

BFF President's Statement for July 2019

Greetings!

World Cup qualifiers round 2: Bangladesh in Group E

Bangladesh have been drawn on July 17 in Kuala Lumpur in Group E of the Asian qualifiers for the FIFA World Cup 2022.

The Bengal boys will face Oman, India, Afghanistan and World Cup hosts Qatar in Group E.

Top 40 member associations of AFC have been drawn into eight groups of five teams and who will compete in a double round-robin format from 5 September 2019 to 9 June 2020.

Bangladesh will begin their campaign with an away match against Afghanistan on September 10, 2019.

Notably, Bangladesh secured a spot in this second round of qualifiers beating Laos 1-0 in the pre-qualifying stage.

Bangladesh one rank up in FIFA

Bangladesh are now 182nd in FIFA rankings moving a step up in July. The team moved from 188th to 183rd just about a month back.

Before that, in April, the Red and Greens jumped up four places to move to 188th.

The BFF hopes that the climb upward continues, especially with the FIFA and AFC joint qualifiers coming up.

BFF achieves AFC A Level membership

The Asian Football Confederation (AFC) on July 1 conferred AFC A Level membership to the Bangladesh Football Federation (BFF) which is yet another milestone in our quest to build a reputable coaching process and testifies to our ongoing efforts.

In a message sent to the BFF on July 18, AFC general secretary Dato' Windsor John said that the declaration accords the Bangladesh Football Federation the right to organize AFC B and A courses and issue corresponding AFC diplomas and licenses in accordance to applicable terms of the AFC Coaching Convention.

BFF AFC B Certificate Coaching Course 2019 completed

The second part of the BFF AFC B Certificate Coaching Course 2019 has ended successfully. The course began on July 21 and ended on July 29 after nine productive days of learning football coaching.

As always, National Technical and Strategic Director Paul Thomas Smalley conducted the course, which included both local and foreign coaches.

Participants included a number of former national team players, current local coaches and distinguished football stakeholders.

Participants were evaluated after conclusion of the second and final part, and certified accordingly.

BFF AFC C Certificate Coaching Course ends on a high

The BFF AFC C Certificate Coaching Course 2019 ended on July 10. The 14-day course began on June 28 with 23 local and one Indian coach.

After two fruitful weeks of practical and theory sessions under Paul Smalley the trainees received their certificates.

Kiron appointed AFC Women's Committee chair

Head of Bangladesh Football Federation's Women Football Committee, Mahfuza Akhter Kiron, has been appointed as the chairperson of the newly formed Women's Football Committee of Asian Football Confederations (AFC).

BFF received the confirmation from AFC on July 19. According to the letter, Kiron will serve as the AFC women's football committee head till 2023.

We heartily congratulate Kiron on her appointment and wish her further success.

Lalmonirhat win BFF UNICEF U16 Women's Championship

Lalmonirhat have triumphed in the BFF UNICEF U16 National Women's Football Championship 2019 with a 4-0 victory over Magura in the final July 27.

The Champions received Tk 50,000 as prize-money and runners-up Magura received Tk 25,000.

Liva Akter of Lalmonirhat won the Golden Boot with 16 goals and the talismanic Moonki Akter, also of Lalmonirhat, was adjudged the most valuable player of the first edition of BFF UNICEF U16.

Rangamati district was given the fair play award.

Rangpur champions in JFA U14 Women's Championship

Rangpur became the new champions of the JFA U14 Women's National Football Championship defeating Mymensingh district 4-2 in tie breaker in the final match on July 19.

After the match, Youth and Sports Ministry Parliamentary Standing Committee Chairman Abdullah Al Islam Jakob, MP, along with BFF Women's Football Committee Chairperson Mahfuza Akhter Kiron, handed over the trophies to the champion and runners-up teams.

The champions also received Tk 50,000 while runners up were given Tk 25,000. Magura won the Fair Play.

