

Iker's hat-trick guides FC Goa into quarters

Team Herald
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BHUBANESWAR: Spanish forward Iker Guarrotxena was the star of the show as FC Goa cruised into the quarter-finals of the 2025 Kalinga Super Cup with a commanding 3-0 victory over Gokulam Kerala FC at the Kalinga Stadium, here, on Monday.

Guarrotxena (23' p, 35', 71') netted a superb hat-trick, with two goals in the first half and a third after the break, to ensure the Gaurs began their Super Cup campaign in emphatic fashion.

Having finished second in the ISL table this season, FC Goa entered the play-offs with high expectations but suffered a heartbreaking semi-final exit to Bengaluru FC, courtesy of a last-minute strike from Sunil Chhetri. Meanwhile, Gokulam Kerala came into the fixture on the back of an intense I-League campaign, where they were in the title race until the very end. However, the anticipated close contest never quite materialised. From the outset, FC Goa controlled possession, dictated the tempo, and created multiple openings. In contrast, Gokulam Kerala struggled to

find rhythm or match the pace and organisation of their ISL opponents.

The breakthrough arrived in the 23rd minute when Dejan Drazic was fouled inside the box by Salam Rangan Singh, prompting the referee to point to the spot. Guarrotxena confidently stepped up and sent Shibinraj Kunniyl the wrong way to give FC Goa the lead.

SUPER CUP

The second goal followed just 12 minutes later. Aakash Sangwan surged down the left flank and delivered a precise cross into the danger area, where Guarrotxena timed his run to perfection and slotted home with ease, doubling the advantage before the interval.

Gokulam Kerala came out stronger in the second half, enjoying more possession and showing signs of a fight-back. They struck the crossbar and looked more threatening going forward, but their resurgence was halted midway through the half.

In the 71st minute, FC Goa put the result beyond doubt with a slick passing move that culminated in Guarrotxena receiving a well-placed ball in the box. With admirable composure, the Spaniard completed his hat-trick, calmly guiding the ball past the keeper to make it 3-0.

From there on, FC Goa's defence, marshalled expertly, ensured no slip-ups as they comfortably saw out the match to seal their place in the last eight.

Iker Guarrotxena was presented the Kalinga Player of the Match award by Shri Ashok Kumar Panda, Additional Secretary, Sports & Youth Services Department, Government of Odisha.

RESULT

FC Goa 3 (Iker Guarrotxena 23' p, 35', 71') Gokulam Kerala FC 0

SC Davorlim in quarters

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RAIA: Nine-man Sporting Club Davorlim piped United Boys of Ambaulim 1-0 to enter into the quarter-finals of 27th Holy Cross inter-village football tournament organised by Guardian Angel SC in association with Holy Cross SC at Vodlem Moll ground, Kakoda, on Monday.

HOLY CROSS FOOTBALL

UB Ambaulim had the upper hand as Sporting Club Davorlim enter the field with nine players and kept the UB Ambaulim forward with accurate marking and denying scoring opportunity. Also the goalkeeper of SC Davorlim made some spectacular saves under the crossbar.

The all-important goal was scored by Vellroy Colaco of SC Davorlim in the 45th minute.

Candolim-Moira, Cortalim Villagers-Goa Police share the spoils

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MAPUSA/RAIA: Candolim came back strongly to hold A A de Moira to a 1-1 draw in the Goa Football Association Division I League match played at Duler Stadium, on Monday.

AA de Moira with just three points from five matches started aggressively to return home with a win where they did come twice close in opening their account but Vinayak Rane's header was smartly blocked by Candolim's custodian Jason D'Mello, while in the stoppage time Pradeep Bind strike came off the horizontal bar.

Candolim almost scored in the 40th minute but Nikhil Naik's goal bound cross was blocked on the goal line by Moira's Alrico Peixoto.

Hardly had the team's supporters taken their

seats on crossing over, substitute Michael Dias collecting a long ball from Oliver D'Souza darted inside the penalty box and drilled a power-packed right footer into the far corner of the goal with Jaison D'Mello's full stretched dive going in vain, 1-0.

GFA LEAGUES

Moira almost doubled their lead in the very next minute but Oliver D'Souza free kick from outside the penalty box was blocked by Candolim's custodian Jason.

Candolim regrouped themselves and came with repeated attacks on the rival citadel which finally paid off in the 67th minute where a teasing cross inside the 6-yard box by Zaid Khan was strongly headed by Domnic Soares into the goal 1-1. In the closing

stages of the match Moira's goalkeeper Soma Korgaonkar brought a brilliant save to stop substitute Latesh Mandrekar free-kick entering the goal.

At the other end Candolim had a narrow escape when speedy Moira's striker Sanket Jotkar was brought down inside the 18-yard box by Candolim's defender which was surprisingly overlooked by referee Ritesh Parsekar and Assistant referee Milagres Fernandes to the dismay of Moira's team mates and supporters where their strong appeal failed to convince the referee.

However in the stoppage time this time referee Ritesh Parsekar was alert to give marching orders to Candolim's Pravin Rathod for pinning down Michael Dias just outside the penalty box.

