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1. First-ever Women's Premier League begin in Navi Mumbai (March 4, 2023)

The **Women's Premier League (WPL 2023**) with **five teams** begins on 4 March 2023 in **Navi Mumbai.**

An overview of the news

- After years of waiting and planning, the **Board of Control for Cricket in India** (BCCI) has launched a **T20 franchise-based cricket league** for women on the lines of the popular **Indian Premier League**.
- India skipper **Harmanpreet Kaur** has been named as the MI skipper while opener **Smriti Mandhana** will captain the RCB women's team.
- Australia's successful skipper Meg Lanning will captain Delhi Capitals, while Beth Mooney has been named as the skipper of Gujarat Giants.
- Australian wicket keeper and batsman Alyssa Healy is leading the UP Warriors in WPL 2023.
- First match between **Mumbai Indians and Gujarat Giants** was played at **DY Patil Stadium Navi Mumbai** 4 March.
- The tournament **final** will be played at the **Brabourne Stadium, Mumbai,** on the 26 March.

Five teams taking part in the inaugural edition of WPL

- Mumbai Indians (MI).
- Royal Challengers Bangalore (RCB),
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- Gujarat Giants (GG)

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3. Hockey India appoints South African Craig Fulton as new Chief Coach of Indian men's hockey team (March 4, 2023)

Hockey India has appointed **Craig Fulton of South Africa** as the **new head coach of the Indian men's hockey team.**

An overview of the news

- Craig Fulton will replace Graham Reid who resigned in January 2023 following India's poor performance in the World Cup.
- Craig Fulton represented South Africa at the Atlanta 1996 and Athens 2004
 Olympics and earned 195 international caps in a career spanning more than a decade.
- Fulton managed the **Irish men's hockey team** between 2014 and 2018 and helped them qualify for the **Rio 2016 Olympics.**
- He also won the FIH Coach of the Year in 2015 while with the Irish team.
- Fulton has nearly **25 years of coaching experience** and has **earned 195 caps for South Africa** over a span of 10 years.
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5. Jesvin Aldrin creates new national record in men's long jump event at Indian Open Jump Competition 2023 (March 3, 2023)

Jesvin Aldrin created a new national record by winning the gold medal in the men's long jump event at the Indian Open Jump Competition 2023 held in Bellary, Karnataka.

Overview of the news

- Jesvin Aldrin, competing at the **Inspire Institute of Sports (IIS)**, broke the national record of 8.36m set by Murali Sreesankar in April last year at the Federation Cup 2022, with a jump of 8.42m.
- Jaswin Aldrin has also qualified for the Asian Games.
- At the Asian Indoor Championships 2023, **Jesvin Aldrin** set a new national indoor record with a long jump of 7.97m.

Long Jump Medal Winners of Indian Open Jump Competition 2023 Men's Winner:

- 1. Jesvin Aldrin (8.42m) Gold Medal
- 2. Muhammad Anis Yahiya (7.85m) Silver medal
- 3. Rishabh Rishishwar (7.77m) Bronze medal

Women's Winner:

- 1. Shrutilakshmi (6.11 m) Gold Medal
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7. NADA bans Indian athletes Aishwarya Babu, MV Jilana for doping (March 3, 2023)

India's triple jumper **Aishwarya Babu** and sprinter **MV Jilna** have been banned by **India's National Anti-Doping Agency (NADA)** and Athletics Integrity Unit (AIU) respectively after they tested positive for banned drugs by the **World Anti-Doping Agency (WADA).**

Overview of the news

- Aishwarya won a gold medal in the triple jump during the National Inter-State Championships in June 2022, with a leap of 14.14 m establishing a new national record.
- Aishwarya has been suspended for four years by the National Anti-Doping Agency (NADA) after she tested positive for a banned substance, anabolic steroids.
- Aishwarya's sample tested positive for a steroid included in the banned list of the World Anti-Doping Agency (WADA), due to which she was ruled out of the **Birmingham** Commonwealth Games 2022.
- Aishwarya had tested positive for Ostarine which is a Selective Androgen
 Receptor Modulator (SRAM) during the National Inter State Championships on 13th
 and 14th June 2022 in Chennai.

World Anti-Doping Agency (WADA)

- The World Anti-Doping Agency (WADA) was established in 1999 as an international independent agency composed and funded by the International Olympic Committee (IOC) and governments of the world.
- Its main aim is to fight against the unauthorized use of performance enhancing drugs (Dope) by the athletes in sports.
- WADA's primary role is to develop, harmonize and coordinate anti-doping rules and policies across all sports and countries.
- WADA is an international organization. It delegates work in individual countries to Regional and National Anti-Doping Organizations.
- Headquarters: Lausanne, Switzerland.

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9. New Zealand becomes second team after West Indies winning Test match by one run (Feb. 28, 2023)

The **Tim Southee -led New Zealand** team has established a work by **defeating England by 1 run in the second Test.**

An overview of the news:

- New Zealand has become the second team in the world to win the match by the lowest run in Test cricket. Earlier in 1993, West Indies set this record by winning 1 run against Australia in Adelaide.
- England had declared their first innings for 435 runs after which the New Zealand team was dismissed for 209 runs. Ben Stokes decided to follow the hosts with a lead of 266 runs.

- New Zealand took advantage of this to score 483 runs and set a target of 258 runs to win • in front of England in the fourth innings. In front of this score, the entire English team was
- dismissed for 256 runs.
- With this achievement, New Zealand has become the third team in the world to win a Test match by taking a follow on.
- England did this work 2 times against Australia, while India defeated Australia after taking a follow on at the Eden Gardens ground in 2011.
- Till now in Test cricket, Australia was the only team that has lost by giving a follow on, but now England's name has also been added to this list.

10. Australian women's cricket team won the T20 World Cup title for the sixth time (Feb. 28, 2023)

Australia has won the Women's T20 World Cup 2023 title for **the sixth time** by defeating **South Africa** by 19 runs in the final.

An Overview of the news:

- It was the **eighth edition of the ICC Women's Twenty20 World Cup** tournament, held in South Africa from **10 to 26 February 2023.**
- The title match of the Women's T20 World Cup 2023 was held at the Newlands Stadium in Cape Town, South Africa, which was won by Australia.
- This was the **seventh T20 World Cup final** match for the Australian women's team.
- Batting first after winning the toss in the match played at Newlands in Cape Town,
 Australia scored 156 runs losing six wickets in 20 overs. In response, the South African team was able to score 137 runs losing six wickets in 20 overs.
- The Australian team has become champions in 2010, 2012, 2014, 2018, 2020 and now in 2023.
- The Australian team has scored a title hat-trick in the Women's T20 World Cup for the second time. For the first time, a team has scored a title hat-trick for the second time in an ICC tournament, including men's or women's cricket.
- Australia's all-rounder **Ashley Gardner** was awarded the 'Player of the Tournament' award.
- The Indian women's team lost to the Australian team in the semi-final match.