





In a huge setback, Indian free style wrestlers miss out on Paris Games qualification

NEW DELHI. APR 19: In a huge setback to Indian wrestling, Aman Sehrawat missed out on securing a berth for the Paris Games after losing his semifinal at the Asian Olympic Qualifier while Deepak Punia and Sujeet Kalkal were not allowed to compete after they reported late for weigh-in, here on Friday.

Competing in 57kg category, Aman began in tremendous fashion, trampling his first two rivals-Yerassyl Mukhtaruly and Sunggwon Kim-by technical superiority but was pinned by Uzbekistan's Gulomjon Abdullaev after falling behind by 10 points.

A lot of hope rested on Aman, who has emerged as one for the future in a category in which Ravi Dahiya excelled.

Among all the wrestlers in men's free style category Asian Games bronze medallist Aman was the country's biggest hope to win a quota place.



Abdullaev began with a left-leg attack and converted that into a takedown. The Uzbek rattled Aman with a sensational four-pointer and within no time, the Indian was under pressure to make a comeback. It made him slow while the speed with which Abdullaev created opportunities helped him clinch the contest.

Struggling at the edge of a circle to wriggle out of Abdullaev's hold, Aman seemed to have given up and was pinned.

In 74kg, Jaideep had a great start as he pinned Turkmenistan's Al Arslan Begenjov but lost his quarterfinal to Kyrgyzstan Oro-

zobek Toktomambetov on

criteria after being locked

Sumit Malik (125kg) also lost his first round to Kyrgyzstan's Lkhagvagerel Munkhtur by technical superiority while Deepak (97kg) faded in qualification round, losing by technical superiority to Arash Yoshida.

This was after both Punia and Sujeet eventually managed to reach Bishkek after being stranded at the Dubai international airport due to incessant rain and flooding but could not report for the mandatory weigh-in on time.

The organisers did not allow late weigh-in despite request from the Indian

Punia (86kg), who had come close to winning a medal at the Tokyo Games, and Sujeet (65kg), were on their way to Bishkek when a majority of the flights leaving Dubai got cancelled or delayed because of the flooding at the airport. The duo, accompanied

by Russian coach Kamal Malikov and physio Shubham Gupta, were forced to sleep on the floor and had no access to proper food due to the crisis in Dubai.

Punia and Sujeet trained in Dagestan, Russia from April 2 to 15 and decided to fly from Makachkala to Bishkek via Dubai.

Vinesh Phogat will be in action on Saturday when the women's selection event begins.

Asia Olympic qualifiers is the second-last qualifying event for Paris Olympics. The last chance to qualify for Paris Games will be the World Qualifiers in Turkey in May.

Volleyball League: Makhdoomi, Haveli Chaos register win

HIMALAYAN MAIL NEWS JAMMU, APR 19

Haveli Chaos had a fruitful day with two wins in as many games played today in the ongoing Shaheed DySP Manjit Singh Memorial Volleyball League being held under the aegis of Volleyball Association of J&K at Government Degree College grounds, here

In another scheduled match of the day, Makhdoomi made it 3-1



22-25, 25-20, 25-19, 25-19.

1(25-20, 25-22, 15-25, 26-Earlier, Haveli chaos de25). To register their second win, Haveli trounced Chandak Sultan 3-0 (25-19, 25-09, 25-19.

International from J&K, Saqlain Tariq, Mannat choudhary, Mahir Wani and Haroon Rashid remained star attraction of the day playing brilliant games for their respective

The technical penal comprised Intizar Husain, Shabir Ahmed, Shafqit Hussain Shah, Akhlaq Ahmed, Nareej Sharma, Waseem Choudhary and DK Sharma.

DC looks to continue winning momentum against in-form Sunrisers Hyderabad NEW DELHI, APR Sharma at the to

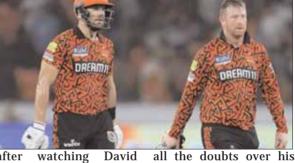
19: It is done with half of its league-stage commitment in the Indian Premier League. It is sandwiched in the mid-table muddle in the points table. It may have played two of its home games at its adopted base.

On Saturday, Delhi Capitals will play its first game at its real home, the

While the Capitals head coach Ricky Ponting will be concerned about finding solutions against Sunrisers Hyderabad starring fellow Australians Pat Cummins and Travis Head, Ponting would have had more reason to smile Resilient Chennaiyin FC takes on FC

NEW DELHI, APR

19: The Indian Super



Warner in full flow during the Capitals' training at

the Arun Jaitley Stadium. A swollen left-hand knuckle forced Warner to miss the Capitals' previous outing in Ahmedabad.