In another match, Cortalim Villagers SWSC hold Goa Police 1-1 at Nagao Panchayat ground, on Monday. Shubham Shirwaikar gave lead to Goa Police in the 25th minute, while Ronil Azavedo equalised for Cortalim Villagers in the 42nd minute of the match.

U-17: Sirlim SC down Salcete FC

Sirlim Sports Club defeated Salcete FC 2-0 to collect full points in the GFA U-17 Division II League match played at SAG ground, Benaulim, on Monday. Jaylen Gomes and substitute Dallan Niasso scored a goal each for Sirlim SC.

TODAY'S SPORTS

Goa Professional League (Super League): FC Goa vs Sporting Clube de Goa, at Duler Stadium, Mapusa, 4.15 pm

GFA U-17 Division II League (South Zone) Group A: Snobs Football Academy vs Wilred Leisure SC, at Benaulim ground, 4.15 pm. Don Bosco Oratory, Fatorda, vs Panchwadi United SC, at Don Bosco Oratory ground, Fatorda, 4.15 pm

GFA Division I League (Group B): Clube Sao Miguel de Taleiga vs Cunolim Union, at Santa Cruz ground, 4.15 pm. Mandopa SC vs Santa Cruz Club of Cavellossim, at Navelim ground, 4.15 pm

Holy Cross Sports Club's 27th inter-village football: Arlem Youth Association vs Ugem Rising Club, Vhodlem Moll ground, Kakoda, at 4.30 pm

5th All Goa Sir Jawaharlal Da Costa inter-school football organised by United Sports Club of Seraulim at Seraulim panchayat ground, from 8.30 am.

33rd Arlem Rolling Trophy 2025: Fr Angelo YSC, Paroda, vs Curtorim Gymkhana, at Raia panchayat ground, 4.30 pm

Panjim Veterans soccer: Goa Police Veterans vs Varca Veterans, at Taleigao ground, 5 pm

Peddem Bomm Cup 2025 inter-village football (inaugural): Xetrapal Sports Club, Siolim, vs St Sebastian Sports Club, Mapusa, at Peddem Bomm ground, Anjuna, 4.30 pm

Calangute Association Cup inter-village football: Sinquerim SC vs Augustias SC, Pomburpa, at the Poriat ground, Calangute, at 4.30 pm

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Goa Velha SC pip Sai Avtar

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PANJIM: Goa Velha SC piped Sai Avtar, Anjuna, 1-0 to march ahead in the anticipated Calangute Association Cup 2025 inter-village football tournament played at the Poriat ground, Calangute, on Monday.

Lokesh Talwar netted the only goal of the match in the 51st minute

The match saw its share of on-field intensity. Supurva Kundaikar of Goa Velha SC was sent off after receiving two yellow cards, while Adur Mohammad of Sai Avtar SC was also cautioned.

For his match-winning performance, Lokesh was deservedly awarded the man-of-the-match.

Earlier, the football tournament was inaugurated in the presence of Joseph Sequeira, sarpanch of VP Calangute. Joining him at the ceremony were the president, general secretary, treasurer and executive members of the Calangute Association.

Blink FC crowned Ayurecia Cup champs

HERALD PIC



The champions along with former chairperson of GCCI Women's Wing Dr Jennifer Lewis, Adv Priyanka Kamat, national-level footballer Indira Ramani, consultant dermatologist Dr Anupama Kudchadkar, consultant orthopaedic surgeon and sports medicine specialist Dr Mahendra Kudchadkar and Dr Shilpa Silveira at the Don Bosco Futsal ground, Panjim, recently

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PANJIM: Blink FC clinched the Ayurecia Cup 2025 - United Women's Futsal Cup 2.0, organised by Dr Tina's Worldwide Research Ayurveda Foundation in collaboration with Allan Silveira's Charitable Foundation at the Don Bosco Futsal ground, Panjim, recently.

Blink FC clinched the title after an impressive run, earning the champions' trophy along with a cash prize of Rs 15,000. Hurricane FC

INDIVIDUAL AWARDS

Best goalkeeper: Astrid Pereira (Blink FC)

Best striker: Ginny (Hurricane FC)

Best defender: Remediana Noronha

Player of the tournament: Rizella Gia Almeida (Blink FC)

finished runners-up and were awarded a trophy and Rs 10,000 in prize money.

The tournament was organised to mark women's month and celebrated both sporting excellence and holistic health.

Speaking proudly, Dr Tina hailed Fr Marvin Vaz, described as a true Goan football enthusiast, as the driving force behind the

engagement.

Present at the tournament were former chairperson of GCCI Women's Wing Dr Jennifer Lewis as the chief guest, and Adv Priyanka Kamat and national-level footballer Indira Ramani as special invitees. The prize distribution ceremony featured Dr Anupama Kudchadkar, consultant dermatologist, as the chief guest, with Dr Mahendra Kudchadkar, consultant orthopaedic surgeon and sports medicine specialist and Dr Shilpa Silveira as special invitees.

