



ICC Americas Region News Flash

April , 2008



CLICO U15

The U15 CLICO invitational tournament recently played in the West Indies was a huge success.

The Americas Development X1 finished sixth out of eight teams, with narrow defeats both by two wickets to Malaysia and Ireland. The only games in which the Americas were soundly beaten were against the two FM squads from Pakistan and the West Indies.

A.Joshi from Chicago, USA was the team's leading player and among the best batsmen of the tournament, scoring four half centuries.

Lack of batting in the middle was the weakness of the team. The opening batting and bowling attack was adequate in most matches. The youngsters got good experience of what international cricket is all about, visiting five different islands in their two and half weeks tour.

Final Placing

1. West Indies 2. Pakistan 3. Bangladesh 4. Malaysia 5. Ireland 6. Americas 7. Holland 8. Kenya



U15 CLICO - Americas Development XI

DEVELOPMENT FORUM

The 2008 Development Forum is set for May 10-11 in the Cayman Islands. To date, sixteen of the seventeen member countries have confirmed delegates attending. Tim Anderson, the ICC Development Programs Manager, will also be in attendance.

This year's main topics will include the proposed funding and membership criteria. The theme of the forum is "Getting Ready".

WOMEN'S ACADEMY VISIT

Eleven players from Argentina, Bermuda and Canada will depart for Trinidad this month as part of ICC Americas development. The Academy will take place at the Sir Frank Worrell Development Centre in Trinidad and Tobago from May 18-29. The program will be run by Ann Browne-John - ICC Women's Committee Representative, former West Indies Captain and Level 2 WICB Coach - assisted by former international players and qualified coaches Stephanie Power and Jasmine Sammy. The girls will have 10 days of intensive training, education, game situations and will be trying out for the WICB tournament to be held in Jamaica in July.



Academy bound- eleven women form Argentina, Bermuda and Canada

AOC WORLD TOUR COMES TO THE AMERICAS

The Australian Old Collegians, famous for their world tours, will be visiting Argentina, Canada (British Columbia and Toronto) and New York starting in May 2008.

WORLD CRICKET LEAGUE- Division 5.

Two Americas Region teams will be competing in Jersey starting mid May at the WCL Division 5. Good luck to the Bahamas and the USA.

NEWS FROM DOWN UNDER- ARGENTINA



Argentina's Women's National Team vs Trinidad & Tobago



Hurlingham Hawks captures the Triple Crown in Argentina



ARGENTINA

The Hurlingham Hawks created history in the final weekend of the 2007-08 season as they claimed the Triple Crown (First Division Championship/Robin Stuart Shield/NEC Cup). They overcame a late challenge from the St.Albans Sharks to claim their third title of the season, the First Division NEC Cup. In the third and fourth play off at St.George's College, Lomas Eagles beat Belgrano Cavaliers by 32 runs in a low scoring match.

The following awards were made in the prize giving at the end of both matches:

Final

Man of the Match – Gary Savage; Best Bowler - Gary Savage; Best Batsman – Dougal Ferguson.

Third/Fourth play off

Man of the Match – David Mauro & Paul Ryan; Best Bowler – Hernan Fennell; Best Batsman – Mike Ryan

Trinidad & Tobago U15 Tour

Argentina hosted the Trinidad & Tobago U15 women's team in April. They played a total of five matches including a three match series against the Argentine national team for the Baimax International Cup (annual event).

The T&T squad won all of their matches, as expected, but there was noticeable improvement by the local squads as the series progressed.

Awards

Baimax International Cup – Trinidad & Tobago
Best Bowler – Catalina Greloni (Argentina) and Allison Collins (Trinidad & Tobago)
Best Batsman – Sade Martyr (Trinidad & Tobago)
Player of the Series – Rachel Marcano (Trinidad & Tobago).

BERMUDA

ICC Americas Cricket Academy

The BCB is pleased to announce the following players will be attending the ICC Americas 2008 Academy and Training Camp – Stacy Babb, Rickelle Smith and Shuntae Todd. Reuna Richardson was originally chosen to attend the academy; however, due to school commitments she is unable to take part. Promising all-rounder Shuntae Todd has been chosen to take her place.

The BCB is also pleased to announce that National Women's Team Manager, Cinda Bobb, has been invited to the Academy and Training Camp as the Region's Team Manager. Ms. Bobb comes to the position with a wealth of experience - former Captain for St. Vincent National Women's team, the Women's National Team Manager for the West Indies Women's team, and a member of the Women's Development Committee on the West Indies Cricket Board, to name a few. Ms. Bobb will assess the girls who are on trial for the Americas Women's Team that will compete in the WICB Tournament in Jamaica, July 2008.

Youth Leagues

The BCB is pleased to announce that the 2008 Youth Cricket Leagues kick off on April 23, 2008 and the schedule is posted on the home page. The Leagues encompass the 8&U, the Hiscox 11&U, the Bermuda Security Group 14&U, and the BF&M 17&U Leagues. The leagues finish on June 28 with the All-Star game to be held at the National Stadium.

