

Punjab Kings seal top-two spot with thumping win over Mumbai Indians

Arya and Inglis forge 109-run stand for win; Suryakumar breaks Sachin's record



PTI, JAIPUR: Priyansh Arya displayed remarkable maturity for a rookie while Josh Inglis produced a momentum changing knock as Punjab Kings downed Mumbai Indians by seven wickets here on Monday to seal a spot in Qualifier 1 of the Indian Premier League.

IPL

Chasing 185, Punjab Kings could not accelerate in the powerplay but Inglis (73 off 42 balls) and Arya (62 off 35) more than made up for a sluggish start with a match-winning 109-run partnership off 59 balls to get their team home in 18.3 overs.

Captain Shreyas Iyer (26 not out off 16) hit a six off Trent Boult to complete a dominating win.

Punjab Kings bowlers had done well to limit Mumbai Indians to 184 for seven after putting them in to bat at a venue that has produced 200-plus first innings scores for majority of the season.

While both teams had already sealed their playoffs berth, the winner of this match was assured of a top-two finish in the standings, providing two chances to reach the final.

Punjab Kings, who have made the playoffs for the

first time since 2014, now travel back to their home ground in Mullanpur for the Qualifier 1 scheduled on May 29.

The Eliminator will be played at the same venue on the following day. The complete playoffs line-up will be decided after the contest between Royal Challengers Bengaluru and the already eliminated Lucknow Super Giants on Tuesday.

The architect of Punjab's win was the batting duo of Arya and Inglis. The highlight of Arya's third fifty of the season was his ability to gauge the situation and play sensibly when Inglis was going ballistic at the other end.

Arya's knock comprised sublime drives on the off-side while Inglis was more audacious, bringing scoops and reverse scoops into play.

Earlier, Suryakumar, who has been a picture of consistency this season, broke Sachin Tendulkar's 15-year-old record to become the highest run scorer for the Mumbai outfit in an IPL season.

The India T20 captain has amassed 640 runs thus far, bettering Tendulkar's 618 scored in the 2010 edition.

Arshdeep Singh swung the ball both ways in the opening over of the game, troubling Ryan Rickelton (27 off 20)

who managed to survive.

In the following over, Rickelton got a couple of boundaries from Kyle Jamieson, who was making his debut for Punjab Kings.

Rohit Sharma (24 off 21) was slow off the blocks before a straight hit over mid-off against Marco Jansen got him going.

Jansen, playing his final game of the season for Pun-

jab Kings, induced a mishit from Rickelton that had the opener caught at mid-on in the sixth over.

In the absence of Yuzvendra Chahal, left-arm spinner Harpreet Brar was up to the task again in the middle overs and got the prized wicket of Rohit, whose mishit was brilliantly pouched by Nehal Wadhara at long-on.

SCOREBOARD

Mumbai Indians: Ryan Rickelton c Iyer b Jansen 27, Rohit Sharma c Wadhara b Brar 24, Suryakumar Yadav lbw b Singh 57, Tilak Varma c Singh b Vyshak 1, Will Jacks c Stoinis b Vyshak 17, Hardik Pandya c Inglis b Jansen 26, Naman Dhir c Arya b Singh 20, Mitchell Santner not out 1. **Extras:** 11. **Total:** 184 for 7. **FOW:** 45-1, 81-2, 87-3, 106-4, 150-5, 181-6, 184-7. **Bowling:** Arshdeep Singh 4-0-28-2, Kyle Jamieson 4-0-42-0, Marco Jansen 4-0-34-2, Harpreet Brar 4-0-36-1, Vijaykumar Vyshak 4-0-44-2.

Punjab Kings: Priyansh Arya c Yadav b Santner 62, Prabhsimran Singh c Kumar b Bumrah 13, Josh Inglis lbw b Santner 73, Shreyas Iyer not out 26, Nehal Wadhara not out 2. **Extras:** 11. **Total:** 187 for 3. **FOW:** 34-1, 143-2, 171-3. **Bowling:** Trent Boult 3.3-0-36-0, Deepak Chahar 3-1-28-0, Jasprit Bumrah 4-0-23-1, Mitchell Santner 4-0-41-2, Hardik Pandya 2-0-29-0, Ashwani Kumar 1-0-16-0, Will Jacks 1-0-11-0

Man-of-the-Match: Josh Inglis

TODAY'S FIXTURE

Royal Challengers Bengaluru vs Lucknow Super Giants, at Ekana Cricket Stadium B ground, Ardonamau, at 7.30 pm

T20 World Cup is on my mind: KL Rahul

PTI, NEW DELHI: Senior India batter KL Rahul has set his sights on a return to India's T20 squad ahead of the 2026 World Cup at home, saying that time away from the format has allowed him to re-calibrate his white-ball game.

