

# World Cup Hero Vozinha Agrees Blockbuster Move To Chilean Giants Colo Colo



Cape Verde goalkeeper Vozinha is set to complete one of football’s most remarkable post-World Cup moves after agreeing to join Chilean giants Colo Colo. The 40-year-old shot-stopper, who emerged as one of the breakout stars of the 2026 FIFA World Cup, will travel to Santiago for a medical before officially signing for the Chilean league leaders. Colo Colo president Anibal Mosa confirmed the deal on Saturday, bringing an end to speculation surrounding the veteran goalkeeper’s future after his departure from Portuguese second-tier side Chaves earlier this summer. “Vozinha will be a Colo Colo player. In the

coming days, he will travel to Chile, undergo the usual medical examinations and then be presented here at the Estadio Monumental,” Mosa said. World Cup Changed Everything Vozinha, whose full name is Josimar Jose Evora Dias, captured global attention with a series of outstanding performances in North America. His display in Cape Verde’s goalless draw against eventual champions Spain turned him into an overnight sensation, while he also produced a string of spectacular saves against defending champions Argentina during the tournament. The veteran goalkeeper played a key role in Cape Verde’s historic World Cup campaign, helping the island nation become one of the tournament’s biggest surprise packages. The African side, the second-smallest country ever to qualify for the World Cup, came within touching distance of another major upset before suffering a dramatic 3-2 extra-time defeat to Lionel Messi’s Argentina in the round of 32. Backed by popular Brazilian streamer Casimiro, the goalkeeper has become a social media phenomenon, with his Instagram following exploding from around 50,000 before the World Cup to nearly 30 million in just a few weeks.

# IPL 2026 PLAYOFFS: RCB TO FACE GT IN QUALIFIER 1, ELIMINATOR BETWEEN SRH & RR

The IPL 2026 playoff line-up was confirmed after Rajasthan Royals registered a commanding 30-run win over Mumbai Indians at the Wankhede Stadium on Sunday, sealing the final available spot in the top four. The fourth playoff berth had been a closely contested race involving the Rajasthan Royals, the Kolkata Knight Riders and the Punjab Kings. While defeats for RR and KKR would have handed Punjab Kings the qualification advantage, Rajasthan ensured a decisive finish with a dominant performance that not only secured their own progression but also eliminated both PBKS and KKR from the race. With the victory, RR completed the playoff quartet and joined the already-qualified sides in the IPL 2026 knockout stage, bringing an end to a tense mid-table battle for the final spot. The playoffs begin on May 26

in Dharmasala with Qualifier 1, featuring table toppers Royal Challengers Bengaluru and second-ranked Gujarat Titans. The winner of this game will cruise into the final, while the losing side will have another shot at the championship. The Eliminator is scheduled to be played on May 27 in Mullanpur, between the third-ranked Sunrisers Hyderabad and Rajasthan Royals, who finished fourth on the points table. The losing side will be knocked out, while the winners will face the losing team of Qualifier 1 in the next face-off. The winner of the Eliminator and the team losing the Qualifier 1 will lock horns in the Qualifier 2, scheduled to be played in Mullanpur on May 29. The winner of this fixture will march into the final, which will be held in Ahmedabad on May 31.

# RONALDO TO RETIRE AFTER FIFA WORLD CUP 2026? PORTUGAL’S NEW BOSS GIVES BIG UPDATE ON CRISTIANO’S FUTURE

Portugal appointed Jorge Jesus as their new national team coach on Friday and in his first press conference Jesus said he would continue to call on veteran superstar Cristiano Ronaldo if he is available, insisting the forward will “never” be a problem. The 41-year-old striker was criticised for his performances in the FIFA World Cup 2026 under predecessor Roberto Martinez as Portugal were eliminated in the Round of 16 by Spain. Ronaldo, who said he has appeared at his last World Cup, has not decided whether he will continue to play for the national team. “As long as he’s playing and is in a condition to be selected, I will pick him, within certain limits and under the conditions that I consider best for the national team,” Jesus told reporters Friday at his presentation. The 71-year-old journeyman coach said he has not spoken to Ronaldo yet but that they would discuss the former Manchester United and Real Madrid star’s future in the game. “I haven’t spoken with Cris yet... Cris is never going to be a problem for the national team. Not for the national team, nor for me,” Jesus explained. “Cris is a symbol of Portuguese football. Cris is a symbol of the national team... that will forever be in the history books. “I had great pleasure working with him this past year...



