



# *ICC Americas Region News Flash*

## *January, 2008*



- Bermuda dominate the Regional Awards
- Associates fume at possible reduction to WC teams
- Americas Division 3 ready to go
- Bahamas, Bermuda, Cayman Islands and Turks & Caicos get ready for the Stanford 20/20

### DEVELOPMENT AWARDS 2007

#### *Bermuda captures 3, Peru and Suriname are first time winners*

I am delighted to congratulate the Regional Award winners of the Americas but also to thank the various National Associations for their support of these awards. A record number of 71 nominations were received for the Americas Awards and the judging in several categories was extremely difficult due to the quality of the nominations.

The 71 nominations are symbolic of the hundreds of volunteers across this vast region that give countless hours to the development of this wonderful sport. To each and every one of you goes ICC Americas sincere appreciation, for without your sacrifices our job would be meaningless. You all justly deserve a little piece of these awards.

To our eight winners, congratulations and good luck in the Global Awards.

Martin Vieira  
Regional Development Manager

#### **Americas Region Awards 2007**

<i>Best Overall Cricket Development Program</i>	Bermuda Cricket Board
<i>Best Junior Cricket Initiative Program</i>	Suriname - Schools
<i>Best Women's Cricket Initiative</i>	Brazil -National Program
<i>Best Cricket Promotional &amp; Marketing</i>	Argentina – Tournaments & Tours
<i>Photo of the Year</i>	Bermuda – “It’s a Catch”
<i>Best Spirit of Cricket in Partnership with UNAIDS and UNICEF</i>	Bermuda – Support of STAR
<i>Volunteer of the Year</i>	Harry Hildebrand – Peru
<i>Lifetime Service</i>	Calvin Clarke – Canada

ICC Global Development Manager Matthew Kennedy congratulated all of the award winners on their achievements. He said “These Development Program Annual Awards have become more competitive each year and the Regional judges have recently had a very tough task. As well as congratulating the winners, I’d like to say that all the submissions leave us feeling immensely positive about the health of the game around the world.”

Global Award winners will be announced in March.

## Photos of the Year

1<sup>st</sup>: It's a catch! Bermuda



[www.islandstats.com](http://www.islandstats.com)

2<sup>nd</sup> Praying to the Gods! Mexico



[Damian Milverton](#)

3<sup>rd</sup> "Jump in the air" USA



[California Cricket Academy](#)

## Associates fume at World Cup pruning

The Associates are up in arms over proposals to reduce their number from six to four at the 2011 World Cup. The move comes as organizers try to make the tournament less prone to early upsets (early eliminations of India and Pakistan in 2007 were financially crippling) as well as giving the bigger teams more matches in the early stages.

Last week eight of the leading Associates wrote to Malcolm Speed, the ICC chief executive, registering their deep concern with the proposals. "We would regard such a step as perverse and unwarranted" the letter said. "It would be wholly contrary to the best interests of cricket and to the spirit of the game and [its] globalization."

The majority of the Associates most likely to be affected are meeting in London to discuss how they can tackle the proposals. The reality, however, is that they know only too well that if the major countries want to force the changes, there is little they can do about it.

(Article by Martin Williamson, executive editor of Cricinfo).



Five countries will compete for the Americas Division 3 Championship to be hosted by the Argentine Cricket Association February 10-16. The newest affiliate- Peru- will be making their debut in an official ICC Tournament. Peru will recognize some of the teams as they have hosted the South American Championship twice and have taken part in several SAC tournaments in the past. Belize, demoted from Division 2, will be looking to get back on track and must be considered the favourite to take the title. Brazil, Chile and Turks & Caicos will round out the group.

