



Newsflash- March 2005

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ICC Cricket World Cup 2007

The International Cricket Council has confirmed the seeding details for the ninth ICC Cricket World Cup, to be played at eight venues in the Caribbean during February and March 2007, as follows:

Group 1 <u>St.Kitts & Nevis</u>	Group 2 <u>Trinidad & Tobago</u>
Australia (1)	Sri Lanka (2)
South Africa (5)	India (8)
ICC Trophy (1)	Bangladesh (11)
ICC Trophy (5)	ICC Trophy (4)
Group 3 <u>St.Lucia</u>	Group 4 <u>Jamaica</u>
New Zealand (3)	Pakistan (4)
England (7)	West Indies (6)
Kenya (10)	Zimbabwe (9)
ICC Trophy (3)	ICC Trophy (2)

Development Global Awards

Americas “Ponytail W/K” captures Global “Photo of the Year” Award. The photo, featuring twelve year old Aditi Krishapriyal wicket-keeping, and six year old Arsh Buch batting, was submitted by the Northern California Cricket Academy (USA).



Nine countries will receive ICC Development Program Awards. There were two new awards in 2004. The UNAIDS Award (for raising awareness of HIV and AIDS through cricket initiatives) which was won by the Botswana Cricket Association, and Photo of the Year award won by the Americas Region.

The global winners were selected by an esteemed judging panel comprising Ehsan Mani (ICC President), Malcolm Gray

(former ICC President) and Roger Knight (MCC Chief Executive and Secretary). Mr. Mani remarked that the standard of entries in the third year of the ICC Development Awards had been higher than ever. Said Mr. Mani: “As judges we were very impressed with the outstanding quality of development work that has been taking place throughout the world.” “All of the submissions were of a very high standard and in many categories we had to make some really tough decisions to choose a winner.” “I congratulate the global winners and commend all of the nominees. The awards recognise excellence in cricket in our Associate and Affiliate member countries and I urge all of those that entered the awards to keep up the admirable work they are doing to spread the game beyond its traditional boundaries.”

Two Global Awards for Namibia as Zakir Hussain Syed and Mark Stafford share Lifetime Service Award.

The judging panel could not separate two exceptionally strong candidates for this award, eventually opting to split the accolade between Zakir Hussain Syed and Mark Stafford.

- Zakir, who recently retired as Development Manager of the Asian Cricket Council, has been a dedicated and tireless servant of the game throughout his long and distinguished career as a player, writer, commentator and administrator.
- Mark has been the cornerstone of Vanuatu cricket administration for many years. He was commended by the judges for his vision in pioneering the progress of cricket in the country from a social activity to a popular competitive sport with grassroots and junior development programmes.

The Namibia Cricket Board also picked up the Best Overall Cricket Development Program award for spreading the reach of the sport while the Oshakati Cricket Club won the Best ‘Spirit of Cricket’ Initiative for making the sport available to often disadvantaged enthusiasts throughout large parts of Namibia.

Scotland picked up the Best Cricket Promotional Program award for its partnership with Lloyds TSB, while Nigeria's pioneering Howzat Program was recognized as the Best Women's Cricket Initiative.

Hong Kong's Welcome Primary Schools Playground League will receive a Brell bowling machine as a reward for winning the Flix Junior Development Initiative award while the Volunteer of the Year went to M.K. Suresh for his commitment to junior development, coach and umpire education and elite cricket in Indonesia.

For further information on these awards and the regional awards that preceded them, visit the official awards website at www.icc-developmentawards.com



ARGENTINA

Senior cricket flexed its muscles in Argentina this month. The national team dealt out a cricketing lesson to an international representative XI during a one-day match and some nail-biting finishes amid high drama and heavy run-scoring featured in the domestic fixtures. The occasion of Argentina versus the Argentine Cricket Association XI is a keenly anticipated moment on the cricket calendar. The ACA team, comprised of the best Trinidad players participating in the Carcamanes Festival, a couple of visiting English players, as well as "local" expatriates filling in the gaps, was no match for hyped-up Argentina.

Domestic cricket has had plenty of highlights (Donny Forrester smashing 109 in a rain-reduced 35 over match against Hurlingham at Belgrano for one) and all four 1st Division clubs have registered good wins.

Most enjoyable was the staging of the Carcamanes Festival, a tournament for Over 40s, held March 6th to 11th. All four premier Argentine grounds featured – Belgrano, Hurlingham, Longchamps and Corimayo.

Two guest umpires (Dudley Eckworth from England and Guyanese-born Ashook Brijcoomar from Canada) officiated alongside qualified local umpires. The teams participating were: Botswana Bushmen (Botswana); Gamecox Gauchos (England); Kookaburra CC (Australia); Trinidad Caribs (Trinidad & Tobago); North Wolves (Argentina); and South Bulls (Argentina).

