

Charge of Old Brigade: Chennai Super Kings under MS Dhoni win IPL for 4th time

■ AGENCY

DUBAI: Mahendra Singh Dhoni played his part to perfection in an extraordinary script as he led Chennai Super Kings to their fourth Indian Premier League title, outwitting Kolkatta Knight Riders by 27 runs in a one-sided final on Friday.

As the final delivery was bowled, the old 'Band Master' had that lingering smile at the far corner of his lips having orchestrated his 'Men', who knows may be one last time.

Unarguably, the most loved and revered Indian captain of all time led a team of old warhorses with oodles of experience as they first posted a formidable target of 192 for 3 and then squeezed Knights for only 165 for 9 despite a promising opening stand of 91 between Shubman Gill (51 off 43 balls) and Venkatesh Iyer (50 off 32 balls).

It was canny captaincy that ensured 91 for no loss turned into 125 for 8 and before one realised, it seemed there was



only one team on the park.

Josh Hazlewood (2/29 in 4 overs), Ravindra Jadeja (2/37 in 4 overs), Shardul Thakur (3/38 in 4 overs) got the wickets at regular intervals but it was the wily old Dwayne Bravo (1/29 in 4 overs), whose first two overs for eight runs with five dots which actually became a game-changer.

Dhoni and Bravo go back a long way. The skipper knows what his 'Go To Man' is capable of and the 'Champion' knew that he had to deliver.

Not many words were exchanged between the General and his loyal soldier

as they had their blueprint ready.

When India won the 1985 Benson & Hedges World Championship of Cricket, Sunil Gavaskar, Mohinder Amarnath, Madan Lal, all then on the wrong side of 30s, used to congratulate each other after every dismissal calling "Well Done Out" which meant 'Over Thirty'. That class of 85 was a very experienced bunch that won a big trophy and one could see similar traits in Dhoni's brigade, which since its comeback in 2018, has been called the 'Dad's Army'.

And it was indeed a 'Daddies' Day Out' as 37-year-old Faf Du Plessis smashed 86 off 59 while Robin Uthappa, now at 35, did what he used to as a cocky 21-year-old nearly decade-and-a-half back. He smashed

31 off 15 balls with three sixes.

Then it was left to the recently-retired Test cricketer, the 34-year-old Moeen Ali (37 off 20 balls), who found gaps with ease to give the perfect finishing touch.

SCORE BOARD

Chennai Super Kings Innings

Ruturaj Gaikwad c Shivam Mavi b Narine
Faf du Plessis c Iyer b Shivam Mavi

Robin Uthappa lbw b Narine

Moeen Ali not out

Extras

Total

Kolkatta Knight Riders Innings

Shubman Gill lbw b Chahar

Venkatesh Iyer c Jadeja b Thakur

Nitish Rana c d Plessis b Thakur

Sunil Narine c Jadeja b Hazlewood

Eoin Morgan (c) c Chahar b Hazlewood

Dinesh Karthik † c Rayudu b Jadeja

Shakib Al Hasan lbw b Jadeja

Rahul Tripathi c Ali b Thakur

Lockie Ferguson not out

Shivam Mavi c Chahar b Bravo

Varun Chakravarthy not out

Extras

Total

32

86

31

37

06

192/3

51

50

00

02

04

09

00

02

18

20

00

09

165/9

Reasi Fencing meet gets underway



Fencers posing with chief guest at opening of Reasi Open Championship on Friday.

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

REASI: Organised by Reasi District Fencing Association, the three-day XVTH Reasi Open Fencing Championship got underway at Multipurpose Indoor Hall of J&K Sports Council (JKSC), here on Friday under the aegis of adhoc committee of the J&K Amateur Fencing Association.

The event was declared open by vice president of the Association, Rajinder Kumar. About 80 fencers from different schools, clubs and colleges are participating

in different age groups and events in this competition.

Others present included Ajay Kumar, Ravinder Kumar, Anil Thakur, Rohit Panjotra and Sumit Gondotra.

The competition is being officiated by the technical panel including Kamal Kumar, Parvinder Sharma, Gourav Thakur and Parshant Chib.

