

Jagti Veterans beats Jammu Veterans by 7 wickets

***Abhay-Shivam, Vikas-Nitin pairs script wins in Badminton**

Excelsior Sports Correspondent

JAMMU, July 8: Cricket lovers, enthusiasts in particular and the spectators in general



Veteran cricketers including leaders of PK posing for a group photograph at Jagti on Thursday.

were delighted to watch prominent Kashmiri Pandit leaders-Dr Agnishekhar and Dr Ajay Chrunghoo testing their cricketing skills amid scorching heat in the one-off exhibition Veterans Cricket Match as Jagti Veterans tamed roaring Jammu Veterans by 7 wickets in the ongoing PK's Annual Sports Extravaganza at Jagti near here today.

Earlier, Jammu Veterans skipper Titoo Ganju won the toss and decided to bat first. Batting first, Jammu Veterans scored a good total of 139 runs boundaries in his innings while Chrunghoo smashed 2 fours in his knock. For Jagti Veterans, Pyare Lal was the pick of the bowlers, who took 3 important wickets, while Padroo claimed 2 wickets. In reply, Jagti Veterans chased the target easily in 9.2 overs by losing 3 wickets, thus won the match by 7 wickets. Surinder Bhat top scored with 61 runs, hitting 11 fours and 2 sixes, while Anil Zutshi contributed 25 runs to the total. For Jammu Veterans, Rahul took 2 wickets and Sanjay Raina claimed one.

Meanwhile, in the Badminton tournament, the pair of Abhay Bhat and Shivam Razdan prevailed over the duo of Manas Pandita and Ronak Pandita (2-1) by 21-13, 23-21, while in another doubles match, the pair of Vikas and Nitin defeated the duo of Rajan and Shivam in two straight sets (2-0) by 21-11, 21-13.

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Winning team posing for a group photograph at Akhnoor on Thursday.

Happy Memorial Cricket Tourney Jourian Warriors beats Tacharwan Tigers, sails into semi-finals

Excelsior Sports Correspondent

JAMMU, July 8: Jourian Warriors trounced Tacharwan Tigers in super-over match and sailed into semi-finals round of the ongoing Happy Memorial Cricket Tournament, being played at Government Higher Secondary School Akhnoor, here today.

Tacharwan Tigers won the toss & decided to field first. Batting first, the Jourian Warriors scored 144 runs by losing eight wickets in stipulated 20 overs wherein Anil Chowdhary and Sandeep Singh contributed 33 and 34 runs respectively, while Randeep Singh and Sonu scored 19 and 15 runs respectively. From bowling side, Sachiv Sharma got three wickets, while MP Singh clinched two wickets and Pankaj, Deepu and Rohit shared one wicket each.

In reply, the Tacharwan Tigers scored 144 runs by losing nine wickets in 20 overs and the match remained tie and result of match was decided in the super-over, wherein Jourian Warriors made 15 runs and registered emphatic win over their opponent. Hritick scored 31 runs, while Pankaj Sharma and Sachiv contributed 33 and 22 runs respectively and Munna made 26 runs for Tacharwan Tigers.

For Jourian Warriors, Sonu took four wickets, Arvind clinched hat trick and Randeep Singh got two wickets. In super-over, Tacharwan Tigers scored 12 runs by losing one wicket, whereas the opponent team chased it in five balls with the help of opening batsman, Anil Chowdhary.

Anil Chowdhary was declared as man of the match for his outstanding batting. Vikas Bali and Rajinder Sharma acted as umpires, while Manav Mehta and Lucky Mehta were scorers. The tournament is being organized by Ravi Verma and Aryan Gupta under the overall supervision of Kr Sham Singh Langleh.

Reacting to the selection of the para shooters, Paralympic Committee of India president, Deepa Malik said: "Rubina Francis has qualified for the Tokyo Paralympics with a world record while Avani Lekhara has qualified for all four wheelchair shooting events which is great achievement."

