

FC Goa enter final with 3-1 win over Mohun Bagan SG

PTI, BHUBANESWAR: FC Goa breezed into the Kalinga Super Cup summit clash with a crushing 3-1 win over Mohun Bagan SG, riding on second-half goals from Iker Guarrotxena and Borja Herrera, here Wednesday.

KALINGA SUPER CUP

The Gaurs, champions in 2019, will face the winners of the clash between Mumbai City FC and Jamshedpur FC in Saturday's final.

Goals from Brison Fernandes (20'), Guarrotxena (51'), and Herrera (58') sealed a comfortable victory for Manolo Marquez's side over Bastab Roy's young guns.

In a blistering start, Goa constantly pressured Mohun Bagan's defence on the back foot, their high pressing and high-speed game leaving the Mariners' midfield constantly out of position and disoriented.

To add to that, Goa also brought unpredictability to their set-piece routines, and in the 20th minute, Fernandes capitalised on one to score the opener.

From an improvised corner routine, Herrera curled a perfect cross into the danger zone, for Brison to slightly glance into the far corner.

Goa's lead didn't last too long, and Mohun Bagan were level within two minutes.

Ashique Kurunian

MATCH TAKEAWAYS

■ **Brison Fernandes opened the scoring in the 20th minute from a smartly worked corner delivered by Borja Herrera**

■ **Suhail Bhat equalised two minutes later, tapping in Ashique Kurunian's low cross after a brilliant run down the left**

■ **Iker Guarrotxena converted a penalty in the**

51st minute, awarded after Dejan Drazic was fouled by Dheeraj Singh

■ **Borja Herrera scored directly from a corner in the 58th minute, catching the goalkeeper off guard to make it 3-1**

■ **Goa's defence made a crucial goal-line block late in the match, denying Salahudheen after he rounded the keeper**

picked up a pass on the byline and, with a devastating turn of pace and skill, left the marking defender Boris Singh in his wake before unleashing a low fizzing cross into the

six-yard area.

Suhail Bhat merely had to tap it in to create a carbon copy of his quarter-final goal against Kerala Blasters.

The Gaurs came out with

more energy, desire, and verve in the second half, and within a minute, Brison's driving midfield run and pass split the midfield, delivering a perfect opportunity for Dejan Drazic on the left side of the box.

The Serbian pulled his shot wide. Mohun Bagan's defence had gone absent, and it portended things to come.

In the 50th, while running to a long ball in the same channel, unmarked Drazic was brought down by a reckless Dheeraj Singh challenge.

The referee duly pointed to the spot, and Guarrotxena made no mistake, sending the goalkeeper the wrong way to score.

Dheeraj's evening got

worse seven minutes later, when he was badly caught under a Herrera corner, which flew over him and straight into the net.

The Spaniard had threatened constantly with his curling corners and on this occasion found the perfect blend of curl and flight to outwit the goalkeeper.

The Mariners looked out of it, and yet they had a chance to reduce the deficit and create a fight when Salahudheen ran clear from a Nuno Reis long ball, controlled it, went around the goalkeeper, and found himself facing an open net.

He took a touch too many and pulled the trigger too late, allowing Goa's scrambling defence to issue a heroic block on the line.

Guardian Angel SC cruise into quarters

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RAIA: Guardian Angel Sports Club, Raia, advanced to the quarterfinals of the 27th Holy Cross inter-village football tournament with a 2-0 win over St Sebastian SC, Mapusa, at Vodlemoll Kakoda. Dominating early

possession, Guardian Angel created several chances before Reagon Costa broke the deadlock in the 24th minute with a sharp finish inside the box. St Sebastian responded with attacking efforts, but failed to hit the target. In the second half, Velroy sealed the result in the 61st minute.