The Results:

BOYS: Under-10 Foil:

Arunesh Verma, 1st; Rajveer Verma, 2nd; Sumit Bhagat and Mohd. Kamran, joint 3rd. Under-12 Sabre:

Pranav Thakur, 1st; Ravinder Singh, 2nd; Manas Sharma and Shiyiva, joint 3rd. Under-12 Foil: Aman Verma, 1st; Varun Bhagat, 2nd; Sharav Verma and Avineet Kalaria, joint 3rd.

GIRLS: Under-12 Foil: Deepakshi Bhagat, 1st; Khush Kumari, 2nd; Simran Devi, 3rd. Under-17 Sabre: Preeti Devi, 1st; Deepika, 2nd; Sonia Akhter and Simran Sajgotra, joint 3rd. Under-20 Epee: Pihul Rajput, 1st; Preeti Devi, 2nd; Vanshika and Aditika Salmat, joint 3rd.

Miter Sumbria (Principal) and Anita Sharma (vice principal).

The Trust has engaged expert agency for the beautification and landscaping of the ground as also the school campus. "The sports facility within an institution needs some different kind of plantation and beautification, so we have formulated a long term plan to develop this training centre as an ideal place to play and excel," said Pawan Suri.

Prominent among others present were Naresh Sharma (DySP), international footballer, Arun Malhotra; Gurmeet Singh; Manager J&K Sports Council, Dalbir Mehta and Handball coach of JKSC, Vinay Sharma as also national and international Handball players of J&K.

Arun Sharma Trust opens Handball ground at SD Sabha School

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: The Arun Sharma Sports and Social Welfare Trust on Friday opened Handball playing facility at Shri Sanatan Dharam Sabha High School ground, Rehari, here amidst performing of Puja and Hawan in the presence of distinguished gathering of social activists and Handball players.

The first of its kind Handball playing facility is developed by Arun Sharma Trust in support with Shri Sanatan Dharam School. The ground was dedicated to the young talent of the old city by first lady of Jammu, Deputy Mayor, Purnima Sharma, who took the first shot at the net.

Earlier, Hawan and Puja

performed for the well-being of the players and their safety by Mayor Jammu, Chander Mohan Gupta; president Shri Sanatan Dharam Sabha, Parshotam Dhadeechi; president Shri Sanatan Dharam Sabha High School, Rajeev Bhardwaj and Corporator Dr Akshay Sharma. For the beautification of the surroundings, the distinguished guests planted saplings around the school campus. "We have taken care of each and every aspect of the newly developed sports facility. From ground to environment and beautification of the school campus, efforts have been made to create a cordial atmosphere. First step has been taken and

efforts are on to make it one of the best training facility of Jammu," said member Trustee of the Arun Sharma Trust, Ashutosh Sharma.

The management committee members of the school, who were part of the distinguished gathering included Prabhat Singh, Sehdev Singh and O P Kesar as also Vishwa

with 2 wickets remained the pick of the bowlers while Vicky and Raman shared wicket apiece.

Senior BJP leader & Chairman J&K Against Corruption Vikram Singh was the Chief Guest on the occasion whereas Veteran Journalist Vivek Suri was the Guest of Honour.

Mithu from Jammu Sports was adjudged a Man of the Match for his all-round performance with Bat and Ball. Later, the Chief Guests & Guest of Honour presented mementoes to the participating teams.

For Jammu Sports, Mithu



Distinguished guests with members of Handball fraternity at the opening of Handball ground in Jammu on Friday.

Jammu Sports outplays Media XI by 6 runs in friendly T20



Participating teams posing for a photograph with a dignitary.

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: Jammu Sports Veterans Cricket Club defeated Media XI Cricket Club Jammu in a thrilling nail-biting friendly T20 cricket match being played at Khel Gaon Stadium, Nagrota.

Earlier, Jammu Sports skipper Raja won the toss and opted to bat first to post a 127 runs target on the scoreboard in the stipulated 20 overs.

In addition to the Coaches Jugal Kishore, Jagjeet Singh & Anil Wadera, other prominent sportspersons present on the occasion included Satpal Singh, Dalvinder Singh, Anil Sharma, Ajay Gupta and Suraj Bhan.

