

SFA NEWSLETTER

SEPTEMBER '23 EDITION



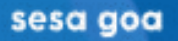
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FROM THE PRESIDENT'S DESK

ANNANYA AGARWAL, PRESIDENT, VEDANTA SPORTS

Dear Friends,

Welcome to the latest & thrilling chapter of the Sesa Football Academy (SFA) saga, where passion, grit, and unwavering determination take center stage. As we commence another season of exciting football, our mission remains unwavering: **to empower young talent and nurture grassroots development**. With your steadfast support, we are well and truly on our way to make a tangible impact football in Goa.

We also take this opportunity to applaud our SFA trailblazers who have not only secured a spot in the U-15 Goa squad but have also won hearts on the football pitch with their exceptional skills. Their performances redefine excellence, and it is just the beginning. Let's brace ourselves for a youth revolution with the Vedanta's U-15 matches, grooming the football stars of tomorrow.

A new star was added to the brightly lit SFA constellation with the debut of our Senior Women's Team, in the Vedanta Women's League. It is extremely heartening to see them take wings with strong performances in both victory and defeat.

Our senior men's team promises fireworks in the ongoing Goa Pro League season, while our U-13/15/17 cubs dazzle with mesmerizing performances. The action promises to be exciting & every match a spectacle.

At Vedanta Sports, we're committed to taking our sports development initiatives nationwide, offering grassroots training programs and thrilling tournaments like the Vedanta Football Championship 2023, Sesa Vedanta 'AWES' Tournament, Vedanta U-15 Youth Cup, Pop-Up Camps, and Vedanta U-15 Girls Tournament. SFA is poised to be the hub of relentless excitement.

In 24 glorious years, we've transformed 183 young talents into sporting heroes, creating positive change in our communities & elevating Indian football's stature.

To the SFA 'family', your commitment & achievements deserve a standing ovation. Let's unite for sporting excellence & history-making on-field moments..

Fasten your seat belts for an exhilarating ride, as the SFA adventure promises an adrenaline-fueled masterpiece showcasing 'uzzo e fúria' - draped in true Goan spirit.

Happy Reading!

#TransformingSportsSince1999

MS. PRIYA AGARWAL HEBBAR MARKS 77TH I-DAY @ SFA

The SFA marked the 77th Independence Day in a way that embodied fervor, passion and undying patriotism. The festivities were embellished by the gracious presence of Ms. Priya Agarwal Hebbar, Chairperson of Hindustan Zinc and Non-executive Director of Vedanta Ltd., alongside Mr. Akarsh Hebbar, Global MD of Semiconductor & Display Business, both of whom unfurled the national flag at the Sirsaim Campus.

Addressing the gathering, Ms. Priya Agarwal Hebbar expressed her profound delight at being in the midst of the SFA students. She conveyed her heartfelt appreciation for the extraordinary discipline, passion, and vitality exhibited by the young & budding talents. Expressing confidence in the remarkable abilities & potential of the SFA students, she stated that in times to come, more & more homegrown talent from Goa would represent India at the international stage. She concluded by affirming, "**We hold our heads high with pride.**"

#TransformingSportsSince1999

VEDANTA WOMEN'S LEAGUE (VWL) S07 BACK IN ACTION !



Goa Football Association (GFA), in collaboration with Vedanta Sesa Goa, launched the Season 7 of the VWL on 11th September 2023. The popular League is a vessel for amplifying the aspirations & talents of the women footballers in Goa & its launch was a much awaited event.

In S07, Sesa Football Academy (SFA) Senior Women's Team, representing Vedanta Sesa Goa has made its debut in the League, which is a major landmark for SFA & Sesa Goa's efforts to promote grassroots level football.

S07 features six immensely talented teams competing for top honors, including FC Tuem, Vintage 73 SC, Sesa FA, Compassion FC, Cana Benaulim SA and Sinkerim SC.

The League adopts a double-leg format, promising intense & exhilarating footballing action with the grand finale scheduled for November 2023.