It's been close to three years since Rahul played a T20 for India. His last outing was India's semifinal defeat to England at the 2022 T20 World Cup in Australia.

"Yes, I want to get back in the T20 team and the World Cup is on my mind, but for now it's just trying to enjoy how I'm playing right now," Rahul told Sky Sports.

"I obviously had some time to think about my white-ball game, I was quite happy with my performances and where I was. But (there) was a time probably 15 months ago or 12 months ago where I realised that the game is slightly getting ahead or it's changing and becoming much more faster.

"...that it's become more about the team that hits more boundaries is winning the games more often than the team that's, I can't say playing smarter, but the team that doesn't hit as many boundaries is always finding themselves on the losing side."

Alcaraz wins opener, Swiatek makes strong start



AFP, PARIS: Carlos Alcaraz powered into the French Open second round on Monday with a resounding win to start his title defence, while three-time defending women's champion Iga Swiatek also eased through at Roland Garros.

Four-time Grand Slam champion Alcaraz struck 31 winners

in a 6-3, 6-4, 6-2 victory over Italian qualifier Giulio Zeppieri and will face Hungary's Fabian Marozsan in round two.

Alcaraz is now on an eight-match winning streak at the French Open and also took Olympic silver at Roland Garros last year, losing the final to Novak Djokovic. Alcaraz beat world number one Jannik Sinner in straight sets in the Rome final just over a week ago as the Italian returned from a three-month doping ban.

Taylor Fritz of the USA became the first high-profile casualty in the men's draw as the fourth seed lost 7-5, 3-6, 6-3, 6-1 to German Daniel Altmeyer.

Norwegian seventh seed Casper Ruud, a two-time French Open runner-up, got his bid for a first Grand Slam title under way with a 6-3, 6-4, 6-2 win over veteran Spanish qualifier Albert Ramos-Vinolas.

Swiatek entered the tournament on a near year-long trophy drought but showed signs of

form in a 6-3, 6-3 victory over Slovakia's Rebecca Sramkova.

Swiatek, who has dropped to fifth in the world rankings, will next face former US Open champion Emma Raducanu after the Briton defeated China's Wang Xinyu 7-5, 4-6, 6-3.

Raducanu is playing at the French Open for the first time since a second-round exit on her debut in 2022.

Four-time Grand Slam winner Naomi Osaka, who had a match point against Swiatek in the second round at Roland Garros a year ago, was knocked out by Spanish 10th seed Paula Badosa in a tense three-set battle.

Badosa, an Australian Open semi-finalist earlier this year, fought back from a set down to win 6-7 (1/7), 6-1, 6-4.

Osaka has still never got past the third round at Roland Garros.

Former Wimbledon winner Elena Rybakina battled past Argentinian qualifier Julia Riera 6-1, 4-6, 6-4, two days after lifting her first WTA title since April

Golden throw! Gurjar sets world record at Para GP

India's para athlete rewrites javelin history with 61.17m throw in Switzerland

PTI, NEW DELHI: India's Mahendra Gurjar set a world record in the men's javelin F42 category with a throw of 61.17m en route winning gold at the Nottwil World Para Athletics Grand Prix in Switzerland.

The 27-year-old bettered the previous world record of 59.19m set by Brazil's Roberto Floriani Edelson in 2022.

His world record throw of 61.17m came in the third attempt after 56.11m and 55.51m in his first two throws. His last three throws on Sunday measured 58.54m, 57.25m and 58.07m.

F42 is for field athletes with movement moderately affected in one leg.

Double Paralympics gold medalist and world record holder Sumit Antil also took the top spot in the men's javelin F64 event with a 72.35m effort.

F64 is for field athletes with moderately affected movement in one or both legs or the absence of limbs. Gurjar, however, compet-



ed in a combined event with para athletes of F40, F57, F63 and F64 taking part.

"It was a combined event with para athletes of other classifications competing in the long jump T42 event with an effort of 5.59m on May 23.

"Besides javelin, we have started long jump also. It's his (Gurjar's) first competition in long jump T42 and he will be the Asia number one after this gold," Malhi said.

a combined event," he added.

