

Alves sends Juve into final

Turin

A stunning Dani Alves volley helped Juventus stroll into their second Champions League final in three years yesterday as a 2-1 win on the night completed a 4-1 aggregate victory over outclassed Monaco.

Brazilian wing-back Alves's 25-yard strike followed Mario Mandzukic's opener for the treble-chasing Italian champions as any semblance of a contest was snuffed out by half-time.

Teenage superstar Kylian Mbappe pulled a goal back for the principality club after the break, his sixth of the competition.

But there was never any realistic prospect of them threatening to overturn 2-0 deficit from last week's first leg.

It will be the ninth time Juventus, runners-up in 2015, have contested the final of Europe's elite club competition.

And on this evidence, Massimiliano Allegri's sinewy, battle-hardened squad stand a good chance of adding to the club's meagre return of two triumphs when they meet either Atletico Madrid or Real Madrid in Cardiff on June 3.

For Monaco, the loss of Nabil Dirar to injury in the warm-up meant a hasty return for Benjamin Mendy as coach Leonardo Jardim opted to match Juve's 3-5-2 set-up.

The results were initially encouraging and Mbappe squeezed a fifth-minute shot past Gianluigi Buffon from a tight angle and held his head in his hands as it came back off the inside of the post, although the offside flag had come up.

Subasic kept busy

Paulo Dybala made amends for slicing Gonzalo Higuain's knockdown wide from the edge of the area by deftly playing his fellow Argentinian into a one-on-one with Monaco goalkeeper Danijel Subasic.

It was the kind of chance the striker usually gobbles up but this one was fluffed with a semi-shanked attempt to dink the ball over the goalkeeper. Mandzukic had a similar chance but saw his toe-poked effort saved by Subasic before Andrea Raggi's last-ditch block denied Dybala. But a goal was coming and

it duly arrived 12 minutes before the break after a move that began with a Buffon throw out.

Dybala supplied Alves on the right and his deep cross picked out Mandzukic advancing on the back post. Again Subasic saved at close range but the rebound fell kindly for the Croatian striker to thump the loose ball into the roof of the net. The deflated body language of Monaco's young side told its own story and any doubt about the outcome disappeared a minute before the interval.

Subasic did well again to keep out Dybala's effort with another close-range stop and he got a firm fist to the resulting corner.

But the clearance fell invitingly for Alves 25 yards out and the Brazilian's volley was timed sweetly enough to beat the Monaco goalkeeper to his left by sheer pace.

Comprehensively outplayed, Monaco restored a bit of pride when Mbappe pulled a goal back midway through the second period. (AFP)

Penultimate Audi quattro Cup for Nasser Yaqoob



Winner Yaqoob in action

Manama

Bahrain national golf team member Nasser Yaqoob (38 stableford points on count back) narrowly managed to win the fifth round of the Audi quattro Cup Series at the Royal Golf Club.

Fellow Bahraini Khalifa Daij (38) had to settle for the runners up spot with the same score, while Jim Lanceley (128 points) continues to top the series order of merit for the fourth consecutive month, followed by Mohammed Al Sayed (125) in second place with 125 points, while the trio of Ben Elsworth, Rob Lane and

Pete Donkin (122) are right behind in third place. The Grand Final of the series will tee off at the Royal Golf Club with a 7am shotgun start on May 19 and each competitor's four best scores from the previous five rounds will be added to their final round score to give a total for the series.

The series winners of the Bahrain tournament will have an opportunity to go forward and compete in the World finals, which this year will be held at the prestigious Quivira Golf Club in Cabo San Luca, Mexico, in December.

With over 100,000 players competing in 750 tournaments in 54 countries annually, the Audi quattro Cup has developed into the biggest worldwide amateur golf tournament series.

To register for the Audi quattro Cup Series Grand Final, contact the Royal Golf Club's Golf Events Department on email golfevents@theroyalgolfclub.com.

Results:

- 1) Nasser Yaqoob (38 pointson count back),
- 2) Khalifa Daij (38 on count back).

2s Club Winners:

- 1) Phil Gandier and Dustin Whiteley (hole 2)
- 2) Pete Donkin and Rob Lane (hole 12).

Maradona named coach of UAE club

Paris

Argentine football legend Diego Maradona has been appointed as the new coach of second-division Emirati side Al-Fujairah, he said on Sunday.

"These are my new colours," Maradona, 56, wrote on his Facebook page alongside a

picture of himself holding the club's red and white jersey with his name and number 10 on the back.

The 1986 World Cup winner was in charge of the Argentina national team from 2008 to 2010. He then spent a year with another UAE-based club, Al Wasl, between 2011 and 2012.

Birdman charity set for Friday



File picture

Aidan Payne/DTNN

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The 23rd British Club Annual Competition for 'budding aviators' is set to take place this Friday at the British Club premises in Mahooz from 3pm.

This event is organised by the Llongsteppers cycling section of the club and features a children's category up to the age of 18 and a 'not so grown-up' adult category.

Participants are urged to wear fancy dress focused on popular and topical themes and personalities when they dive or jump into the pool. All participants are measured how far they can 'fly' down the length of the pool, but currently no one in the history of the competition has yet to jump the entire distance of the pool so far.

Annually around 50 participate in the children and adult sections and generate a great deal of support from the watching spectators in this fun event which is also a major charity event fund-raiser, which this year is for The

Mission For Seafarers Society.

Participants can pay BD1 for a private entry or a BD20 company sponsored entry.

Every year a similar contest takes place in Sussex on the South of England coast where "budding aviators" attempt to fly by jumping off a pier. It started in 1971 at Selsey then went to Bognor Regis down the coast in 1978.

Since 2010, both Bognor Regis and Worthing organise the International Birdman Series with big prize money on offer.

To date none has succeeded and all have been caught by the safety net of the English Channel.

The "Spirit" of the British Club event is to have fun and have a great day out and see who can Fly The Furthest.

Prizes will be awarded in a number of categories for 'Furthest Flight', 'Best Costume' or 'Machine' and 'Best Entertainment Value'.

Further details are available from Andrew Savage on 39606439, Simon Cox on 39405921 and the British Club on 17728245.

Juventus Defender from Brazil Dani Alves celebrates after scoring