HONORING LEGENDS & INSPIRING FUTURE STARS

Sesa Goa collaborates with 'AWES' to Boost Veterans & Youth Football



AWES and Youth Cup Launch

Vedanta Sesa Goa, in collaboration with the Association for the Wellbeing of Elder Sportspersons (AWES), launched an exciting trio of football tournaments, including the Sesa Vedanta AWES Veterans' Tournament, Vedanta U-15 Girls Tournament & the much coveted Vedanta U-15 Youth Cup.

The Vedanta Sesa Goa AWES Veterans' Tournament featured eight teams, with over 120+ yesteryear icons vying for supremacy. This is the fourth year of Vedanta Sesa Goa's association with 'AWES' & the tournament has been revived after a pandemic induced hiatus.

In a boost for grassroots sports development, Vedanta Sesa Goa also launched the first ever & one-of-its-kind, Vedanta U-15 Girls Tournament. Four teams vied for top honors in the Tournament, the launch of which is a major step forward for promoting & scaling up women's football in Goa.

The Vedanta U-15 Youth Cup featured seven teams from all over India & provides a tremendous platform & an excellent opportunity for young talents to match skills with the very best & to gain vital national level experience.

The grand triple-launch, held at Panjim, was graced by Padma Shri Brahmanand Shankwalkar, Mr. Navin Jaju, CEO, Sesa Goa along with Dr. Caitano Jose Fernandes, President, GFA & Mr. Alberto Colaco, Ex-AIFF Secretary & Member of AWES, among others added to the ceremony's grandeur.

QUEST TO TRANSFORM AMONA AS A FOOTBALL HUB



Sesa Football Academy's partnership with the Amravati Football League (AFL) marked a significant step towards transforming Amona into a vibrant football hub. As part of the commitment to support football within the community, assistance was provided to AFL including jerseys and nets to help revive the League after a hiatus of four years. This endeavor reflects Vedanta Sesa Goa's unwavering commitment to **#TransformingCommunities** through the medium of sport & driving positive change in the community.

SFA's engagement with youth football & development in Amona is longstanding & is exemplified by its collaboration with the Government High School, Amona, the establishment of a Girls Football Centre & the renovation of the League's ground. Sesa Goa remains steadfast in its mission to nurture sporting excellence in Goa & to empower & enable the next generation of athletes.





LAUNCH OF THE FIRST EVER VEDANTA GIRLS' FOOTBALL CENTRE



Vedanta Sesa Goa's pioneering initiative to encourage women's football in Goa was provided a boost by the inauguration of the first-ever Vedanta Girls Football Centre (VGFC) in Amona, on August 1st, 2023.

Tailored for girls aged between six to 13 years, the VGFC aims to foster sporting spirit & nurture budding talent among girls through specialized training programs. The initiative will encourage women's participation & contribute to the burgeoning talent base for women's football in Goa & India.

The VGFC will help nurture grassroots talent & offers a pathway to the budding women footballers to realize their potential & dreams. Presently, 75 students are enrolled with the VGFC.

The inauguration received positive response from the community, Krishna Gawas, Sarpanch Amona, appreciated & thanked Vedanta Sesa Goa's efforts to promote & develop sports in Goa.



VEDANTA SESA GOA'S POP-UP FOOTBALL CAMPS IGNITING PASSIONS, FORGING FUTURES

In line with its commitment to foster grassroots football development, SFA conducted a series of pop-up football camps aimed at nurturing talent among school-going children.

Since July 2023, five such camps have been held at venues including Ideal High School, Piligao, Shri Mahamaya High School, Government High School, Mulgao & Government High School, Shirodwadi, Mulgao. Over 250 students have so far benefitted from the pop-up camps.

The half-day camps have become a beacon for aspiring & budding footballers who are coached on the finer nuances of the sport. The young footballers have gained immensely by practicing under the watchful eyes of the expert coaches at SFA & have gained valuable tips to hone their skills.

Through the camps, the students were also introduced to concepts of mental health, teamwork, leadership & overall well-being.

These camps, guided by the resolute principle of **#ChangingTodayForTomorrow**, empower tomorrow's athletes, instilling confidence & igniting dreams. Vedanta Sesa Goa's commitment to **#TransformingCommunities** through sporting excellence in Goa is further deepened through these invaluable football initiatives.