"It is a great achievement and a result of hardwork of the coaches and the shooters," added the 50-year-old, who had claimed a silver medal at the 2016 Paralympics in shot put. (PTI)

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1st Maharaja Hari Singh Memorial One-Day Series concludes Unconquered Aarav grabs MoS, best batsman awards as Tawi Cricket Academy lifts title

Excelsior Sports Correspondent

JAMMU, July 8: Displaying his skill and talent, unconquered young batsman Aarav Mahajan missed 3rd consecutive ton by a whisker, scoring magnificent 95 runs to help Tawi Cricket Academy (TCA) crush Udhampur Cricket Academy (UCA) by 9 wickets in the third and final match of the 1st Maharaja Hari Singh Memorial 3-Match One-Day Series, organized jointly by UCA and TCA at Country Cricket Stadium Gharota, near here today.

Earlier, batting first, UCA scored a modest total of 162 runs in 37.4 overs. Divansh top scored with 38 runs, while Ritik and Nikhil contributed 24 and 15 runs to the total respectively. Leg-spinner Kartik Mehra was the wrecker-in-chief, who scalped 5 important wickets by conceding 39 runs in his 9 overs, while Nishchay bagged 2 wickets.

In reply, TCA once again rode on the brilliance of Aarav Mahajan and chased the target easily in 19.5 overs. Aarav who scored back to back tons in the first two matches, missed the 3rd consecutive ton by a whisker, scoring 95 runs with the help of 19 crispy boundaries. Vanshaj contributed unbeaten 51 runs with the help of 10 boundaries. For UCA, Ranveer took the lone wicket to fall.

The winners and runners-up teams were presented trophies by Rajan Singh Happy, president Yuva Rajput Sabha Jammu in an impressive and colourful function. He also presented special awards to the man of the series and best batsman to Aarav Mahajan; man of the match, Kartik Mehra; best bowler, Bhuvnesh Sharma and best all-rounder, Damanpreet Singh. Ashwani Gupta, former First Class cricketer also visited the venue and interacted with young cricketers during the valedictory function. He was accompanied by Sandeep Singh Sunny, former Ranji Trophy cricketer, Vikrant Sharma, Director of Country Cricket Academy and Vivek Sharma, former Ranji Trophy player and MD of the Academy.



Aarav Mahajan receiving Man of the Series award during final match at Country Cricket Stadium Gharota in Jammu on Thursday.

Pressure on Harmanpreet to engineer batting turnaround in T20s

NORTHAMPTON, July 8:

India skipper Harmanpreet Kaur would be aiming to overcome her prolonged form slump and provide a much-needed boost to the struggling batting line-up in the opening T20 International against formidable hosts England here tomorrow. England lead the multi-format series 6-4 after a drawn Test and a 2-1 score-line in ODIs. Barring Mithali Raj's remarkable consistency in ODIs, the Indian batting was a disappointment and it is something that the team would want to correct in the three T20s.

India's top two performers in ODIs -- Mithali and Jhulan Goswami -- will be seeing the action from the sidelines. Harmanpreet, who has not scored a fifty in the shortest format since November 2018, will have to lead from the front. Both the openers -- Shafali Verma and Smriti Mandhana -- are in good touch but the team is expecting more consistency from them, especially from the vice-captain.

The standout performer of the tour -- Sneha Rana -- is set to play her first T20 since February 2016. Richa Ghosh, another 17-year-old in the team alongside Shafali, is also likely to feature in the playing eleven having done well in the home series against South Africa. The Indian batters were guilty of consuming too many dot balls in ODIs but it is something they can't afford to do in the shortest format.

"Since the ODIs, the focus in the nets has been on strike rotation, variations of pace bowlers and playing situations. The bowling and fielding showed big improvement but the batters need to step up. Hopefully, they will," a BCCI official said. India are yet to see the pitch as they have been training in Leicester but irrespective of the conditions, they will need to post at least 150 to challenge a team like England. (PTI)

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