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ConIFA WFC: The main stories from the quarter-finals and first placement round

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6th June 2018

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The ConIFA World Football Cup began its knockout phase today. The group winners and runners-up played in four quarter-finals, whilst the sides eliminated will play in a series of placement rounds, to ensure all teams will play a set of six fixtures. The placement rounds determine final tournament ranking.





Placement Round 1

The day began with the news Ellan Vannin will withdraw from the tournament in protest following the [Mo Bettamer controversy](#).

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On behalf of the Ellan Vannin International Football Team (EV) by the Manx International Football Alliance, (MIFA)
Paddy Power CONIFA World Football Cup 2018
Date: 05/06/2018

Subject - Official Complaint by Ellan Vannin in relation to Barawa fielding in the match v Ellan Vannin in Group A on the 03/06/2018 a player by the name of Mohamed Bettamer, a Libyan International who has played in the CAF- the African Champions League for Sporting Benghazi. This named player was added to the Barawa squad after they had played their first match v Tamil Eelam on the 31/05/2018 in which Barawa won 4-0.

It was brought to the attention of Ellan Vannin and alleged by another participating team after Ellan Vannin had played Barawa on the 03/06/2018 that the named player above (Nr 19) had not been included within the Barawa squad prior to the start of the tournament and in fact added to their squad after their first match on the following day. It was also noted by many of the Ellan Vannin players that the Barawa players did not know the Nr 19 name during the match.

Ellan Vannin immediately emailed CONIFA requesting a copy of the Barawa squad list submitted to CONIFA prior to the start of the tournament and also noting that if this player had not been on the original squad list it was a breach under the Tournament Rules with the two games that Nr 19 had played in would result in Barawa results being transposed to a 3-0 defeat. NO REPLY HAS BEEN RECEIVED TO THIS EMAIL FROM CONIFA.

Under the tournament rules (clause 2-4) any complaint will be investigated by the Management Committee with both the Claimant and the accused party invited to attend.

Ellan Vannin were not contacted to attend any Management meeting to discuss the above but were aware that a meeting of CONIFA in relation to the tournament (daily meeting) was happening at 11AM on the 04/06/2018 and Ellan Vannin advised CONIFA that they would attend the same.

On attending the meeting NO representative from Barawa was present. The General Secretary proceeded to explain to those present that Barawa had requested permission from CONIFA to add an additional player to their squad the day after they had played Tamil Eelam in the opening game. He then proceeded to state that the decision to agree to this request came from the Organising Committee and also stated that THIS CHANGE TO THE RULES had not been passed onto any other of the competing teams. Ellan Vannin also seriously dispute that this decision was taken by the Organising Committee and was a unilateral decision by the General Secretary only who may have informed only one other member of the Organising Committee after he solely had agreed to the request of Barawa. (Documentary evidence of a FB message can be provided).

CONIFA have stated that majority of the teams did not provide their final squad list amended by the 28th May 2018 as required. In the case of Ellan Vannin we confirm that we contacted the

three squad players due to injuries and had the relevant Doctors Certificates of proof. Ellan Vannin were advised that as he was receiving so many alterations to all the squads and "n couldn't cope" that all finalised squads had to be received before the start of the tournament NOT AS STATED IN THE CONIFA STATEMENT. This was confirmed as fact by the General Secretary at the meeting of the 28th May 2018.

At this meeting Ellan Vannin were given the chance to present their case which included stating that Ellan Vannin had only come to the tournament with 22 players as one pulled out at the last minutes and in the first two games had four players that were injured who were unlikely to take any further part in the tournament. If Ellan Vannin had been aware of what was an unsanctioned rule change they would have had every right to fly in replacement players.

The Nr 19 player scored one goal against Cascadia and made one assist and scored a goal against Ellan Vannin and made an assist on the other goal in the game.

Ellan Vannin were asked to leave the room and a vote taken of course without any submission from Barawa on their results being reversed. It is therefore very strange and surprising that the vote was against the Barawa results being reversed when they provided NO evidence that this should not be the case.

CONIFA despite their promotion of morals and integrity are absolutely no better than other football governing bodies and have turned into a dictatorship controlled by the General Secretary who makes decisions unilaterally.

CONIFA you have destroyed the dreams of 22 young amateur Manx players, you have belittled a proud nation for the sake of your own objectives. SHAME ON YOU and don't underestimate the Spirit of the Isle of Man.

Paddy Power, Competing Teams, Match Officials please support morals and ethics and boycott the completion of this tournament.

End

Manx International Football Alliance

Ellan Vannin

"Moymn As Bree"



MANX IFA.
@MANXIFA

Ellan Vannin Official Media Statement. @IoMJP @Ed_Oldham
@EnergyFMSport @BBCSport @SkySportsNews @DailyMirror
#CONIFA #WFC2018 #IsleofMan

12:53 AM - Jun 5, 2018

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Having been set to take on Tibet at Hayes Lane, Bromley, Ellan Vannin were replaced at short notice by a London Turkish All Star Select XI.

Hassan Nalbet scored early on to put the Turks in the lead firing into the roof of the net. Ali Avci then volleyed in to double the lead, before Nalbet added two extra goals.