BUDDING STARS SHINE @ VEDANTA FOOTBALL CHAMPIONSHIP (VFC) 2023



The two day VFC 2023 kicked off on 5th August at Bicholim. This grassroots tournament aimed to draw team from Bicholim Taluka. Eventually 28 teams participated in an action-packed Tournament which provided an excellent platform to budding football talent.

Amravati SC Amona clinched the 'Championship' in a nail-biting finish by defeating Kelambika 'A', while Khetoba Mayem and Rashtoli FC impressed as the losing semi-finalists.



Distinguished guests including Mr. Brahmanand Shankhwalkar, former India Football Captain and Padma Shri awardee, appreciated the participants for their dedication & skills. He also expressed his gratitude to Vedanta Sesa Goa's for holding fast on its commitment to youth development through sports.

The VFC 2023 exemplified the power of sports to nurture young talent & transform lives.



Semi Finalist: Khetoba Mayem & Rashtoli FC
Promising Player: Mitilesh Fadte, Amravati Sports Club
Top Goal Scorer: Laxmanrao Rane, Khetoba Mayem
Best Goalkeeper: Gauresh Popkar, Kelambika A
Best Player of the Finals: Pratik Bhagat, Amravati Sports Club
Player of the Tournament: Rajat Naik, Kelambika A

SETTING THE PITCH ABLAZE - I



SFA SENIOR MEN'S ACTION IN GOA PRO LEAGUE



In the 2023 Goa Pro-League season, the SFA senior team made a significant impact at Duler Stadium, securing 6 points from two exciting victories in three rounds.

They kicked off their campaign with a resounding 4-0 win against Young Boys of Tonca. Despite a narrow 1-0 defeat to Guardian Angel SC in the second match, their unwavering determination shone through & the third match saw SFA brushing aside Vasco SC for a 3-0 win.

This impressive journey promises an electrifying season filled with passion and fierce battles, capturing hearts and setting the stage for future successes.

SETTING THE PITCH ABLAZE -II



SFA WONDER WOMEN TEAM IN ACTION

SFA Senior Women's Team made its much anticipated debut in the 7th edition of the VWL. They have performed credibly so far with a win, two draws and a lone defeat against outright tournament leaders FC Tuem.

We await the resumption of the League for the SFA 'wonder women' to take flight in their impressive opening season.

VETERANS SHINE!

The Sesa Vedanta-AWES Veterans League saw 8 evenly matched teams competing for the top prize.

The stars of yesteryears showcased exhilarating football all through the tournament.

Ilhas Veterans & Murida-Fatorda Veterans met in the finals and Murida - Fatorda emerged victorious in the prestigious competition.



VEDANTA U-15 YOUTH CUP



The Vedanta U-15 Youth Cup 2023-24 kicked-off on 1st September, 2023 promising yet another exhilarating season of fast paced & action-packed football. Seven outstanding teams squared off against each other and vied for the top honors. The participating teams represented football heavyweights from various regions of India: Belgaum United Football Academy (BUFA), South Goa United (SGU), Dempo Sports Club (DSC), Sesa Football Academy (SFA), FC Goa, Bengaluru FC (BFC) and Salgaocar FC (S FC).

The inaugural match of the season saw a thrilling face-off between SFA & BUFA, which ended with the latter pipping SFA by 4-3. This match set the tone for the rest of the tournament.

The tournament serves as a pivotal platform for emerging young talents to showcase their skills and abilities at the National Level, and also nurtures grassroots development of football.

The Vedanta U-15 Youth Cup is now established as a tournament of stature for its high level of competition & also for the platform it provides for budding footballers aiming to progress beyond age-group levels.





SETTING THE PITCH ABLAZE -III



U-13 , 1ST DIVISION



In an electrifying start to the season, the SFA U-13 cubs showcased their indomitable spirit in the GFA U-13 I Division League.

Having lost their opening matches, the cubs are resolute and determined to make a resounding comeback in their upcoming matches.

U-15 SCORCHERS!

