

## TALE OF AN ATHLETE



**Avinash Chavan** 

Cricket is an emotion; a feeling. Since a child, I have grown up with my ears glued to the radio commentary, my eyes fixed to every bat swing or ball spin. Now that you understand my passion for the game, stay with me through this tale.

## Cargosol Premier League (CPL) 2021

Cargosol organized its first ever cricket tournament - CPL 2021. Although I won the Most Valuable Player (MVP) award, my heart sank, as our team lost the tournament. This year - 2022 was redemption year.

## **CPL 2022**

The excitement for the tournament began 3 months in advance. The teams were announced and we began strategizing right away. We booked a turf to practice, and got team jerseys. The MVP 2021 tag came with responsibility, as my team relied on me to make it to the finish.

The D-Day arrived, and I saw the turf hustling in colours yellow, blue, green and red. Wearing my green jersey, I stood there in the midst of this energy bubble. Our first match was against the strong blue team – whose batting and bowling line was experienced and professional. We were chasing a score of 98, but with teamwork and persistence, we emerged victorious.

Match after match, we progressed into the finals. We walked onto the turf to face the red team. Our every stroke, catch and spin were aimed to win the trophy. Alas, history repeated itself yet again, we lost the finals.

Learning from Loss

If I trace back the reason we lost, I believe half of the team were in a hurry to score, while the other half were playing defensive, in the fear of losing a wicket. I was the latter. Disappointment struck me, as I saw the trophy slipping away from me yet again.

This year saw some great cricketers. Hence when it was time to announce the MVP 2022, I zoned out. Suddenly, I felt a push forward and the turf resounded with claps. I saw in my hand an award titled the Most Valuable Player 2022. It was a bitter-sweet victory. Declared the MVP 2022, yet I lost the trophy.

## Defining an athletic spirit

Focus, judgement and the drive for excellence – all determine a true athlete. But, even if you cannot play the game, play for the spirit of bonding and friendship. This event is a platform for inter-departmental bonding, moulding new leaders and focusing on health and fitness. In the fast-pace logistics world, such events create a happy and lively environment.

My suggestion, "Stay Invested and Stay Interested". Participate in every chance you get. Don't bother about "Log hasenge'. CPL 2023 – Will be an MVP hattrick and I will strive to win this long-awaited victory.