

NEWSFLASH

AFRICA - FEBRUARY 2009



INTERNATIONAL CRICKET COUNCIL DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM – AFRICA AFRICA CRICKET ASSOCIATION

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BOTSWANA

As cricket celebrates its 100th year internationally, 2009 is set to be a big year for massive improvement and performance for Botswana cricket.

Worldwide Botswana has joined a number of countries in preparations for the celebrations for cricket's 100th year of existence. The International Cricket Council (ICC), of which Botswana is a member, has encouraged its member countries to promote the spirit of cricket amongst the people. Amongst the plans advocated for to celebrate the 100th year of cricket, Botswana is set to have its very first under 11s cricket team starting in March.



The Botswana Cricket Association (BCA)'s Developmental programme has also recently started the schedule for the year with the recruitment of another batch of 8 government schools in and outside Gaborone. The Government Primary Schools cricket initiation programme has welcomed 3 schools from Mochudi, 1 from Oodi and four from Gaborone.

Lady Matchiso from Mochudi registered the largest number of students signed up for cricket with 114 students. Khuduga Primary School, from Gaborone West registered 76, and Segale Primary School from Mochudi recorded about 65 students interested in cricket. Kgabo Sereto, Matebele, Segoditshane, and Boitumelo Primary schools have all enrolled about 60 students each into the programme. According to the developmental officer of the BCA, Girish Ramakrishna, this means that the number of students enrolled in the community building programme exceeds 3000 students.

Late last year, before the festive holidays, the initiation programme had visited places as far as Maun where they recruited about 3 primary schools and distributed cricket equipments to schools in that area.



BCA also plans to get more teachers involved in the spirit of uplifting cricket in government schools. The plan to improve the number of workshops carried out to teaching teachers the collective techniques involved in the sporting field would also be intensified. "This is a community effort not an association; we therefore need all the help and co-operation we can get from parents and teachers as they play a vital role in the development of the child. We are continuously trying to engage more teachers to become part of our programme," said Girish. **REPORT BY:** Kagiso Madibana for the Sunday Standard Newspaper

GAMBIA



Gambia's Domestic League – First Round for 2009 commenced in January 2009. Their senior league is all set and has one more match left for the first round. The league will be three rounds, and Veterans Cricket club are leading with a better run rate as per attached table.

Gambia also held a three day coaching clinic for the primary schools, from January 11th – 13th, at the July 22nd Square, in Banjul. Eight schools whereby each brought in 15 students were invited and selection were made for the Academy, fifty students were identified.

The coaching was conducted by the Level 1 coaches who have been use to promote and develop the game in the schools. New students are joining everyday and this has brought a revival of the game in The Gambia. A development committee meeting was held on the 14th January at the Secretariat at the July 22nd Square. The President is the Chairman of this committee, and had presented the development plan for 2009.

The committee consists of all Level 1 coaches, and some board members. The year's plan is to ensure that Gambia achieve their goal for the year, and every school in the Capital should be playing cricket before the end of the year, and the rural development program should commence in earnest before Mid-March, 2009, being part of ICC Centenary Celebrations.

At the Gambia National Olympic Committee Annual General, it was reported that The Gambia Cricket Association, is now number (3) Three in the country, after Football and Athletics. This recognition is a very big boost for the Association, and they are determined to go further and get the next spot after Football. They have a weekly spot in the Local newspapers in the Country.



The President was also invited to a Popular Television talk show in which he seized the opportunity to promote the game. The Association had a couple of radio programs during the month at the Monday Sport's File broadcast, at the West Coast Radio station, all these programs are avenues that the Association is using to promote the game in The Gambia

For the latest news about cricket in Gambia visit: www.thepoint.gm

MALAWI

The Malawi Cricket Union held its Annual General Meeting on the 25th of February 2009 whereby the following members had been voted onto the Executive Board of MCU:

Chairman - Rizwan Omar

Vice Chairman - Shiraz Zaveri

Treasurer - Altaf Panjwani

Vice Treasurer - Karamat Chaudry

Development Officer - Abdul Rehman Khan

Umpires Chairman - Amin Tarmahomed

The ACA-ICC Regional Office would like to wish the newly elected board all the best in their portfolios.