U-15 SFAvengers dominated the Season Opener with a Commanding 9-0 victory over Panjim Footballers.

The young talents are presently third in their group & poised to continue their impressive run. Rehan Kalangutkar has been the stand out player for the team so far.



GFA 3RD DIVISION

GFA Division III witnessed the Sesa FA losing 1-3 in their opening match against St. Sebastian SC.

With six matches in the pool, they promise to deliver a scintillating performance in the remainder of the Tournament.



'STARS' IN THE SFA CONSTELLATION

U-15 TRAILBLAZERS!



During the Hero Junior National Football Championship held in Bhubaneswar, Odisha, from September 6th-15th, 2023, four talented players from SFA made their mark in Goa's U-15 squad.

Ravi Patel stood out with consistent performances. Johnson Rana and Granville Fernandes made impactful 25-minute cameos in the opportunities they got.

U-14 MASTERS!

SFA is proud of the budding cubs & their ability to showcase their talent & potential, in the process leaving their mark across states.

Among them, the standout talent is V. Ashwin Rao from Sanquelim Academy, who has earned a coveted spot in the Telangana U-14 team. All eyes are on Ashwin as we eagerly anticipate his performance and extend our heartfelt wishes for a stellar journey ahead in representing his state.



SELECTING THE FINEST!



The two-day selection trials for SFA Senior Men's and Senior Women's teams along with the U-13 trials, garnered an overwhelming response, becoming a platform where exceptional talents showcased their immense passion and skills for the game.

With over 300+ players participating, the task of selecting the best was no easy feat. However, after careful consideration, a select few earned their spot on the SFA teams.

Notable standouts among the new signings for the men's team included Mevren Cruz, Joshua D'Silva, Siddhant Shirodkar, Umang Gaikwad, Saurabh Patil, Sankalp Kankonkar, and Jason D'Mello. In the women's team, promising talents such as Keenda D'Souza, Malvita Mascarenhas, Michel Castanha, and other prominent players earned their spots.

These talents aren't just roster names, they embody the sport's future. Their selection fosters the finest talents through league participation, promising a bright footballing future. Their dedication symbolizes our region's aspirations, laying the foundation for an exciting journey ahead in the world of football.

MEDIA BUZZ!

Vedanta Sesa Goa' Football Pop-up Camps in Piligao & Maem for Young Talent

SPORTS

By PNT/ANON — Last updated Jul 21, 2023

Goa, Vedanta Sesa Goa as part its youth & sports development initiatives, has organized a series of football pop-up camps between 15-21 Jul 23 with great enthusiasm and success at the Ideal High School, Kligao and Sri Mahatma High School, Maem, which witnessed

Press Network of India

Amona f'ball centre opened

Vedanta Sesa Goa recently inaugurated its first football centre for girls in Amona.

The initiative is aimed to provide young girls a platform to hone their skills through specialized training programs.

The Times of India

Vedanta Sesa Goa Celebrates 77th Independence Day

Vedanta celebrated deeply rooted in the Nation building, epitomizing the spirit of Gauri Sai - Vidarbh Pitr India by being the highest value creator in adopting a self-actual approach with focus on ESG & sustainability, said Nalin Jais, CEO of Vedanta Sesa Goa

Business World

Sesa pip Salgaocar

Sesa Goa Legends' Mario Aguiar netted a late goal for a 1-0 win against Salgaocar Legends in an exhibition football match held in the memory of coach Vishwas Gaonkar at Duler Football Stadium, Mapusa, on Saturday.

The Times of India

Chance for women footballers to grab the spotlight

Times News Network

Penal: Whenever a new league kicks off, and that too with debutant teams, it's difficult to handpick the favorites. But for the seventh edition of the Women's Football League that kicks off on Tuesday, FC Team looks like the safest bet.

Favored by Goa Football Association president Celta no Fernandes, FC Team are quite easily the strongest team, having played an assortment of stars. Whether they can combine together and start firing early remains to be seen, though not many are in doubt about their abilities.

"Team have the best players and it will be a surprise if they do not finish on top," said one club manager who attended the jersey unveiling ceremony in the city on Monday.

