



AMERICAS NEWSFLASH

June 2008

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Neil Speight elected to the ICC Board

We are extremely pleased to announce that BCB Executive Director, Mr. Neil Speight, has been elected to the International Cricket Council's Executive Board for a two year term. The Board is responsible for managing the affairs of the ICC with the prime aim of advancing the objectives of the ICC.

The Board is made up of a representative of each Full Member country and three representatives elected by the Associate Members - Samir Inamder (Kenya), Imran Khwaja (Singapore), and Neil Speight (Bermuda).

Mr. Neil Speight stated:

"It is a great responsibility and humbling honour to be elected to the Executive Board. It is not often that in one day a person gets 38 new bosses, but today I join Samir and Imran in representing the 33 Associate and 58 Affiliate countries on the Executive Board. I believe that this elevation is in part a reflection of the esteem that Bermuda is now held in world cricket. We participated at the World Cup, the U19 got to the World Cup, the ladies qualified for the World Cup qualifier and the BCB were just awarded the Global Best Overall Development Program. I feel the honour for this appointment should be placed at the grounds of the men that have brought Bermuda cricket to where it is today - Alma Champ Hunt, Edward P Bailey, Hon. Elvin G James and Reginald Pearman. These men are the true leaders and visionaries in our sport and I am privileged to have had the opportunity to work with the three of them."



Already at work...Neil Speight (centre)

Bermuda takes ODI series vs Canada

Bermuda finally took a ODI series defeating Canada 2-1. While the first two games were close contests, the visitor managed to come out on top in both.

Game 1: (reduced to 36 overs) Canada 155/9, A.Bagai 60; Bermuda 158/7 (35.3 overs) - C.Foggo 60, Q.Ali 3/28.

Game 2: Bermuda 201/8 (50 overs), S.Dhaniram 5/32; Canada 184 all out (45.3 overs); S.Dhaniram 79, G.O'Brien 3/31

Game 3: Canada 276/9 (50 overs) A.Samad 130, A.Bagai 84, TE Tucker 4/56; Bermuda 199/7(50 overs) I.Romaine 60



ARGENTINA

The month of June was a busy one for Argentine cricket. The 3rd Junior Winter Cup was postponed to July due to bad weather over the scheduled weekends. This will now mean that the 3rd & 4th Winter Cups will both be played in July.

Australian Old Collegians Tour

The AOC touring team commenced their world tour with a short stop over in Buenos Aires where they played two matches against local composite teams.

Their first match was played against the ACA Presidents XI. AOC won the toss and elected to bat first, making a respectable 200/7 in their allotted 40 overs. The ACA Presidents made a strong start but fell one run short of their target.

In the second match, played on a wet and cold day, the Buenos Aires XI won the toss and elected to field first. The AOC got off to a good start and ended with 198/8. The BA XI got off to a disastrous start, losing their first 2 wickets with the score on 5 runs. G. Savage (30) and T. Francis (16) restored some order, but they were all out for 160 giving the visitors a victory by 38 runs.

The AOC departed for Canada where they will continue their world tour before heading off to New York, Ireland, Northern Ireland, Scotland, England, Nepal and India.

Hamish Barton starts Level 3 Coaching Qualification

Hamish Barton (National Coach/High Performance Manager)

recently returned to New Zealand for three weeks to start the New Zealand Cricket Level 3 coaching qualification. This is the highest cricket coaching accreditation in New Zealand and is run over 2 years with coaches required to complete 10 modules (5 per year).

Argentine Cricket Officials Association

The Argentine Cricket Association has recently formed the first ever Argentine Cricket Officials Association (ACOA) which is being driven by the ACA's High Performance Manager Hamish Barton, who is acting as Chairman of the ACOA Committee. The Committee consists of two local umpires (Malcolm Gibson and David Gibson) and two local scorers (Brandy Auld and Vicky Gibson).

The ACOA Mission Statement is - to establish a governing body that, in conjunction with the High Performance Manager of the Argentine Cricket Association, administers the development of umpiring and scoring (officiating) in Argentina and provides opportunities for people to become officials through the necessary tools, promotion, accreditation, remuneration and career pathways.

Women's Academy in Trinidad & Tobago

Catalina Greloni, Delfina Canton, Veronica Vasquez and Cecilia Birnie took part in the Cricket Coaching Academy held in Trinidad and Tobago. The players gained valuable experience during the course of the two weeks and no doubt will apply this to their game in the seasons to come. The Argentine Cricket Association would like to thank Ann Browne-

John and her team for the excellent work done at the Academy and for all that they are doing to develop the game in the Americas region.

BAHAMAS

Bahamas finishes eleventh in WCL 5

The Bahamas National Cricket team traveled to Jersey, United Kingdom to participate in the World Cricket League Division 5 where they finished eleventh out of twelve teams. Once again the team batting failed. After bowling out teams for 203 or less, they were unable to reach the required target.

