

Shreyas takes Punjab Kings into IPL final

PTI



Punjab Kings' batter Shreyas Iyer plays a shot during the Indian Premier League Qualifier 2 match against Mumbai Indians, at the Narendra Modi Stadium, in Ahmedabad, on Sunday

To meet four-time finalists Royal Challengers Bengaluru on Tuesday

PTI, AHMEDABAD: Punjab Kings led by an inspirational 41-ball-87 not out from skipper Shreyas Iyer knocked out five-time champions Mumbai Indians by five wickets in the Qualifier 2 to enter the final as Indian Premier League in its 18th season will get a new champion.

Punjab Kings, who last played a final in 2014, will meet four-time finalists Royal Challengers Bengaluru on Tuesday, June 3.

Chasing a target of 204, Josh Inglis (38 off 21 balls) took 20 off Jasprit Bumrah to set the chase as skipper Iyer and Nehal Wadhwa (48 off 29 balls) added 84 in 7.5 overs to take the team closer to the target. Iyer completed the job with an over to spare. His innings had as many as eight sixes.

Earlier, a collective batting performance led by Suryakumar Yadav and Tilak Varma took Mumbai Indians to a par 203 for six in a rain-delayed contest.

While no overs were lost as the contest got underway nearly two hours and 15 minutes after the scheduled start time, it was Mumbai Indians who emerged their noses slightly ahead after posting a competitive total.

Jonny Bairstow (38), Tilak Varma (44) and Surya-

kumar Yadav (44) kept Mumbai on track for a big total, while Naman Dhir's late exploits (18-ball 33) pushed them past the 200-run mark.

Unlike the last game, Rohit Sharma (4) failed to capitalise on an early reprieve when Azmatullah Omarzai (2/43) dropped a tough chance running behind from short third off Kyle Jamieson (1/30) in the third over. However, in the next over, Rohit failed to execute his trademark pull shot as he hit one straight to Vyshak Vijaykumar (1/30) at deep square leg off Marcus Stoinis.

Unfazed by the early blow, MI motored on to reach a scoring rate of 10

runs an over which they maintained through the course of the innings. Tilak smacked his second ball down the ground for a six while Bairstow unleashed powerful strokes on either side of the wickets as they added 51 runs for the second wicket in a little under six overs to stage a robust recovery.

Punjab bowlers realised taking pace off the ball was a trick that they could work with especially the slower short balls that the lanky Jamieson delivered well but the batters' had enough class to counter that.

MI scored 65/1 in the powerplay with Bairstow going after Omarzai in the sixth over to collect 15 runs

but his charge ended in the next over when Vijaykumar had the MI opener caught behind off a scoop shot which went straight to the wicketkeeper Josh Inglis.

Suryakumar's arrival at the crease saw Punjab immediately summoning Yuzvendra Chahal (1/39) but the move did not work until the final over of the leg-spinner.

Suryakumar (44 off 26 balls, 4x4s, 3x6s) swept Chahal for a six and hit a glorious down the ground boundary to keep the pressure on the leg-spinner, until he fell on the penultimate ball of the spinner's spell.

The right-hander landed his front foot to sweep but this time Suryakumar found Nehal Wadhwa at deep midwicket which brought an end to his third-wicket stand with Tilak which produced 72 runs.

Two balls later, Tilak, who did a fine job being promoted at No 3 hitting a couple of sixes and fours to make 44 off 29 balls, perished when a mistimed stroke off Jamieson reached Priyansh Arya at mid-off.

With Suryakumar and Tilak dismissed in quick succession, MI skipper Hardik Pandya (15 off 12 balls) could not really force the pace before top-edging Omarzai.

SCOREBOARD

Mumbai Indians: Rohit Sharma c Vyshak b Stoinis 8, Jonny Bairstow c Inglis b Vyshak 38, Tilak Varma c Arya b Jamieson 44, Suryakumar Yadav c Wadhwa b Chahal 44, *Hardik Pandya c Inglis b Omarzai 15, Naman Dhir c Stoinis b Omarzai 37, Raj Bawa not out 8, Mitchell Santner not out 0. **Extras:** 9. **Total:** 203-6. **Fall of wickets:** 19-1, 70-2, 142-3, 142-4, 180-5, 197-6. **Bowling:** Arshdeep Singh 4-0-44-0, Kyle Jamieson 4-0-30-1, Marcus Stoinis 1-0-14-1, Azmatullah Omarzai 4-0-43-2, Vijaykumar Vyshak 3-0-30-1, Yuzvendra Chahal 4-0-39-1.