"Overall, I see this season's league being somewhat balanced, hence the games will be competitive. Four of the teams can beat the other on their day."

Another manager provided Sesa FA and Vintage TI some hope with Compositio FC, last season's runner-up, left to fight with a largely level TI equal after their players were signed by big spending Team.

Capt Beaudin and Biquieron FC are the other participating clubs.

The league opener on Tuesday will see Compositio FC go head to head with FC Team at Navim, while Sesa FA will clash with Vintage TI at Sirvaim.

For the first time, the women's league matches will be streamed live.

"Within Sesa, we do not differentiate for us, all are equal, and in society, both wheels are need," said Nalin Jais, CEO, Sesa Goa, who promised support for the league.

A few months ago, Nalin was left wondering why Sesa did not have a dedicated girls' team, or exclusive training for them. Now, that has turned into a reality with not just participation in the league, but also camps where TI showed up in Amona.

The double-leg league spans over three months with matches being played at four venues across the region. It includes Duler Stadium (Mapusa), Romy ground (Novim), Sesa Academy ground (Sirvaim) and Gauri ground.

"Football knows no gender, and it's high time that we provide the same opportunities and recognition to our talented female footballers. The Women's Football League will be a platform where they can shine and inspire generations to come," said GFA president Caltara.

The Times of India

MEDIA BUZZ!

Vedanta football c'ship kicks off

THE GOAN NETWORK

PANAJI

Vedanta Football Championship 2023, a 7-a-side football tournament organised by Sesa Football Academy (SFA) kicked off in Bicholim Taluka on Saturday.

"The championship provides an excellent avenue for the young footballers of Bicholim Taluka to unleash their footballing potential. As a precursor, Vedanta (SFA's parent company) had conducted a series of football pop-up camps in the region and based on the enthusiasm and response of the participants, the effort culminated in the hosting of the Vedanta Football Champion-

ship, 2023," the SFA said in a press release.

"This championship is a step forward in SFA's mission to identify, nurture, and groom young footballing talents in the country and is aimed at engaging over 350 youth from the Bicholim Taluka, promoting the growth of sports excellence in Goa."

The event was graced by D Chandrakant Shetye, MLA Bicholim Constituency, Premendra Shet, MLA, Maem Constituency, alongside Vedanta executives, including Dheerajkumar Jagdish, D CEO, IOG, Leena Verencar, Head ESG, and Santosh Mandrekar, Head North and Central Cluster IOG.

The Goan

Vedanta pays tribute to soldiers on I-day

PANAJI: The Indian national flag was hoisted by Priya Agarwal Hebbar, chairperson of Hindustan Zinc and non-executive director of Vedanta Ltd along with Akarsh Hebbar, global managing director of Semiconductor & Display Business and Naveen Jaju, CEO, Vedanta Sesa Goa at Vedanta's flagship CSR initiative Sesa Football Academy (SFA), Sirsaim and Panaji respectively. All three spoke on the occasion.

As a prelude to the 77th Independence Day, 'Garv Se-Vedanta for India' campaign was launched on 24th Kargil Diwas, a heartfelt tribute to the sacrifices rendered by our gallant soldiers and martyrs.

Among other activities planned to commemorate the role and contribution of the Armed Forces to nation building, members of the Vedanta Sesa Goa family expressed their heartfelt salutations through letters, videos, soldier selfies, messages and notes addressed to the Param Veer Chakra awardees of Operation Vijay.



The Goan

Clencio shines in Sesa FA's win

He scores and provides an assist in their 4-0 rout of Young Boys of Tonca

Staff Reporter

Goa

Sesa Football Academy (SFA) displayed a commanding performance, netting a resounding 4-0 victory over newly-promoted Young Boys of Tonca in a professional league match played at Duler Stadium, Margao, Goa Monday. The encounter opened a significant chapter in SFA's youth development strategy. Shortly after kick-off, SFA's attack was unstoppable, with Clencio leading the charge. He scored the first goal in the 15th minute, setting the tone for the match. Subsequently, the team maintained their lead, with Clencio and other players contributing to the rout. The match concluded with a commanding 4-0 victory for SFA, showcasing their attacking prowess and teamwork. Clencio's stellar performance, marked by his precision in attack and creative thinking, left Young Boys of Tonca with no room to breathe. Clencio was named the player of the match for his heroics on the field, helping SFA claim three points in their inaugural match. The victory proved to be a crucial one for SFA, as Clencio not only provided a