In fact, it was Gurjar's second gold of the Grand Prix event as he has also finished on top of podium in the long jump T42 event with an effort of 5.59m on May 23.

"Besides javelin, we have started long jump also. It's his (Gurjar's) first competition in long jump T42 and he will be the Asia number one after this gold," Malhi said.

Sanju, Anshul Gill advance to semi-finals

PTI, BANGKOK: National silver medalists Sanju and Anshul Gill sealed convincing wins to move into the semifinals as Indian boxers continued their solid run at the 4th Thailand Open International Boxing Tournament on Monday.

THAILAND OPEN INT'L BOXING

India has fielded a 19-member strong contingent in the prestigious boxing tournament, held under the aegis of World Boxing-backed Asian Boxing, that has attracted talented boxers from powerhouses like China, Kazakhstan, Uzbekistan, South Korea, and host Thailand.

Competing in the women's 60 kg category, Sanju notched her second straight win of the tournament with a clean 5-0 verdict over Indonesia's Reka Mariana Kasibulan in the quarterfinal bout.

In the men's 90+ kg division, Anshul Gill delivered a strong performance against Kazakhstan's Daniyal Saparbay, also winning by unanimous decision.

Tejaswini wins gold in women's 25m pistol as India top medals tally

PTI, SUHL (GERMANY): In a memorable show, India's Tejaswini claimed the gold medal in the women's 25m pistol event to help the country pip China and finish on top of the standings in the ISSF Junior World Cup here on Monday.

This was the 20-year-old from Haryana's first individual World Cup medal, India's 11th of the campaign and their third gold, to go with four silver and bronze each.

China also won three gold but have just an additional bronze in their tally.

The Indian shot 31 in the final as Alina Nestsiarovich of the Individual Neutral Athletes (AIN) shot 29 for silver and Hungary's Miriam Jakó, 23, for the bronze medal.

Tejaswini, who began the day 24th on the grid, after day one of qualification had yielded 282 out of a possible 300 points.

In the second rapid-fire round on Monday, she shot a strong 293, which gave her a total of 575 and fourth place overall in the



ISSF JUNIOR WORLD CUP

50-shot field.

She would be the only Indian among four participants to make the top-eight, as Riya Shirish Thatte, the best-placed overnight, shot a 92 in her final rapid-fire series to total 569, thereby missing out by four points, while Miriam, a double junior European Champion, took the eighth spot.

India have now topped four of the last five ISSF Junior competitions including the previous combined World Cup in Suhl in 2023 and the combined Junior World Championships in Lima, Peru last year.

sportspopup

Priyank Panchal retires from all forms of cricket

AHMEDABAD: Gujarat's former captain Priyank Panchal, who has also led India A in the past and featured in the senior squad, has announced his retirement from all forms of cricket, the Gujarat Cricket Association said on Monday. The 35-year-old Panchal played 127 First-Class games and amassed 8,856 runs at 45.18 with 29 centuries and 34 fifties. The right-handed opening batter also played 97 List A matches, scoring 3,672 runs at 40.80 with eight tons and 21 fifties while in 59 T20s, he made 1,522 runs at 28.71 with nine half-centuries. Panchal has been a part of the Indian Test team on a couple of occasions, including being called as a replacement for an injured Rohit Sharma. In the home Test series against England in 2021, Panchal was named among reserve openers alongside Abhimanyu Easwaran.

India beat Uruguay 3-2 in Four Nations Junior Women's Hockey

ROSARIO (Argentina): Kanika Siwach scored a brace as the Indian junior women's hockey team secured a hard-fought 3-2 win over Uruguay in its second match of the Four Nations Tournament here. Apart from Kanika (46, 50), Sonam (21) was on target for India, while Milagros Seigal (3') and Agustina Mari (24') scored for Uruguay in the match here on Sunday. Uruguay took an early lead in the third minute through Seigal's penalty corner. Sonam pulled India level in the second quarter, converting a penalty corner in the 21st minute. But Uruguay regained the lead soon after, with Mari scoring off another penalty corner. India bounced back in the final quarter as Kanika netted twice -- first off a penalty corner, and then with a field goal -- to seal the victory. India will next take on hosts Argentina on Tuesday.

