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# **EXCITING** START

Dempo SC, GASC lead the pack

Women's League

Six teams battle for glory

Derrick to lead Goa's resurgence Goa Santosh Trophy

KAREN A star rises

**Edition 1** 



# GOALPOST

# GOA FOOTBALL ASSOCIATION

### **GFA PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE**

It is with immense pride and pleasure that I welcome you to the inaugural edition of "GFA Goalpost," the official newsletter of the Goa Football Association. As we launch this newsletter, we mark a significant milestone in our journey to enhance transparency, communication, and engagement within the vibrant football community of Goa.

The creation of "GFA Goalpost" coincides with the recent launch of the Goa Football Association's website, a digital platform designed to connect, inform, and celebrate our shared love for the beautiful game. These initiatives reflect our commitment to advancing the sport of football in the state of Goa and promoting it to new heights.

Football in Goa has a rich history, and our state has produced some of India's finest talents who have made a mark both nationally and internationally. We are committed to nurturing this legacy and providing opportunities for future generations to shine on the global stage.

One of our most significant achievements in recent times has been the extension of our broadcasting coverage to include not just the men's league but also the women's league. We firmly believe in gender equality in sports, and this step underscores our commitment to the development of women's football in Goa.

In the pages of "GFA Goalpost," you will find a blend of insightful features, exciting match highlights, stories of passion and dedication, and updates on our youth development programs. We aim to keep you well-informed about all things football-related in Goa.



Moreover, this newsletter is a platform for you, our cherished football enthusiasts, to connect with us. We encourage your active participation, feedback, and contributions. Your love for the game fuels our dedication to making football in Goa stronger and more inclusive.

I want to take this opportunity to extend my gratitude to all the stakeholders, including players, coaches, referees, sponsors, fans, and the entire GFA team, for their unwavering support and commitment. Together, we will continue to grow and prosper.

As we embark on this exciting journey with "GFA Goalpost," I invite you to share in our passion for football and join us in celebrating the spirit of the game.

--Dr. Caitano Fernandes

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# **GOA FOOTBALL ASSOCIATION**

# GOALPOST

## The season begins

As the sun climbs higher in the sky, casting its warm embrace upon the footballing world, we are thrilled to present the first edition of the 'GFA Goalpost.'

In this issue, we dive headfirst into the heart of the action as the much-anticipated season kicks off with an exhilarating mix of excitement and anticipation.

From the thunderous roars of the Goa Professional League to the graceful prowess of the Women's League, and the sweat-soaked dedication on the practice fields for the coveted Santosh Trophy, this issue is your passport to the vibrant tapestry of football in Goa.

Join us on this journey, as we celebrate the passion that define this beautiful game. The stage is set, the teams are ready, and the season begins now! Brightest Stars Play For League's Best Teams

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## EXCITING DEVELOPMENTS UNVEILED FOR THE 2023-24 GOA PRO LEAGUE (GPL) SEASON



In a groundbreaking expansion of the league, the 2023-24 GPL will feature a record-breaking 13 teams, marking the largest participation in its history.

The duration of the GPL is also being extended, making it one of the country's longest state leagues, spanning 8-9 months. With an impressive 156 matches on the schedule, football enthusiasts can look forward to an exhilarating and action-packed season ahead.

#### **Live Streaming**

"For the first time in the history of the GPL, all 156 matches will be streamed live on FanCode, providing fans across Goa and beyond with the opportunity to follow the league's exciting action. Additionally, plans are underway to expand match locations to village grounds across Goa following the National games, ensuring broader access to live GPL matches," stated GFA president Dr. Caitano Fernandes.



#### **NEW LOGO OF GPL**

#### Pathway for Aspiring Footballers

In a significant pathway for Goa's talented footballers, the winners of the GPL 2023-24 will be nominated to participate in the I-League Third Division for the 2024-25 season, creating new opportunities for aspiring players. GFA is thrilled to reveal a series of thrilling developments for the upcoming 2023-24 GPL, powered by CAM Industries. This season is poised to be a historic and action-packed affair, with several significant changes aimed at enhancing the league's appeal and raising the standard of football in Goa.