MOZAMBIQUE

The Pepsi ICC-Africa World Cricket Qualifiers – Affiliates Tournament was held in Mozambique from the 27th of February until the 4th of March 2009. The Tournament was played in a 50 over round robin matches over 5 days whereby the following six teams participated:-

- Mozambique
- Ghana
- Gambia
- Sierra Leone
- Swaziland

The fifth and final day of the Tournament which was held on the 4th of March 2009 saw the following teams competing with results as stated below:-

Mozambique vs. Ghana

Played @ PDC Cricket Ground

Mozambique scored 65 all out

Ghana 67 in five overs

Ghanas won by 10 wickets

Gambia vs. Sierra Leone

Played @ Cometal Cricket Ground

Gambia 17 all out

Sierra Leone 17 for two



Sierra Leone won by eight wickets

Swaziland vs. Rwanda

Played @ Nelson Mandela High School

Swaziland 262 for 7

Rwanda 129 All out

Swaziland won by 90 runs

Final positions on the log:

1st: Sierra Leone

2nd: Ghana

3rd: Swaziland

4th: Mozambique

5th: Rwanda

6th: Gambia



CONGRATULATIONS TO THE SIERRA LEONE CRICKET TEAM ON AN IMPRESSIVE WIN!

NIGERIA

The Lagos State Academicals Cricket Team, following the pattern of the Kaduna 2009 Gold Medal winning team, showed its class by defeating South West and South East Zones to qualify for the semi-final of the inaugural Indomie National Secondary Schools Cricket Championship sponsored by De-United Food Industries Limited, makers of Indomie Noodles, organized by the Nigeria Cricket Federation (NCF).

The Chairman of Lagos State Cricket Association, George Wiltshire praised his boys for going out there in far away Kaduna to show their skills and talent, defeating back to back, South West and South East Zones of Nigeria. He urged them to continue with the same winning mode as they prepare for the semi-final encounter in three weeks time in Lagos. He thanked the sponsors DUFIL for bringing cricket back to Secondary Schools in Nigeria and hopes that it will be a long relationship, partnering the Nigeria Cricket Federation in developing talents from the schools.

The Nigeria Cricket Federation(NCF) has made public a list of 18 players short-listed for the U-19 Cricket World Cup Africa Qualifiers scheduled to take place in Zambia from 26th April to 5th May, 2009. The short-listed U-19 players are Abiodun Abioye(Captain), James Chukwu(Vice-Captain), Usman Bankole, Rotimi Adesanya, Oluwatoyosi Baines, Oluwafemi Oguntoke, Clement Amonokhai, and Prosper Mbanwa. Others are Benjamin Anyia, Godwin Onoja, Frank Omozejele, Traishik Akuli, Ayomene Ejegi, Varoon Behani, Seun Adeboro, Derick Omo-Asine, Olumide Adeniran and Abiodun Ajani.

The squad will be further reduced to fourteen players by 12th March, 2009 and includes about five of the players that represented the country at the North-West Africa U-17 tourney that held in Abeokuta last November.

The team is being coached by Uthe Ogbimi who was part of the Senior National team that placed second in the WCL Africa Division 2 Series that held in South Africa last year. The Team Manager appointed for the assignment is a former Nigerian International, Kome Agodo with the NCF Secretary-General, Adokiye Dans also to be in the delegation.

To enable better preparation, the U-19 team was registered in the on-going Club Cricket Committee (CCC) League in Division 2 by the NCF and is currently placed 5th out of the 8-team division, having played 5 matches, won 2, lost 2 and drawn 1 with 11 points ahead of Ibadan Municipal Cricket Club(IMCC), University of Lagos Cricket Club and Howzat Dolphins. The team is targeting a first 4 finish in the division.

UGANDA



Uganda 180-10
Hong Kong 179-10
Uganda wins by 1 run

It was like watching Australia against South Africa in the semi-final of the 1999 Cricket World Cup at the Edgbaston Oval in England, all over again. Except this time the actors were Uganda and Hong Kong, and the stage — a Super Six contest in the Division 3 Pepsi ICC World Cricket League at the Corimayo Oval in Argentina.