by the end, Sesa Football Academy's well-earned performance, marked by precision in attack and creative thinking, left Young Boys of Tonca with no room to breathe. Clencio was named the player of the match for his heroics on the field, helping SFA claim three points in their inaugural match. The victory proved to be a crucial one for SFA, as Clencio not only provided a

Navhind Times

Sesa FA, Vintage 73 share spoils

They miss ample opportunities as the match ends in a goalless draw

Staff Reporter

Panaji

Sesa Football Academy (SFA) and Vintage 73 SC played out a goalless draw in the GFA-Vedanta Women's League at Sirsaim ground, on Tuesday. The first half of the match was a rollercoaster of emotions as the newly crowned Sesa FA took on the seasoned Vintage 73 SC. Right from the kickoff, Sesa FA displayed their potential, creating numerous scoring opportunities, but struggled to find the elusive breakthrough. Vintage 73 SC, on the other hand, came agonizingly close with a well-taken shot that narrowly missed the target. The battle in midfield was fierce, with Priya Dharwadkar, Sesa FA's showcasing her blistering speed but being pertinently tackled by Vintage 73 SC's Anshu. Vaishali's long-range attempt for Sesa



let's dazzling skills gave fans a glimmer of hope. However, Vintage 73 SC missed a significant opportunity inside the 18-yard box. The second half witnessed resurgence from Vintage 73 SC, who took control of the game with

FC Tuem down Compassion

Staff Reporter

Navelim

FC Tuem scored a comfortable 4-0 win over Compassion FC in the GFA-Vedanta Women's League at Rosary ground, Navelim. The winners led 1-0 at the break through a Karen Estrochio goal which came in the 43rd minute. In the second half, the striker doubled the lead completing her brace. Later, second half substitute Somaaya Mukundan who came in the 60th minute in place of Nevilla Colaco scored the team's third goal before captain Kabanam B Shaikh completed the rout scoring off a corner kick.

Navhind Times

MEDIA BUZZ!

Herald
Vedanta football centres in Bicholim, Amona
 Over 150 youth from Bicholim Taluka, PANJIM: Sesa Football Academy (SFA) kicked off the 7-a-side Vedanta Football Championship in Bicholim Taluka, as a step forward in SFA's mission to identify, nurture, and groom young footballing talents.

Herald

Herald
Sesa Goa Legends pip Salgaocars Legends
 Sesa Goa Legends pip Salgaocars Legends in a friendly match held at Duler Stadium, on Saturday. Both the teams playing with 50+ Legends players were a delight to watch as they still entertained a large crowd with their ball possession and at times one touch play.

Herald

Navprabha
वेदांताचे पिळगावांत पॉप-अप फुटबॉल शिबिर
 सहाय्यी पुढाकारानेच ही संस्था, वेदांताच्या अखंड चळवळीने आणि तंत्रिक साधनवाच घेऊनही वेदांताचे शिबिर...

Navprabha

Lokmat
मुळगावचे फुटबॉल पॉप-अप शिबिर उत्साहात
 मुळगावचे फुटबॉल पॉप-अप शिबिर उत्साहात सुरू झाले. वेदांताच्या अखंड चळवळीने आणि तंत्रिक साधनवाच घेऊनही वेदांताचे शिबिर...

Lokmat

Tarun Bharat
सेसा वेदांता यू-१५ मुली-मुलांच्या वॉटरन्स, फुटबॉल स्पर्धेचे आयोजन
 ससा वेदांता यू-१५ मुली-मुलांच्या वॉटरन्स, फुटबॉल स्पर्धेचे आयोजन...

Tarun Bharat

TRENDING NOW!



#TransformingSportsSince1999



In our transformational journey towards sustainable growth, we are committed to the progress and development of the nation!