TODAY'S SPORTS

Goa Professional League (Super League): Dempo SC vs Sporting Clube de Goa, Dempo Sports Academy ground, Ella; Sesa FA vs FC Goa, at Sirsaim ground; Clube de Salgaocar vs Geno FC, Duler Stadium, Mapusa. All matches at 4.15 pm

GFA U-17 Division II League (South Zone) Group A: Panchwadi United SC vs Salcete SC, Betalbatim ground, at 4.15 pm. Group B: UC Seraluim vs CAC Cansaulim, at Cansaulim ground, at 4.15 pm

Silver Jubilee Soccer Cup: Dicarpale Boys vs Snows Boys Raia, at Dicarpale ground, at 4.30 pm

18th Rebello Pandal Football tournament: Ambaulim-Quepem Boys vs Carmel Boys, Curtorim, at St Rita Church ground, Maina-Curtorim, at 4.45 pm

33rd St Rock super soccer: Navelim SC vs Cuncolim Union, at St Rock Calata-Majorda ground, at 4.30 pm

Antonio Colaco Memorial football: SCC Lotoulim vs Margao Sports Club, at Rosary Church ground, Navelim, 4.30 pm

Calangute Association Cup 2025: Dunes Sports Club vs Chandor Club, at Poriat ground, Calangute, at 4.30 pm

5th all-Goa Sir Jawaharlal Da Costa inter-school football tournament: at Seraluim Panchayat ground, 9 am

Sporting sail past Goa Police

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OLD GOA: Sporting Clube de Goa defeated Goa Police 8-2 in the Goa Professional League Super League, at the Ella ground, on Wednesday.

The Flaming Oranje made a blistering start, drawing first blood in the 7th minute when Doyal Alves latched onto a precise cross from Leran Dias on the right flank and calmly slotted it home.

Goa Police, however, regrouped and clawed their way back into the contest. Shubham Shirwaikar netted the equaliser in the 27th minute before Rui Noronha gave his side a surprise lead in the 38th minute, firing in a powerful shot

to complete the turnaround heading into the break.

Sporting Clube came out with renewed intent in the second half and wasted little time restoring parity. Selwyn Miranda made it 2-2 with a stunning effort, cutting

GOA PRO LEAGUE SUPER LEAGUE

in from the left and curling the ball past the keeper into the far post.

Moments later, Vikram Venkatachalam danced his way into the box and rifled in a solo effort to restore SC Goa's advantage.

The floodgates opened thereafter. Joyson Gauncar got on the scoresheet in the 60th minute,

before Doyal Alves bagged his second, tapping in from close range after a pinpoint cross from Deeshank Kunkalikar on the left.

Substitute Sushil then joined the party, making it 6-2 with a first-time finish off a cross from the right flank.

Doyal turned provider in the 89th minute, threading a low ball into the path of Naocha Singh, who tapped in to make it seven.

But the best was saved for last. In the dying moments, Joyson Gauncar released Doyal with a through ball that sliced open the Police defense. The striker rounded the goalkeeper and coolly finished to complete his hat-trick and cap off a dominant 8-2 victory for Sporting Clube de Goa.

Dragon FC Margao storm into semis

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RAIA: Dragon FC Margao came from behind to edge Rosary Boys Zorivado, 5-3, via a tense tie-breaker, booking a place in the semi-finals of the 18th Rebello Pandal football tournament, held at St Rita Church ground, Maina-Curtorim, on Wednesday.

The closely fought encounter ended 2-2 in regulation time. Veron Fernandes and Prince Figueredo were on target for



Velito Miranda receives man-of-the-match award from Edwin Sequeira

Rosary Boys, while Rayman Fernandes and Velito Miranda netted for Dragon FC to keep their hopes alive.

In the ensuing penalty shootout, Dragon FC held their nerve with Richard, Rayman Fernandes, and Velito Miranda successfully converting their spot-kicks. For

Rosary Boys, only Munna managed to score from the spot.

Velito Miranda of Dragon FC Margao was awarded man-of-the-match presented by Edwin Sequeira.

Bandodkar T20: Chowgule to face Geno SC in final

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PANJIM: Chowgule Global will take on Desserts N'More Geno Sports Club in the final of the Bandodkar League T20 Tournament, organised by Panjim Gymkhana, on Thursday.

In the semi-finals held on Wednesday, Chowgule thrashed Dempo CC by 10 wickets, while Geno SC defeated host team Manas Panjim Gymkhana by 38 runs.