This year the program has grown to include an 8&Under League which has proven to be extremely popular from the get-go. The main purpose of this league is to teach the basic skills of cricket whilst focusing on participation,

team spirit and to provide opportunities for all the children to have fun, play

with their friends and make new friends. The 8&Us will play on Saturdays at the National Stadium from 9.30 a.m.-12 noon.

Pee Wee Cricket

The Bermuda Cricket Board, with the support of the Western Counties Cricket Association and Ironshore Insurance Ltd., is pleased to announce that they will be holding a Pee Wee "Have-a-go" Cricket Workshop for children ages 5 and 6. The Workshop will be held at Warwick Academy Gym and will take place every Saturday, starting April 19 and finishing May 24, 2008. The sessions will run from 12.15 p.m.-1.30 p.m.



Towering over the stumps batsman
Have a go at BCB's Pee Wee Cricket.



They really mean "Pee Wee" !

CANADA

Canadian National Ladies Team

The inaugural overseas tour by the national ladies team to Trinidad & Tobago during April was a big success. The Canadian players gained a great deal of experience from the venture. Ontario all-rounder Mona Persaud captained the team and British Columbia all-rounder Joanna White was vice-captain. Coach of the tourists was former Canadian World Cup all-rounder George Codrington of Ontario.

The team played five matches in total and came home winless but with a wealth of experience. There were some fine individual performances especially by the captain Mona Persaud and Vadeo Sproxtton. Four players – Mona Persaud, Monali Patel, Joanna White and Meara Crawford, turned their attention to the ICC Americas Academy trip on May 18-19.

CAYMAN ISLANDS

Money Express Division 1

Cable & Wireless Schools registered their first victory in Division 1 action. Following the basics of the game and making Coach Andy real happy, the youngsters smartly led by Ricardo Roach defeated Paramount by 8 wickets. Fifteen year old Dale Parker made his debut for C&W Schools and worked up a lively pace. Rain ruined the other fixture between Police and Prison as no play was possible at the JPO.

Money Express Division 2

West Bay keeps the lead in Division 2 in defeating Team DTA by 53 runs. After a wobbly start, BrightStart Greenies Too middle order got their act together and scored 224 runs against Pro Plus. Greenies won by 57 runs.

BRAZIL

The big news in Brazil this past month took place in the capital city of Brasilia, during a visit by Indian President Pratibha Patil. Amidst the official speeches came a request from Brazil: "You help us in cricket and we will help you in soccer". Help apparently is on the way! Last September, Brazilian Cricket Association President Ian Webster

made a formal proposal to the Board of Control for Cricket in India (BCCI) through Indian Ambassador to Brazil Hardeep Singh Puri, for the BCCI to send a cricket coach to Brazil. On April 5, the Association received written confirmation from the BCCI, agreeing to the request. Shortly thereafter, Ambassador Puri announced in Brasilia that "the BCCI

will soon be sending a coach to train cricketers in Brazil". While the Brazilian press gave the announcement scant coverage, the story was picked up by many of India's leading media outlets. To see how it appeared on Indian TV, have a look at our biog: <http://cricketfortaleza.blogspot.com/>. While a number of details about the transfer are still to be ironed out, this agreement is a major step forward for cricket in Brazil and, hopefully, just the start of a lasting relationship between the two nations.

In domestic league play meanwhile, Swadisht CC (M.Nair 68*, 5x6, 5x4) picked up its first win of the season, defeating Gralha Azul (D.Qureshi 54, 8x4,1x6) by 7 wickets in a T20 match at the HSBC ground in Cuiritiba. Sao Paulo CC is slated to open their season when they travel to Curitiba in May for two 4-over matches against Parana. For more information about cricket in Brazil, please visit our new site at <http://www.brazilcricket.org/>.

CHILE

Second Division Final

Las Condes 2nd X1 claimed the 2007-08 Second Division title after a thrilling encounter with Santiago 2nd X1 on Sunday, April 20th at Craighouse. In a preview to the final of the Metropolitan Cup played later that same day, it was Las Condes who drew first blood with victory off the final ball of the day. It was the first time that the four Metropolitan Cup sides had entered 2nd X1s in the Second Division competition and, judging by the level of raw talent on display, it has been a great success.

Metropolitan Cup

Santiago Cricket Club became the 3rd team to win the Metropolitan Cup for the second time, and the first club since the tournament's expansion to six teams

in 2007. Having started the competition in October, and after 30 group stage games, it came down to a tensely fought battle between the two sides in the final on Sunday, April 20th. Santiago were bowled out in the 40th over for 192. The Las Condes openers came out firing, but it was the lack of a level-headed top order batsman which eventually cost them, as one too many tried to hit their way out of danger. However, with a strong tail the game was never in the bag until the final wicket had fallen with the score on 112.

Man of the Match was 16 year old Cristian Eyzaguirre whose remarkable bowling spell of 4-1-7-4 sealed the game for Santiago. It is the first time that a Chilean player has taken the MOM award in a Metropolitan Cup final – a sure sign of how the game is advancing in Chile.