**Edition 1** 

#### **Enhanced Prize Money**

"Player recognition will also take center stage this season. In a first for the GPL, a cash prize of Rs. 2,500 will be awarded to the "Player of the Match" for each game, recognizing the best player. To raise the stakes and motivation, the prize money for the GPL has been significantly increased. The winners of the league will receive 6 lakhs, while the runners-up will be awarded 4 lakhs in prize money," added Fernandes.

#### Partnerships Revamp

"The Goa Pro League is proud to welcome CAM Industries as its Associate Sponsor, solidifying its partnership for the upcoming Vector Х has been season. appointed as the Official Kit Partner and will supply the official match balls for the league. Gwave has been roped in as the official Internet Partner ensure seamless to connectivity for fans and teams," revealed Dr. Caitano Fernandes.

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## **EXCITING START TO THE SEASON**

#### GUARDIAN ANGEL SC, DEMPO SC LEAD THE PACK, NEWCOMERS SHINE, AND GENO FC'S AMBITIOUS MOVES





In the early stages of the season, Guardian Angel Sport Club and defending champions Dempo SC have shown their mettle, securing the top spots with an impressive seven points from three matches.

However, it's worth noting that YBT and Vasco SC are yet to open their points tally, promising an intriguing shift in the league dynamics.

One of the standout features of this season is the diversity of goal scorers. Nearly 30 different players have found the back of the net, making it an exciting and unpredictable competition.

Among the new entrants, Pax of Nagoa has emerged as a team to watch, securing two wins already and displaying remarkable promise.

Another team turning heads this season is Geno FC. After a series ambitious of moves, including the signing of Mohamad Hafeez, one of the leading goal scorers previous from the and the season, acquisition of Chaitan Komarpant, they are showing serious intent in the league. Their gradual rise is sure to keep fans intrigued as they aim for a higher position on the leaderboard.

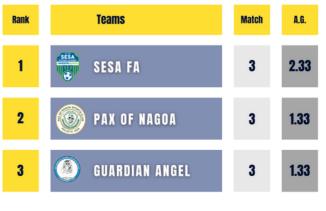
Stay tuned for the latest updates on the Goa Professional League as the competition heats up.

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# Leading Goal Scorers (Top 3)RankPlayersMatchGoals1Image: LLOYD CARDOZO322Image: JOEL BARRETO323Image: PRATESH SHIRODKAR21

#### Average Goals Per Games



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## EXCITEMENT UNLEASHED: GFA-VEDANTA WOMEN'S LEAGUE 2023



The football fever is back, and it's bigger and better than ever! The seventh edition of the GFA-Vedanta Women's League kicked off in mid-September 2023, setting the stage for an exhilarating journey towards the Indian Women's League. With six dynamic teams vying for glory, the competition promises to be fierce, passionate, and action-packed.

#### Meet the Contenders:

- 1. **Sinquerim FC:** Ready to prove their mettle on the pitch.
- 2. Vintage 76: A team steeped in tradition and ready to make their mark.
- 3.FC Tuem: The early favorites with an astonishing two wins out of two games, accompanied by a jaw-dropping 18 goals.
- 4.**Sesa FA:** Holding their ground with two draws and a determination that can't be ignored.
- 5. **Compassion FC:** Bringing their A-game and heart to the competition.
- 6.**Cana Benaulim SA:** Determined to showcase their skills and passion for the beautiful game.

#### The Battle Plan:

This two-leg league will be a rollercoaster ride lasting until November, ensuring plenty of thrills and unforgettable moments. The team that emerges as the best will have the incredible honor of representing Goa at the prestigious Indian Women's League.

