

February 2009

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ICC Americas Newsflash

Bermuda Captures 3 Awards

A record number of nominations (103) were received for the eight regional 2008 Development Awards.

Martin Vieira, Regional Development Manager commented, "It is great to see the interest generated among our member countries by the number of nominations received. While the focus will be on the winners I congratulate all individuals and events nominated. They represent the heart and soul of our development programme and without their support we would not enjoy the success we have achieved."

Bermuda lead the way with three awards, Chile captured two with Argentina, Canada and USA getting one each.

2008 ICC Americas - Development Awards

CATEGORY	WINNER
Best Overall Cricket Development Programme	Bermuda Cricket Board
Best Cricket Promotion and Marketing Programme	Chile – Beach Cricket Festival
Best Women's Cricket Initiative	USA – North West Cricket League
Best Junior Cricket Initiative	Bermuda – U6 to U19
Photo of the Year	Argentina "Hang in there"
Best Spirit of Cricket Initiative	Bermuda "No Child Goes Without"
Volunteer of the Year	Chile – Patricio Caamano
Lifetime Service Award	Canada – Austin Ward

Photos of the Year



Argentina "Hang in there"



Bermuda "Padding Up"



Mexico–School Cricket

ICC Women's World Cup

The ICC Women's World cup is taking place in Australia 7th to 22nd March. Australia will defend the title it won after defeating India in the final in South Africa in 2005. The other seven teams to take part in the tournament include India, New Zealand, England, Sri Lanka, West Indies, South Africa, and Pakistan.

(<http://icc-cricket.yahoo.com/icc-events/womens-cwc.html>)



Argentina

Argentina took part in a very successful and enjoyable Beach Cricket tournament in Vina del Mar, Chile, finishing in fourth place in the six team international event, behind winners India, runners-up England, and Australia. Two Chilean teams also took part. Played on the sand in a sports arena metres from the Pacific surf, this second Beach Cricket event organized by Chile, was also a ICC Centenary event. The Argentina team was captained by Rodrigo Scioscia, with the rest of the team made up of members of the Argentina national women's squad, the Flamingos, namely Catalina Greloni, Cecilia Birnie, Delfina Canton, Brandy Auld and Belen Casas. As he was qualified as eligible, ICC Americas RDO Grant Dugmore also turned out for the team.



A memorable event and a fantastic time spent in good company in a great part of the world - many thanks to the Chilean Cricket Association and especially Patricio Caamano for their wonderful organization and hospitality.

As a vehicle in order to further develop girls and womens cricket in Argentina, as well as for preparation towards their participation in the Americas Women's Championship in May later this year, the Argentina national team, the Flamingos, have been taking part in the senior Second Division Championship, a 30 over competition. In the eight team league, the Flamingos are currently placed 6th after four rounds, but scored an important first victory recently and remain confident of notching up more in their remaining three games. The players have also expressed how positive the experience has been so far, and exercise that is obviously proving very beneficial. The team for the Americas tournament will be announced later in March.

Bahamas

The Bahamas Cricket Association will hold its Annual General Meeting on 8th March , 2009. The season is expected to get underway 22nd March 2009. There will be two leagues, a 50 over competition and a 2 day competition as well as other tournaments. The Turf wickets have been renovated and teams are raring to get started.

Bermuda

2009 BCB Youth Leagues

The BCB is pleased to announce that the 2009 League will take place from 22nd April to 27th June. The League finishes with the All-star games at the National Stadium:

Saturday 20th June—8&U (last round of league matches)

Saturday 27th June—14&U and 17&U leagues

The registration deadline is 20th March. Registration is available online.

The BCB Summer League runs July to August (dates to be confirmed). Registration deadline is 29th May.

<http://www.bermudacrickboard.com/>

Brazil

Women's Cricket—January BAIMAX Cup

In all, four Twenty20 matches were played. The experience of the Argentinean team took them to victory in all the matches, but it's fair to say that the first and last games were very close and could have gone either way. The Brazilian players learned an enormous amount about the game and their skills improved a lot. They need to carry this through into their next big challenge, the America's Women's Championship in Florida in May.



