

1st Sikh Cricket Premier League

Khalsa Club wins thriller, Janta Warriors CC scripts 5-wkt victory

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: Khalsa Cricket Club won last-ball thriller against formidable Diamond Cricket Club, while Janta Warriors Cricket Club registered a convincing 5-wicket victory over Bali Cricket Club in the ongoing 1st Sikh Premier Cricket League, being organised by Hari Singh Nalwa Cricket Club, under the banner of Sikh Coordination Committee J&K at University of Jammu ground here on Tuesday.

Earlier, in the first match, put into bat, Khalsa Cricket Club scored a good total of 164 runs in 20 overs losing 6 wickets in the process. Robin Singh put scored with 66 runs off 41 balls studded with 6 fours and 4 sixes, while Harpreet Singh and Jaspreet Singh contributed 30 and 23 runs to the total respectively. For Diamond Cricket Club, Pawandeep Singh and Gurpreet Singh took 2 wickets each, while Maninder Pal Singh claimed one wicket. In reply, Diamond Cricket Club fell



DG, YSS, Rajinder Singh Tara and other dignitaries presenting Man of the Match award.

short of just one run, scoring 163/8 in 20 overs, thus winning the match in a thrilling contest by 1-run. Jagandeep Singh played a brilliant innings of 45 runs off 28 balls studded with 6 fours and one six, while Baljinder Singh and Gurpreet Singh contributed 38 and 29 runs to the total respectively. For Khalsa Cricket Club, Dutta Gagandeep was the pick of the bowlers, who took 3 important wickets by conceding 14 runs in his 4 overs, while Kawalpreet Singh, Aman Singh and Kulvinder Singh claimed one wicket

each. Robin Singh was declared as the Player of the Match for his fabulous show with the willow.

In another match, Janta Warriors Cricket Club defeated Bali Cricket Club in an easy contest by 5 wickets. Chasing a target of 158 runs, Janta Warriors Cricket Club rode on a brilliant batting display by the duo of Gurmeet Singh and Amrit Pal Singh and reached it in 18.4 overs by losing 5 wickets to win the match by 5 wickets. Gurmeet scored with 61 runs off 39 balls studded with 8 fours and 3

sixes, while Amrit Pal Singh contributed unbeaten 56 runs off 39 balls with 8 boundaries. Satpal Singh took 2 wickets for Bali Cricket Club, while Gurpreet Singh and Randeep claimed one wicket each. Earlier, batting first, Bali Cricket Club scored 157/9 in 20 overs. Satpal Singh and Daman Wazir contributed 29 and 22 runs respectively. Hardeep Singh and Vikramjeet Singh took 2 wickets each for Janta Warriors Cricket Club. Gurmeet Singh was declared as the Player of the Match for his superb batting

display.

The player of the match awardees were presented trophies and cheques by the dignitaries including Rajinder Singh Tara, Director General Youth Services and Sports; Joginder Singh, SSP; Kartik, SDPO South; Ved Prakash, Joint Director YS&S Jammu; Jitender Mishra, Deputy Director YS&S Central and Kirti Dhar, Senior Sports Journalist.

Speaking on the occasion, Rajinder Singh Tara lavished praise on the organisers for conducting the event in a most befitting manner. While assuring full technical support to the organisers, Tara said that such events should be made as the annual features and need to be organised from the Panchayat level.

The tournament is being organised under the overall supervision of Ajit Singh, Chairman Sikh Coordination Committee Jammu and Kashmir.

Real Kashmir move up ladder as Namdhari pay penalty

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

SRINAGAR: Real Kashmir FC scored a home win as they beat Namdhari FC 1-0 after an early strike by Paulo César in their I-League match here on Tuesday.

With five victories in the last seven games, the Snow Leopards have recovered from their poor form in the mid-season and re-announced themselves in the 2024-25 title race.

Brazilian striker Paulo César scored the only goal of the game from the penalty spot in the seventh minute.

Real Kashmir, who are the only side yet to lose at home this season (six wins and three draws), have overtaken Namdhari for second spot with 26 points in 15 matches.

On the other hand, the Punjab side are in a slump, winning just one of the last five games that has seriously dented their title chances.

Inter Kashi, who will meet SC Bengaluru later in the day, are currently in fourth place with 24 points

from 14 matches. The result also ensured Churchill Brothers, who are at 28 points, will remain top of the table until the end of Round 15, at least.

Real Kashmir were their usual confident selves at home and began on the front foot, with Karim Samb earning the penalty after being tripped by Joseph Gordon. Paulo César stepped up and sent goalkeeper Jaspreet Singh the wrong way to score his sixth goal of the season and put the hosts ahead.