(it’s) easy to work with him... “We’re going to have a conversation between the two of us about what he wants to do with the future of his career.” Jesus coached five-time Ballon d’Or winner Ronaldo at Al-Nassr before leaving in May after guiding the club to the Saudi Pro League title. “I know (Ronaldo) wants to keep playing at Al-Nassr, because, as you know, I spent a year with him,” added Jesus. “He always told me, ‘I’m going to end my career at Al-Nassr’.” Jesus will lead Portugal until after the 2030 World Cup, which the country is hosting along with Spain and Moroc-

co. Portugal appointed Jorge Jesus as their new national team coach on Friday and in his first press conference Jesus said he would continue to call on veteran superstar Cristiano Ronaldo if he is available, insisting the forward will “never” be a problem. The 41-year-old striker was criticised for his performances in the FIFA World Cup 2026 under predecessor Roberto Martinez as Portugal were eliminated in the Round of 16 by Spain. Ronaldo, who said he has appeared at his last World Cup, has not decided whether he will continue to play for the national team.

# Ballon d’Or Debate Settled Following Official Clarification On Team Trophies

Ballon d’Or committee confirms individual impact outweighs team trophies. Mbappe, Haaland, Messi vie for the 2025 award.

The Ballon d’Or organising committee has all but confirmed that a player doesn’t need to win a team trophy in a season to be eligible for the coveted prize, with several names in the race to bag the Ballon d’Or this season, especially after an exciting FIFA World Cup. The committee has maintained that an individual footballer’s impact on the field holds greater significance than the number of team trophies won. In a statement released by the Ballon d’Or, the committee highlighted footballers who won the prestigious award despite failing to bag a team trophy during that season. But such instances have been rare, with just six

players achieving the feat in the award’s history. “Stanley Matthews, the first Ballon d’Or winner in 1956, is also the first to have won it without having claimed a team title during the calendar year (the Ballon d’Or has been decided on the sporting season since 2022),” the statement said. “Denis Law matched him in 1964, as did Gerd Müller in 1970. The German had scored 10 goals at the FIFA World Cup that year, but his team only finished 3rd. Kevin Keegan, in 1978 and then Luis Figo, in 2000, also managed to win the most prestigious individual title despite a trophyless season,” the statement added. The two leading contenders



for the prestigious award this year who haven’t won a team trophy during the season are Kylian Mbappe and Erling Haaland. Trailing Mbappe and Lionel Messi, who finished with eight goals each in the Golden Boot race, were Jude Bell-

ingham, Haaland, reigning Ballon d’Or winner Ousmane Dembele and Harry Kane. Messi won the 2025 MLS Cup and the 2025 MLS Eastern Conference title with Inter Miami CF during the 2025–26 domestic football window and

might also be a candidate for the Ballon d’Or. The committee has maintained that an individual footballer’s impact on the field holds greater significance than the number of team trophies won.

# Vaibhav Sooryavanshi Targets Chris Gayle Record, Says ‘I Want To Score 200 In T20’

Vaibhav Sooryavanshi aims to be the first to score a T20 double hundred, with an eye on Chris Gayle’s 175 record after explosive innings in youth and domestic cricket.

Teenage batting sensation Vaibhav Sooryavanshi has set himself an extraordinary goal after dominating bowling attacks in junior cricket and the IPL — becoming the first batter in history to score a double hundred in T20 cricket. At just 15 years old, Sooryavanshi has openly declared his ambition to surpass Chris Gayle’s legendary unbeaten 175, which remains the highest individual score ever recorded in T20 cricket. Gayle produced that iconic innings for Royal Challengers Bengaluru against Pune Warriors India during the 2013 IPL season, a record that has stood for more than a decade. Speaking to Kevin Pietersen on the latest episode of The Switch, the youngster made it clear that he is targeting history. After Pietersen reminded him that “Chris Gayle’s got 175,” the teenager doubled down on his ambition.

“Yeah, I want to break his record and score 200. “If I play 20 overs in any game, I definitely will break that record.” Can He Do It? Vaibhav Sooryavanshi has already produced several explosive innings that suggest the milestone may not be beyond him. He previously smashed 190 for Bihar in the Vijay Hazare Trophy and also struck 175 in the Under-19 World Cup final. His current highest T20 score stands at 144, while his aggressive approach has earned him comparisons with some of India’s most destructive young batters. Last year, he blasted 143 against England U19, bringing up his hundred in just 52 deliveries — the fastest century in Youth ODI cricket history. Earlier, during the ACC Men’s U19 Asia Cup against UAE, he registered the joint third-fastest T20 century by an In-



dian, placing him alongside players such as Rishabh Pant and Abhishek Sharma. Sooryavanshi’s fearless mindset has also drawn parallels with Sachin Tendulkar, who became the first batter to score a double century in ODI cricket in 2010. “I will try to score 200 in the next match. I will try to play the full 50

overs. The more I score, the more the team will benefit,” he had said after his record-breaking innings against England U19. Vaibhav Sooryavanshi has already produced several explosive innings that suggest the milestone may not be beyond him. He previously smashed 190 for Bihar in the Vijay Hazare Trophy and also struck 175 in the Under-19 World Cup final. His current highest T20 score stands at 144, while his aggressive approach has earned him comparisons with some of India’s most destructive young batters. After Pietersen reminded him that “Chris Gayle’s got 175,” the teenager doubled down on his ambition. “Yeah, I want to break his record and score 200. Vaibhav Sooryavanshi aims to be the first to score a T20 double hundred, with an eye on Chris Gayle’s 175 record after explosive innings in youth and

# LeBron James’ Historic 21-Year All-NBA Streak Comes To An End

LeBron James’ record streak of 21 straight All-NBA selections ended Sunday after the Lakers star missed the league’s 65-game eligibility cutoff.