South American Championships

Brazil has the honour of hosting SAC VIII, which takes place in São Paulo, 8-12 April. Teams from Argentina, Brazil, Chile and Peru will contest the title at the São Paulo Athletic Club (SPAC).

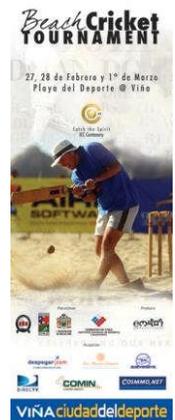
Soap Opera helps promote cricket

The most popular soap opera, or 'novella', in Brazil at the moment is set mostly in India. This has created a lot of interest in things Indian, including cricket. And so in recent weeks, the TV networks, O Globo in particular (which runs the novella), have shown a welcome interest in cricket in Brazil. Largely through the efforts the President of São Paulo Cricket Club, David Gilman, and Satya Muley, several stories have been broadcast. The following links will take you there; <http://video.globo.com/Videos/Player/Esportes/0,,GIM958100-7824-INDIANOS+DE+SAO+PAULO+PRATICAM+O+CRIQUETE,00.html> & <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=4Zy2nkEccKl>

Chile

Centenary on the Beach

Chilean cricketers geared up to celebrate the ICC Centenary the weekend of 27th February to 1st March at this year's Annual Beach Cricket Tournament. Friday 27th saw the first Junior Beach Cricket Tournament, with four teams from three cities competing to become national champions. The Regional Tournament on Saturday 28th featured six teams from Viña del Mar battling to claim the final three spots on offer for Sunday's International Beach Cricket Tournament. However, Sunday was very much the headline event, with representative sides from England, Australia, Argentina, India and Chile fighting it out at Viña del Mar's Playa del Deporte.



Honourable Artillery Company CC vs. Chilean Condors

Chile played host to the Honourable Artillery Company CC on the first leg of their South American tour with two matches at the Grange School. The Chilean Condors won the first match by 8 wickets in a low scoring game on day 1. The Development XIV did not fare as well on day 2 losing by 69 runs despite batting all 14 of their squad. For the visitors, man-of-the-match, James Chaudry bowled particularly well, taking 4 wickets in 5 overs for a barely believable 3 runs.

U19 National Team Training

The Chilean U19 squad began training the week of 16th February in Santiago, under the careful guidance of ECB Level 2 coach Chris Emmott. A total of 25 players are training in Santiago, Viña del Mar and Chillán over the coming months as Chile looks to participate in an ICC Americas U19 tournament for the first time. However, Emmott's initial task is to prepare his players for a visit by the Hollywood Golden Oldies in March, before receiving a visit from the Falkland Islands U19 side in mid-April.

The second half of the 8th Metropolitan Cup got started on Sunday 22nd February as league leaders La Dehesa look to maintain their unbeaten run as they take on reigning champions Santiago at The Grange. With five wins from five, La Dehesa are firm favourites to be first to book a place in this season's final. However, the second spot is still very much up for grabs, with Santiago, La Reina and Las Condes all having lost two games so far.

<http://www.cricketchile.cl/>



Costa Rica

Costa Rica will host the Third Central America Cricket Championships (CAC), to be held at Los Reyes Polo Club grounds near La Guácima, Alajuela from Saturday 4th April until Monday 6th April 2009. In addition to the host Costa Rica Cricket Association (*Asociación Deportiva de Cricket*), national teams from Belize, Mexico, Panama and El Salvador will compete. There will be a total of ten matches on two fields, with each team playing the others once, in 20/20 format, of 20 overs per team innings. The hours of play will be from 9am to 5pm during the weekend, but ending earlier on the Monday. All spectators will be welcome. The first CAC took place in Belize in March 2006 and was won by Belize, which beat Mexico and Costa Rica; Mexico hosted the second in December 2007, beating Costa Rica and El Salvador.