Tibet's fans were impressive and they threatened but were unable to score.

CONIFA
@CONIFAOfficial

London Turkish Select and Tibet pose for an end-of-match photo together. We would like to show our thanks for their participation at short notice! #WFC2018



At the same time, Kabylia took on Matabeleland in Enfield. Both teams took the initiative with fine attacking play but met two defensive masterclasses sending the game to penalties. Musa Stambert missed before Enzo Mezaib converted to give the North Africans a 4-3 victory after six penalties each.

Abkhazia beat Tamil Eelam 6-0 in Aveley. Despite the Abkhazis only being 1-0 up at half-time, the reigning world champions scored five second-half goals thanks to fast, counter-attacking play.

In the other Placement Round game of the day, United Koreans of Japan got their first win at the tournament with a stunning 5-0 victory over Tuvalu. Goals from Ken Taiyama, a [Tong Suong Lee](#) double as well as strikes from Young Ju Shing and Su Hyeon Mun were on offer in Bracknell.

Quarter-Finals

[*Northern Cyprus's 8-0 victory over Barawa in Sutton was featured on The National Student.*](#)

They will face Padania who overcame Panjab 2-0. The game was physical and intense, but after Stankevicius was fouled in the boss, Innocenti gave the Padanians the lead with a penalty.

Panjab surged forward looking for a winner but Innocenti won the ball in the area and ran the entire length of the pitch to set up Nicolo Pavan to stroke the ball home.

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- [ConIFA WFC: Key stories as the group stage ends](#)

[*Karpatalja's 3-1 victory over Cascadia in Sutton was featured on The National Student.*](#)

Szekely Land took on Western Armenia in the other tie at Bromley. In another heated match, Sammi Kaya was sent off before a Western Armenia coach was sent off for a confrontation with a group of fans. Tank Zsolt bagged a goal beating the goalkeeper at the far corner to put the Western Armenians in a worrying position.

Csaba Cszimadia doubled the Szekely lead with a header, Western Armenia went 0-3 down before [Yagan Hiraç](#)'s dismissal after a confrontation put his team down to 9 men. A mistake at the back meant Western Armenia conceding a fourth before the end of the game.

Placement Round Two

The Chagos Islands, a side representing those displaced by the building of British and US naval bases in the Indian Ocean will fulfill Ellan Vannin's second placement round fixture.

The matches all on the 7th June are as follows -

The Chagos Islands v Matabeleland, 1200, Parkside, Aveley.

Tamil Eelam v Tuvalu, 1200, Gander Green Lane, Sutton.



Tibet v Kabylia, 1200, Queen Elizabeth II, Enfield.

Abkhazia v United Koreans of Japan, 1200, Hayes Lane, Bromley.

Barawa v Panjab, 1500, Gander Green Lane, Sutton.

Cascadia v Western Armenia, 1500, Hayes Lane, Bromley

Semi-Finals

Both semi-finals will also take place on the 7th June.

Northern Cyprus v Padania, 1700, War Memorial Sports Ground, Carshalton.

Karpatalja v Szekeley Land, 2000, War Memorial Sports Ground, Carshalton.

The National Student will feature the Chagos Islands v Matabeleland tie as well as both semi-finals, which will involve live Twitter coverage and full match reports after the game.

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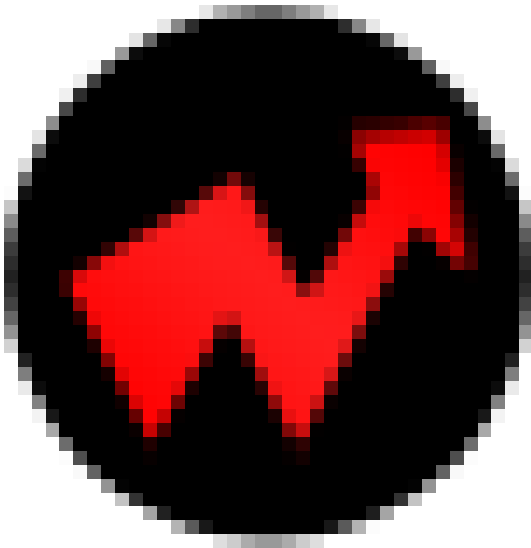


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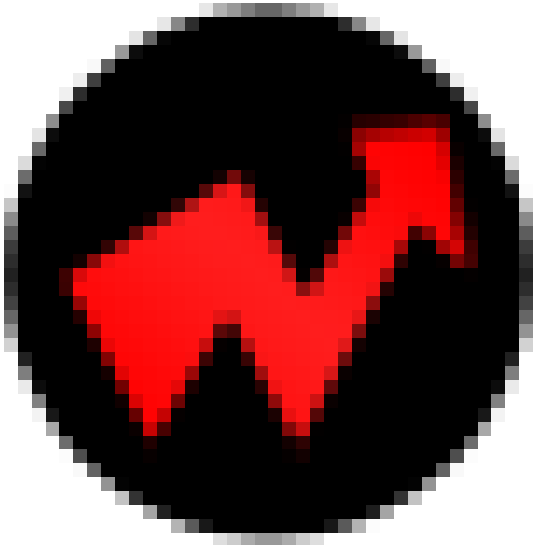




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