Rangpur's Shamima Akhter Shila won the Golden Boot for scoring eight goals. Fatema, from the same district, was adjudged the Most Valuable Player of the tournament and given the Golden Ball.

AFC Cup semifinals: Abahani to play against North Korea's April 25 SC

Dhaka Abahani have been drawn to play a two-match tie against North Korea's April 25 Sports Club in the inter-zone play-off semifinals of AFC Cup 2019. The draw was held at the headquarters of Asian Football Confederation in Malaysia on July 2.

The home match for the Sky Blues will be held at Bangabandhu National Stadium on August 21 while the away match is scheduled for August 28.

Season 2018-19 to end with U17/18 tournament

The 2018-19 football season will come to an end with a U17 or U18 tournament.

Age group teams of Bangladesh Premier League 2018-19 and Bangladesh Championship League 2018-19 will compete in the tournament scheduled for August or September.

BFF trials for U18 BPL, BCL players

The young talents, who have been training in the BFF Fortis Football Academy, will take part in SAFF U18 Championship 2019 and AFC U19 Championship 2020 qualifiers.

The SAFF U18 Championship 2019 will be held in Nepal while the AFC U19 Championship 2020 qualifiers will be in Bahrain.

Ahead of these two major competitions, Bangladesh Football Federation has planned to include some more U18 players in the academy so that a large number of young footballers get a chance to prove their skills to be selected. BFF held two trials for U18 players in taking part in the Bangladesh Premier League and Bangladesh Championship League. The BPL and BCL booters born after January 01, 2001, were eligible.

The trial for the BCL players was held on July 12 while footballers of BPL attended the trial on July 17.

DMFLC Senior Division Football League in September

The DMFLC Senior Division Football League 2018-19 will begin in the first week of September.

The player transfer window for the tournament will stay open from August 16-21, 2019.

A total of 13 teams will compete in this edition of the tournament.

Elite girls preparing for upcoming tournaments

Players at the BFF Elite Women's Residency Camp are working everyday to sharpen their skills and hone their abilities.

Currently, there are 55 players of various age groups in the camp.

Five players from the recent JFA U14 Championship have been added to the existing lot of 50 players.

The players continue to repeat their daily development work in order to always be ready for any tournament that comes along the way.

First up is the 2019 AFC U-16 Women's Championship which will be held in Thailand between 15–28 September 2019. The tournament will also act as the Asian qualifying round of 2020 FIFA U-17 Women's World Cup which will be held in India next year.

In the U16 Championship, the Bengal girls will compete against seven other nations of Asia to be crowned continental champions.

Then in October, U15 girls will compete in the SAFF Championship before the 2019 SA Games kicks-off in Nepal on December 1.

Development work continues at Fortis BFF Academy

The development work of the U15 and the U18 boys residing at Fortis BFF Academy is going on in full swing.

Seven local coaches and three foreigners are working in harmony to bring out the hidden talent of these promising young footballers.

As of now, there are 27 U15 players and 33 U18 players in the academy. 20 of these U18 players are now with their BPL teams and they will join the academy as soon the season is over.

The British coaches joined the academy back in June and since then, they have been working hand in hand with the coaches here to train the talented youngsters with the best possible facilities of the modern game and keep them on their toes to go into any tournament prepared.

Four prodigies back after successful camp in Brazil

The four footballing prodigies who went to Brazil for a month of modern football training are back in Bangladesh after a successful camp.

The players are defender Nazmul Hossain Akand, midfielders Omar Faruk Mithu, Md Latifur Rahman Nahid and forward Jogen Lakra.

They left Bangladesh for Brazil on June 26 and then returned home on July 27.

During the 30 days in Brazil, the players trained in the facility of Sociedade Esportiva do Gama and also competed in an U17 tournament in the club's jersey.

The four players took to the field for Gama in the final match of that tournament against Greval and helped their team claim the trophy with a 2-1 victory.

Mithu, who has a tally of 2 goals in three matches, scored the opener in the final.

He was also adjudged the man of the final.