#### **Early Dominators - FC Tuem:**

With two resounding wins in as many games and an astonishing tally of 18 goals, FC Tuem has established themselves as the clear favorites in the tournament. Their electrifying performance on the pitch has set the league on fire, and they are undoubtedly a force to be reckoned with.

As the GFA-Vedanta Women's League 2023 unfolds, we can only anticipate more excitement, drama, and breathtaking moments on the field. Stay tuned, as we'll be bringing you all the latest updates, scores, and stories from this remarkable football journey.

The matches will be telecast live on SportsCast India.

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**A STAR RISES** 

# **KAREN ESTROCIO**

In a monumental clash between FC Tuem and Sinquerim SC, Karen Estrocio emerged as a beacon of talent and a force to be reckoned with. She delivered a performance that left the football world spellbound, scoring an astonishing 10 goals in a single game.

Karen was far from typical of a player basking in her glory and stated, "This performance is just a stepping stone. We're looking to perform even better in our next match."

Reflecting on her previous game, Karen admitted to a shaky start. "I didn't perform well in my first game," she confessed, "I had to do better this time, and I believed that I could." Her journey from her highest previous score of 5 goals, achieved while playing for UC Telaulim against Compassion SC, to her recent feat, showcased her dedication and growth as a player.

Karen also attributed her success to her support system – her friends, family, and her team. "They told me to achieve for myself and encouraged me to play for my love of the game," she said humbly. "I trust them all to give 100% and perform their best so that we can support each other."

"I want to improve my game, not play for glory or achievements," she declared. Her words reflect a deep dedication to the sport itself, a testament to her character. In Karen Estrocio, we see not just a footballer, but a rising star with a vision and an unrelenting passion for the beautiful game.

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💦 September 2023

Karen Estrocio's remarkable performance of scoring 10 goals in a single game for FC Tuem against Sinquerim SC left the football world in awe.

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# DERRICK TO LEAD GOA'S RESURGENCE

Goa's footballing aspirations are soaring high as Derrick Pereira takes the helm as Santosh Trophy head coach, backed by the experienced and illustrious Climax Lawrence as his assistant.

With a rich history and a burning desire to reclaim the national title, this dynamic duo. under the leadership of GFA visionary president Dr. Caitano Fernandes, aims to propel Goa to new heights. combined Their wisdom and promise strategic prowess а promising resurgence, with the Santosh Trophy and the upcoming National Games on the horizon. Goan football fans have every reason to be optimistic as this partnership gears up for a thrilling journey ahead.

I am truly honored to lead the Goa Santosh Trophy team and represent our state on the national stage. The journey ahead is not just about winning games, but about nurturing talent, fostering teamwork, and instilling a passion for the beautiful game in our players. Together, we'll strive for excellence, not only in the Santosh Trophy but also on the grand stage of the National Games --Derrick Pereira

#### The probables:

Pandurang Gauns, George Dsouza, Joywin Carneiro, Sanij Bugde, Trijoy Dias, Bradley Carvalho, Jobern Cardozo, Alent Colaco, Selwyn Miranda, Denil Rebello, Clive Miranda, Laximanrao Rane, Arnold Oliveira, Necio Fernandes, Veiri Colaco, Vinay Harji, Saeish Bagkar, Antonio Da Silva, Bryson Pereira, Vellington Fernandes, Deeshank Kunkalikar, Reezvon Fernandes, Leewan Castanha, Saish Gaunkar, Ammen Atar, Rayan Menezes, Chaitan Komarpant, Minesh Kunkolikar, Akshat Hadkonkar, Ozen Silva, Shridharnath Gawas, Umang Gaikwad, Roanal Gaunkar, Llyod Cardozo, Joyson Gauncar, Dattaraj Gaonkar, Joel Colaco, Liston Cardozo.



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# AHEAD OF THE CURVE

## September 2023



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## October 2023



GFA Futsal League Santosh Trophy West Zone National Games



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