Punjab Kings: Priyansh Arya c Pandya b Kumar 20, Prabh-simran Singh c Topley b Boult 6, Josh Inglis b Pandya 38, *Shreyas Iyer not out 87, Nehal Wadhwa c Santner b Kumar 48, Shashank Singh run out (Pandya) 2, Marcus Stoinis not out 2. **Extras:** 3. **Total:** 207-5. **Fall of wickets:** 13-1, 55-2, 72-3, 156-4, 169-5. **Bowling:** Trent Boult 4-0-38-1, Reece Topley 3-0-40-0, Jasprit Bumrah 4-0-40-0, Ashwani Kumar 4-0-54-2, Mitchell Santner 2-0-15-0, *Hardik Pandya 2-0-19-1. **Man-of-the-match:** Shreyas Iyer

Sabalenka powers, Swiatek battles into quarters

AFP, PARIS: World No. 1 Aryna Sabalenka reached her 10th consecutive Grand Slam quarter-final on Sunday with a straight-sets win over Amanda Anisimova in the French Open fourth round.

The Belarusian battled through a tight opening set against the American 16th seed and then needed eight match points to clinch a 7-5, 6-3 victory on Court Suzanne Lenglen.

Sabalenka, who was the pre-tournament favourite, will face Olympic champion Zheng Qinwen in the last eight after the Chinese star edged past Liudmila Samsonova. Zheng beat Sabalenka for the first time in their seven meetings in the Italian Open quarter-finals in the build-up to Roland Garros.

Anisimova holds a 5-3 winning record over Sabalenka but has now lost their last two matches.

Triple-defending Roland Garros champion Iga Swiatek battled into the quarter-finals overcoming a bruising first set loss to eventually defeat former Wimbledon winner Elena Rybakina.

The four-time holder of the Coupe Suzanne Lenglen displayed great resilience to win 1-6, 6-3, 7-5 in two hours

and 29 minutes on Court Philippe Chatrier.

Swiatek will next face Elina Svitolina for a spot in the semi-final, after the Ukrainian earlier saved three match points to eliminate last year's runner-up Jasmine Paolini.

Swiatek is now on a 25-match

BOPANNA AND YUKI KNOCKED OUT

PTI, PARIS: India's campaign ended at the French Open with the third round defeats of Rohan Bopanna and Yuki Bhambri with their respective partners in the men's doubles event, here Sunday. Bopanna and his Czech partner Adam Pavlasek fought tooth and nail before falling 2-6 6-7(5) to second seeds Harri Heliovaara and Henry Patten, ranked three and four in the world, respectively. Bhambri and

his American partner Robert Galaway lost 4-6 4-6 to ninth seeds Christian Harrison and Evan King from the United States.

In the junior event, India's exciting prospect for future Manas Dhamne bowed out of the boys singles after losing 5-7 3-6 to fellow American qualifier Ronit Karki. Hitesh Chauhan also qualified for the boys singles and is drawn to meet Sweden's Ludvig Fredrik Hede.

winning streak at the French Open and boasts a remarkable 39-2 win-loss record in the tournament. Svitolina made the quarter-finals for the fifth time with a comeback 4-6, 7-6 (8/6), 6-1 win over last year's runner-up Paolini,

she faces Swiatek.

Olympic champion Zheng Qinwen secured a quarter-final place with a hard-fought three-set victory over 19th-seeded Russian Liudmila Samsonova. The Chinese eighth seed extended her winning streak at Roland Garros to 10 matches, winning 7-6 (7/5), 1-6, 6-3 on Court Suzanne Lenglen.

Zheng will continue her bid for a maiden Grand Slam title against either world number one Aryna Sabalenka or American 16th seed Amanda Anisimova.

Later on Sunday, Alcaraz continues his title defence against big-hitting American Ben Shelton on Court Philippe Chatrier.

The winner will take on Tommy Paul in the quarter-finals, after the American 12th seed saw off Australia's Alexei Popyrin 6-3, 6-3, 6-3.

Enrique's young side PSG outclass Inter Milan to win first Champions League title

Desire Doue scores twice in an astonishing 5-0 victory

AFP, MUNICH: Paris Saint-Germain won the Champions League for the first time as Luis Enrique's brilliant young side outclassed Inter Milan on Saturday in the most one-sided final ever with teenager Desire Doue scoring twice in an astonishing 5-0 victory.

Doue supplied the pass for Achraf Hakimi to give PSG an early lead and the 19-year-old went from provider to finisher as his deflected shot doubled the advantage in the 20th minute.

Doue scored again just after the hour mark, ending any doubt about the outcome before Khvicha Kvaratskhelia ran away to get the fourth and substitute Senny Mayulu, another teenager, made it five.

Inter were simply no match for the French club, who recorded the biggest victory by any team in the final in the 70-year history of the European Cup and Champions League.

The triumph for the Parisians follows over a decade of huge investment from their Qatari owners, and comes five years after they lost to Bayern Munich in their only previous final appearance.