The bones may have been weary after a week of cricket (and many of the international visitors were off sight-seeing thereafter) but terrific friendships were formed under the late summer Argentine sun. All matches were conducted in

excellent spirit and hats off to Kookaburra CC as their average age was about 20 years older than the other teams!

BERMUDA

Gus Logie to coach Bermuda

BCB has announced the signing of Gus Logie as National Coach for a 6-month period, beginning April 1, 2005, subject to immigration approval. Logie will join the squad of 17 players at the upcoming training camp that he is currently structuring for the senior National team. Logie's major focus will be in directing Bermuda's efforts to qualify for the ICC Cricket World Cup, scheduled to be held in the West Indies in 2007.

The mandate he has been given is much broader than just directing the National team's preparation. Also significant this year is the ICC U19 World Cup qualifier. Logie's remit will also cover the domestic and youth cricket development in the country, including the perennially successful summer youth clinics.

Reg Pearman, President of the BCB noted: "We are highly pleased to have somebody of Gus's caliber joining the Board for the summer." "We are also very impressed with the emphasis Gus has placed on development and the youth, and we are confident that all of Bermuda will be well served by his presence this year."

Trinidad Squad announced

The BCB recently announced the touring party of 19 that will attend a training camp in Trinidad for 10 days. The party will consist of 17 players and 2 local officials and will be joined by new National Coach, Gus Logie, who is overseeing and directing the training in Port of Spain. Logie will return to Bermuda with the squad on April 15th to continue his work for the balance of the season.

A number of players were unavailable to travel with the squad, including Albert Steede, Saleem Mukuddem and Charlie Marshall. Chairman of Selectors Arnold Manders noted: "As it stands now, every player in the training squad has a realistic chance of making the final 14 that will compete in Ireland, whether or not they attend this camp".

CANADA

NCCP Coaching Course

Ron Dipchand, CCA Coaching Coordinator, with the assistance of Jack Kyle completed a successful NCCP Cricket Coaching Course in Toronto. The seven-hour program attracted former national players and school coaches. A similar course was conducted in Vancouver earlier. The course, designed to cover basic skills, drills and modified

games to enable the coaches to introduce young players to cricket, met with tremendous success.

Canada to Host Region's U19 WCQT

After much discussion between the Associate Member countries in the region, it was decided that Canada will be the host country for the ICC U19 World Cup qualifying tournament. The event will be played at Maple Leaf Cricket Club (King City) in early August and will include Argentina, Bermuda, Cayman Islands, United States of America, and host nation Canada.

Future of Cricket in Canada

A recent article in the Toronto Star reported on the demographic change that will take place in Toronto by 2017, according to Statistics Canada in a report for the Department of Canadian Heritage. A fair percentage of this change would include people from countries where cricket is their national sport or with some cricket background. The article states, "A wave of sporting change is sweeping Toronto as its ethnic population climbs. Football fields and hockey arenas are giving way to cricket pitches....".

One local politician is quoted as saying, ".....we desperately need a regional cricket facility". The Canadian Cricket Association welcomes this kind of support and hopes the article will open doors for further contributions to the development of cricket in Canada; something that is needed and which the CCA has been seeking for the past decade.

Ladies National Team

The lady cricketers of Canada are set to make national sporting history in July 2005 when they take part in the West Indies Women's Cricket Federation Regional Championship. This will mark the first occasion that a Canadian ladies team will venture onto the international field of play and will herald in a whole new era for women's cricket in Canada. The championship will be held July 1st to 31st in Kingston, Jamaica.

Maureen Boller Trophy

The Canadian Cricket Association has proposed an annual event between the Ladies National teams. A trophy in memory of Maureen Boller, wife of the CCA Public Relations Officer Kevin Boller, would be contested on an annual basis. For more than a quarter of a century, Maureen gave sterling support to her husband and helped him immensely with the development of Canadian cricket through the realms of the national media.

CHILE

Gaston Arizaga to visit Chile

Argentine's opening batsman will visit Chile to conduct a 7-day coaching trip. He will spend time working with school and club sides in Santiago and Vina del Mar as well as conducting coaching courses for PE teachers in the Vth Region and attending a training session with the U13 national squad.

Santiago claim Metro Cup title

The final of Chile's national first division competition, the Metropolitan Cup, was played on March 20th at the beautiful Grange School ground. Underdogs Santiago CC put on a strong performance to defeat Las Condes by 90 runs and captured the Metro Cup for the first time in the tournament's history.

New Wave of schools join development program

Three more schools have agreed to join the ACA development program. Further introductory sessions and extra-curricular programs are scheduled throughout the coming months. It is expected that over 2,000 more children will be introduced to the game by June.