Schedule:

Monday 11	Belize vs Chile	Peru vs Turks & Caicos
Tuesday 12	Belize vs Brazil	Chile vs Turks & Caicos
Wednesday 13	Brazil vs Turks & Caicos	Chile vs Peru
Thursday 14	REST DAY	
Friday 15	Belize vs Peru	Brazil vs Chile
Saturday 16	Belize vs Turks & Caicos	Brazil vs Peru



## **BAHAMAS**

### Stanford 20/20 – 2008

Stanford legends and former great West Indian cricketers Sir Vivian Richards and Courtney Walsh visited the Bahamas to check up on training for the upcoming tournament this year in Antigua. This was the first time that Sir Vivian visited the Bahamas and he was quite impressed with the players routine. He told the players to play to the best of their ability against Jamaica as it is a 20 overs match and anything can happen. We are going into the match as underdogs and can really upset the great Jamaica. The players have been in training since March 2007 and are looking forward to their match against Jamaica on February 6. The team is captained by Narendra Ekanayake.

### Youth Program

The Association's youth program continues to strive. Coaching sessions are held Monday to Thursday each week at Windsor Park and Haynes Oval.

## **BERMUDA**

### Women's Squad for the World Cup Qualifiers

Linda Mienzer will skipper Bermuda's women's team in the World Cup Qualifiers tournament scheduled for South Africa February 18-24. Bermuda will play in a group with the host South Africa, together with Pakistan, Zimbabwe and Scotland.

### Women's Team support good cause

The BCB are pleased to announce that the team has raised an additional \$500 during training to donate to the Bermuda Cancer & Health Association. In July 2007, BF&M, the official women's team sponsor, joined forces with the national team to raise funds for Breast Cancer Awareness.

BF&M offered to donate \$25 for every wicket taken in the run up to the World Cup Qualifiers. We are pleased to report that the team took 31 wickets, raising \$775. They also enjoyed taking part in the Bermuda Cancer and Health Walk and felt they wanted to do more. Linda Mienzer, Captain, explained "The women squad chose to donate the money raised to the Bermuda Cancer and Health Association because, being a female team, it seemed especially fitting to make a commitment to this worthy cause. Breast cancer affects the lives of many and it is an issue that is very close to our hearts".

### Stefan Kelly withdraws from U19 World Cup

The BCB confirms that due to educational commitments, Stefan Kelly has had to withdraw from the U19 World Cup squad. Stefan is currently studying at Oakham School in Leicestershire, England and will be sitting important A level examinations later this year. The outcome of these examinations has a crucial bearing on his ability to garner a place at one of England's top University Centers of Cricket Excellence (UCCE).

BCB announce Stanford 20/20 Squad  
Irving Romaine will skipper Bermuda's Stanford 20/20 squad which will include several new players to the national squad. They will face powerhouse Guyana on February 10<sup>th</sup>. Prior to their game, Bermuda will play three warm up matches in Jamaica.

### BCB Level 1 and Level 2 Coaching Courses

The BCB are pleased to announce that they are conducting Level 1 and Level 2 Coaching Courses. The programs will be instructed by West Indies Cricket Board (WICB) Development Officers, Mr. Wendell Coppin and Mr. Phillip Service.

They will be teaching the new WICB coaching accreditation system that has replaced the old WICB coaching courses. Coaching Level 1 will take place April 5 to 8 and Level 2 will follow from April 10 to 14. Both courses will take place at the Berkeley Institute and will run from 9.00 a.m to 5.00 p.m.

## **BRAZIL**

Plenty of rainy weather in January has kept the Brazil team from practicing much ahead of next month's WLCQS Division 3 tournament in Buenos Aires. As it turned out, this gave the Brazil selectors more time to choose the side, which will include a sizeable number of Brazilian born players. In all, five members will be making their debut with the squad.

Brazilian bowler Rudy Hartmann, who has played for Brazil on several previous occasions (including against the MCC when he took two wickets) has kindly been invited by the Argentine Cricket Association to stay on in Buenos Aires to play in their domestic league.

The Brazilian Cricket Association wishes to thank HSBC for its financial support to help send the national team to Buenos Aires. The tournament runs February 10 to 17.

## **CAYMAN ISLANDS**

It was a bright start to a new year as the cricket season kicked off with the CLICO Cayman 20/20 International. BVI provided the overseas opposition and, together with three Cayman teams, provided lots of fun and entertainment.