The veteran opener tonked throwdown specialists flawlessly to shed likes of Head, Abhishek

availability for Saturday's fixture. While Warner will bol-

ster the Capitals' batting unit, captain Rishabh Pant will hope that its inconsistent bowling unit contains an on-song Sunrisers' batting group. The Sharma at the top and Heinrich Klaasen in the latter half have been in such a marauding mood that they have erased the highest total in IPL history twice so far.

captain Cummins will also hope to find some support from a pace pack that's yet to deliver. Neither Bhuvneshwar

Just like Pant, the SRH

Kumar nor T. Natarajan have been close to their best so far, and they will be hoping to come good.

Neither bowling attack get its act together, the batting groups will make merry on a small ground, and another run-feast could well be in offing.

KL Rahul, Quinton de Kock Fifties Help LSG Take Down CSK by 8 Wickets in Lucknow **LUCKNOW, APR 19:**

Openers KL Rahul and Quinton de Kock, who made classy fifties on a slow pitch, produced a chasing masterclass to power Lucknow Super Giants to a comfortable eight-wicket win over Chennai Super Kings in their IPL match here on Asked to bat first, Ravin-

dra Jadeja came up with a solid unbeaten 57 before Mooen Ali (30 off 20) and MS Dhoni (28 off 9) went on a six-hitting spree to take CSK to a fighting 176 In reply, Rahul (82) and

De Kock (54) batted with

HIMALAYAN MAIL NEWS

JAMMU, APR 19

Abhishek Jamwal, a National

Games Wushu gold medal winner

has been selected in the Indian squad

for participation in the World Cup

qualifying event in Jiangshu (China)

Wushu Association of India (WAI)

conducted selection trial for the fi-

nalisation of the Indian Wushu team for the sent event at Haridwar.

wherein he (Abhishek) defeated his

opponents and impressed the selec-

slated from April 21.



authority during their match-winning alliance of 134, the highest partnership for any wicket at the Ekana Stadium, as LSG scored 180 for 2 in 19 overs to recover from back-toback loss and consolidate their position in the table.

CSK, who came into the match with twin wins, on the other hand, slumped to their third loss in this

IPL. Guilty of not capitalising on his starts, Rahul finally lived up to the expectations, smashing nine fours and three sixes in 53 balls, while De Kock overcame a scratchy start to hit five fours and a six in his 43Chasing 177, Rahul was

the aggressor as he played some magnificent strokes to give LSG a flying start. The skipper was harsh

on Deepak Chahar as he pulled the pacer for a six, before slapping him for another maximum over cover. He also hit him for a four off a slower delivery.

Rahul also produced a punch off the backfoot for a boundary off pacer Mustafizur Rahman as runs came thick and fast.

De Kock too smashed Tushar Deshpande for a maximum over deep midwicket as the powerplay vielded 54 for 0

Abhishek Jamwal has a number of

The WAI shall conduct selection

trials in the month of May for the

BRICS Games scheduled to be held

in Kazan (Russia) and 10th Asian

Wushu Championship to be held at

Meanwhile, Kuldeep Handoo

(Dronacharya Awardee) congratu-

lated Abhishek and wished all the

very best to him. He thanked J&K Sports Council for the support. Vijay

Saraf (president) and Bhavneet (gen-

eral secretary) of the Association also

complimented Abhishek Jamwal for

Macau in the month of September.

medals to his credit.

League (ISL) 2023-24 playoffs reach a fever pitch as FC Goa prepares to host Chennaiyin FC in a high-stakes knockout clash at the iconic Fatorda Abhishek of J&K in World Cup qualifying event With a direct qualification to the semifinals hanging in the balance, both teams

> ing short of exhilarating. FC Goa enters the fixture on the back of an impressive run (45 points from its 22 matches), having secured victories in four out of its last five matches.

> are gearing up for a battle

that promises to be noth-

Coach Manolo Marquez said, "It's true that FC Goa has never been the

NEW DELHI, APR

19: German national team

coach Julian Nagelsmann

has signed a contract ex-

tension to remain in post

until at least the 2026

World Cup, the German

"This is a decision from

the heart. It is a great hon-

our to coach the national

team," Nagelsmann said in

Association

Football

(DFB) said Friday.



Goa for a spot in the semifinal

The Shield was the most important, as winning it gives a spot in Asia straightaway. However, it's (playoffs) also a tournament (that we must focus on) at the end of the

Its commanding performance against Chennaiyin FC in its recent en-

scoreline, underscores its current form and confidence.

