Mandzukic strikes for Al Duhail

Coach Walid Regragui's men settled the tie inside the first 15 minutes with a quick double-salvo.

Mario Mandzukic opened his 2020 AFC Champions League account as Qatar’s Al Duhail SC defeated Persepolis of the Islamic Republic of Iran 2-0 at the Abdullah bin Khalifa Stadium yesterday.

Coach Walid Regragui’s men settled the tie inside the first 15 minutes with a quick double-salvo.

With just five minutes gone, Almoez Ali’s persistence coupled with a lack of discipline from Persepolis defender led Mandzukic to get his first goal in Asia’s prime club competition.

The Iranian defenders stopped playing and protested an alleged shove by the Croatian as the ball fell to Ali who cut it before it went out of play, then crossed for Mandzukic who was left with a simple header from close range to open the scoring.

In the 13th minute, Al Duhail were again the more alert of the two sides, capitalising on another defensive mistake by the Iranians to take the lead further.

In the 44th minute, Al Duhail were again the more alert of the two sides, capitalising on another defensive mistake by the Iranians to take the lead further.

The result means Al Duhail top Group C after all teams had played their first match, with Al Taawoun second with three points. Meanwhile, Sharjah and Persepolis occupy the last two spots respectively.

Persepolis travel to Sharjah next week, while Al Duhail make the trip west to Buraidah where they face Al Taawoun on Matchday Two.
Qatar celebrates sport

From officials to children, sport brought a smile and energy to all...
Sights from National Sport Day celebrations across Qatar

PICTURES: Jayan Orma, Sheemeer Rasheed, Anas Khalid, Jayaram

QOC second vice-president Dr Thani al-Kuwari celebrates during a game of basketball yesterday.

Qatar’s world champion high jumper Mutaz Essa Barshim poses with children at the Sports Village at Msheireb yesterday.

Supreme Committee of Delivery & Legacy ambassadors Samuel Eto’o and Tim Cahill pose with QSL CEO Hani Ballan and other officials.

Qatar Cycling Federation president Dr Mohamed al-Kuwari and Qatar Cyclists director Dr Abdulaziz al-Kuwari with Al Sadd and Qatar national team footballer Abdelkarim Hassan.
**Grandhomme blitz helps NZ script 3-0 sweep over India**

_We didn't show enough composure under pressure. New Zealand did._

New Zealand players celebrate with the trophy after their victory in the third ODI against India at the Bay Oval in Mount Maunganui yesterday (AFP)

**Scorecard**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Team</th>
<th>Innings</th>
<th>Runs</th>
<th>Wickets</th>
<th>Avg</th>
<th>Economy</th>
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<td>5</td>
<td>220</td>
<td>6.34</td>
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<td>2</td>
<td>122</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>122</td>
<td>11.11</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Total</td>
<td>560</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>220</td>
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**INDIA**

| C. de Grandhomme | 10-0-53-1 (w2), Bennett 10-1-64-4 (w1), de Grandhomme 10-0-26-1 | 120 |
| S. Iyer         | 2.3-0-3-0 (8), Thakur 9.1-0-87-1, Neesham 10-0-33-1 | 87 |
| P. Shaw         | 3-62 (Shaw), 4-162 (Iyer), 5-269 (Rahul), Kohli 10-0-47-1 | 47 |
| N. Saini        | 112, Neesham 10-0-47-1 | 47 |
| 10-0-26-1       | 120 |

**Death**

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**Fall of wickets**

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**Match summary**

New Zealand declared 448 for 5 at lunch to set India a target of 120 runs in 20 overs. India were 120 all out in 19 overs. New Zealand won by 6 wickets. New Zealand lost 2 wickets in 3 overs. New Zealand 3-0 sweep over India in the three-match series.
Siakam-led Raptors beat Wolves as win streak15 on Monday

NBA

Toronto Raptors forward Pascal Siakam (43) drives to the basket past Minnesota Timberwolves guard Josh Okogie during the second half of an NBA basketball game in Toronto on Monday, Dec. 27, 2021. (Frank Gunn/The Canadian Press via AP)

By Sam Farmer

The Los Angeles Times

For Siakam, the game was more than just a win for the Toronto Raptors. It was also a celebration of his 30th birthday.

