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GALLERY

Inglis suffers freak golf injury days before T20 WC

Sydney: Australia's backup wicketkeeper Josh Inglis cut his hand while playing golf, Cricket Australia said on Wednesday, three days before the hosts start their T20 World Cup defence. The 27-year-old reportedly required hospital treatment for what was a bad and bloody cut. "Josh Inglis has suffered a cut to his right hand after a club snapped in his hand while playing golf," Cricket Australia said. "He is being assessed. No other information is available at this stage."

Reece Topley ruled out of T20 WC, Mills named as replacement: England seamer Reece Topley has been ruled out of the T20 World Cup due to an ankle injury, dealing a major blow to the team's campaign beginning here on Saturday. Left-arm pacer Lynal Mills, who has not played since August because of a toe injury, will replace Topley. The 28-year-old left-arter rolled his left ankle ahead of England's final warm-up match against Pakistan. It is understood that the scans taken after the injury have revealed significant damage.

Rajitha replaces Chameera: Kasun Rajitha has replaced an injured Dushmantha Chameera in the Sri Lankan squad for the T20 World Cup. Chameera was ruled out due to a torn left calf muscle. Darushika Gunathilaka who has a left hamstring tear will be replaced by travelling reserve Ashen Bandara.

Harnampreet Kaur pulls out of BBL: Harnampreet Kaur pulled out of the Women's Big Bash League on Wednesday citing a back injury, which may prove to be a major blow to her team Melbourne Renegades. The Redbacks will now miss the services of the Indian captain, who was last year's player of the tournament and will now not feature in the entire league owing to her injury.

Fiery Joseph keeps WI burning

Pacers' 4/16 Douses Zimbabwe Scare

Hobart: A fiery four-wicket spell from pace bowler Aizawl Joseph helped the two-time champion West Indies storm past Zimbabwe by 21 runs to keep their T20 World Cup dreams alive on Wednesday, while Ireland upset Scotland. After being shocked by Scotland in their opening match on Monday, the West Indies had no margin for error if they wanted to stay in the hunt for a place in the Super 12 stage. And they accomplished the feat at Bellerive Oval in Hobart with 10 balls to spare, dismissing Zimbabwe for 122 after setting them 154 to win.

The dangerous Joseph was instrumental, taking 4-16 while Jason Holder chipped in with 3-12 to react to them after another batting collapse after they won the toss and chose to bat.

The victory means they meet Ireland on Friday with the winners going through to the next round when the big guns join the tournament, while Zimbabwe face Scotland in a winner-takes-all tie. Zimbabwe were without captain Craig Ervine who suffered a "mild asthmatic attack" before the game and the West Indies were aggressive early on. But they paid the price with Kyle Mayers (13) toppling Blessing Muzarandi to wicketkeeper Regis Chakabva, who was deputising as skipper.

Johnson Charles unleashed in the ninth over, hitting 6-4 off Ryan Burl to get the scoreboard moving before Evin Lewis (15) was out and Pooran (7) fell soon after. When Charles was comically run out for 45 in a mix-up with Rovman Powell, they were reeling.

Brief scores: West Indies 153/7 (Charles 45, Holder 3-18) beat Zimbabwe 122 (Joseph 4-16, Holder 3-12) by 31 runs



Aizawl Joseph celebrates a wicket in Hobart on Wednesday

Campher helps Ireland beat Scotland

Hobart: Ireland pulled off a stunning six-wicket upset of Scotland at the Twenty20 World Cup Wednesday with George Dockrell and Curtis Campher starring in a 119-run partnership after they looked out for the count.

In perfect conditions at Bellerive Oval in Hobart, the Scots powered to 176/5 - the tournament's highest score so far on the back of 86 from Michael Jones - then reduced the Irish to 65/4 after 10 overs.

But Campher (99 off 32 balls) and Dockrell (39 off 27) came to the crease and unleashed some fireworks to steer them home against the odds with an over to spare.

It was their first win of the tournament after

crashing to Zimbabwe on Monday and losing Group B wide open.

They had a shaky start, losing Balbirnie and Paul Stirling cheaply to make their task even harder. Lorran Tucker (20) and Harry Tector (14) put on 28 before both departed within six balls as they crumbled to 65/4 after 10 overs and it looked all but over.

Brief scores: Ireland 180/4 (Campher 72, Dockrell 39, Leask 1-16) beat Scotland 176/5 (Jones 86, Berrington 37, Campher 2-9)

PCB hits out at BCCI, says secy statement can split cricketing communities

Lahore: A 'disappointed' Pakistan Cricket Board on Wednesday requested the Asian Cricket Council to convene an emergency meeting in the wake of BCCI secretary Jay Shah's statement that India won't travel to Pakistan for next year's Asia Cup.

In its first official response to Shah's statement that India would like to play the continental tournament at a neutral venue and not tour Pakistan, the PCB said "such statements can split the Asian and international cricket communities" and impact Pakistan's visit to India for the 2023 World Cup. Shah, who made the statement after the BCCI AGM on Tuesday, is also the ACC president.

"The overall impact of such statements have the potential to split the Asian and international cricketing communities, and can impact Pakistan's visit to India for the ICC Cricket World Cup 2023 and future ICC Events in India in the 2024-2031 cycle."

"The PCB has to date not received any official communication or clarification from

the ACC on the statement the ACC President. As at the PCB has now requested the Asian Cricket Council convene an emergency meeting of its board as soon as practically possible to discuss this important and sensitive matter," the PCB said. The PCB has been allotted hosting rights for the Asia Cup which will be held ahead of the ODI World Cup in India in October-November.

The T20 Asia Cup held 1 month had to be shifted from Sri Lanka to the UAE as the economic crisis in the land nation.

"The PCB said Shah's statement was surprising and appointing at the same time

"The PCB has noted with surprise and disappointments of yesterday's comments made by the ACC president, Jay Shah. The comments were made without any discussion or consultation with the board of the Asian Cricket Council or the PCB (event host) without any thoughts towards their long-term consequences and implications."

India's second warmup game against New Zealand washed out in Brisbane

Brisbane: India's second and final warmup game against New Zealand was on Wednesday abandoned without a ball being bowled due to persistent rain at Gabba here. Both the Indian and New Zealand teams failed to hit the ground as heavens opened up during Pakistan's chase of 155 against Afghanistan at the same venue in the first practice match of the day.



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