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**PSL MATCHES:
People residing around
Gaddafi Stadium to get
mobility cards**



LAHORE: The city police will issue special cards to residents living in the vicinity of Gaddafi Stadium to ensure their uninterrupted mobility during the matches of the upcoming PSL cricket tournament. The decision was taken at a meeting chaired by CCPO Zulfiqar Hameed to review the security plan for the PSL matches on Tuesday. DIG Operations Rai Babar Saeed, CTO Malik Liaquat, SSP Operations Mohammad Naveed, SP Headquarters Malik Jamil, SP Security Bilal Zafar and PCB officials were present. The officials discussed measures to ensure security for practice matches and other activities of cricketers. The CCPO instructed the CTO to develop a comprehensive traffic and parking plan during the PSL and to ensure that citizens suffer the least hassle. "Residency cards will be issued to people in nearby areas of the stadium during the PSL," said the CCPO. Mr Hameed said the Lahore police were taking every step to promote international sports. "The

contribution of the Lahorites is commendable in every respect," he said. DIG Operations Mr Saeed asked the PCB officials to provide guest lists of the events for security clearance process to complete it before time. The meeting also agreed to continue communication between the police and the PCB officials. **POLICE STATION:** The CCPO visited the under-construction building of the Gulshan-i-Iqbal police station. Iqbal Town SP retired Capt Ajmal and officers of the Buildings Department gave briefing on the project. A triple-storey building is being constructed for the police station over a two-acre area at a cost of Rs55 million. The CCPO directed the officials that a spacious room be provided for the malkhana of police station and directed the contractor to ensure security of the building. He expressed satisfaction over building of kitchen and gym in the new building which would be handed over to the department by the end of March.

**MCC team to visit
Pakistan from Feb 13-19 in
first tour in 48 years**



LAHORE: Kumar Sangakkara will captain the Marylebone Cricket Club team, scheduled to arrive for its week-long tour of Lahore on February 13. A team of the prestigious Marylebone Cricket Club (MCC) will arrive in Pakistan on February 13 for a week-long tour – its first in 48 years – during which it will play four matches at Lahore's Gaddafi Stadium and Aitchison College. Led by former Sri Lanka captain Kumar Sangakkara, who is also the current president of the club, the team will play their first 20-over match against the Lahore Qalandars on Feb 14, a press release issued by the Pakistan Cricket Board (PCB) said on Tuesday. According to the schedule released by the PCB, the club will play both 20 and 50-over match fixtures against four teams – Lahore Qalandars, Pakistan Shaheens, Northern, and Multan Sultans – in its week-long tour, ending on Feb 19. All the matches will be held in Lahore. Other members of the visiting team include Ravi Bopara, Micheal Burgess, Oliver Hannon-Dalby, Fred Klaassen, Michael Leask, Arron Lilley, Imran Qayyum, Will Rhodes, Safyaan Sharif, Roelof van der Merwe, Ross Whiteley, Liam Dawson, Samit Patel and Phil Salt. The MCC had agreed to send its team to play in Pakistan in December 2019.

**PCB says
AKMAL
misconduct
during fitness
test was
'misunderstanding'**



KARACHI: The Pakistan Cricket Board (PCB) reprimanded Umar Akmal after concluding proceedings into his alleged misconduct during a fitness test earlier this month. The Pakistan Cricket Board (PCB) on Wednesday concluded an inquiry into alleged misconduct by Umar Akmal during a fitness test earlier this month,

saying the incident happened due to a misunderstanding. According to a report published by ESPNcricinfo, earlier this month, Akmal had exposed himself to a trainer during his fitness test out of frustration and asked him, "Where is the fat?". The player's brother, cricketer Kamran Akmal said that Umar had done it out of mischief. The PCB, in a

statement given to ESPNcricinfo said it was "fully aware of the matter and was looking into punishments in the context of bringing the game into disrepute". The cricket board in its inquiry heard all parties concerned and concluded that the incident happened due to a "misunderstanding", a press release issued by the board said.

"After Akmal offered his regrets for the matter, the PCB reprimanded him and reminded the player of his responsibilities as a senior cricketer," it said, adding that "the matter is now closed". "The PCB and Umar Akmal will offer no further comments," the press release said.

**THE MORE INDIA
PLAY PAKISTAN,
THE BETTER
FOR CRICKET:
YUVRAJ**



NEW DELHI: Former India all-rounder Yuvraj Singh and Pakistan's ex-big hitter Shahid Afridi believe that the two countries playing each other will be good for the sport. "We play cricket for the love of the sport. We cannot choose which country to play against ourselves. But what I can say is that the more India versus Pakistan cricket there is, the better it is for the sport," he said. Yuvraj feels the more the arch-rivals play in bilateral cricket series, the better it is for the sport. "I remember playing against Pakistan in 2004, 2006 and 2008 in bilateral series. These days yeah, there has not been enough of that. But these things are not in our hands," Yuvraj told Sports360. Afridi also batted for resumption of bilateral ties between the two countries. Both Yuvraj and Afridi still play in franchise-based T20 leagues after retiring from international cricket. "I think, if India and Pakistan were to have a series, it will be something bigger than the Ashes. However, we don't seem to get it. We are letting politics get in the way of people's love for this sport and their wish to come together," Afridi said. "I think we need to put a few things behind us as well and so does India. We need to sit down together at a table and talk things out."



**OLD GUARD
STEYN
EYES NEW ROLE IN
YOUNG SA SIDE**

EAST LONDON: Experienced South African Dale Steyn has his eye on the ICC Twenty20 World Cup in Australia this year as he takes on added responsibility as mentor to his team's young fast bowlers.

first Twenty20 International since March 2019 when South Africa host England in the first match of a three-game series at Buffalo Park on Wednesday. Steyn, who ended his Test career in August having taken 439 wickets in 93 matches, says his only goal for now is to play in the T20 World Cup in October. "With Test cricket, the workload was too much as I want to extend my career for as long as I can," Steyn told reporters on Tuesday. "In Test cricket you can bowl 20 overs in a day, that is five T20s, so it was a smart decision. "I love playing cricket, right now I wake up every morning and I can't see myself doing anything else. "As long as the desire is still there to play at the highest level, to get batters out and out-smart them once I have decided I don't want that I will walk away." Steyn admits he has had to adapt his game after chronic shoulder problems reduced his once blistering pace, but has enjoyed challenging himself to find new ways to get batsmen out.

"I want to keep experimenting and trying to change my game," he said. "If I'm only going to play one more match I want to take a wicket with every ball, not try and defend a boundary." Steyn spent most of his career in the same team as current South Africa coach Mark Boucher and director of cricket Graeme Smith, and now that he is one of the few senior statesmen left in a young squad, has added responsibility on the pitch. "This is a young group of players and my role is to orchestrate the bowling attack a little bit," Steyn said. "I want to stand at mid-off and say to the bowler, what are you thinking? and hopefully they can learn and get better. "You want to win every game, obviously, but right now it is more about learning. If we win the World Cup, nobody is going to care if we lost to England in February." Steyn said that he planned to play in T20 leagues in Pakistan and India in the coming months. "After that it will be the Proteas and I will give it everything I've got until the World Cup."