AIU suspends quartermiler Sneha for failed dope test

NEW DELHI: Quartermiler Sneha Kollari, a member of the 4x400m women's relay squad, has been provisionally suspended by the Athletics Integrity Unit (AIU) after returning positive for stanazolol, a day after being dropped from the Indian contingent for the Asian Championships in Gumi, South Korea. Adding to India's embarrassment was long distance runner Varsha Tekam, who has also been suspended provisionally for evading a dope test by the AIU. "The AIU has provisionally suspended Sneha Kollari (India) for the Presence/Use of a Prohibited Substance (Stanozolol)," the anti-doping watchdog said. Stanazolol is a performance enhancing anabolic steroid. According to AIU, Varsha was suspended for "evading, refusing or failing to submit to sample collection by an athlete" under Article 2.3. Varsha had finished second in Pune Half Marathon last year with a time of 1:26.22 seconds.

Erik ten Hag joins Bayer Leverkusen as replacement for Xabi Alonso

LEVERKUSEN (Germany): Bayer Leverkusen has appointed former Manchester United coach Erik ten Hag as Xabi Alonso's replacement. The Bundesliga club said Monday that the 55-year-old Ten Hag had signed a contract through 2027. He inherits a team that finished second in the Bundesliga and reached the German Cup semifinals this season. Leverkusen won both competitions under Alonso the year before and became the first unbeaten Bundesliga champion ever. Alonso left to take over as Real Madrid coach. Ten Hag is "an experienced coach with impressive sporting successes," Leverkusen sporting director Simon Rolfes said in a statement.

Union Saint-Gilloise end 90-year Belgian title drought

FOREST: Union Saint-Gilloise ended a 90-year wait as they clinched their 12th Belgian league title on Sunday with a 3-1 final-round home victory over Gent. They finished three points clear of defending champions Club Brugge, held to a 1-1 draw by visiting Antwerp, at the close of the the playoff between the six best teams from the regular season. USG qualify directly for the group stage of next season's Champions League when they will have to stage matches away from the Joseph Marien Stadium, their home since 1919. The 9,000-seat stadium's Art Deco-style facade may have earned it a place on the Brussels heritage list, but the ground perched on the wooded hills of Forest, one of the 19 municipalities of the Belgian capital, does not meet UEFA standards.

Carty century sets up West Indies' series-levelling win against Ireland

LONDON: Keacy Carty's blistering hundred paved the way for West Indies' crushing win over Ireland in Dublin on Sunday as a three-match one-day international series ended in a 1-1 draw. West Indies cruised to a 197-run victory on the Duckworth-Lewis-Stern method for rain-affected matches after piling up 385-7 in their full 50 overs. Carty smashed 170 from 142 balls -- the joint-sixth highest score in ODIs for the West Indies -- with more than a hundred of his runs coming in boundaries. He received good support from West Indies captain Shai Hope (75) and Justin Greaves (50). Every Ireland bowler came in for plenty of punishment, with Barry McCarthy claiming an unwanted record while conceding exactly 100 runs from his 10 overs. That represented the most runs conceded in an ODI innings for Ireland, surpassing Peter Connell's record of 95. Ireland were set a revised target of 363 from 46 overs after a rain delay, but were never in the hunt after Andy Balbirnie, who made a hundred in the series opener, had his off-stump uprooted by fast bowler Jayden Seales in the second over. Seales finished with figures of 3-26 as Ireland were dismissed for 165 in 29.5 overs.

Stuttgart survive late Bielefeld scare to win German Cup

BERLIN: Stuttgart withstood a late fightback from underdogs Arminia Bielefeld to claim the German Cup in Berlin on Saturday, holding on for a 4-2 victory despite conceding twice in the final 10 minutes. Goals from Nick Woltemade, Enzo Millot and Deniz Undav had Stuttgart three up inside 28 minutes and cruising against Bielefeld, just the fourth third division side to make the final in the competition's 82-year history. Millot added a second with 66 minutes and Stuttgart looked to have the job done, but a Julian Kania strike and a Joshua Vagnoman own goal with the clock ticking down made Stuttgart sweat. They however held on to claim their fourth German Cup and their first since 1997, when the then Joachim Loew-coached side again triumphed against third-flight opponents Energie Cottbus. The win means Stuttgart, who finished ninth in the regular season, will join Freiburg in next season's Europa League. The trophy is also just rewards for Stuttgart coach Sebastian Hoernes, who took over with the club sitting dead last in April 2023 before guiding them to second place and a return to the Champions League last season.