LeBron James has spent more than two decades rewriting NBA history. On Sunday, though, one of his most remarkable streaks finally came to an end. For the first time since his rookie season in 2003-04, the Los Angeles Lakers superstar was not named to an All-NBA team. James entered the season holding the NBA record for most All-NBA selections with 21, along with a record 13 First Team appearances. The last time he missed out entirely, Shaquille O’Neal was still

wearing Purple and Gold. This time, the reason was not a dramatic decline in production. The 65-Game Rule Strikes Again James played just 60 regular-season games after missing the first 14 games of the campaign because of sciatica. That left him short of the NBA’s 65-game minimum requirement for postseason awards and honours. The rule also rled out Stephen Curry and Giannis Antetokounmpo. For Curry, it ended an eight-



year streak of appearing on every All-NBA ballot, while Antetokounmpo also missed

out after years of consistent inclusion. Even at 41, James remained productive when-

ever he was on the floor. But availability ultimately decided his fate. A New-Look All-NBA Lineup The First Team reflected the NBA’s shifting landscape, led by Luka Doncic, Shai Gilgeous-Alexander and Nikola Jokic. Also making the First Team were Victor Wembanyama and Cade Cunningham. The Second Team featured Jaylen Brown, Kawhi Leonard, Kevin Durant, Jalen Brunson and Donovan Mitchell.

# First Time In Football World Cup History, No Real Madrid Player Will...

Spain names 26 man World Cup 2026 squad with no Real Madrid players for the first time in their history in the tournament.



Spain has announced a 26-member squad for the FIFA World Cup 2026, and for the first time in its 92 years of competing at the tournament, no Real Madrid players have made it. Madrid, the most decorated club

in the world (and not just Spain), finished the 2025-26 season without a major trophy. 21-year-old defender Dean Huijsen had the best chance of getting into the traveling party to America, but has missed out with Luis de la Fuente preferring Pau Cubarsi, Aymeric Laporte, and Eric Garcia. Former Real Madrid captain Dani Carvajal, who would leave the club this year, could have been a strong contender had his last few seasons not been ravaged by injuries. Spain did not take any Madrid players to the 2020 European Championship, the ‘Euros’, but three of them represented the Euro 2024-winning squad: Carvajal, defender Nacho, and striker Joselu. Nacho and Joselu have left the club since the competition. The squad is heavily represented by La Liga champions Barcelona with 8 players (Joan Garcia, Cubarsi,

García, Pedri, Gavi, Dani Olmo, Ferran Torres, Lamine Yamal). There are 3 players from Premier League winners Arsenal (David Raya, Martín Zubimendi, Mikel Merino), 3 from Athletic Club (Unai Simón, Laporte, Nico Williams), and 3 from Atlético Madrid (Marc Pubill, Marcos Llorente, Álex Baena). Spain has been drawn in Group H alongside Cape Verde, Saudi Arabia, and Uruguay and will begin its campaign against Cape Verde on June 14. With the likes of Yamal and Williams, La Roja would be one of the favorites to at least reach the semi-final of the competition. Spain’s FIFA World Cup 2026 Squad Goalkeepers: Unai Simón, David Raya, Joan García. Defenders: Marc Cucurella, Alejandro Grimaldo, Pau Cubarsí, Aymeric Laporte, Marc Pubill, Eric García, Marcos Llorente,

Pedro Porro. Midfielders: Pedri, Fabián Ruiz, Martín Zubimendi, Gavi, Rodrigo Hernández, Álex Baena, Mikel Merino, Mikel Oyarzabal. Forwards: Dani Olmo, Nico Williams, Jeremy Pino, Ferran Torres, Borja Iglesias, Víctor Muñoz. Lamine Yamal Spain has announced a 26-member squad for the FIFA World Cup 2026, and for the first time in its 92 years of competing at the tournament, no Real Madrid players have made it. Madrid, the most decorated club in the world (and not just Spain), finished the 2025-26 season without a major trophy. 21-year-old defender Dean Huijsen had the best chance of getting into the traveling party to America, but has missed out with Luis de la Fuente preferring Pau Cubarsi, Aymeric Laporte, and Eric Garcia.