## **SPORTS**

## Asgharali beat Hajweri CBA Division B

Manama

Asgharali defeated Hajweri by 81 runs in CBA Division B 25 overs League.

Toss was won by Asgharali who elected bat first. Initially they straggled to score and lost both their openers.

Skipper Obaid joined with Shoaib and put a 114 runs partnership for the third wicket. Obaid scored 80 runs in 45 runs and was well supported by Shoaib's 41 runs. Rafaqat and Waheed bagged two wickets each for Hajweri.

At the end of 25 overs Asgahrali scored 201 runs for 6 wickets.

Chasing the target, Asgharali bowlers never gave a chance to the opponent to reach near the target.

They restricted opponent Hajweri for 120 runs and won the match by 81 runs. Jamal took two wickets for Asgharali.

## **Brief Score:**

CBA Division B 25 overs League

Asgharali 201/6 (Obaid 80, Shoaib 41, Rafaqat 2/26) beat Hajweri 120/7 (Adil 23, Jamal 2/17) by 81 runs.

Indian Rising star 99/1 in 10 overs (Romy 66, Kiran 24) beat Young Challengers 98/10 (Alladin 28, Sham 3/26, Arun 3/19) by 9 wickets

Alpha Safety 216/8 (Younis 79, Afzal 28, Anto 2/6) beat Firstcare 158/10 (Sameer 53, Younis 5/24, Rizwan 4/31) by 58 runs

CBA Division C 25 overs League

Kerala XI 245/6 (Vinod 89, Mathew 63, Aqeel 2/26) beat Pak Hawks 99/10 (Khalil 19, Suraj 3/20) by 146 runs

Central Café 194/8 (Ganesh 81, Ali 3/27) beat Mudabbar 136/10 (Waqas 27, Sachin 3/12) by 58 runs.

Bassali Tigers 179/4 (Salamn 58, Umer 56, Sukesh 2/34) beat Awali Bapco 72/10 (Irfan 28, Salman 6/19) by 107 runs

Lanterns XI 116/2 in 15.4 overs (Afzal 54, Shahid 31) beat ACL Haseena 115/10 (Nasir 23, Farhan 3/19, Adeeb 3/35) by 8 wickets

Bahrain Indians 97/4 in 14.3 overs (Shameem 26, Shyju 2/19) beat Alghad Cargo 96/8 (Leju 25, Jaseer 4/17) by 6 wickets. Karnataka Royals 139/10

Karnataka Royals 139/10 (Raghuram 43, Ashok 30, Anoop 3/28) beat LuLu76/10 (Anoop 16, Vinay 3/15) by 63 runs.

Liaison CC 201/9 (Qadeer 50, Zahid 44, Naushad 3/23) beat Unique 62/10 (Vijay 22, Majid 5/16, Zubair 3/19) by 139 runs.



Afzal - Lanterns



Obaid - Asgharali



Qadeer - Liaison



Romy - Indian Rising Star



Salman -Bassali Tiger



Vinod Kerala XI



Younis - Alpha Fire

## DJOKOVIC thrashes Lajovic Two-time Monte-Carlo champion Novak Djokovic saves all four break points he faces to beat Dusan Lajovic

Monte Carlo

Former world number one Novak Djokovic showed signs of a return to form with a 6-0, 6-1 thrashing of fellow Serb Dusan Lajovic in the Monte Carlo Masters first round yesterday.

It was an impressive performance from the 30-year-old in his first match since splitting from coach Andre Agassi and starting to work again with long-time former coach Marian Vajda.

Ranked 13th in the world after lengthy spells off the court with an elbow injury, Djokovic is training with Vajda for the first time since last year's Monte Carlo Masters.

Djokovic dominated from the outset as Lajovic struggled, and despite some nervy moments on serve in the second set, wrapped up victory in under an hour to book a second-round meeting with Borna Coric.

It was the 12-time Grand Slam champion's first win at a regular ATP Tour event this season, after losing his opening matches in Indian Wells and Miami to Taro Daniel and Benoit Paire respectively.

Djokovic started strongly, dropping only three points on serve as he cruised to a first-set bagel which was sealed with a fierce return winner.

Lajovic had his chances in the second, creating breakpoint opportunities in three consecutive Djokovic service games as the two-time Monte Carlo champion threw in two double faults.

But the qualifier was unable to make the most of those openings, and Djokovic, who lives and trains in Monaco, broke in game four as Lajovic fired wide.

Djokovic had to save two break points when serving for the match, but sealed the win to stay on course for a possible quarter-final meeting with old rival Rafael Nadal.

Earlier yesterday, Japan's Kei Nishikori fought back from a set down to see off Czech 12th seed Tomas Berdych and reach the second round.

In a battle of two former Grand Slam finalists, Nishikori raced through the final two sets to progress with a 4-6, 6-2, 6-1 victory.

The former world number four, who is now ranked 36th, missed a large part of last season with a right wrist injury and started his 2018 campaign in American second-tier Challenger Tour events.

But he was close to his best against Berdych, despite making a slow start and calling for a medical timeout for his troublesome wrist.

"It's not great but, I mean, first match on clay, you know, I'm expecting little soreness," said Nishikori "Hopefully I have day off tomorrow. If I have to play tomorrow, I got to be ready tonight."

The 28-year-old, playing in the tournament for the first time in six years, will take on Russian youngster Daniil Medvedev in round two.

Elsewhere, American Jared Donaldson launched into an angry tirade at umpire Arnaud Gabas while squaring up to the Frenchman over a line call during his defeat by Albert Ramos-Vinolas.

The 21-year-old petulantly insisted a supervisor was called to check the mark, saying: "I can call the supervisor whenever I want."

He then sarcastically apologised, saying he was "sorry" to hurt Gabas' feelings.

Ramos-Vinolas, who lost last year's final to Nadal, was leading by a set and a break at the time and went on to win 6-3, 6-3. (*AFP*)



Five matches were played on the sixth day in The Ritz-Carlton, Bahrain 7th Annual Inter-Hotel Charity Cricket Tournament held at the Ritz-Carlton Staff Recreation area in Manama. Sheraton, Domain, K Hotel, Majestic Arjaan and Diplomat won their respective matches. Above, team Diplomat Radisson Blu pose for a photo after winning their match.

Match 1: Sheraton VS Golden Tulip Sheraton 34 all out in 5 overs beat Golden Tulip 26 all out in 5.1 overs. Man of the match: Shoaib (Sheraton)

Match 2: Domain VS Marriott Executive Apartments Domain 62/5 from 6 overs beat Marriott 34/5 in 6 overs by 28 runs Man of the Match: Rahul (Domain) Match 3: K Hotel VS Ramada Manama City Center K Hotel 51/5 from 6 overs beat

K Hotel 51/5 from 6 overs beat Ramada Manama City Center 44 all out in 6 overs by 7 runs Man of the Match: Ansari (K Hotel)

Match 4: Majestic Arjaan by Rotana VS Westin

Majestic Arjaan 45 all out in 6 overs beat Westin 14 All out in 3.4 overs

Man of the Match: Sandeep (Majestic

Match 5: Diplomat Radisson Blu VS Wyndham Garden Diplomat 72/2 from 6 overs beat Wyndham Garden 44 all out from 6

overs by 28 runs
Man of the Match: Saurav (Diplomat)