



ICC Americas



NewsFlash

April 2007

SOUTH AMERICAN CHAMPIONSHIP

The Guyana Masters combination proved to be far too powerful for all opposition in the recently concluded 7th South American Championship, played out in Lima, Peru. Although there was some thought that the Argentina "A" combination may provide some opposition in the final, this was blown away by a 150 run victory by the Guyana Masters, and with it their second championship title.

Held for the second time (the first was in 1999) on Peruvian soil, the host Peruvian Cricket Federation did an outstanding job in organizing and coordinating the event, and this 7th SAC tournament must rank as one of the best ever. The two venues – Lima Cricket & Football Club and Markham College – were excellent, and it was great to have an event played entirely on turf wickets. Special thanks must go to Harry Hildebrand, Viv Ash and absolutely everyone involved in Lima in hosting such a fantastic event. It provided an excellent marker for the PCF who hope to be admitted as members of the ICC later this year. Their organization enthusiasm certainly bodes well for the future of Peruvian cricket.

In addition there were a number of other positives. Amongst them, for the first time ever a team from Ecuador took part. Also for the first time ever, there were official umpires in all matches, made up of a panel – Shanthikumar Kantharatnam and Ruban Sivanadian from Canada, David Gibson from Argentina, and Herd Rogers from Costa Rica - supplied

by ICC Americas. They all performed to a very high standard and certainly made a huge difference to the quality of the tournament overall.

On the playing front, the event was divided into two groups. Guyana Masters finished top of their group with Chile and Peru, while Argentina "A" qualified for the final by finishing ahead of Brazil and the Ecuador XI in their group.

The keenly awaited contest in the final did not materialize. Even though the Argentina "A" side, which included three members of their national squad, performed extremely well in bowling out their Guyanese opponents for only 204 in the 40th over, the eventual victors simply slipped into a higher gear and demolished the Argentine side for 54.

The big winner of the tournament was Shazam Babwah, playing for the Guyana Masters, who not only picked up a number of Man of the Match awards along the way, but also claimed the awards for Player of the Tournament, Best Bowler and Best Batsman. Argentine wicket-keeper Marc Roberts won the Best Fielder award.

A final word of congratulations to the Peruvian Cricket Federation for an outstanding tournament, and to all the participating teams for being there and producing good cricket and a wonderful atmosphere. Special thanks to the Lima Cricket & Football Club (founded in 1859) and Markham College for use of

their grounds and facilities. Mention must also be made of the much appreciated sponsors – Prima AFP, Chimu Travel, Topy Top, Backus & Johnson, O'Murphy's Irish Bar and Gold's Gym.

Another memorable South American tournament completed, and everyone is already looking forward to SAC8 in Brazil.

Summarized Scores:

Brazil 93 all out (30,1) R.Islam 27, A.Casime 4-13, E.MacDermott 2-12
Argentina A 95 for 1 (22,3)
C.Tunon 39no, C.Gibson 32no
Argentina A won by 9 wickets

Peru 86 all out (33,4), J.Davies 3-12, P.Smith 3-22
Chile 87 for 1 (25,2) A.Champion 61no
Chile won by 9 wickets

Guyana Masters 280 for 8 (40)
S.Babwah 133, R.Latchman 75, J.Green 2-30, T.Messner 2-33
Chile 170 for 6 (40) J.Fecci 57no, S.Shalders 28
Guyana Masters won by 110 runs

Brazil 239 for 9 (40)
M.Featherstone 105, G.Caisley 37, M.Major 4-33
Ecuador XI 139 all out (30,4)
C.Sagar 27, N.Appleyard 26, D.Randolph 3-48, V.Singh 3-24
Brazil won by 100 runs

Ecuador XI 85 all out (23,3)
N.Appleyard 22, E.MacDermott 3-6, C.Tunon 3-18
Argentina A 86 for 2 (18) C.Gibson 36no, E.MacDermott 31no
Argentina A won by 8 wickets

Guyana Masters 284 for 4 (40)
P.Singh 87, Sudesh Dhaniram 71,
R.Latchman 54, S.Babwah 53no,
M.Buesst 2-63
Perru 186 all out (34) M.Buest 47,
M.Soulsby 38, C.Abbott 26,
S.Babwah 4-21
Guyana Masters won by 98 runs