C&W Cayman national team capped off an excellent preparation exercise winning the three matches they contested. BVI won two matches against ME Cayman and ESSO Cayman but suffered two heavy defeats against the C&W Cayman national team, going down by wide margins of 10 wickets and 9 wickets. Outstanding for the BVI national team was 16 year old Sheldon John who had excellent performances with bat and ball.



16 year old Darren Cato  
Man of the Match



C.I. captain Pearson Best meets CLICO Cayman Ltd .Branch Manager.

## CANADA

### Coaching

The National Coach, Pubudu Dassanayake, has announced the other members of his coaching team consisting of national level coaches. Shaun Miller who played in England at a very high level is the Deputy National Coach responsible for Western Canada (British Columbia, Alberta and Saskatchewan); Anderson Cummins, former West Indies and Canada opening bowler, will be spearheading the U19s; Farooq Kirmani who represented Canada in both the 1982 and 1986 Associates WC Qualifier in England, will be undertaking the U15s; George Codrington who played for Barbados U19 and recently represented

Canada at CWC in the West Indies, will undertake the women's program; and Geoffrey Crosse will resume his role as Technical Analyst.

### T20 WCQ

Canada recently announced its current singular focus is to win the T20 World Cup Qualifier to be played in Ireland from August 2 - 4, 2008. The process of preparing the team for this has been wrapped into a project named "Stingray" which will be led by Pubudu Dassanayake, National Coach, assisted by his team of coaches across the country. The project will move into high gear almost immediately.

## CHILE

Simon Shalders will skipper Chile's national squad at the Americas Division 3 Championship to be played in Argentina February 10 – 16.

Delegates from Chile's cricket playing schools, along with development staff, met in Santiago on December 28, 2007 to review the year's activities and plan ahead for the next 12 months. Eight delegates representing a total of twelve schools attended the meeting – the first of its kind in Chile. High on the agenda was a review of the inaugural Homework Club School Cricket League, which was launched last September in an attempt to encourage more children to take the step up from softball to hardball cricket. The initiative was applauded by the nine participating schools, with plans to increase the number of fixtures next year and the possibility of starting in August 2008. Several other hardball tournaments were scheduled for March to May as Chile prepares to send U19, U15 and U13 sides on international tours over the coming months. However, the most important detail to come from the meeting was the delegation's decision to make 2008 the year to focus on the Spirit of Cricket and ensuring that all children have fun playing cricket and want to keep coming back. With over 2,000 children involved in Chile's development program and an excellent development staff headed by NDO David Mauro, 2008 promises to be another good year for Chilean cricket.

Following the excellent article published in RGV Sports magazine last month, Chilean cricket now appears on the front page of this publication's website. The partnership between Cricket Chile and RGV Sports is still in its infancy, but hopefully the two will be mutually benefited as the minority sport continues to take hold in the country. Check out the website [www.rgvsports.cl](http://www.rgvsports.cl) for further details.

A friendly match between a combined national and Craigengower CC from Hong Kong took place on January 3. This competition was taken as an excellent opportunity for training with a view to the Division 3 tournament which is being hosted in Buenos Aires on February 10.

## COSTA RICA

CCCR traveled to Limon on January 13 where they were greeted by two charming representatives of the Mayor who had been invited by Limon CC. CCCR batted first on a beautiful day and made 144 for 5 in their 25 overs. Limon never recovered from a bad start, losing two wickets in the first over. After some spirited resistance they were all out in less than the allotted 25 overs. Limon CC arranged a good late lunch which was much appreciated. CCCR now lead the league.

### Cricket Development

Richard Illingworth and Sam Arthur spent two days in the Limon area after the CCCR/Limon CC game. They covered a lot of ground, met many people and identified a number of opportunities.

Sam Arthur has started regular coaching sessions with Limon CC and has given a video presentation to the youngsters at Robleato. We expect to be able to report further as his program gets into full swing.

## FALKLAND ISLANDS

The 2008 cricket season kicked off at MPA this month with two Twenty20 knock-out matches played back to back. In the first match, MPA took on a weakened Stanley side, coasting to an easy 7 wicket victory. In the second game, Kelpers met HMS Nottingham.