Asked to bat first, Dempo CC posted 138/9, with opener Gaurish Kamblit top-scoring with 32 and Saniket Palkar adding 27 lower down the order. Chowgule captain Darshan Misal starred with figures of 3/19, earning the player of the match award. Chowgule chased down the

target in just 12.2 overs without losing a wicket. Shivendra Bhujal smashed an unbeaten 85 off 41 balls, while Aryan Narvekar supported with a 33-ball 53.

In the second semi-final, Desserts N'More Geno SC posted a commanding 185/5, powered by Pukhraj Mann (54 off 35), Lalit Yadav (44* off 26), and captain Deepraj Gaonkar (30 off 19).

Manas Panjim Gymkhana's chase faltered after Manthan Khutkar (43 off 24) was stumped off Shubham Desai (2/26). Despite late resistance from Shubham Garhwal (28) and Jeevankumar Chittem (27), the hosts were bowled out for 147 in 18.1 overs. Ruthvik Naik, Dheeraj Yadav, and Achit Shigwan took two wickets each. Lalit Yadav was adjudged player of the match.

Patha hat-trick fires St Sebastian past St Anthony SC

CALANGUTE: Shaviz Patha struck a sensational hat-trick to inspire St Sebastian SC, Mapusa to a 3-1 victory over St Anthony SC, Mar-na-Siolim in a thrilling Calangute Association Cup 2025 clash at the Poriat ground.

Patha wasted no time asserting his dominance, finding the net in the 9th, 13th, and 56th minutes with clinical precision. His sharp instincts and composed finishing proved too much for the Marna defence, keeping them under constant pressure.

Despite the early setback, St Anthony SC Marna showed fighting spirit, pulling one back through Sahil Pomburpekar's thunderous strike in the 25th minute. However, it wasn't enough to shift the momentum against an in-form Mapusa outfit.

Shaviz Patha was awarded man-of-the-match trophy.

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Ethan clinches 5 medals for India

AGENCIES, DUSHANBE (TAJIKISTAN): Goa's Ethan Vaz has once again brought laurels to India, securing five medals at the Western Asia Youth Chess Championships 2025, held from April 20 to 29 in Dushanbe. With this remarkable showing, Ethan's overall medal count for India has now risen to 21.

Competing in the Under-16 (Sub-Junior) Open category, Ethan delivered a strong individual performance, winning Silver in both the Standard and Rapid formats, and Bronze in Blitz. Additionally, he helped India secure Team Bronze medals in the Standard and Rapid events—an impressive feat given India had

only two players in this category, unlike other countries such as Uzbekistan, Kazakhstan, and Tajikistan, which fielded full three-member teams.

The championship featured three formats—Rapid, Standard (Classical), and Blitz—and was organised by the Tajikistan Chess Federation under the aegis of the Asian Chess Federation and FIDE. The tournament drew 391 participants from 13 countries, including 37 titled players.

Notably, 13-year-old Ethan was eligible for the Under-14 category but chose to compete in the tougher Under-16 group as part of his long-term development plan.

WESTERN ASIA YOUTH CHESS CHAMPIONSHIPS

Volvoikar, Gosavi & Pratham champs

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BICHOLIM: Gandharv Volvoikar and the duo of Amar Gosavi and Pratham emerged victorious at the Bicholim and Mayem constituency badminton tournament, organised by the Senior Shuttlers of Bicholim, at the Bicholim Municipality ground, recently.

In the below 16 years category, Gandharv Volvoikar claimed the winner's prize of Rs 4,000 along with a trophy, while Ashwin Bandodkar secured the runner-up prize of Rs 2,500



and a trophy.

In the doubles category, Amar Gosavi and Pratham bagged the winners' prize of Rs 5,000 and trophies. Jayprakash Salgaonkar and Mohit were declared runners-up, receiving Rs 2,500 and trophies.

Nehal Mandrekar was recognised as the upcoming player of the tournament.

The prizes were distributed by the chief guest, along with club President Frankie Sequeira. Ramkrishna Parab proposed the vote of thanks.

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