Dynasty Stars continue to dominate

Dynasty Stars CC continue to dominate cricket in the BCA league. They have acquired an impressive 4-0 record so far this season. With the acquisition of pacer O'Neil Levy and players who perform as a military unit, they seem to be on a roll to another Championship! It remains to be seen if they can continue this pace into the second round of matches.

Coach John Welch moves on

Coach John Welch has resigned his position in the Bahamas to pursue greener pastures in Scotland, U.K. The BCA wishes him well in the future.

Under 15 National Team

The U15 National Team continues to prepare for their upcoming tour to Bermuda from August 2 – 10, 2008. This will be their first tour against multiple teams after competing against Cayman Islands in a few friendly matches. They will play against Canada, USA, Bermuda and Cayman Islands.

BRAZIL

Candangos CC are the Distrito Federal Champions after having to use a run rate count to determine the winners. Ian Webster of the Candangos managed to clinch the championship with a 40 not out in four and a half overs, helping to bump up the run rate to win by 0.2 runs - a very exciting finish to a championship.

The 7th Ambassador's X1 game was played on June 21st and was won by Great Britain. GB won by 130. Matt Featherstone (Brazil captain) played his first Ambassador's game and got 78 runs not out. Man of the Match was Michael Dobson (GB) with great batting of 52 not out and great fast bowling with four wickets. With this win, the results stand as Australia 4 wins and Great Britain 3 wins.

CANADA

Cricket Canada gets recognition from government.

The federal government of Canada officially recognized cricket as a sport making it eligible for much needed public funding.



The Secretary of State responsible for Sport, the Hon. Helena Guergis, made the announcement at the Sports Alliance of Ontario Building, head office of Cricket Canada.

For Cricket Canada it was the second major financial news coming just weeks after Scotiabank became the official sponsor of the national team. To mark the occasion CC unveiled their new uniforms for the Bermuda series.



(L to R) Ben Sennik, President CC, Hon. Minister Ms. Guergis, Ms. Rania Llewelyn (Scotiabank) and Ravin Moorthy, V-P Cricket Canada.

Cricket any one ?



School Cricket

Woburn beat North Albion by just 3 runs in a closely contested final of the Toronto District Schools senior boys outdoor cricket championships. Woburn thus retained the title gained in 2007. North Albion ended up as outdoor runners-up but took the indoor cricket crowns at senior and junior boys levels.

Long Term Athlete Development

Sport Canada has allocated Istvan Balyi, a distinguished Long Term Athlete Development (LTAD) Consultant to work with Cricket Canada. Istvan, a former sprinter from Hungary, is currently based at the University of Victoria in B.C. He has done groundbreaking work with various National Cricket organizations around the world. His work is followed by ECB and Cricket Australia, among others. Istvan will commence a series of LTAD development seminars with Cricket Canada.

Sport Nova Scotia Award

The IKON Sport Award for Volunteer of the Year 2007-2008 has been presented to Bhan Deonarine of the Nova Scotia Cricket Association, a player and administrator for 39 years promoting cricket in Nova Scotia.



MEXICO

The MCA Junior Schools tournament took place on June 8, 2008 with teams from Lancaster, Edron, Victoria and Lomas Altas taking part. The games were played in excellent spirit and many promising female players took part.

Well done to all the teams and their hard working coaches.



PERU

The Peru Cricket Federation (PCF) held its AGM on June 6th at Lima Cricket & Football Club and we were delighted to have the region's ICC Development Officer, Grant Dugmore, in attendance. After the usual administrative items, he presented Peru Captain Harry Hildebrand with his Volunteer of the Year award.

During the AGM, we were able to reflect on an eventful and productive first year as an ICC affiliated cricketing nation, with particular highlights being the ICC Americas Division 3 Championship in Buenos Aires, featuring Peru's first international victory and the highly successful inaugural Twenty20 Championship played between four local teams.

There was of course lots of talk of continuing development, to build on these foundations. Grant held a seminar for the new PCF Committee on the morning of June 7th to outline ICC fund allocation, use and accounting. With this in mind, we are putting together a proposal for ICC assistance in the construction of cricket nets at

Biram Bingham School, Lima, with the goal of providing much needed extra practice facilities and kick-starting schools cricket. Cricket has been reintroduced to two English language schools in Lima, Markham and Cambridge colleges, and a competitive match between them is in the pipeline.

In the realm of adult cricket, the PCF is hopeful of sending a team to play in Curitiba, Brazil in October 2008. They are also looking forward to hosting the Hollywood Golden Oldies team in March 2009.

SURINAME

Umpiring Seminar

The Suriname Cricket Association, with the assistance of the Guyana Umpiring Association, organized a four-day Umpiring Seminar in Paramaribo, from June 12 to 15. The seminar leader was the renowned international cricket umpire, Mr. Clyde Duncan, assisted by two other qualified Guyanese umpires, Mr. Daveteerth Anandjit and Mr. Andrew Allen.