COSTA RICA

Easter Cup in Nicaragua

Thanks are due to Mickey Peart for organizing three matches among Nicaragua, El Salvador and Costa Rica. The Polo Ground at the Cocibolca Jockey Club in Grenada, Nicaragua proved to be one of the best we have played on. Thanks to Eulogio Mejia Marengo, ex President and current member of the Club Committee, for making the use of the field and Club facilities available.

The games were played on March 28-30 with Costa Rica beating El Salvador by 76 runs and Nicaragua by 70 runs to take the Cup. In the third game, El Salvador beat Nicaragua by 36 runs.

Notable performances for Costa Rica included: Ben Smith with 66 against El Salvador and 5 for 6 against Nicaragua; Edward Dew did the hat trick to the dismay of El Salvador; and Julian Oliver hit 40 against El Salvador at an amazing strike rate.

Many thanks also due to Bagelmens for their sponsorship and Roger Mathauda for managing the trip.

Development

Our new Development Officer, Sam O. Arthur, started in December 2007 (2 years after his predecessor left for England). It is not easy to take over after a two year gap, but he has managed to. He has run coaching sessions with Limon Cricket Club where there is no shortage of enthusiasm and talent. His efforts there have been rewarded by seeing a gradual improvement in the skills of the players. On the youth front, Sam has had a number of sessions with schools in the Limon area and one school in the Central Valley. These have involved videos, basic bowling, batting and fielding, and distribution of materials in Spanish.

League Cricket

The season is nearly completed and it seems there is a possibility of a three way tie between CCCC, Corsairs and Raleigh.



School kids in Limon, Costa Rica

MEXICO

Cricket in Mexico

After a slow start to the month, due to the traditional Easter Holidays, Mexico's cricketers enjoyed a month of good weather and further intensification of competition in the 2008 League Championship. The cricketing highlight for the month was also a social one, with the annual game

between an ANZAC team and the rest of the MCA played in great spirit before a good crowd.

In the League Championship, the Mexico City Cricket Club team cemented their place at the top of the points table while the Aztecs stayed in the hunt, thanks to points from a forfeit by the Reforma side. As a result, MCCC heads the table heading into the last handful of games, while Aztecs and Corinthians are tied in second place above Reforma.

The traditional ANZAC Day commemoration match on April 20 proved to be the high point of the month, thanks to a good contest between the two teams and a happy crowd of supporters feasting on grilled New Zealand lamb and Australian red wines. The match has long been played by MCA's members to recognize the sacrifice of Australian, New Zealand, English and other Commonwealth troops on the beaches of Gallipoli in April 1915. This year's contest saw several new players from the ranks of the ANZAC countries taking on a veteran team drawn from the rest of the MCA. In the end, experience told as the Rest of MCA held onto their catches and paced their chase of the ANZAC total of 160 to claim victory within the allotted 30 overs. The clear skies and warm conditions produced some excellent batting, with four players passing 30 – three of them in the Rest of MCA squad. The event was a great success in bringing in new faces, and in providing a relaxed social event for members and their families.

PANAMA

First year team Alianza went undefeated during the Panama Cricket Association tournament. Alianza, captained by Irfan Tarajia, defeated the most experienced squad from Batan CC. Batan batted first and could only score 89 all out. Alianza had no problem with this score, passing the total for a loss of only one wicket.

Upcoming in the youth cricket playoffs, the semi-final (U19) will see Vista Hermosa play Central CC. The U16 final will be played with Vista Hermosa playing Carasquilla.

TURKS & CAICOS

The Caribbean Cavaliers won the Providenciales Cricket Association 20/20 tournament when they beat Police by 21 at the Downtown Ball Park.

After winning the toss, the Cavaliers recovered from 49 for four to reach 155 for eight when their overs expired. Police lost captain Kavin Mars off the first ball of their innings and were eventually dismissed for 134 in 18.2 overs. Ira Baptiste blasted six sixes in 40.

Chabbie Charlery was adjudged the tournament's Most Valuable Player after capturing wickets and accumulating 168 runs. Charlery also captured the Best Batsman's prize for his 168 runs, while Sutton was the Best Bowler with 12 wickets.

Meanwhile the Providenciales Cricket Association has scheduled its annual general meeting and elections at the Police canteen.

NEW TERRITORIES

EL SALVADOR

El Salvador, fresh from their Easter Cup exploits, are preparing for their final few weeks of the season. The Exhibition Tournament is scheduled for early June and with the newly purchased artificial mat to play on, it promises to be a good event.

We thank the following for their contributions this month:

Gary Savage (Argentina); Fiona Holmes (Bermuda); Kevin Bollers (Canada); Theo Cuffy (Cayman Islands); Norman Baldwin (Brazil); Michael Meade (Chile); Philip Chesterman (Costa Rica); Keith Foster (Mexico); Irfan Tarajia (Panama); Michael Pereira (Turks & Caicos); Andrew Murgatroyd (El Salvador).

Please submit brief articles and photos (separately in jpeg) for publication in the NewsFlash by the 25th of each month to admin@cricamericas.com