LEAGUE 2

Sporting Clube's Doyal Alves netted a crucial goal, sealing a vital victory and maintaining the club's winning streak, while KLSA suffered their ninth defeat of the season.

Sporting Clube moves to 18 points after facing KLSA, who remain at one point. Despite the visiting team missing several opportunities to capitalise, Sporting

Clube secured the win.

The first half saw both teams fiercely competing for the advantage, but it was Sporting Clube's Doyal who broke the deadlock with a clinical finish at the 45th minute, just before the halftime whistle, giving the team the crucial edge going into the second half.

In the second half, Sporting Clube's disciplined play and solid organisation ensured that the 1-0 scoreline remained intact.

Despite KLSA's efforts to push for an equaliser, Sporting Clube's defence remained resolute, with their controlled play and tactical focus sealing the victory and extending their winning momentum.

Sporting Clube will next return to the pitch on March 20 in a battle

against DHFC Diamond Harbour FC (DHFC) at Bambolim Stadium.

## TODAY'S SPORTS

**GFA Futsal League (final):** Ponda Footballers vs Ambelim SC, at Manohar Parrikar Indoor Stadium, Navelim, 7 pm

**GFA U-17 Division I League:** FC Goa vs South Goa United CS&C, at Guirim ground, 4 pm. Sporting Clube de Goa vs Dempo SC, at Santa Cruz ground, 4 pm

**Goa University Inter Collegiate Cricket Men Championship 2024-25:** PCCE College, Verna, vs Shree Damodar College, Margao, at 9 am. CES College, Cuncolim, vs Government College, Khandola, 2 pm

**Inter-Seraulim badminton tournament** organised by USC Seraulim, at Seraulim Church court, 6 pm

**14th Wilred Leisure Cup:** United Sports Club, Seraulim, vs Sao Jose de Areal SC, at the DSYA ground, Cortalim, 4.45 pm

# Benaulim B Veterans emerge football champions

INACIO NORONHA



The winners along with chief guest Benaulim MLA Venzy Viegas, Varca and Carmona Panchayats members and other dignitaries at the Varca ground, recently

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**RAIA:** Benaulim B edged past Benaulim A 5-4 via tie-breaker in the final to emerge champions in the 1st Benaulim constituency veterans football tournament

organised by Varca Veterans at the Varca ground.

At full time, the score remained a goalless draw.

In the tie-breaker, Benaulim B Veterans netted through Jose, Patrick, Caj, Zico and Standly and for Benaulim A Chales, Luis,

Menino and Danny were on target.

Chief guest Benaulim MLA Venzy Viegas gave away the prizes to the winners and runners-up in the presence of Varca and Carmona Panchayats members and other dignitaries

**MACHI MOGI** SANTA CRUZ, TISWADI, GOA

TIATR ACADEMY OF GOA hanchea pailvan bhag gheta,  
KALA ACADEMY, Goa hannim ghoddun hadlolea 50 vea 'A' Group  
Tiatr Spordent ani Palkar haddta Shri Menino Mario Araujo  
hannem borololo 25vo Tiatr

**Advailolim Follam**

**MARCH 19 2025**  
Kala Academy Panaji at 7:00 pm.

**Tiatr Academy of Goa**  
(A Government of Goa Undertaking)

in collaboration with  
**Ravindra Bhavan, Curchorem**  
&  
**Ravindra Bhavan, Baina, Vasco**  
Organises  
**Popular Tiatr Festival 2025**  
[Daily Free Tiatr Shows from 4.00 pm onwards]

**Inaugural Function**  
On 19th March 2025 at 4.00 pm at Ravindra Bhavan, Curchorem

**Chief Guest:**  
Shri. Nilesh Cabral, Hon. M.L.A. of Curchorem Constituency

**Guest of Honour:**  
Shri. Joseph Constancio Rodrigues (Jose Rod), Senior Tiatrist

**Special Invitee:**  
Shri. Siddhanath Buyao, A Renowned Singer

Sr.No	Date of Staging	Name of the Institution	Tiatr/Playwright
1.	19th March 2025 at RB, Curchorem at 4.00 pm	D'Costa Production, Carmona,	Mukutt Sorgincho Pascoal D'Costa
2.	20th March 2025 at RB, Curchorem at 4.00 pm	Jose Roman Fernandes, Benaulim,	Zonvar Jose Roman Fernandes (Josevon)
3.	21st March 2025 at RB, Curchorem at 4.00 pm	Menino Fernandes (Menino de Bandar), Benaulim	Rogot Menino de Bandar
4.	24th March 2025 at RB, Vasco at 4.00 pm	Domingos F.J Carvalho, Majorda	Amkam Ballgun Domnic Carvalho
5.	25th March 2025 at RB, Vasco at 4.00 pm	John Alexander Fernandes alias Alexin De Morjim, Morjim	Bara Brestar Tera Sukrar John Alexander Fernandes alias Alexin de Morjim
6.	26th March 2025 at RB, Vasco at 4.00 pm	Goan Com. Socio & Cultural Association, Pilar	Daddys Home Fr. Milton Rodrigues / Shantaram Pawar
7.	27th March 2025 at RB, Vasco at 3.30 pm	Pascoal T. Fernandes, Vasco da Gama	Atam Anchem Kitem Zatelem?
8.	28th March 2025 at RB, Vasco at 4.00 pm	Domingos (Domnic) Fernandes, Raia	Saibinn Maim Chuklim Ami

**Concluding Function**  
On 28th March 2025 at 4.00 pm at Ravindra Bhavan, Baina, Vasco

**Chief Guest:**  
Shri. Mauvin Godinho, Hon. Min. for Transport, Govt. of Goa

**Guest of Honour:**  
Shri. Krishna (Daji) Salkar, Hon. M.L.A. Vasco Constituency

**Special Invitee:**  
Shri. Jayant Jadav, Chairman of Ravindra Bhavan, Baina Vasco

**Anthony Barbosa** President  
**Marcos Gonsalves** Vice President  
**Suresh Divkar** Member Secretary