Chennaiyin FC, despite experiencing a setback in its previous fixture against FC Goa, has demonstrated resilience throughout the season. With wins in three of its last five matches, it is counter, where it emerged poised to bounce back Nagelsmann to remain Germany's

and pose a formidable challenge to its opponents.

Chennaiyin coach Owen Coyle prior to the match said, "The FC Goa team that we faced in season six was one of the best-ever teams in the ISL, and we managed to oust them across two legs in the semi-finals. That has no bearing in tomorrow's match but our real focus is to give our absolute best."

Chennaiyin FC has often brought its A-game to the table in the knockouts, having won six playoff matches in the tournament, which is the joint-highest amongst all teams along with Ben-

Isak's extra-time winner takes Odisha FC into semifinals with a 2-1 win over Kerala Blasters

The Sports Authority of India (SAI)

has cleared the Indian Wushu team

for the said event at cost to the gov-

NEW DELHI. APR 19: An extra-time winner by Isak Vanlalruatfela saw Odisha FC pip Kerala Blasters 2-1 in the Indian Super League (ISL) 2023-24 playoff, securing a semifinal berth for the first time, at the Kalinga Stadium in Bhubaneswar on Friday.

In a gripping encounter spanning over 120 minutes, the Juggernauts prevailed on their home turf despite trailing first in the

Lithuanian striker Fedor Cernych netted in the 67th minute before Diego Mauricio and Isak Vanlalruatfela scored once each in the 87th and 97th minutes respectively to drag Odisha FC back into the game and storm it into the semifinals.



match with an eye on an early breakthrough but struggled to break the deadlock, with Odisha's pivotal centre-back Mourtada Fall manning the defence.

The Senegalese almost opened the scoring for the Juggernauts in the 28th minute only to see it get ruled out by the match offi-

The Blasters caught the

time. Shield winner Mohun

getting a pass from Mo-

hammed Aimen, drilled

the ball into the bottom-

left corner, beating Am-

rinder Singh on the far

Sergio Lobera, Odisha's

head coach, decided to

switch gears in the last 10

minutes of regulation

time, bringing on Diego

Mauricio for Jerry Mawih-

mingthanga, and that

tively. For Kerala Blasters, on the other hand, its campaign ended on a similar note as the previous season, in the knockouts, though with no contro-

versy this time around. **MATCH SCORE:** Odisha FC 2 (Diego Mauricio 87', Isak Vanlal-

Blasters FC

Cernych 67')

ruatfela 98') - 1 Kerala

(Fedor

move proved to be a masterstroke. Mauricio combined with Roy Krishna to equalise within six minutes, while the latter set up Isak later on to complete the comeback in extra-Odisha will play ISL

a statement. Bagan Super Giant in the The announcement semifinals over two legs, comes just a few weeks beon April 23 and 28, respecfore Germany is set to host the 2024 European Championships in June and July.

> Nagelsmann said he had been "moved by the enthusiasm of the fans" after victories in the recent friendlies against France and the Netherlands.

"Together, we now want to have a successful home Euros," Nagelsmann said.

The DFB was already "absolutely convinced" of



the need to keep Nagelsmann beyond this year's tournament, national team director Rudi Voeller said in the statement.

The manager's decision to extend his stay to the 2026 World Cup in North America sent a "strong signal", DFB president Bernd Neuendorf said in the statement.

The announcement puts to bed speculation that Nagelsmann would return to club football after Euro 2024

The 36-year-old coach was "on the wish list" for a

lot of top clubs in Europe, Neuendorf said. Nagelsmann

strongly linked with a return to Bayern Munich, who parted ways with the native Bavarian last year.

The perennial winners have, however, struggled since dumping Nagelsmann, surrendering their Bundesliga crown to Bayer Leverkusen this season and ending a streak of 11straight titles.

Despite remaining in the hunt for the Champions League, Bayern's poor league form was enough to cost Nagelsmann's replacement Thomas Tuchel

his job. Nagelsmann, who initially only signed a contract with the national team through to the end of this summer's tournament, will not however be the one to replace Tuchel.

Germany will be looking to compete at Euro 2024 after being dumped out of the 2022 World Cup in Qatar at the group stage.

A miserable run of results following the tournament was enough for DFB management to decide they could not continue with coach Hansi Flick.

Germany's fortunes have since picked up with Nagelsmann at the helm, and the team will head into the championships in good form. The tournament kicks off in Munich on June 14, when Germany faces Scotland at Bayern's Allianz Arena.