

Hi All Team Mgrs.,

For the 1st of the 3 weeks' Cup matches, all were going well for all 6 matches. Except for 2 of the 4 matches held in the Over40, the results of which were predicted right, the rest matches' outcomes were not known till to the final minutes of the games.

Due to the Winter Olympics held in February, our normal turf fields in Minoru have to taken back by the City which presented some disturbances to our normal arrangements. However, the grand perception of considerate sacrifices from all team mgrs. made us feel relieved for our re-arrangement of all matches schedule and we sincerely thank you for that.

As for the results, it turned out as follows:

Over40 Cup

1) Allies v Automind : 2:2 (4:2 penalty)

Both teams played sharply in this 1st knock-out round match as they all managed to keep their offensive flow smoothly, pressing a lot of pressure upon their opponent. One careless mistake(hand ball) by Automind's 'Johnny' caused them a penalty shot to Allies whose 'Joe' calmly made it 1-0 in the 1st half. In the 2nd half, Automind kept on checking the weakest link in Allies defence while, all of a sudden, Allies's MVP 'Joe' scored the 2nd goal for their team. When all thought this was the end of this match, the resilient Automind started to sparkle again and they sucessfully scored back 2 goals by their 'Johnny' and 'Keith' to pull the game at 2-2. Final fate had to be decided by penalty shot which was in Allies favor as they won by 3-1.

2) Wild v Pacific Dragon : 5:0

With due enthusiam, Wild did not under treat their opponent and they had a full line in this match which made Pacific Dragon tough enough to handle. Cup spirit was all over both teams and Dragon, even being in lower hand, had an equal fight with Wild. The game was dragged on quite a while before Wild's 'Martin' broke the deadlock and scored their 1st goal at the end of the 1st half. In the 2nd half, Dragon tried to re-group and fight for the equalizer. However, their hope vanished when 'Tom' of Wild nailed the 2nd goal of this match making it 2-0. Finally, the long-quiet 'Seven' of Wild made his rare hat-trick again ending the match at 5-0.

3) Unicorn v Cool : 5:1

This match closely resembled match#2. Again, Unicorn also viewed the importance of this Cup game and had a full line up at the very start. Key players of Unicorn played excessively effective in this match, leaving bare room for Cool to manoeuvre. Step by step, Unicorn gained an upper hand against their opponent and scored 3 goals by their 'Chao Lin' and 'Mark' in the 1st half. Despite Cool pulled one back by their 'Hoi' in early 2nd half, they could not stop Unicorn's 'Mark' and 'Chao Lin'-the hat-tricker, scoring again. Final result was then 5-1 in Unicorn's favor.

4) Tsukiji v Team Rice : 2:2 (4:2 penalty)

After last week's victory over Tsukiji, Team Rice thought they could had a better bet against their opponent especially when they led 2 goals, scored by 'Mathew' and 'Ah Ho', in the 1st half. Team Rice made a blundle mistake in loosing their focus in the 2nd half. On the other hand, Tsukiji as led by their

leader 'Troung' made up their offences one by one. When their ever-striving 'Warren' got hold of a slim mis-kick by the Team Rice's defender and scored, Tsukiji team spirit was boosted to a maximum level. On and on , they pushed hard on their opponent's defence and finally was rewarded when 'Kevin' scored their 2nd goal through a spot-kick. The match at last ended at a 2-2 draw and Tsukiji won the penalty at 4-2.

After the 1st round knock-out, all winners will go for champion in the following 2 weeks whereas the losers had to look for the consolation prize only in the coming weeks.

Over50 Cup

1) HKU v Automind : 1:1 (4:2 penalty)

After the loss in the Over40, Automind re-grouped their moral and well geared for this match. HKU faced a lot of pressure from their oppenent in the 1st half. Even with the presence of their key players like 'Stanley' and 'Albert', they could not gain at all an upper hand on Automind. The match ended at 0-0 after the 1st half. In the 2nd half, the deadlock was broken when 'Albert', the opportunist of HKU, stole a slim chance at the backyard of Automind and scored. HKU kept this 1-0 result till the last few minutes when 'Jack' of Automind scored a spot kick and equalized the match at 1-1. Once again, fate had to be decided by penalty shot and luck still did not in fond of Automind who lost again at 4-2.

2) FKU v MHK : 3:1

Both teams respected this knock-off match as most of their salient players were persent in this match. The play-flow was fluent from both sides as a lot of beautiful set-ups were envisaged. MHK got the first taste of success as they scored in a spot kick outside their opponent's defence fortress. Not long enough, FKU's 'Angus' showed his landmark, fast cutting into their opponent penalty area and scored. 1-1 was the result at half time. In the 2nd half, FKU continued their thriving tempo as their 'Stephen' headed in the 2nd goal. Mhk did not accept this failure and counter-attacked severely. However, luck was not on their side especially when their 'Tai Ma Shing's' brilliant shot hit the post. FKU fully awared of thier alternative luck when their 'Angus' scored again and completed the game at 3-1.

The Winners of the above matches will go for the champion in week#3 whereas the losers could only look for their consolation prize next week.

There being no other business to report and see you all next week.

Regards!

Daniel