The seminar was arranged to have umpire students from both Nickerie and Paramaribo. Thirteen persons were trained in both the laws of the game, the technicalities and scoring. This training was in preparation for participants to take the umpiring examination to be held in Guyana on July 27, 2008.

We are hoping that we will have from Suriname at least three candidates for this examination. We expect to have a follow up seminar prior to this examination, to be held in Nickerie.



New Gandhi CC Champion

The Suriname domestic competition has concluded with the

youth team, New Gandhi Cricket Club, winning the National Championship. On June 5, 2008 the last of three scheduled matches was played for the Suriname National Championship between Police Cricket Club and Gandhi Cricket Club. New Gandhi won the trophy and Police CC the semi Champion trophy. Trophies were also presented to the best batsman and bowler of Paramaribo – both prizes going to Vishal Singh who made 360 runs in the competition and taking 13 wickets.



TURKS & CAICOS

The Grand Turk Cricket Association Twenty/20 cricket series continued at the newly refurbished Parade Ground in Grand Turk with Police beating Back Salina by 56 runs.

Meanwhile Provo tournament continues with the final game scheduled for June 21.

TCI has started training sessions for school age children it is hoped that this will someday increase the number of cricket players on the islands.



USA

South East Regional Tournaments

Mid Atlantic Cricket Conference won the South East Regional Tournament convincingly, beating Florida by 210 runs. The game was played at Hobson Cricket Field in Climax, NC.

MACC beat Atlanta Georgia by 120 runs and Combine X1 by 81 runs.

Mr. Nasir Javed, Regional Representative for USACA presided over the events of Honors in the Tanglewood Cricket Park, Clemmons, NC after the Grand Finale on Sunday, May 25th, 2008.

Central West Region

The grand opening of a new cricket ground in Central Texas took place on Saturday, June 21, 2008.

Shortly before bowling the first ball on the Travis County Cricket Grove, Commissioner Sarah Eckhart cut the ribbon, assisted by her family and several of the Travis County staff who built the ground. The Pflugerville ground is one of two new Central Texas grounds scheduled to open in 2008. Sincere thanks go to the many folks who contributed to this outstanding new ground.



Thanking the Commissioner and the county team are USACA Treasurer John Thickett (left) and the Central Texas Cricket League President Ram Narayan (right).

Colorado Cricket League

A few lucky folks witnessed a gem of partnership from Kervyn Dimney and Murugappan Meyyappan on June 8 at the Lower

Garden Acres in Colorado. Kervyn Dimney smashed 4 fours and 13 sixes. In a Twenty20 match between Colorado Springs Cricket Club and Boulder Cricket Club, Kervyn scored 142 not out from 71 balls.

The Colorado Cricket League president added 217 runs for the second wicket along with Murugappan Meyyappan whose score on the day was 64 off 49balls falling in the last over. The duo scored all the runs that came off the willow for their side – 19 runs came from extras. Two other batsmen fell for a duck.



Kervyn Dimney and Murugappan Meyyappan

EL SALVADOR

Our third season has been a very successful one with several new players joining the teams, and the national squad competing in two international tournaments including the Easter Cup in Nicaragua where we got our first win.

The last week of May through June saw an exciting close to the El Salvador 07/08 season with the last league games being played in which Team Dell managed to clinch the league title for the first time, taking it away from the Chiefs who have won it twice.



The El Salvador Cricket Club also had its end of year exhibition tournament consisting of a 3-way competition between the Chiefs, Knights and Team Dell. The tournament is set up to introduce the game to new faces and we certainly saw a few that enjoyed the games as did their families. The Chiefs dominated the tournament winning all their games, with the Knights coming in second and Team Dell not quite grasping the 11/11 concept, coming in last.

The 2008/09 season kicks off again in October and we have our domestic calendar fixed and are eager to expand on the number of international fixtures.

Breaking News from ICC Meetings in Dubai.....

The ICC family expanded by three to 104 members with the acceptance of Bulgaria, Estonia and Turkey as Affiliate members. Guernsey was also promoted to Associate status .

Zimbabwe withdraws from World 20/20 next year. Associates may now be allowed three to the event.

New funding and membership policy got approval to take effect January 1, 2009 .

We thank the following for their contributions this month:

Gary Savage (Argentina); Greg Taylor (Bahamas); Ian Webster (Brazil); Atul Ahuja, Eddie Norfolk and Bhan Deonarine (Canada); Keith Foster (Mexico); Miles Buesst (Peru); Raj Narain (Suriname); Ralph Doughty (Turks & Caicos); Ahmed Jeddy, Kervyn Dimney and Bilal Aslam (USA); 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