El Salvador

El Salvador is pleased to announce their New Board as of February 2009

President: P. Mostyn

V. President: A. Murgatroyd

P.R. Officers: A. Ramirez & J. Serpas

Social Events: I. McHugh

Treasurer: T. Neil

The third and final round of the fourth ESC League

7th February Round 3, Game 1 Team Dell vs. Cuscatlan Chiefs
Team Dell 134 for 4, Cuscatlan Chiefs 135 for 5 off 16.3 overs.

14th February Round 3, Game 2 Atlacatl Knights vs. Team Dell
Team Dell 104 for 5, Atlacatl Knights 75 for 5



Alex Portillo & Andrew Keslake

El Salvador has confirmed their attendance in the 3rd Central American Championship to be hosted by Costa Rica in April.

Falkland Islands

Falkland Islands Cricket Festival

The Falkland Cricket Club from Newbury, Berkshire, tour of the Falklands was from the 28th February to the 7th March. Their tour of Chile is the following week. During Camp Sports week there will be six matches: Falkland CC v Stanley CC, Falkland CC v Mount Pleasant CC, Falkland CC v Falkland Islands Cricket Association (F.I.C.A.) XI, two junior matches and the final match of the South Atlantic Ashes series. This week of cricket is F.I.C.A.'s "Spirit of Cricket" event, celebrating the centenary of the founding of the International Cricket Council (ICC). During Festival Week there will also be social events both in Stanley and at Mount Pleasant for the players and their families.

Women's Cricket

The Falklands is still extremely keen to develop a women's cricket within the Falklands. Three or four ladies have been attending practice sessions in Stanley when they can. Mount Pleasant have indicated that they should be able to field a women's team and their 1st team wicket keeper is a woman. One or two girls have attended junior cricket sessions.

The South Atlantic Ashes Series

The Commander British Forces' XI retained the South Atlantic Ashes by convincingly beating the Governor's XI in the first two matches of the three-match series. An extremely strong top order batting line-up saw the CBF's side post scores of over 200 from 40 overs batting first in both matches. The military team's accurate, steady bowling meant that the Governor's XI never looked like keeping up with the required run rates and eventually were all out well short of the required targets. The final match of the series took place on the 7th March.

Junior Tour to Chile

As soon as the Festival Week is over the junior team will have a period of intensive training prior to a four-match, week-long tour of Chile commencing on 18th April. During the last junior tour to Chile the juniors came back with very respectable results – winning two of their four games. Developing closer links with the Chilean Cricket Association is a key part of the strategy for developing the junior game in the Falklands which should lead to a much stronger adult game. The junior game is already gaining strength, with over forty children being involved with cricket this season. Some of the older juniors have developed to the standard necessary to play in the senior game and ultimately we hope to see a fully home-grown senior national team.

The Future

Planning permission has been granted for the development of a new cricket pitch in Stanley on part of the Golf Club site. Plans have been drawn up and now F.I.C.A. is seeking financial support from sponsors in order to raise the necessary funding. The long term aim is to build a joint clubhouse with indoor facilities. F.I.C.A. sees this as a most exciting development for sport in the Falklands and a key stage in developing junior interest in both cricket and golf. Twenty 20 matches only take 3 hours to play from start to finish so having a full sized-pitch in Stanley will mean that matches can be played on weekday evenings.

Seniors Overseas Tour

In July 2010 F.I.C.A. will be sending a team to Scotland to compete in a triangular tournament between Falkland CC, Newbury, & Falkland CC, Fife. This tournament is to celebrate the 150th anniversary of the founding of Falkland CC, Fife.



Americas Women's Championship, Florida, May 17-24

Teams confirmed to date- Argentina, Bermuda, Brazil, Canada

Trinidad & Tobago.