"I'm feeling a wide range of emotions, from sad to reflective to happy about that," Siakam said. "It's a special day for me and I'm happy to be able to share it with this team.""I think these guys have proven enough that they can win"
FOOTBALL

Sadd, Nassr share points after entertaining match

Al Sadd will host Iran side Sepahan at the Jassim bin Hamad Stadium next week

Al Sadd captain Hassan al-Hayari (left) celebrates after scoring against Saudi Arabia Al Nassr in the AFC Champions League Group D match in Riyadh yesterday. The match ended in a 2-2 draw with both teams finding the net in the first ten minutes. This was the first meeting between Al Sadd and Al Nassr. The Qatari side were in control for most of the first half, Miguel intercepted Al-Nassr’s attempt and supplied and crossed to delivery for Roman Neeskens who duly tucked it home.

AFC CHAMPIONS LEAGUE

Szczeznys signs Juventus contract extension

J uventus goalkeeper Wojciech Szczęsny has signed a new three-year contract with the Serie A giants. “I am very happy to have signed this contract,” Szczęsny said. “It is always a source of pride being able to play for this club. We have a large and loyal fanbase. In the last few seasons we have had many high points.”

The 28-year-old is due to undergo a knee injury test and should be available for action in the UEFA Champions League next month. Szczęsny, who has won 60 caps for Poland, joined Juve in 2011 and has won the Scudetto four times since then. “It makes me happy to see him come through the ranks and become a key player for the club,” said Juve coach Maurizio Sarri.

Ronaldinho, Ibra set for Italian Cup clash

M anchester City captain Vincent Kompany is determined to end his career on a high note. The former Belgian international has announced he will retire at the end of the season. “This is the right moment for me to put an end to my career,” Kompany said. “I have had an incredible journey and I am ready to move on to the next chapter.”

Barcelona’s Dembele out of Euro after hamstring surgery

R euters

Clubs around the world have been hit by a spate of injuries in recent weeks. “We have been dealing with a number of injuries, but we are doing everything we can to get the players back on track,” said Barcelona’s medical staff. “We are doing everything we can to get the players back on track.”

Klinsmann quits as Hertha Berlin coach after 10 weeks

J ugen Klinsmann has resigned as coach of Hertha Berlin after just 10 weeks in charge. The former Germany manager was appointed in November following the departure of Ante Covic. “This is not the end of my career,” Klinsmann said. “I have a lot more to offer and I will be looking for another challenge.”

BUNDESBLA
A 1 Shahab, member of Qatar Foundation, has put together an enriched VIP guest experience to match the quality of the world-class competitions associated with Al Shaqab’s tournaments. Shahab noted, “This is off ering exclusive hospitality packages at our purpose-built VIP Tent as well as VIP falls on the Longines Arena, in settings that are fit for royalty and distinguished guests.

Key moments in the tournament were the opening night featuring Zara Tindall, Queen Elizabeth’s daughter, who was2 accompanied by the Amir Cup trophy on display, and the opportunity to meet with Qatar defender Bassam al-Rawi. Members of the public also had exclusive access to the VIP Lounge in the Longines Arena, available on the second fl oor of the Longines building, in settings that are fi t for royalty and distinguished guests. Individuals may also purchase VIP sets that will only be accommodated at the VIP Lounge in the Longines Arena building. Tickets to the VIP area come in attractive packages, with several gold passes that include a private dinner for two.

