

Young Stars are not so young

Young Star XI beat RCC in under-16 T20 Sports Zone Cup but get disqualified for fielding an overaged player

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Controversy marred the under-16 T20 Sports Zone Cup at the MG Science ground on Thursday. The match between Young Star XI and Royal Cricket Club (RCC) saw high drama at the end of the match. The winners, Young Star XI, returned a despondent lot as they were disqualified for playing an overaged player while their opponents, RCC were elated at their surprise promotion to the semi-final.

But after the match RCC players challenged the decision of Young Star XI to field Maruti Mudaliyar, whom they claimed was an overaged player. The organisers verified the birth certificate of Maruti and found that he was overage. They promptly disqualified Young Star from the tournament and awarded the match to RCC.

Young Star XI chose to bat first. Powered by Jaydeep Desai's 40, Young Star scored 132 runs for eight in 20 overs. For RCC, Dhruvil Purohit and Kahan Patel took two wickets of each.

The Young Star bowlers did a splendid job restricting RCC to 89 for nine in 20 overs. Shubham Parekh and Bharat took two wickets.

Meanwhile, in another match Divya Shah's five-wicket haul helped Gujarat Cricket Institution (GCI) seal a place in the semi-final of the tournament beating Sardar Patel Institute of Sports (SPIS) by eight wickets.

SPIS won the toss and elected to bat. SPIS openers Kathan Patel and Ashish Harsoliya gave their team a good start and put on 49 runs for the first wicket.

But the introduction of spin broke the back of SPIS batting. Off-spinner Rahul Shah accounted for both openers, Kathan (15) and Ashish (35).

Then came Divya Shah and he sliced through the SPIS batting. He claimed five wickets giving away just 13 runs as SPIS innings took a downward turn.

They had to be content with a total of 101 for nine in 19.1 overs. GCI chased down the modest target easily.



Divya Shah

GTPL pay a heavy tax

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Income-Tax got the better of GTPL in the GPL League cricket tournament at the Gurukul school ground on Wednesday night.

GTPL posted a competitive total of 140 for seven in 20 overs. But Rajdeep's Darbar's half-century and Chirag Jani's blazing knock ensured that Income-Tax knocked off the required runs in 16.5 overs.

Batting first, GTPL CC relied heavily on Kadam Shah's swashbuckling knock of 54. He treated the Income-Tax bowlers with disdain and consumed just 25 deliveries to score his runs. Kadam was well supported by Udit Desai, who scored 43 from 38 balls. Hitesh Kotiya made 29. For Income-Tax, Rikin Chauhan claimed two wickets while Chirag Jani, Rajesh Tabiyar and Sahil Patel shared a wicket each. But the GTPL bowlers couldn't defend that target. Rajdeep Darbar led the onslaught on the GTPL bowlers with a well compiled half-century. Rajdeep made 52 from just 31 balls. Chirag Jani smashed 48 from 33 balls as Income-Tax cruised home with more than three overs to spare.

Aman rocks Kings

Aman's fifer helps SPIS thrash Super Kings

JIGNESH VORA



FIVE STAR SHOW: Aman at the LD Arts College ground

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Medium pacer Aman's sensational bowling effort helped Sardar Patel Institute of Sports (SPIS) trounce Super Kings by 133 runs in Stars Champions League cricket tournament at the LD Arts College ground on Thursday.

Chasing 177 for a win, Super Kings batsmen came under fire from Aman's bowling. The lanky medium pacer sliced through the Super Kings batting to skittle them out for a paltry 43. None of the Super Kings batsmen managed to cross the double figures.

Earlier, put into bat, SPIS batsmen made most of the ineffective Super Kings bowling attack to post 176 for two in 20 overs. Venu Shrinivas top scored for SPIS with a cameo 47. Chetan hit a whirlwind 43 from 32 balls.

Prathish continues his dream run in U-11 chess

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Unseeded Prathish A has continued his dream run in the boys' category of the 25th National Under-11 Chess (Boys & Girls) Championship-2011 being played at the Karnavati Club in Ahmedabad on Thursday. The Tamil Nadu lad led the category with eight points from nine rounds. In the girls' section, yesterday's sole leader and second-seed Riya Savant of Goa suffered a set-back to be held to a draw by her state-mate and third seed Vaishali R. At the end of the round, Riya was joint leader with unseeded Sunyunktha CMN of Tamil Nadu at 7.5 points each.

Prathish, playing with white pieces on the top board against eighth-seed Abhishek A (7) of Kerala, began the battle with adopting unusual variation against Sicilian defence of the opponent. Both players, went in for sharp



tactical battle with making opposite castles but agreed to split the point as they had opposite colour bishop.

In spite of this draw, Prathish still led the points table as a sole leader but his margin has reduced to half-point with Harsha Bharathakoti (AP) and Aniruddh Aiyengar (TN) hot on trail with 7.5 points each.

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