3rd/4th Playoff
Chile 247 for 6 (40) S.Shalders
112no, G.Hooper 35, R.Islam 2-32
Brazil 197 all out (36,5)
M.Featherstone 94, R.Islam 48,
S.Shalders 3-37
Chile won by 50 runs

Final

Guyana Masters 204 all out (39,1)
S.Babwah 55, K.Tirbene
40,A.Casime 3-34, E.MacDermott
3-44
Argentina A 54 all out (28,4)
S.Babwah 4-8, P.Singh 4-17



Rudy Latchman (Guyana Masters)



Estaban Billy MacDermott (Argentina)



Tim Messner (Chile)

DEVELOPMENT FORUM

The 5th Annual ICC Americas Forum is set for May 19-20 in Mexico City, Mexico. The forum will be held at the Reforma Athletic Club, headquarters of the Mexican Cricket Association. Tim Anderson, Global Development Program Manager will attend. Three top ranking officials from the WICB have also been invited. All fifteen member countries have indicated they will send delegates. Last year the forum was held in Cuba where Sports Authorities were so interested in cricket that they have decided to send a delegate as an observer to this year's forum. The forum is the annual meeting where reports are received and plans are established for the coming year. This year the five key elements of the Development Plan will be stressed.

1. Good Governance,
2. Quantity to Quality,
3. Women's Cricket,
4. Junior involvement to junior playing and
5. Non ICC Income.

The Regional Development Awards will be presented at a BBQ Dinner to be held on Saturday evening at the Club.



The 2006 ICC Americas Development Forum held in Havana, Cuba



ARGENTINA

April was highlighted by the visit of the Natal Needle Nosed Ducks (NNND) U13 team. Led by their coach Chris Anderson and Jeremy Wallace they spent 3 weeks touring Argentina.

They were due to play 8 matches in 21 days but in the end only 7 games were possible. They started their tour off with comfortable victories over St. Georges College and Argentina U15 in the first match of the five match series. In the third match played at Hurlingham, Argentina lost the toss and were put into bat on a damp pitch. They could only manage 90 runs.

The Argentina team was ready to put up a fight, and so they did. They made the South Africans work hard for every run, and if they had not missed a few chances the final score could have been different. At the same time we must say that the Natal boys played with character and in the end reached their target with 4 wickets in hand to take a 2-1 lead.

In the fourth match played at Bedes Grammar School, the Argentine Captain, Agustin Husain won the toss and with the threat of rain, decided to field first. The hosts gained a vital wicket to break the second wicket partnership and from there the Midlands crumbled to 106 all out.

The Argentines made a solid start thanks to a good opening partnership between S. Fennell and G. Gonzales Sutil. They reached their victory total with ease as they cruised to a 7 wicket victory. With this victory the series level at 2-2

with an exciting final match on the cards.

In the final game of the series, Argentina won the toss and elected to field first. They were able to apply early pressure to the Natal Midlands batsmen as they restricted the visitors to 99 all out. In reply, Argentina could never really consolidate and the local batsmen struggled against the consistency and accuracy of the visitors as the hosts crumbled to 64 all out.

There was a total of 40 local kids that played against the Natal Midlands (NND) with Santiago Paez Nicoletti being named player of the series.

Argentina Women's Squad

The ACA has announced a squad of 18 women that will participate in the inaugural ICC Americas Women's tournament to be held in Toronto, Canada in August 2007.

Catalina Greloni (Captain), Dirce Yuli, Violeta Yuli, Marcela Rojas, Brenda Auld, Veronica Vasquez, Deflina Canton, Sofia Retamales, Maria Casas, Victoria Gibson, Clara Culley, Luli Culley, Georgina Retamales, Sofia Bruno, Alison Prince, Martina Benitez, Marina Vibart, Cecilia Birnie.
Coach: Esteban MacDermott and Manager: Moira Culley.

BERMUDA

Cricket Laws and Scoring Seminars

The BCB is pleased to announce that Mr. Peter Smith, an internationally respected umpire and training officer is currently on the island conducting a series of free seminars on Cricket Laws and Regulations for umpires and any other interested parties. Mr. Smith

is currently Chairman of the Training Board of the Association of Cricket Umpires and Scorers (ACUS), which is the largest association dealing with umpires and scorers. He also served on the Laws Working Party at Lord's, the governing body responsible for drafting and reviewing the Laws of Cricket. This will be Mr. Smith's second visit to Bermuda following the series of umpire and scores courses held in December 2005.