"I believe in the talent of the players of J&K and added facilities and financial support for the players

Dev and Rahul Khatri shared two wickets each while Nitin Thakur also took one wicket.

In reply, Media XI suffered an early blow as Avinash was sent packing without disturbing the scoreboard. Anshu 41 runs and Amit 22 runs played sensibly to overcome the early loss but some disciplined bowling by Jammu Sports coupled with poor shot selection by Media XI batters let Jammu sports took advantage and to grab a nail biting 6 runs victory in the match.

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Winner skaters posing for a photograph with dignitaries.

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

SAMBAL: Jammu and Kashmir Roller Skating Association (JKRSA) under the guidance of G.S. Khurmi, President JKRSA organised District Roller Skating Competition in the Skating Rink of Rich Harvest School, Jammu on Friday.

The event was held by Kamal Anand and Aman Anand and Observers from JKRSA were Ankush Gupta, Jatin

Sabharwal and Jugraj Singh. BOYS: 9-11 yrs Quads: Jayaditya Chambyal secured two gold, Ansh Chanjotra secured two silver and Ritwik Singh secured two bronze medals. 11-14 yrs: Bhupesh Chambyal won two gold, Ritwik Mangotra got two silver and Abhiraj Chahotra won two bronze medals. 9-11 yrs Loose Bearing: Vasudev Sharma won two gold, Sajjad Choudhary got two silver and Anirudh

Singh won two bronze medals. GIRLS: 5-7 yrs Quads: Akshita secured gold medal. 11-14 yrs Loose Bearing: Aaliya Akhter secured two gold medals. 9-11 yrs Inline: Siya secured two gold and Jagriti won two silver medals. 11-14 yrs: Sehar Malik got two gold medals.

While felicitating the Winners, Principal, Rich Harvest School, Anita Bhatia thanked G.S. Khurmi and officials of JKRSA for giving opportunity to students of district to excel in the sports. HOD Sports, RHS Neelam Balotra was also present.

Poonch Fencing C'ship on Oct 20

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

POONCH: Poonch District Fencing Association shall be holding district championship at Indoor Hall, here on October 20.

As per a handout, issued here on Friday, the interested fencers have been advised to get themselves enrolled with competition Convenor, Neeraj Sharma (9906088696) latest by October 19 for participation.

NSS unit of GGM Science College organises Tawi cleanliness drive



NSS volunteers and faculty of GGM Science College after collecting waste materials from Tawi.

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: NSS Unit 1 of GGM Science College Jammu in collaboration with JKPC organized a two day Tawi cleanliness drive. In this connection NSS PO here today sensitizes the students and volunteers to raise awareness about the relevance of plastic free and pollution free J&K particularly water bodies and to inspire environmental approach towards its importance.

This workshop was organized under the aegis of Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav with the theme Swachh Bharat Clean India (village) under guidance of principal Dr. Ravender Tickoo, and supervision Dr.

Narinder Kumar NSS PO. The awareness rally along with NSS Flex and banners began from GGM Science College and culminated at Har Ki Pauri where volunteers put their signature on the wall.

Dr. Kumar enlightened the gathering about the drawbacks of adding polythene bags, chuni, clay pots, in the water body like Tawi. He added that stakeholders must use cloth, papers and jute bags as they are biodegradable whereas the plastic materials are non biodegradable and cause environmental hazards.

NSS PO Dr. Kumar apprised the stu-

dents and public about the Swachh Bharat/Clean India initiative of government of India.

The recent Swachh Bharat Mission, the biggest cleanliness drive of India, aimed at maintaining cleanliness of water bodies, streets, roads and infrastructure of the country, he added.

He underlined that the initiative of replacement of polythene by traditional handmade cloth and jute bags require more motivation, demonstration, workshops, lectures, oath etc.

The participation of Volunteers and youth in Tawi Cleanliness drive is an appropriate step toward Swachh Bharat

Mission and was applauded by the Principal of the college, Disha organization, and JKPC.

The volunteers and students showed their zeal and enthusiasm in the cleanliness drive and made it a successful event.