The Snow Leopards' lead would've been doubled in the 20th minute if not for a sensational last-ditch tackle by former Real Kashmir defender Lamine Moro.

Karim Samb, who was slipped through on goal by Asrar Rehber, rounded Jaspreet and seemingly had an open net to aim at until Moro executed an impeccable slide, nicking the ball off the Senegalese's feet barely a yard out of the goal.

Mohammad Inam, who scored Real Kashmir's win-

ner against Gokulam Kerala in the previous round, looked lively again.

A few minutes before half-time, he cut through the middle and hit a powerful shot that was palmed away by Jaspreet. The attack was kept alive by the hosts and Asrar set up Karim Samb, whose first time shot was blocked by Harpreet Singh as Namdhari continued to defend desperately.

The visitors had been rather blunt in attack in the first half and their talisman Cledson Carvalho da Silva was aching to change that in the second. The Brazilian often lacked support in the final third and had to rely solely on himself. In the 62nd minute, he got half a sight of goal for the first time in the match after getting some space behind Aminou Bouba. He tried to lob the goalkeeper but slightly overhit it.

Later, Cledson brilliantly beat two yellow shirts alone and pulled the trigger from outside the box but was denied by a prompt block from captain Muhammad Hammad.

Jammu becomes overall champion in J&K Wushu C'ship

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: Hosts district Jammu clinched the overall championship trophy in the four-day 18th UT J&K Wushu Championship which concluded on Tuesday at Indoor Hall, Bhagwati Nagar, here.

District Srinagar remained overall runners-up while KIC Jammu remained third. Around 1200 participants from 19 districts, six Khelo India centres and departmental side of J&K Police took part in this event.

Minister for Sports, Satish Sharma was the



Sports Minister, Satish Sharma presenting trophy to winner team at Jammu on Tuesday.

chief guest, who landed the effortys of Wushu Association of J&K (WAJK) for providing platform to the young budding wushu players.

He congratulated all the medal winners in the recently held 38th National Games at Uttarakhand.

Earlier, Kuldeep Handoo (Dronacharya Awardee)

welcomed the chief guest and other distinguished guests. Rajeev Sharma (member Sports Council) was guest of honour while Sadat Aslam Wani (vice president), Ritika Singh (Manager) Indoor, Maqsood Rather (joint secretary), Kamal Kishore (organising Secretary), Ajay Paul Gill, Nissar Ahmed Mir, Atul Sharma and Ajaz Hassan were among those prominent present.

Bhavneet (general secretary) WAJK presented vote of thanks. She thanked Sports Minister for sparing his valuable time.

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

RAJOURI: In an effort to strengthen the relationship between the Police and the Public, Range Police Headquarters Rajouri on Tuesday organized a Volleyball Tournament at District Police Lines under the banner of the Civic Action Programme. The event is witnessing participation from 12 teams from across the District of Rajouri. The tournament was officially inaugurated today, by Tejinder Singh, DIG R-P Range Headquarters Rajouri, in the presence of



Tejinder Singh, DIG R-P Range Headquarters Rajouri with teams and other dignitaries.

other officers, including Gaurav Sikarwar, SSP Rajouri. Vinay Gadge-IPS (Prob.), Bikram Kumar, Additional SP Rajouri, Satish Kumar, Dy. SP Hqrs. Rajouri, Akshay Khajuria, Dy. SP DAR DPL Rajouri and Pawan Sharma, Dy. SP SO to DIG RP Range.

At the inaugural ceremony, DIG R-P Range emphasized the significant role that sports play in building character and promoting physical fitness. He also highlighted the initiative's purpose to engage the youth in constructive and productive activities and keeping

them away from evils like drug abuse.

This tournament represents a step forward in the police's ongoing efforts to engage with the community and foster a sense of unity and camaraderie between the law enforcement and the citizens they serve.

Star Club Surankote wins Pir Panjal Cricket Tournament trophy



Army officer presenting trophy to winner Star Club Surankote team.

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

POONCH: The Pir Panjal Cricket Tournament came to a thrilling close with Team Star Club Surankote emerging victorious in a nail-biting grand finale against Team Poonch XI. The tournament, which commenced on February 9, saw 40 teams competing with unwavering passion and determination.

The grand finale was a testament to the exceptional skill, determination, and sportsmanship displayed by

both teams. The crowd was electrified, cheering enthusiastically and adding to the intense atmosphere. Team Poonch 11 put up a valiant fight, but Team Star Club Surankote held their nerve, delivering a stellar performance to clinch the championship title.

The tournament concluded with a prize distribution ceremony, where the Champion Team, Runners-up, Man of the match, Man of the tournament, and outstanding

players were honoured for their remarkable performances.