Already domestic league and cup double winners, they are just the second French winners of European football's biggest prize -- Marseille were the first in 1993, when they beat AC Milan in a final also played in Munich.

It is also a second Champions League for PSG coach Luis Enrique, who won with Lionel Messi's Barcelona in

PTI



Paris Saint-Germain's Marquinhos holds up the trophy as he celebrates with his teammates after winning the Champions League final football match against Inter Milan at the Allianz Arena in Munich, Germany

2015. This youthful PSG side is arguably the best the competition has seen since, one that has been intelligently pieced together over the last two years and fully unleashed this season following the departure of Kylian Mbappe.

For a bewildered Inter, there was to be no first Champions League title since 2010 as they failed to add to their three previous triumphs in the competition. Simone Inzaghi's side have got to the final twice in three seasons and lost both, and this defeat comes a week after they missed out on the Serie A title to Napoli.

They end the campaign trophyless, and their ageing side will need to be rebuilt.

PSG gave their opponents no chance from the off on a sweaty night at the Allianz Arena, going ahead in the 12th minute.

It was a glorious goal, Vitinha threading a pass to Doue who squared for Hakimi to finish before refusing to celebrate against his former club.

It was also the earliest goal in a Champions League final since 2019, and recent history was firmly against Inter. The last final in which both teams scored was in 2018, while the last team to concede first but still win were Real Madrid in 2014.

But soon Inter were further behind with a goal from a counterattack.

William Pacheco prevented Inter from winning a cor-

ner, his clearance falling to Kvaratskhelia, who released Ousmane Dembele. His pass found Doue and the youngster, preferred in

the starting line-up to Bradley Barcola, fired home via a deflection off Federico Dimarco. Inter only really came close to scoring in

the first half when Marcus Thuram headed wide at a corner, but things got worse after the break.

Their back line was in disarray as PSG made it 3-0 on 63 minutes, Dembele's flick releasing Vitinha before he set up Doue to beat goalkeeper Yann Sommer.

Doue came off shortly after to rapturous applause, but his teammates were far from done.

Dembele sent Kvaratskhelia away to make it 4-0 in the 73rd minute, and the 19-year-old Mayulu played a one-two with Barcola before lashing in the fifth on 86 minutes.

That rounded off an incredible night, with PSG becoming the first team to score five goals in the final since Benfica in 1962.

RESULT

Paris Saint-Germain 5 (Hakimi 12, Doue 20, 63, Kvaratskhelia 73, Mayulu 86) Inter Milan 0

COACH TALK

“On my first day at the PSG campus, my French was even worse than it is today. But I said the ultimate goal for me as a coach was to fill the trophy cabinet. The only trophy missing was Champions League. And we've ticked that box. We were ambitious, and we did it. It's in the bag and it's coming home with us. It was emotional. It's beautiful that the supporters thought about me and my family. But I don't need to win the Champions League or even a game to think about my daughter. She's always with me. She's supporting me, and our family, and I feel her presence

– Luis Enrique, Paris Saint-Germain coach

“PSG absolutely deserved to win this match. We are very disappointed. As a coach I am proud of our campaign, but we're not satisfied with the final game. PSG outplayed us. I thanked the players for what they did this season. We won no silverware, but I'm proud

– Simone Inzaghi, Inter Milan coach

shorttakes

Gukesh gets even with Carlsen, beats World No.1 in Norway Chess

STAVANGER: Reigning world champion D Gukesh finally got his revenge on Magnus Carlsen, defeating the No.1 player for the first time in a classical game in Round 6 of Norway Chess, here, on Sunday. Days after Carlsen, the five-time world champion, inflicted a huge blow to Gukesh's chances in the opening round of the tournament, the world champion, who turned 19 only a few days back, struck back, catching the Norwegian by surprise just when it seemed he was on the verge of losing the game to earn three points. The Indian jumped to third spot with 8.5 points and now trails the world No.1 Gukesh and American Fabiano Caruana by just one point. It was a huge comeback for Gukesh, who had looked out of sorts in the opening game against Carlsen. He seemed to be losing Sunday's game as well before he turned things around to win his maiden Classical chess contest in 62 moves and over four hours of nerve-wracking chess. While Gukesh refused to speak to the media, his Polish coach Grzegorz Gajewski said the win will give the teenager a huge pump going deeper into the tournament and in future battles with the Norwegian.

Boxing: Deepak, Naman clinch gold, India finish with 8 medals at Thailand Open

BANGKOK: Deepak and Naman Tanwar won gold medals in their respective categories as Indian boxers ended their campaign at the Thailand Open 2025 with eight medals. Deepak clinched the gold with a 5:0 win over Abdurakhimov Javokhir of Uzbekistan in the 75 kg category while Naman got the better of China's Han Xuezheng 4:1 in the 90kg final. In the women's 80+kg final, Kiran went down 2:3 against Kazakhstan's Yeldana Talipova in a keenly fought bout to settle for a silver. Also returning home with bronze medals are Tamanna (51kg), Priya (57kg), Sanju (60kg), Saneh (70kg) and Lalfakmawii Ralte (80kg) who came up with strong performances to finish on the podium. Indian boxers will be gearing up for the second leg at the end of this month in Kazakhstan. The World Boxing Cup Finals will be played in New Delhi later this year.

