

GDM visits the Americas

Matthew Kennedy, GDM visited Canada and the USA the week of February 16. His first stop was the ICC Americas Region office in Toronto where he was briefed by Martin Vieira, RDM Americas, on development matters in the region. On Wednesday talks were held with the Canadian Cricket Association. Ben Sennik, newly elected President of the CCA, stated after the meeting “ We had good dialogue and I am very encouraged by the interaction”. “We had a plan which we presented as our road map forward and I believe that has set the stage for a healthy relationship between us and the ICC” .



(L) Ben Sennik, President CCA with Matthew Kennedy, ICC GDM

Matthew Kennedy speaking to a local newspaper said “This is a fresh start for me and a fresh start for Canada with a new executive in place”. He continued “I am supremely confident that we will be able to move the high performance program forward in Canada”.

The GDM was the guest of honour at a dinner hosted by the CCA at the Bayview Golf and Country Club.

On Thursday it was off to the “Big Apple” New York for talks with the USACA.

A wide range of topics were discussed with emphasis placed on “Project USA”

The meetings again proved to be fruitful and enlightening.



(L) Matthew Kennedy, ICC GDM in discussions with Gladstone Dainty, President USACA.

The US Cricket Academy (Mr. Ashook Patel) was presented with the Global Award for Best Junior Development Initiative.



(L to R) Martin Vieira, Americas RDM, Ashook Patel, US Cricket Academy and Matthew Kennedy, ICC GDM

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Belize

The cricket season is well underway in Belize. There are two cricket competitions. At the youth level, there is the Secondary School Cricket Competition which consists of eight schools. The other competition involves senior players and is the Harrison Parks National Cricket Competition, which is the major event on the cricket calendar. This competition has the participation of eleven clubs.

Belize is looking forward to doing well in the upcoming Affiliates Championship in Panama, starting on March 22.

Brazil

An extremely successful cricket coaching course was held in the British school, St. Paul's, in Sao Paulo on February 13. Twelve Sao Paulo cricketers earned their introductory coaching certification, conducted by Brazilian national team captain and ex-Kent player Matt Featherstone. The participants learned and practiced the best ways to teach the basics to children having no previous contact with the sport. The all-day course was the first cricket of any kind in Sao Paulo for the past several months, so there were some sore lads the following day.

The Sao Paulo CC has extensive plans to introduce cricket to Brazilian kids in 2004, which include St. Paul's school and a cricket-coaching program for children living in a nearby shantytown.

Matt plans to repeat the course in Sao Paulo later this year, as well as bring it to Brazil's other two cricketing cities, Curitiba and Brasilia.

Cayman Islands

Cayman Islands Cricket Association hosted its first West Indies Cricket Board Level 1 certification coaching course from February 12-14 at the John Gray High School. Former West Indies international cricketer Mr. Jeffrey Dujon conducted the course. Eighteen participants

were taken through an interesting collection of topics, focusing mainly on the use of Biomechanics. The basics of cricket batting, bowling and fielding, as well as other special topics such as coach-player relationship, healthy lifestyles and basic first aid were also included.

Reacting to questions after the course, Mr. Dujon expressed how pleased he was with the participants' practical awareness, interest and knowledge. He is looking to a bright future for Cayman's cricket.

CICA wishes to thank Dr. Michael Seepersaud (WICB Director of Development) for assisting us in this worthwhile venture.

Trinidad U/15 Invitational Team tours Cayman Islands

A Trinidad U/15 Invitational team organized by Tony Harford from All Sports Promotions, a Trinidadian based firm, made its second consecutive visit to the Cayman Islands. The team captained by Kjorn Ottley, arrived on February 19 and departed on February 25 after engaging their Cayman counterparts in three matches.

Similar to 2003, the Trinidad team won the first two matches and was beaten in the third. As it was in 2003, Cayman Marc Chin dominated the Trinidad team's bowling with a fantastic 57 runs, which contained 4 boundaries. In a deciding partnership of 59 runs with Tyrell Cuffy (14 runs), Marc displayed a wide range of strokes, which excited the spectators and brought victory for the Cayman Islands by 4 wickets.

Final scores in this 25 overs match were: Trinidad U/15 Select 97 for 7 and Cayman Islands Invitational 98 for 6.

Special thanks to sponsors - Cable & Wireless, Nemwil Insurance, Clico Caman and Singh's Roti Shop for their contributions.

Local Cricket

Cricket on the local scene began on February 28 in the **Money Express** Division 2 with two matches at Jimmy Powell Oval and Smith Road Oval. Eight teams will be competing in this Division and five will be in the **Money Express** Division 1. This year promises to be another exciting one as the players thrive for success not only for their teams but to impress the national selection panel.

Playing in the cricket World Cup is each player's dream. So too for the Cayman Islands cricketers as the ICC Americas senior tournament

scheduled for July 5–11 in Bermuda begins the process for this golden opportunity. Who would satisfy the selectors and make the final 14? Keep following the progress of our players in this monthly newsletter.

