

BFF President's Statement for May

Greetings!

Welcome to the monthly briefing of May. Let us begin.

U23 & National Senior Head Coach

Andrew Ord, an English-born Australian, will be appointed as the new U23 & National Senior Head Coach. The 37-year-old is currently the Assistant Coach of Australian A League club Perth Glory and part of the Technical staff for the Socceroos, the Australian National Team, the reigning Asian champions.

Ord has worked in several countries across Asia including Thailand and Myanmar with a wide number of roles in youth development. He developed an Academy with Yangon United as owner Tay Za created the first full-time youth programme in Myanmar before moving back to Western Australia joining Perth Glory of the National Youth League.

BFF to get FIFA Digital Registration System

BFF is set to get a new computerised registration system for storing details of all stakeholders across Bangladesh. This digitalized platform will register clubs, players, officials, coaches and referees in every district and help BFF maintain the records in a digital database.

This platform called 'FIFA Connect' will help the national football body to track and monitor every single stakeholder, both professional and amateurs, through a digital system.

An expert from one of the FIFA subsidiaries visited BFF for a two-day workshop and orientation to ascertain Bangladesh's requirements that is necessary to customise the software.

Once done, FIFA officials will return with the new platform and conduct training sessions for our local staff here. Although the software comes from FIFA, BFF will remain the owner of all the information and data stored in the database.

Goalkeeping Education for Goalkeeping Coaches

Bangladesh Football Federation held its first ever AFC Goalkeeping Coaching Level 1 Certificate Course under the guidance of AFC Elite Instructor Dean May.

The highly experienced goalkeeping instructor, also the national goalkeeper development manager for the Australian football federation (FFA), was in Dhaka to kick off the 6-day specialised coaches' course as part of BFF's strategic development plan that commits to improve coach and goalkeeping education.

The course features both theory and practical content under the Asian Football Confederation (AFC) guidelines specifically designed to train the goalkeeper coaches to teach basic techniques, plan effective training sessions and understand the role of the goalkeeper coach within the technical department.

Bangladesh's Kiron gets into FIFA council

The Asian Football Confederation elected Bangladesh Football Federation Women's Committee chief Mahfuza Akhter Kiron as one of its representatives to FIFA Council, the global football regulator's top body.

The 27th Congress of the Asian football body in Manama, Bahrain saw Kiron, also an AFC executive

committee member, win the election against Australia's Moya Dodd with 27 votes against 17.

"This is a landmark victory for Bangladesh football and I would like to thank all the Member Associations for their support. This is the first time Bangladesh got a position in the FIFA Council and we believe our football would benefit a lot from this"

U16 Training

As you must know by now, one of our highlights for this year will be the U16 Women's Team playing in the AFC finals which doubles as the U17 World Cup qualifiers.

The team has been in a residency camp for several months now and has seen their training regime escalate recently. They have started training three times a day and the benefits have become more visible with more stamina and endurance.

Training sessions include a two-hour session in the morning from 7am followed by rehab sessions for physical and physiological development with each player getting a tailor made customised programme. The rehabilitation sessions are between 11 and 12pm. This is immediately followed by core and flexibility sessions between noon and 1pm.

The afternoon practical session begins from 1.15pm and continues for an hour.

Guardian Insurance, BRAC beside U16 girls

Guardian Life Insurance has come forward with medical and life insurance for the entire U16 team.

U18 Championship

The U18 national championship that began in April concluded earlier this month with BKSP clinching the cup with Dhaka district, champions of the last edition played in 2007, finishing as runners up.

Being held after 11 years, there was much interest around every game since the teams represented districts. But in the end it appeared to have come down to talent and training.

BKSP won 4-2 in penalties after a 1-1 draw.

U16 Pioneer League

Both the city corporation of Dhaka (north and south) began the Pioneer League tournament at six venues in Dhaka for the U16 age group.

Federation Cup

The domestic football season of 2017 started with the Federation Cup 2017' this month with the hope of more talents coming up through the ranks who will eventually go on to represent Bangladesh. This year's edition sees a decrease on the number of foreign players allowed, which was brought down to two from three.

With two out of every three teams set to make it to the quarters, there will be two clubs going into the knockouts from each group.

Apart from the powerhouses Abahani and Mohammedan, ten other clubs have enrolled in the largest national tournament to create a pipeline for the national team.

The fewer number of foreign players also means local boys will play more pivotal roles throughout the tournament.

1st Division

Shadhinata Krira Sangha clinched the title after 1-1 draw with PWD Sporting Club in the 11th and final round match. Wari Club finished 2nd with 23 points, while Jatrabari Krira Chakra placed 3rd with 18 points.

Badda Jagoroni Sangshad was relegated securing the last position with only nine points from 11 matches.

Dhaka Abahani Vs Mohun Bagan

Dhaka Abahani was unlucky to end their AFC Cup 2017 campaign with a 1-1 draw against Indian outfit Mohun Bagan. The match played on the 31st of May at the Bangabandhu National Stadium was full of excitement but the home fans were deprived of a victory as the visitors grabbed an equalizer late into the second half.