CAYMAN ISLANDS

National Team at WCOS in Malaysia

Cayman Islands national cricket team sponsored by **Cable & Wireless** gave a creditable performance in the recently held ICC World Cup Division 2 qualifying series in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia. Cayman played five matches, winning three and losing two, defeating Kuwait in the Plate final by 2 wickets and placing fifth in the tournament.

Outstanding performances came from Pearson Best who averaged 72 runs per inning, gaining Man of the Match awards against Zambia with 99 n.o. and Kuwait with 69 n.o. Ainsley Hall was Man of the Match against Italy with 56 runs. Franklin Hinds was consistent with the bat throughout the tournament, getting a top score of 56 runs against Fiji. The captain, Bovell, picked up 12 wickets.

It was an excellent learning experience for the team.

National Coaching Program

Due to the effects of hurricane Ivan, this program had a late start. Sessions for youngsters under 15 began on January 9th at four venues. This elite program has shifted venues from the John Gray High School (the practice area is occupied with temporary

classrooms) to Smith Road Oval where training is held on Saturdays only.

Upcoming Events

April 9th - Cable & Wireless 6-A-Side tournament (Grand Cayman)

April 30th – Cable & Wireless Teach Tots Cricket Day

CUBA

- During the visit to Cuba by Mr. Bill Rammell, British Minister Responsible for Latin America, a Flicx Pitch (second in Cuba) was donated to contribute to the development of cricket in Cuba. The donation was presented in Ciudad Deportiva, site of INDER.

- In March a National Coaching Seminar was conducted by the Cuba Cricket Commission in coordination with INDER.

- Officials from the Cuba Cricket Commission were invited to Santiago on the occasion of inaugurating a 2nd “Leonard Ceon Ford” Cricket Club at Manuel Fajardo Superior Physical Culture Centre. CCC President Leona Ford’s deceased father was a Barbadian cricket player and founder of Banes and Guantanamo Cricket Club on his arrival in Cuba. Great enthusiasm was observed in the Centre to develop cricket in Santiago.

- Recent meetings by Ambassadors from both India and Sri Lanka have increased the possibility of both countries contributing to the development of cricket in Cuba. Representatives from the Cuba Cricket Commission were very encouraged after meetings with the delegates from both countries.



Mr. Sri-Vijayasekere, Ambassador from Sri Lanka, pictured here receiving an award from Leona Ford, Cuba Cricket Commission.

The Ambassador called on all Heads of Cricket countries represented in Cuba to become more cooperative in developing cricket through the efforts of the Cuban Cricket Commission.

TURKS & CAICOS

Grand Turk 2005 Series

The Back Salina Brawlers got revenge in rather emphatic fashion when they beat Cable & Wireless by eight wickets in the latest match of the Grand Turk Cricket Association 2005 Series. Cable & Wireless were dismissed for 167 in 23.3

overs. Back Salina, in reply, raced to 168 for two in a mere 17 overs.

After their first game lost to Cable & Wireless, the Brawlers were taking no chances this time around. The win pushed Back Salina to 16 points from three games, the same as Cable & Wireless, who suffered their first defeat. Police, the other team in the competition, were pointless after two games.

Meanwhile in Providenciales a friendly match between two mixed teams was played, gearing up for the start of their 2005 competition.

USA

George Washington Played Cricket

The recent discovery by Steven Wells of a brief mention in the diary of one First Lieutenant George Ewing (1754-1824) who took part in the American revolutionary war (1776-1783) indicates that the famous American General and first President George Washington (1789-1797) played at cricket.

In the Spring of 1778 General Washington paid a visit to Valley Forge to meet with Brigadier-General Henry Knox. On May 4, 1778 First Lieutenant George Ewing made the famous entry in his diary when he wrote:- *“This day His Excellency dined with General Knox and after dinner did us the honour to play at wicket with us”*.

Cricket Sporting Academy – Chicago

Chidambar Joshi of the CSA reports, “We are extremely happy to announce the first ever U-19 League and U-10 Little League in Chicago (to start with), specifically to attract and groom the young and talented youth in cricket. We are also in the process of completing a grand blue print for youth cricket in the U.S. which takes into account geographical and weather conditions and other promotional aspects”.

ICC Americas Development Forum

All Associate and Affiliate countries in the Region will be represented at the forum being held in Costa Rica April 29 to May 1. Also attending will be our Global Development Manager, Matthew Kennedy, and Dr. Michael Seepersaud of the West Indies Cricket Board.

Our thanks to the following for their contributions this month:

Gary Savage (Argentina); Neil Speight (Bermuda); Calvin Clarke and Kevin Boller (Canada); Theo Cuffy (Cayman Islands); Leona Ford (Cuba); Ralph Doughty (Turks & Caicos); Chidambar Joshi (USA)