World Cup 2007

Miss Deborah “Debbie” Ebanks, the chairperson of the Cayman Islands Bid Committee for World Cup 2007, was in Antigua on February 19 together with representatives from twelve other countries to receive the World Cup Bid Book. Other ICC Americas Associates present were Bermuda and USA. The local organizing committee will make a presentation within a week’s time to the Cayman Islands government on the way forward. Exciting times ahead! Stay tuned.

Chile

Falklands, I Zingari visit for cricket tournament

Chile hosted a three-way cricket tournament in February, playing against the Falkland Islands and the famous English touring side, I Zingari.

This was the international debut for the Falklanders, who made a point of not filling their ranks with garrison players, but only Islanders and residents. While they did not win a match, they showed a lot of spirit and enthusiasm in both their games.

In contrast, I Zingari – Italian for “the gypsies” – have been touring since the 19th century and boast a line-up of well-credentialed players, some of whom were on the fringe of first-class cricket in their prime. While many of their team were on the other side of 50, they showed plenty of cricketing nous and ability, mostly learnt at England’s public schools and universities. But it wasn’t all Pimms and lemonade – these guys came here to play, and gave a strong Chilean side a good run for their money.

A handful of Chilean batsmen dominated the series. In the opening match between Chile and the Falklands, played at the Prince of Wales Country Club (PWCC), Chile’s openers Paul Hollis (116) and Cameron McGovern (114) both compiled centuries. They both showed plenty of application, but the Falkland Islanders let themselves down with some crucial dropped catches. The openers’ excellent start was not wasted by the middle order, with Simon Shaulders (70) and Paddy Byrne (50 not out) contributing quickfire fifties to take Chile’s total to an imposing 3/424 after their allotted 50 overs.

The Islanders used their innings as batting practice, with captain Greg Bradfield turning in a gritty 37 at the top of the order. Chilean bowler Jason Anglin showed that he has fully recovered from a knee operation, leading the attack with nine overs of searing inswing for a return of 4 wickets for just 13 runs. Falklands were all out for 98.

The Zingari team arrived a few days later and opened their account with a mid-week game against the Falklands. Batting first, Bradford (27) and all-rounder Richard Marlor (31) stabilized the Falklands middle order, until Zingari spinner Nigel Wilkinson put the Islanders to the sword with a spell of 6/20 off eight overs, following on from the towering pace bowler James Roundell, who took 3/6 off six overs earlier on. Zingari then hauled in the Falklands’ modest total of 84 without difficulty.

This brought I Zingari and Chile together in the decider, played at the PWCC. Before another good crowd, Chile batted first and compiled a 232, thanks to a scorching, unbeaten century by Paddy Byrne. The Brisbane-born beanpole played with absolute authority, helping himself to nine fours and four sixes on his way to 110 before retiring hurt with an injured foot. He made batting look easy against the Zingari bowlers, when in fact it wasn’t, as the other Chilean batsman can testify.

Opener Chris Langley (23) and skipper Guy Hooper, who scratched around early but later found some form to hit 46, combined for good partnerships with Byrne, while veteran Clive Marriott (19) helped squeeze some runs from the Chilean lower order, which looked good on paper but was swept away by the Zingari bowlers in the closing overs.

Zingari probably fancied their chances, and were in the game right until the final overs. However the asking run rate gradually became too steep and a committed bowling and fielding effort, again led by Anglin’s bowling (4/36 from seven overs), capped by a fine boundary catch by Byrne near the death, clinched it for the South Americans by just 24 runs.

The tournament drew wide interest. Even the BBC reported on the Falklands’ participation. The week took plenty of organizational skills and included a warm reception for all the teams by the British Ambassador in Chile as well as a winery visit. Mostly though, the tournament is another testament to Chile’s cricket efforts to boost the game in this region. It was the first

visit by a team from the Falklands, which will hopefully start a tradition.

Other News

- Chile will visit Peru in April to play a three way with Peru and a side from Miami
- In December, Chile will host the 6th South American Championship and will be sending reminders out shortly to likely participants.

Canada

U-19 CWC

By the time this issue of the “Newsflash” is released, the Canadian U-19 team would have completed its participation in the U-19 CWC. The team did not perform as well as expected and left the tournament with a perfect record. It is anticipated the event was a learning experience for the team.

ICC Six Nations Tournament

Joe Harris was recalled from sunny Barbados to lead Canada at the Six Nations tournament in the United Arab Emirates beginning late February. The team along with four officials left Toronto on February 24 for the tournament. The team consists of J. Harris (Capt.), I. Maraj, A. Codrington, A. Bagai, I. Khan, A. Patel, K. Sandher, S. Jayasekera, D.Chumney, Z. Sukari, D. Maxwell, Z. Hussain, S. Dhaniram, A. Mulla. M. Henry (Manager), B. Mauricette (Coach), D. Keisel (Physio) and K. Patel (Umpire).