The Kelpers finished on a modest but defensible 96 for 4 wickets after the end of their allotted 20 overs. HMS Nottingham were immediately in trouble at the start of their innings. They never recovered and were all out for 54.

The final of the Twenty20 Knock-Out competition between MPA and the Kelpers is scheduled for March, when the matches in the Falklands Cup (the Twenty20 league) will also be played. The first match in the South Atlantic Ashes series between the Governor's XI and the CBFs XI was scheduled for Saturday, January 26<sup>th</sup>, starting at 12 noon at the MPA Oval.

#### Junior Cricket

Junior cricket continues to expand with the start of an indoor junior league with 5 teams as a joint venture of the Community School, the Leisure Centre & FICA. The outdoor junior training sessions have seen good numbers turning up and there is to be a 4-match outdoor series leading up to our proposed U17 tour of Chile in April.

Falkland CC near Perth, Scotland has extended an invitation to FICA to join in the celebrations of their 150<sup>th</sup> anniversary in 2010. They hope to have a triangular tournament including Falkland CC, the Falkland Islands and Falkland CC from Newbury, England whom FICA played last July during their UK tour.

### MEXICO

#### School Cricket on the roll

On a beautiful sunny day under blue skies, a group of around 40 enthusiastic youngsters from four different schools in and around Mexico City got together at the Reforma Athletic Club for the sixth time in two years to play inter-schools cricket. This initiative, promoted by the Mexican Cricket Association as part of a development plan aimed at getting Mexicans involved in cricket at grass roots level, has been enormously successful in these early stages.

The standard of cricket has risen dramatically since the first event was held and some genuine talent is beginning to appear and develop. Perhaps more importantly, all of the boys and girls who have participated have shown a level of enthusiasm and a respect for the spirit of the game that would be an example to many seasoned players - no questioning of decisions, high levels of sportsmanship and excellent relationships between the teams have been characteristics of the tournaments played so far.

There is definitely a sensation that this is the beginning of something significant. Credit must be given to the teachers, parents and members of the MCA who have supported this program. There is a real possibility of Mexico being able to field a team of Mexicans in the not too distant future.

### PANAMA

It was something historic in Panama to play in another province – Chitre, which is 3 hours away from Panama City. Next year plans are to create another team in the province of Santiago.



Panama Cricket Association is also thinking of including these teams in the cricket tournament that is held every year in the city.

Panama is looking forward to playing more International cricket within the Americas region. That opportunity will come in April when they compete in Division 2 to be held in Suriname

### TURKS & CAICOS

#### National team defeat Provo XI

The Turks & Caicos national team defeated a Providenciales XI by 45 runs in a 20/20 game played at the Downtown Ball Park in Providenciales. In a game used as part of preparations for the Stanford 20/20 tournament, the national team batted first and were restricted to 159 for 6 from their quota of overs. The Provo XI were dismissed for 114 in 17 overs.

In the Providenciales Cricket Association 20/20 competition, Police beat Jamaica All Stars by 6 wickets. Minister of Sport, Honorable Dr. Carlton Mills was on hand to witness the game.

*Our thanks to the following for their contributions this month:*

Greg Taylor (Bahamas); Fiona Holmes (Bermuda); Norman Baldwin (Brazil); Theo Cuffy (Cayman Islands); Calvin Clarke (Canada); Michael Meade (Chile); Philip Chesterman (Costa Rica); Roger Diggie (Falkland Islands); David Grant (Mexico); Michael Pereira (Turks & Caicos).

**Please submit articles and photos (separately and jpeg format) for publication in our NewsFlash no later than the 25<sup>th</sup> of each month, to [admin@cricamericas.com](mailto:admin@cricamericas.com)**

Please note pictures embedded in articles cannot be used. Kindly send all photos separately.

**ICC AMERICAS Development Forum, Cayman Islands - May 10/11, 2008. Please make plans to attend.**

**WCL Division 2 to be hosted by Suriname mid April, 2008 (TBC)**