Corporate organizations can treat their business partners as high-end guests, with a variety of hospitality options available on offer. Hospitality packages include access to a private lounge, with a variety of refreshments and services, including private entrance, dedicated guests to a luxurious customs experience. Special discounts are also available when the VIP hospitality options are purchased jointly for both events. Holding of VIP tickets will enjoy a package of services, including private transport to and from the tournament site, special hospitality in the VIP area, and exclusive access to the private lounge.

The Canadian teenager Felix Auger-Aliassime, now ranked 21, said, “I felt emotions running through my head, “ Auger-Aliassime, who had climbed up to 17th in the rankings, his breakthrough season last year when he was 19 years old.

Meanwhile, Andrey Rublev knocked out Nikoloz Basilashvili 6-4, 6-2 and will next meet Italy’s Andreas Seppi, who eliminated Denis Shapovalov 7-5 6-7(3) 6-4. In the other semi-final, Canada’s Felix Auger-Aliassime beat American Tommy Paul 6-4, 6-2 and will next meet Italian Fabio Fognini, who eliminated Russia’s Karen Khachanov 6-3 6-3 and advance to the last-16 to semi-finalist Alexander Zverev. Losing only at the Australian Open in the fourth round, Rublev’s record is 12-1 this year, having won 7-5 6-7(3) 6-4.

QF’s Al Shaqab offers VIP experience for world-class events

China, Hong Kong to miss Asian team event due to coronavirus

Manabu: China and Hong Kong have been invited to participate in the 2022 US Open Championships in Men’s and Women’s 25km and 50km track events. The opening ceremony was last night at the US Olympic Training Center in Colorado Springs, Colorado, with the opening ceremony being held on Friday, February 4, in Colorado Springs.

The event was held in Group A with Malaysia and Kazakhstan. Hong Kong’s Timmy Lee and Alex Chiang claimed the title in Men’s 25km, while Malaysia’s Athar nad Dzul Ikram claimed the title in Women’s 25km. The Philippines has been ruled out of the event due to the outbreak, and teams from other countries were invited to compete. The Philippines is currently on the list of countries that have been ruled out of the event due to the outbreak.

TV Spotlight

Al Shaqab is offering exclusive hospitality packages at its purpose-built VIP Tent as well as VIP access to the Longines Arena building, in settings that are fit for royalty and distinguished guests.

Since its establishment in 2001, Al Shaqab’s vision has been held on Qatar’s Arabian horse farms and is a leading global centre for equestrian performances, which are regularly designed in the shape of a camel, Qatar 2022 website.

With a state-of-the-art Main Arena

Al Shaqab offers an exclusive hospitality package at its purpose-built VIP Tent as well as VIP access to the Longines Arena building, in settings that are fit for royalty and distinguished guests.

The clinic included a tour of the facilities and a private lunch, followed by a Q&A session with the participants. In the Q&A session, the participants had the opportunity to ask questions about the sport, its history, and future developments.

The clinic was organized by the Qatar Olympic Committee and Al Shaqab, with the support of the Qatar Equestrian Federation and the Qatar Olympic Committee. The clinic aimed to raise awareness of the sport and promote its development in Qatar.
Qatar will host the World Cup in 2022.

Sir Geoff Hurst will host a great World Cup in 2022

By Susan Ridgway

Sir Geoff Hurst is a bundle of energy. The scorer of the only hat-trick in a World Cup final, his enthusiasm and can dazzle the room with his stories. He’s the first to admit that he has only been training at Doha’s Aspire Academy for a few months, but he’s already moved the World Cup to wintry. If he was at an airport, he’d be wearing an airport uniform and smiling like a Cheshire cat. His energy is infectious. The scorer of the only hat-trick in a World Cup final, his enthusiasm and can dazzle the room with his stories. He’s the first to admit that he has only been training at Doha’s Aspire Academy for a few months, but he’s already moved the World Cup to wintry. If he was at an airport, he’d be wearing an airport uniform and smiling like a Cheshire cat. His energy is infectious.