ICC GDM

Members of the Executive and Chairpersons of some of the sub committees of the Canadian Cricket Association (CCA) met with Matthew Kennedy, newly appointed ICC Global Development Manager, during his stop over in Toronto on his way to the USA. The CCA seized the opportunity of the visit to present their strategic development plan to Matthew and the ICC Americas Development Manager, Martin Vieira. Some of the other activities included a breakfast meeting arranged with President Ben Sennik; a visit to Qasra Sports indoor training facility; and a dinner hosted by Ben Sennik.

The CCA expresses its thanks to Matthew for the invaluable time he spent with them during this visit.

High Performance Seminar

Bob Woolmer, ICC High Performance Manager, will arrive in Toronto to conduct an intensive

five-day High Performance Coaching program. There will be sixteen Canadian coaches from across the country attending this seminar. During his visit Bob is expected to meet with officials of the CCA to discuss their development plan. Bob will also meet with members of the national team and other persons within the cricket community to discuss cricket development.

Women’s Cricket

The CCA appointed co-coordinators to oversee the development of the sport among the ladies. Since their appointment, there have been numerous requests for information from across the country. It is anticipated some of these ladies will form part of the North American team to participate in the West Indies tournament to be held in Trinidad later this year.

Website

The Canadian Cricket Association launched its new website February 23, 2004. Visit us at www.canadiancricket.org and let us have your comments.

Panama

The season started on January 25 with 20 teams participating in three divisions.

At the half-way stage, Indian CC leads Ahir CC by one point in the second division. In the third division the two top teams are DHP followed by Indian CC juniors.

Piyush Bhakta (Indian CC) is having an outstanding year with 465 runs scored in only four innings.

The Panama Cricket Association is the host country for the ICC Americas Affiliates Championship which takes place March 22–27. Four other teams – Bahamas, Belize, Turks & Caicos and Suriname will join the host country. The winner earns a berth in the Associates ICC Trophy qualifying tournament to be held in Bermuda, July 5–11 this year.

USA

The Atlantic Region Report (by Shelton Glasgow)

The Atlantic Region is one of eight regions of the USA Cricket Association, Inc. (USACA). The region consists of New Jersey, Pennsylvania, Delaware, Maryland, Washington DC, Virginia and West Virginia.

The leagues within the region are:

- The New Jersey Cricket Association (NJCA)

- Garden State Cricket League (GSCL)
- Cricket League of New Jersey (CLNJ)
- Millennium Cricket League (MCL)
- Atlantic Cricket League (ACL)
- Washington Metropolitan Cricket Board (WMCB)

USACA News Brief

Proposed calendar of activities for 2004:

1. ICC Six Nations Tournament, Sharjah

Feb.29 – March 6

The US team left for the UAE on Feb.20

2. ICC Intercontinental Cup(Americas)

Canada vs USA: May 29-31, Florida

USA vs Bermuda: July 13-15, Bermuda

Associates Cup: July 5-11, Bermuda

3. National Tournament

Preliminary Rounds(East & West Conference)

June 18-20, Dallas, Texas (tentative)

Super League & Final

September 3-5 – Venue TBD

4. National U-19 Team

National Tournament – July/August

New York/North East

Atlantic/South East

Central East/Central West

South West/North West

Sir Garfield Sobers' School

Tournament in Barbados

Cricket Stadium

The city of Lauderhill in Broward County, Florida is in the process of finalizing plans to build a cricket stadium. It is hoped that by having a first class ICC approved facility, the possibility of attracting world cup games in 2007 will be closer to becoming a reality.

Photo Gallery



Cricket in Mexico. Mexico hoping to become the Americas 10th Affiliate in June 2004

ICC Americas Affiliates Tournament

Panama City , Panama March 22-28, 2004

The second Americas Affiliates Tournament is scheduled to begin March 22 in Panama.

The defending champions Bahamas will be joined by Belize, Suriname, Turks & Caicos and the host nation Panama in a round robin format.

The schedule:

Tues. March 23	Suriname vs Belize Turks & Caicos vs Bahamas
Wed. March 24	Belize vs Turks & Caicos Bahamas vs Panama
Thur. March 25	Suriname vs Turks & Caicos Panama vs Belize
Fri. March 26	Suriname vs Panama Belize vs Bahamas
Sat. March 27	Suriname vs Bahamas Panama vs Turks & Caicos

The winner will join Argentina, Bermuda, Canada, Cayman Islands and the USA in the Associates Tournament to be held in Bermuda July 5-11.

Top three finishers will qualify for the 2005 ICC Trophy in Ireland.

Fourth place team will proceed to a special Division Three qualifying tournament where the winner will also qualify for the 2005 ICC Trophy.

The five top teams from the ICC Trophy will qualify for the 2007 World Cup in the Caribbean



Cricket in Panama City, host of the 2004 Affiliates Tournament