Disappointing bowling effort from Shardul, Reddy as Lions reach 527/7

CANTERBURY: Shardul Thakur and Nitish Kumar Reddy fighting for the lone seamer all-rounder's slot in the Test team were way below par against a dogged England Lions batting unit that ended the third day's play at 527 for 7 with the opening four-day game against India. A meandering towards a tame draw. Seamer Mukesh Kumar's (3/75 in 21 overs) morning spell with the old Dukes was the only highlight in an otherwise mediocre bowling effort from India here on Sunday. It lacked necessary penetration required to make inroads on a docile track and Abhimanyu Easwaran's captaincy just like his batting left a lot to be desired. Brief scores: India A: 1st Innings 557. England Lions: 1st Innings 527/7 in 124 overs (Tom Haines 171, Max Holden 101, Dan Mousley 113, Mukesh Kumar 3/75).

Indian Jrs defeats Uruguay 3-1 in shoot-out at Women's Four Nations Hockey Tournament

NEW DELHI: India secured a 3-1 win in the shootout against Uruguay after regulation time ended with a 2-2 draw in their fifth fixture of the junior women's Four Nations Hockey Tournament in Rosario, Argentina. Vice-captain Hina (10') and Lalrinpui (24') put India in control early in the match, while Geeta, Kanika, and Lalthantluagi converted their chances in the shoot-out to seal the victory. Ines de Posadas pulled one back in the 54th minute before Milagros Seigal struck three minutes later to level the score at 2-2. In the shootout, India held their composure as Geeta, Kanika, and Lalthantluagi scored three consecutive goals, while Uruguay were restricted to just one conversion. India will be in action against hosts Argentina on Sunday.

Hockey coach Pratima, mentor to many international players, dies in Ranchi

RANCHI: Hockey coach Pratima Barwa, who groomed a number of international players including Indian Women's Hockey Team captain Salima Tete, died at a Ranchi hospital on Sunday, officials said. Pratima not only mentored Tete but a number of international players from Jharkhand including Beauty Dungdung and Sangita Kumari. She passed away at a private hospital in Ranchi where she had been admitted following a paralytic attack and was on ventilator support at the time of her passing. Hockey India General Secretary Bhola Nath Singh also mourned her loss, stating, "This is not just the passing of a coach, but the end of an era in Jharkhand's hockey legacy. Her contribution to the game, especially through players like Salima Tete and many others, is immeasurable."

Rinku Singh to get engaged to Samajwadi Party MP Priya Saroj on June 8

JAUNPUR (UP): India cricketer Rinku Singh will get engaged to Samajwadi Party MP Priya Saroj on June 8 in Lucknow, politician's father Toofani Saroj confirmed on Sunday. The wedding is slated for November 18 this year. It will be a traditional affair at the Hotel Taj in Varanasi. Invitations are expected to be extended to prominent personalities from the world of cricket, Bollywood, business, and politics. Rinku, 27, has played 2 ODIs and 33 T20Is for India in last couple of years and is an important member of IPL franchise Kolkata Knight Riders.

Manchester United sign Brazil forward Matheus Cunha from Wolves

LONDON: Manchester United signed Brazil forward Matheus Cunha from Wolves in a deal worth a reported £62.5 million (\$83 million) on Sunday. Cunha is expected to pen a five-year contract with the Old Trafford club, who have the option of extending the deal by a further 12 months. "Manchester United has reached agreement with Wolverhampton Wanderers for the signing of Matheus Cunha," a United statement said. "Everyone at Manchester United looks forward to welcoming Matheus to Old Trafford." The 26-year-old was in Manchester over the weekend to put the finishing touches to his move, which is subject to a visa and registration. Cunha, who has won 13 caps for Brazil, scored 18 goals in all competitions for Wolves this season, winning the club's player of the year award.

Liverpool keeper Kelleher set to join Brentford

LONDON: Liverpool goalkeeper Caoimhin Kelleher is set to sign for Brentford in a deal that could rise to £18 million (\$24 million), according to reports on Sunday. Kelleher was backup to Liverpool's first-choice keeper Alisson Becker during their Premier League title-winning campaign this season. Although the Ireland international featured 10 times in the league when Alisson was injured, he was keen to leave Anfield in search of regular first-team action. Brentford have agreed a reported initial fee of £12.5 million for Kelleher that can rise to £18 million if performance-related requirements are met.