

Thursday 27 July

18:00

Pakistan 2

Spain 3

72' Santi FREIXA is Man of the Match.

**** Goal: Sergi ENRIQUE ****

70' With twelve seconds on the clock and ESP on the attack, time is stopped for a PAK defender who has been hit by a ball on the collarbone. ESP have a free hit, K. FABREGAS takes it, and passes the ball to Sergi ENRIQUE who has been sneaking up to the top of the circle unseen and unmarked. He hits the ball in high to win his team three points.

**** Goal: Sohail ABBAS ****

68' A low flick finally does the trick for ABBAS who has wasted quite a few opportunities today, but sinks this decisive one.

67' PC for PAK.

66' QUEMADA's flick is too high.

65' PC for ESP.

63' Green card for Edi TUBAU.

63' Great opportunity for TUBAU in the middle of the circle but he cannot stop the pass.

**** Goal: Santi FREIXA ****

60' Finally, a PC with S. FREIXA on the pitch, and he is not about to waste the opportunity. A flick to the right side of the goal restores Spain lead with little more than 9 minutes to go.

59' Free hit for ESP from the edge of the circle. The entire PAK team is in the circle to defend. GARZA takes the free hit, passing the ball to A. FABREGAS at the top of the circle. He wins a PC for ESP.

56' ABBAS sets the flick over the crossbar.

55' PC for PAK as a long corner hits GARZA's foot in the circle.

52' ESP are on the attack most of the time now, repeatedly penetrating the PAK circle but do not manage a shot on goal in the mostly overcrowded circle.

48' With S. FREIXA once more not on the field at a PC, QUEMADA fills in again. A good flick to the right side of the goal is deflected wide off AKBAR's glove.

47' TUBAU wins a PC for ESP.

44' Great opportunity for PAK as D. ALEGRE stops a shot on goal in the circle, then tries to clear but puts the ball on ABBASI's stick. ABBASI's shot is saved by CORTES though.

38' Sohail ABBAS sets the ball high over the crossbar - no goal.

38' Penalty stroke for PAK after a stick tackle.

36' FREIXA's flick to the left side of the goal is deflected wide off AKBAR's glove.

36' PC for ESP.

36' Green card for Muhammad SAQLAIN.

35' The teams go into halftime at 1:1. After ESP opened the scoring and was the better team at the beginning, PAK have caught up, and the two teams are now equal opponents.

30' D. ALEGRE has the opportunity to take ESP up again but AKBAR denies him.

**** Goal: Aktar ALI ****

28' PAK after numerous tries finally manage to beat the ESP defense. A bouncy free hit from left falls to ALI in front of the goal, and he tips in a difficult ball.

24' Another great opportunity for ESP after a turnover in midfield. SALA runs towards the goal without any PAK defenders before him, accompanied by AMAT on the left. Before the goalkeeper, he lays the ball off for AMAT, but AMAT's shot hits the outside of the goal only.

22' Another opportunity for PAK after a free hit in the ESP half. BUTT receives the ball in the circle and tries to get around CORTES. With the goal already empty before him, his shot goes wide.

21' Great solo run from Rehan BUTT. He wins a free hit for PAK just outside the circle. Once more though, the ESP defense manages to avoid any shot on goal.

19' With S. FREIXA out on the bench, it is QUEMADA who steps up. His ball into the bottom left corner of the goal is deflected wide off AKBAR's stick.

18' O. FREIXA wins a PC for ESP.

15' PAK have also had some good attacks but the ESP defense, R. ALEGRE, RIBAS, GARZA, and ENRIQUE, are having an excellent day today, avoiding any convincing shots on

11' And another chance already for ESP as TUBAU makes a run down the left, hitting across for FREIXA near the right post. FREIXA dives in but to no avail.

**** Goal: Santi FREIXA ****

10' FREIXA receives the ball from Pol AMAT in the circle on the left side almost on the back line and weaves his way horizontally across through the PAK defense, looking for an opening. As goalkeeper AKBAR moves sideways and then falls, FREIXA slots the ball into the bottom right corner.

7' So far, PAK have not been able to threaten ESP. Their only foray into the ESP circle has ended with a free hit for ESP, resulting in protests from the PAK and a rebuke from umpire KLEIN NAGELVOORT.

6' Another good attack from ESP, a long ball from K. FABREGAS finding S. FREIXA near the circle. FREIXA shoots a reverse stick across the face of the goal but there are no takers.

2' ESP starts out aggressively, attacking from the beginning of the match. A first good opportunity comes in the 2nd minute with TUBAU running down the right and passing across for AMAT but AMAT has little room to move and his eventual shot goes wide.

0' Welcome to the second match of today where Spain will be taking on Pakistan. ESP are currently third in the table and will be looking to make points to maintain a good position in the race for the final, while PAK at the moment are a disappointing last with only one point from three matches. Today's match however sees the return of Muhammad SAQLAIN after having served his three match ban - it remains to be seen how he will manage to influence the Greenshirts' game.

0' The umpires in this match are Erik KLEIN NAGELVOORT (NED) and Tim

PULLMAN (AUS).