Uganda's one-run win over Hong Kong had not provoked such brilliant descriptions, but the ICC has called it "one of the most memorable finishes to a game in the history of the World Cricket League". In fact, by comparison to Australia's win, Uganda's escape was even more unbelievable. For where South Africa needed nine runs in the final over, Hong Kong needed the same target in two overs. In the last over, Hong Kong needed three runs from six balls to win. However, and this is a big however, the now legendary Ronald Ssemanda first dismissed Zain Abbas (35) before Jamie Atkinson was trapped lbw with Hong Kong one run short of its target. "The coach has helped us with these situations by working on the mental side of our game. He has told us we should be soldiers and fight to the last ball," said man-of-the match Kenneth Kamyuka. The fact that Uganda's coach is South African probably helped as it is likely his country's aforementioned loss to Australia is still fresh on his mind. "I didn't give up hope as we have been in these type of situations before and from the moment we got a couple of late wickets, there was always a chance. We were determined to fight until the last ball," Ebrahim Mohamed told the tournament's website www.pepsiicccworldcricketleague.com. Needing just 21 runs for victory, with five wickets in hand and 27 balls remaining, Hong Kong looked all set for victory, after an 84 run third-wicket partnership from Butt Hussain (52) and Manoj Cheruparambil (51) had helped it recover from the loss of two early wickets. But Kamyuka and Ssemanda saved Uganda from defeat and rescued their bid for a place in the final.

Kamyuka was brilliant, taking four for 21 in 10 overs. It started with two wickets from the first two balls as Hong Kong wobbled in their reply to Uganda's 180 run target.

A loss against Hong Kong would have almost certainly knocked Uganda out of contention, thereby ending its pursuit for a World Cup slot. Victory meant Uganda cemented its hold on second place ahead of its final Super Six match against Argentina.



The finals of the Tournament saw Afghanistan and Uganda who achieved a place in the ICC Cricket World Cup Qualifier after recording victories.

Uganda managed to sneak into a top two position in the final standings after bowling out Argentina for 83 all out, achieving a significant enough improvement in its net run rate to finish ahead of Papua New Guinea, who missed out on a top two finish at the event despite having lost only one group game in the competition.

Final Positions:-

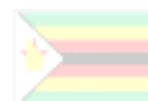
- 1: Afghanistan
- 2: Uganda
- 3: Papua New Guinea
- 4: Hong Kong
- 5: Cayman Islands
- 6: Argentina

The ICC Cricket World Cup Qualifier is set to take place in South Africa between 1-19 April 2009. The top four sides at that event qualify for the ICC Cricket World Cup 2011, while a top six place will secure ODI status for the next four years.

Information taken from: www.pepsiiccrworldcricketleague.com

ZAMBIA

Graham McMillan conducted a three day coaching course held from 6-8 the February, 2009 at Centrals Sports Club. A good turn up of women and men were recorded. Graham stated that it was a great challenge to existing coaches and their wish was for more of these coaching courses to be conducted every three to four months.



During the course the ZCU chairman addressed the participants by motivating them to be involved in coaching programs in schools and clubs for Zambian players to compete at the top level. He also stated that he will do his best for it to happen and he went on to thank the ACA-ICC for providing resources for ZCU to conduct the coaching program.

On the last day participants wrote the exams and some coaches were invited to be given certificates who attended the previous year's coaching course conducted by Graham McMillan.

ICC-AFRICA

TIM ANDERSON - ICC DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMMES MANAGER TIES THE KNOT



I am sure that you will all join us in wishing Tim & Nicole all the best for their future and we pray to God for their wellbeing and happiness throughout their married life...CONGRATULATIONS TIM & NICOLE!!!



REMINDERS

ACA AGM & ICC-AFRICA DEVELOPMENT SEMINAR 2009 – ALL COUNTRIES:

Please note that the dates for the ACA AGM and ICC-Africa Development Seminar has been confirmed for the 9th – 11th May 2009. All countries are requested to send in their Airfare quotes by no later than 20th February 2009 as well as the full name and passport details of the delegate that will be representing your Association at the AGM / Seminar.

ICC CENTENARY CELEBRATIONS 2009 CATCH THE SPIRIT WEEK – ALL COUNTRIES:

Please note that your first choice submissions to the ICC for the 'catch the spirit events' in your respective countries, have been confirmed by the ICC as such and therefore should you have any changes to your dates or events schedule for your first choice events in question – kindly notify your regional office as soon as possible.

ICC CENTENARY MEDALS – ALL COUNTRIES:

As per previous reminders please note that the closing date for the submission of your 5 nominated persons pertaining to the ICC Centenary Medals is the 10th of April 2009 therefore kindly ensure that all forms are submitted to the Regional office by the deadline.

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