Mr. Smith also ran a Scorer's course on his visit for those with or without previous experience and who were interested in gaining an official qualification from the Association of Cricket Umpires and Scorers.

Free Skills Assessment Day

The BCB held a Skills Assessment Fun day on Saturday, April 14 at the National Stadium for anyone in the public who has an interest in playing for their country and a genuine interest in helping to develop the island's national sport. The current national team coaches and players were in attendance and engaged the public in skills drills, agility work, game plans, video analysis and much more.

Mr. Gus Logie, National Coach, had this to say: "Having just returned from the ICC Cricket World Cup 2007, we at the BCB are now looking ahead to the Cricket World Cup 2011 with the critical qualifying tournament in UAE in April 2009. We are therefore using this time as a post mortem as we prepare our 24 month national training program in order to ensure another successful qualification."

Mr. Irving Romaine, national team captain is quoted:

“As everyone knows, a few of the current national team members are retiring from international cricket and so it is essential that we have excited, talented young players coming to the foreground and making themselves known as the national team members of tomorrow. We are really looking forward to being able to spend this time with those who truly want to see this as an opportunity to be noticed by the national coaches.”

BRAZIL

MCC Visit

On March 17-20 the Brazilian Cricket Association hosted the MCC in Sao Paulo. Despite the rain, an excellent cricket match and a kids' coaching session ensued. The MCC's visit spurred a number of initiatives for local cricket, foremost of which was the rebuilding of the pitch at the Sao Paulo Athletic Club, which also included renovating the old net and building a new collapsible one. The Brazil and MCC teams were treated to a number of off-field events, several of which were courtesy of the British Consul General, Martin Raven, who graciously provided his home and the Consulate facilities. The MCC side featured a number of up and coming stars, such as Zimbabwean paceman Duncan Bradshaw, plus former England and Yorkshire player Jim Love. Both teams had a chance to use the new nets on Saturday, before the rains came, which also washed out the next day's play. On Monday, however, the sun came out and the action finally got underway.

The MCC batted first and made 183-9, with former Somerset skipper Martin Burns top scoring with 37. Rubibal Islam, Rudyard Hartmann and your correspondent collected 2 wickets apiece for Brazil, with the other 3 dismissals all being excellent run outs. Despite the early loss of several early wickets, Brazil made a game of it, with middle order batsmen R. Islam (35) and Vinay Raniswal (57) smashing 6 fours and 6 sixes between them. They brought Brazil

close before the hosts finally succumbed to 162 all out. On Tuesday, Brazil captain Matt Featherstone took his MCC counterpart and few other players for a coaching session at St. Paul's school. This proved so successful that the children will soon be playing regularly at the Sao Paulo Athletic Club ground.



MCC and Brazil National Team

During the weekend the Brazilian Cricket Association also held its AGM, where Ian Webster became the new President. Brazil wishes to thank the ICC and MCC for all their efforts to make the tour a success, to ICC Americas rep Grant Dugmore for all his invaluable assistance, and to the local players and umpires who traveled a considerable distance to take part.

South American Championship

A fortnight after the MCC visit, the Brazil team traveled to Lima, Peru for the 7th South American Championship, where the team finished fourth out of six, beating newcomers Ecuador but losing to perennial rivals Argentina and Chile. Apart from Captain Matt Featherstone and Rubibal Islam, who averaged 61 and 31.3 respectively, Brazil's batting never got on track, particularly with the openers who incredibly managed one run between them in three matches. Game one saw Argentina cruise home by nine wickets with only R. Islam (27) offering any resistance in Brazil's total of 93. Game two against a surprisingly strong Ecuador squad finally put Brazil in the win column, though it needed a fine 105 from M. Featherstone who was ably supported by Greigor Caisley (37) in a 164-run partnership. Although

Ecuador made a good start in chasing 239, three wickets each from Deodat Randolph and VP Singh ensured a 100-run victory in which the Brazil captain was named Man of the Match. Needing a win against Chile to finish third, Brazil again came up flat, with friendly and often wayward bowling helping Chile on their way to 247-6. Brazil managed 197 all out in reply, with Featherstone (94) and Islam (48) supplying all but 55 of those runs.