The Pir Panjal Winter Festival, which encompasses the cricket tournament, showcased a remarkable fusion of youth and the Indian Army, uniting passion, discipline, and sportsmanship on a single platform. The festival highlighted the unifying power of sports, promoting teamwork, resilience, and camaraderie among the youth.

APS Miran Sahib Foundational Wing celebrates Class II Graduation Ceremony

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: Army Public School (APS) Miran Sahib's Foundational Wing on Tuesday hosted a Graduation Ceremony to celebrate the achievements of its students.

The event was attended by distinguished guests, parents, faculty, and students. The ceremony featured vibrant performances, including an welcome dance and a skit, which highlighted the students' confidence and creativity while delivering an inspiring message. The highlight of the day was the Display of Talent by Class 2 Graduates, showcasing their skills and enthusiasm. The Principal, Ritu Sharma, congratulated the graduates for their hard work and perseverance. She emphasized the significance of lifelong learning, discipline, and resilience in shaping a successful future, motivating the students to continue striving for excellence. A heartfelt thank you address by the parents added an emotional touch to the ceremony, expressing gratitude for the school's role in their children's development. The event concluded with the Headmistress, Manta Sarochi, delivering the vote of thanks. She praised the teachers for their dedication in nurturing young minds and preparing them for future challenges, marking the day as a significant milestone in the students' academic journey.



Samba Premier T-20 Cup begins

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

SAMBA: Deputy Commissioner Samba Rajesh Sharma, on Tuesday inaugurated the Samba Premier T20 Cup at Rani Suchet Singh Stadium, marking the beginning of an exciting cricketing event aimed at youth engagement and social transformation.

Organized by the District Administration Samba in collaboration with the Excise Department, the tournament features 16 teams and more than 200 young cricketers



DC Samba Rajesh Sharma with other dignitaries and participating teams at inaugural ceremony.

from across the district.

DC Rajesh Sharma kicked

off the event by tossing for the inaugural match and

interacting with the players.

"This tournament is more

than just a game; it's a step towards channeling youth

energy into positive pursuits. Sports foster discipline, teamwork, and a healthy lifestyle, helping us build a stronger community," said the DC.

As part of the district's initiative to combat drug abuse and promote sports culture, the tournament sets a precedent for future events encouraging youth participation.

The inauguration was attended by ADC Jagdish Singh, along with other district officers.

sented prizes to the winners and runners shuttlers.

Now, as per a handout issued here today by the Association, all the selected players out of this J&K

Championship shall represent J&K in the 47th Masters National Badminton Championships scheduled to be held at Goa from March 16 to 23.

Shree Vishwakarma Library felicitates Arjun Awardee Rakesh Kumar



Shree Vishwakarma Library, New Plot, Jammu members felicitating Rakesh Kumar.

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: Shree Vishwakarma Library, New Plot, Jammu, felicitated Rakesh Kumar, the first Arjun Award winner from Jammu and Kashmir in archery, at his residence in village Kun Drorian, Tehsil Katra. He was honored with a certificate of appreciation and a memento in recognition of his remarkable achievement.

The felicitation team included Raj Kumar, Balwant Kataria, Joginder Angotra, Om Kataria, and Girdhari Lal. While appreciating Rakesh Kumar's journey, Balwant Kataria highlighted his resilience, stating that despite becoming handicapped in a road accident at Nagrota in

2010, he overcame adversity to excel in archery. Once a plumber, Rakesh lost mobility in both legs but refused to succumb to challenges.

Expressing gratitude, Rakesh Kumar credited the Shri Mata Vaishno Devi Shrine Board (SMVDSB) for his success, stating that without their coaching and support, he might have struggled to make ends meet. He also acknowledged his first coach, who played a pivotal role in identifying his talent and nurturing his skills.

The event was a celebration of determination, hard work, and the power of perseverance, inspiring many to strive for excellence despite hardships.

Open Soft Tennis trials on Feb 21

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

SRINAGAR: The J&K Amature Soft Tennis Association shall hold selection trials for the 18th Sub-Junior National Soft Ball (boys and girls) Championship to be held at Ludhiana in Punjab from March 27 to 31.

As per a handout issued here today, the trials shall take place at Gindun Stadium Rajbagh, here on February 21.

All the affiliated district units heads are therefore requested to send their top and deserving players for the open selection trials on the given date and venue. Players born on or after 2010 are only eligible to appear in the trials, the handout added.

J&K bags 2 medals in Asian Savate meet

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: The six members J&K team returned with two medals, silver and bronze in the 6th Asian Savate (French Boxing) Championship held at Talkatora Stadium Delhi.

In this championship about 400 players participated from different Asian countries. Part of the Indian team, J&K players, Snover Fayaz (bronze) and Riffat Rasool (silver) returned with medals,



J&K team posing for a photograph with officials.