Priority Titans win by 8 wickets, Madgaon Royal Warriors by 39 runs

Vetal Maharudra Cricketers, Tridents CC, Pinaki Panthers & Curtorim Warriors also register victories

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PANJIM: Priority Titans won by 8 wickets and Madgaon Royal Warriors by 39 runs in the Friendship Shield 2025 T20 cricket tournament played at SK ground, Malkarnem-Canacona, recently.

Batting first, Rangers scored 148/8 in 20 overs. (Sudhir Shet 31, Roshan Naik 24, Amod Borkar 24). For Priority Titans, Ved Mahambre (3/26) and Siddharth Ghanekar (2/25) took the wickets.

In reply, Priority Titans scored 153/2 in 12.2 overs. (Ved Mahambre 77, Pranav Biche 27). For Rangers, Vishal Kadam (1/33) and Siddhant Amonkar (1/42) were the best.

Ved Mahambre got the Shin player-of-the-match award from Abhishek Goyal. Vaibhav Naik got Cafe 108 Game Changer of the match.

In another match, batting first, Madgaon Royal Warriors scored 142/10 in 19.3 overs. (Damodar Patnekar 83). For SC United Divine Boys, Vishant Toraskar (4/16) and Pratik Desai (2/18).

SC United Divine Boys managed to score 103/10 in 16.4 overs. (Vishant Toraskar 24) topped scored. For Madgaon Royal Warriors, Shaunit Sawardekar (3/9), Siddesh Pandit (3/16) Damodar Patnekar got the Shin player-of-the-match award from Omkar Pai Khot.



Amogh Namshiker presents the player-of-the-match award to Manjunath Rathod

Shaunit and Siddesh got the Cafe 108 game changer of the match.

After the end of two rounds of league stage matches, Tridents CC, Madgaon Royal Warriors, Vetal Maharudra Cricketers and Curtorim Warriors are in joint lead with four points each.

In the earlier matches, Vetal Maharudra Cricketers won by 8 wickets.

Batting first, Pinaki Panthers scored 228/7 in 20 overs. Aryan Khutkar 92 runs with 10 fours and 6 sixes, Deval Karmali 26, Lavesh Velip 23.

For Vetal Maharudra Cricketers, Peter Fernandes (2/36), Raviraj Tilve (2/46) were the best.

Vetal Maharudra Cricketers opening batsman started the run chase with partnership of 142 runs in 10 overs. Monu Sharma scored 75 runs with 6 fours and 7 sixes, while

Tejesh Sawant scored 69 runs with 8 fours and 4 sixes. Then Peter Fernandes (48) and Raahil Naik (22) helped the team to successfully complete the run chase. Vetal Maharudra Cricketers scored 234/2 in 16.2 overs.

For Pinaki Panthers, Sagar Byadigi and Dattaraj Fondekar got one wicket each. Peter Fernandes got the Shin player-of-the-match award. Monu Sharma got the Cafe 108 game changer of the match.

Tridents CC and Pinaki Panthers registered victories. Tridents CC won by 8 wickets. Batting first, Young Stars of Moula scored 137/8 (Yash Gadekar 37, Anand Adhikari 25). For Tridents CC, Sujay Fadte (4/18), Siddhant Kunde (2/25). Tridents CC scored 138/2 in 16 overs (Darshan Karekar 61, Bansil Pandya 39).

For Young Stars of Moula, Yash Manjekar (2/25) was

the best. Sujay Fadte got the Shin player-of-the-match award from Sanjay Naik. Darshan Karekar got the Cafe 108 Game Changer of the match.

In the second match, Pinaki Panthers won by 2 runs. Batting first, Pinaki Panthers scored 195/7 (Vaibhav Velip 64, Deval Karmali 52). For Knight Archers, Aryan Bhagat (3/21) and Krishnakant Hegde (2/29).

Knight Archers scored 193/9 (Pravin Gawas 72, Vrushabh Kuncolienkar 27). For Pinaki Panthers, Uddhav Naik (3/24) and Lavesh Velip (2/43) took the wickets.

Vaibhav Velip got the Shin player-of-the-match award from Sarvesh Prabhugaoonkar. Uddhav Naik got the Cafe 108 Game Changer of the match.

Curtorim Warriors won by one wicket against United Divine Boys.

Curtorim Warriors won the toss and elected to field

first. Batting first, United Divine Boys lost first three wickets for 43 runs, out of which Manjunath Rathod from Curtorim Warriors got two wickets.

Siddharth Desai (76) and Rajdeep Fatarpekar (35) of United Divine Boys helped the team to put up 159/3 in 20 overs.

Chasing 160, Curtorim Warriors lost wickets at regular intervals and were 86/9 with contribution from Vaibhav (21) and Ditendra Naik (18). Rohit kholkar got the three wickets of top order batsman of Curtorim Warriors.

Needing 74 more to win, Manjunath Rathod (42) and Viraj Vaigankar (19) helped their team to win the match with partnership of 77 runs. Manjunath Rathod got the Shin player-of-the-match award, while Viraj Vaigankar secured the Cafe 108 game changer of the match.

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