Brazil wishes to thank Harry Hildebrand, Vivian Ash and the other organizers for their tremendous efforts to make the tournament such a success. The grounds at Markham College and the Lima Cricket and Football Club were superb. Brazil plans on hosting the next event in 2009, where hopefully Harry will agree to be the MC!

Domestic Season

Brazil's local league kicked off with a rain-affected draw in Sao Paulo on April 22, between India and Rest of the World. The league now features six teams, with two each in Curitiba, Brasilia and Sao Paulo. The next matches will be in Curitiba on May 5/6. The Curitiba Saturday morning kids league got underway on April 14, while plans are underway to host an Argentinean women's team and U-13 boys' team in Curitiba in September.

CHILE

In April Chile took third place honors in the 7th **South American Championships** in Lima with a 9 wicket victory over Peru, a 110 run loss to the Guyana Masters and 50 run victory over Brazil. Chile batted well with special mention to Alistair Champkins' 61* vs Peru., John Fecci's 57 vs Guyana Masters and Simon Shalders' 112* vs Brazil. The Chilean bowling looked very good with Simon Shalders and John Davies each taking 6 wickets over the course of the tournament while Jarryd Green (2.53), Tim Messner (3.19) and Tony Beasley(3.55) had the best economy rates for the team.

La Reina Cricket Club won the **Metropolitan Cup** to become the second club to claim the Cup twice since its inception six years ago. The La Reina Captain Ian Scott won the toss and elected to bat. La Reina scored 171 runs in their 40 overs for the loss of 6 wickets. Top run scorers were Tony Beasley 42, Iqbal Nawaz 26 and Enrique Salas who scored 37 in 27 balls before being stumped on the penultimate delivery of the match. Jarryd Green 8-0-22-1 and John Fecci 8-2-13-1 were the pick of the Santiago bowlers. The Santiago Cricket Club led by national captain Simon Shalder (24) boasts one of the strongest batting sides in the Metropolitan Cup but were only able to come up with 120 runs before being bowled out by La Reina in the 33 over. Tony Beasley won Man of the Match honors for his opening spell of 8 overs with 2 maidens for 17 runs. Young Rowan Salter was the top wicket taker with 7 overs, with 3 maidens for 17 runs and 4 wickets.

National Development Officer John Davies and Regional Development Officer Patricio Caamano visited Chillan in the 8th region where they introduced cricket to four more schools in the region – Castile, Ramon Vinay, Liberador Bernado O'Higgins and Mexico, who are all planning to incorporate cricket into their sports curriculum.

The Regional Development Officer Patricio Caamano and ACC level 1 Coach Gary Septoo worked with students in the 5th region at the Curuma School. More schools in this region are planning on incorporating cricket into their sports programs.

The Chilean Cricket Association would like to thank coach John Davis for his time spent in Chile. John worked as the National Development Officer as well as coach for the national side from September until this month. He has just returned to Sussex where he is busy telling everybody at Sussex CCC how great his time was in Chile. We wish John the best.

CUBA

Activity continues in Cuba where cricket players play the game on any surface they can find ranging from baseball sandlots to cement surfaces. They just want to play cricket !



Baseball sandlots make for a good cricket game.
So does cement school yards.



Many groups have shown interest in helping the Cuba Cricket Board in developing the game on the island. They include UK Sport and the Indian Ambassador.



USA

Under Lights Tour of Florida – For the Ariana 20/20 Challenge Cup 2007

The powerful Real Challenge Cricket team led by Rafick Baksh, which also included a number of national players, won the toss and took first strike under beautiful conditions at the Lauderhill Sports complex in Miramar, Florida. A lush, fast outfield and a good pitch for batting was watched by a large supporting crowd that included Mayor Kaplan, Vice Mayor Mr. Holness, along with numerous staff from the City of Lauderhill. Before the start of the match, Mayor Kaplan hit the first ball as part of the kick off of the 2007 Ariana Cup.

The Real Challenge team was presented with the beautiful 2007 Ariana Cup and Sudesh Dhaniram carted off all the trophies as well as cash prizes for Man of the Match, Best Bowler and Best Batsman.



Mayor Kaplan with another souvenir

Our thanks to the following for their contributions:

Gary Savage (Argentina); Grant Dugmore (RDO); Erica Fulton (Bermuda); Norman Baldwin (Brazil); Michael Meade (Chile); Leslie Tropepe (USA).

We need your articles and photos in jpeg.

Please submit by 25th of each month to admin@cricamericas.com