Mexico

The second Junior Tournament of the season took place 15th February at the RAC and several dozen youngsters were treated to a great day of fun, thanks to the efforts of a small group of dedicated MCA members. Boys and girls took to the field for a series of round robin matches umpired by teachers and MCA players. Many of the youngsters showed the benefits of coaching under the Childrens' University program, led by Alan Downie. Participating schools included Lancaster, Edron, Lomas Altas, Greengates, Victoria and Greenhill.

MCCC v AZTECS: MCCC Hold Off Aztecs Bowlers To Snare Win

The game began with MCCC winning the toss (for the first time this season!) and opting to field. This was MCCC's chance to turn around a tough start to the second half of the season by knocking off Aztecs, who hadn't lost a game all season. Aztecs finished on a respectable and defensible 122 for 9.

MCCC sent in Keith and Alan to open the batting (with 100 years at the crease, how could you go wrong?!). MCCC needed 10 to win with 2 wickets in hand off 3 overs. Hugo decided to put the game beyond doubt and secured the runs with two lusty blows. A good win for MCCC and a great day of cricket!



Reforma vs. Aztecs—22nd February

Reforma skipper won the toss (yet again, lucky coin) and decided to do what they are best at, chasing. Aztecs would open with Lali and Tarun. Aztecs were bowled out for 78 runs. Reforma would open with their best openers (Kevin and Arunesh). Both the openers struck the ball very well right from the word go and never looked back. The clash of the titans was won by Reforma with ease leaving Aztecs with their second loss in two games. Reforma now has three wins off three games.

Panama

The 2nd round of cricket started 22nd February and will continue until 12th April. In the first division there are 12 teams, second division 6 teams and 2 junior teams. Panama will participate in the Central American Championship I Costa Rica from 4th to 6th of April.



Junior Team Champions ages (9-15)



Suriname

A meeting was held between the Suriname Cricket Association & Mr. Akbal Mohamed of the Netherlands Cricket Association to discuss a joint project between the two countries. The project will be financed by the TWIN, a Non- Governmental Organization of the Netherlands. With Dutch being the language of both countries it is also agreed that the books from the Netherlands will be used for cricket training in Suriname.

The Suriname Cricket Association together with sponsors has given to 24 cricket clubs colour clothing for their players. Cricket gears were also given to the junior clubs which will be used in the forthcoming competitions. The junior competitions will be played on both matting and turf pitches starting from this year competition. A special matting for those matches was imported from India.

Turks and Caicos

The Jamaican All-Stars chalked up their first win of the PPC cricket competition on Saturday 31st of January when they whipped the defending champions the St. Lucia Hitters.

The St. Lucia Hitters emerged victorious over Beaches in an exciting match of the PPC played on Sunday 15th February.

The St. Lucian Hitters demolished the Police on Saturday 21st February.

The Jamaican All-Stars whipped the Masters on Sunday 22nd February.



Action in the Competition



USA

Kervyn Dimney (CCL President) shines with 4 awards in 2008 season

The 2008 Colorado Cricket League President, Kervyn Dimney was immense in both forms of the game in 2008: He had an outstanding year that also proved to be an awesome run at the awards ceremony at the recently held CCL AGM on 24th January 2009. He was named the "**Best Batsman**" and "**League MVP**" for 2008 Premier League, "**League MVP**" for 2008 Twenty20 League, and "**Best All-rounder**" for 2008 Twenty20 KnockOut Tournament. His performances ensured that CSCC were in the Top3 in the Premier League, and unfortunately runners-up in both the Twenty20 League and KnockOut tournament.

He has been consistently performing as one of CCL's top All-rounders, being the Man of the Match and Player of the Week on quite a few occasions, and a Cougars (Colorado Cricket team) member. He has definitely brought CCL the exposure it deserves on the US cricketing map.



Upcoming Centenary Events

- March Peru—Annual Asia vs. Rest of the World Game
- 30th March Cuba— Youth Festival
- 4th to 6th April Costa Rica— 3rd Central America Cricket Championships
- 8th to 12th April Brazil—VIII South American Championships
- 18th to 19th April —150th Anniversary for Lima cricket & Football club

