



ICC Americas Region News Flash

December, 2007



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- Record number of nominations received for Annual Development Awards
 - ICC gains IOC recognition
 - Bermuda to represent the region at two global events

Annual Development Awards Nominations- Canada leads the way.

The region received a record number of nominations (69) surpassing last year's record of 52. Canada led the way with 12 nominations, followed by Argentina and Bermuda (both had 8). Chile with 7 led all affiliates.

Favourite category was again "Photo of the Year" which attracted 19 entries. There were 15 "Volunteer of the Year" nominations which is a tremendous tribute to the countless volunteers throughout the region who are responsible for the continuous growth of the game.

Regional winners will be announced on January 31, 2008. Good luck to all nominees and thank you for the tremendous response.

ICC Gains IOC Recognition

In December the International Olympic Committee (IOC) approved the ICC application to become an IOC-recognized international federation.

Mr. Malcolm Speed, CEO said "This is an important step for cricket and we believe it will have a positive impact on the development and profile of the sport around the world. For the last six years we have been working towards this goal. The last two major processes to be completed have been the integration of women's cricket and our signature of the WADA Code. While we have taken positive strides in both of these areas in the last two years, they remain areas in which our sport must continue to improve".

Mr. Speed further stated "We believe significant positive benefits will flow to many members from our IOC recognition, both directly and indirectly. It was heartening to hear the first story of a national cricket board receiving increased funding from its National Olympic Committee within 24 hours of the IOC's decision and we look forward to hearing many more positive stories from across the cricket world. It has been 107 years since cricket's last significant involvement with the Olympic Movement when the sport made its first and only appearance at the Olympic Games in Paris. The historians amongst you will know that Great Britain defeated France to claim the title in a two-team event".



BERMUDA

Bermuda U19 World Cup Squad

The BCB are pleased to announce that 15 players have been selected for the U19 World Cup in Malaysia, February 17-March 4, 2008. Bermuda will play in the group with England, Bangladesh and Ireland. Please see

www.cricket.bm and go to Future Tournaments for the full match schedule.

Rodney Trott will skipper the team while World Cup veteran Malachi Jones will serve as vice-captain. The team includes mainly players who won the Americas Championship last August in Toronto.

The team will travel to India en-route to Malaysia to attend the World Cricket Academy at the Bombay Gymkhana, Mumbai, February 2 to February 10, 2008. Whilst in India they will take part in an intensive training programme. They will play three matches.

Women's WC Qualifier

Bermuda will also represent the region at the Women's WC Qualifier tournament which has now been switched to South Africa. The dates remain the same February 18-24.

BCB announce Stanford 20/20 Squad

The BCB have announced the players that have been selected for the Stanford 20/20 game against Guyana on February 10, 2008. Two of the squad members will be nominated from the players that are in the U19 squad but not selected in the final 15 to go to the U19 World Cup in Malaysia. This squad will be the basis from which the team will be chosen throughout the tournament. A 13-man squad from the 16 will be announced on January 7, 2008, at which point a vice-captain will be named. Irving Romaine will skipper the side.

BRAZIL

December was a quiet month for cricket in Brazil, but the Brazilian Cricket Association would like to wish a Happy 2008 to all member countries in the region.

Additionally, we wish to thank Grant Dugmore and Martin Vieira for all their incredible work this past year. Your contributions were too numerous to mention, but particular commendation should go to the Brazil-Argentina women's games held at the HSBC ground in Curitiba in September, which were the first ever women's international cricket matches held in South America. It was a fantastic event for players and organizers alike.

Next up on the local calendar is the ICC WLC Div.3 tournament in Buenos Aires, February 10-17, and the Brazilian national team will be there competing against Peru, Turks & Caicos, and Chile. Full reports to follow.

CAYMAN ISLANDS

It was a weekend that will be remembered for many years. Local 20/20 cricket brought out the best of our cricketers, renewed old rivalry and provided outstanding entertainment. Cayman Islands cricket is on the rise. Results are as follows:

Division 2 – 20/20

Welly's ICC – 100

Ricardo Roach 4 for 25, Vincent Ebanks 3 for 25

C&W Schools 102 for 1

Ramon Sealy 52 n.o., Omar Willis 28 n.o.

C&W Schools won by 9 wickets

Division 1 – 20/20

By Rite – 162 for 8

Michael Wight 52, Kenute Tulloch 30 n.o.

Prison – 140

By Rite won by 22 runs

Cricket had an outstanding 2007. CICA Awards were distributed to the top players and winning clubs.



Ramon Sealy needed a truck to carry home all the awards. To name a few- Highest Aggregate Division 2, Most Improved Player, Youth International Cricket of the year.



Steve Gordon-International Cricketer of the year.



Michael Wight a brilliant 52 to lead his team to the Division 2 title.

CHILE

Craighouse School win Homework Club Cup

Craighouse School became the first winners of the Homework Club School Cricket Cup on November 28th as wicket keeper-batsman Francisco Tellez led his side with both bat and gloves, in a game that went down to the penultimate over. Congratulations to the Craighouse boys, and thanks to Tim Lauder for all his hard work in coaching the team over the last year.

Combined Regional Side claim ACC School Cricket Cup

A team made up of the best cricketers from Chile's 5th, 8th and Metropolitan regions were victorious in this year's ACC School Cricket Cup. This year was the first time the competition had been played using the hardball, as the Chilean Cricket Association continues its push to get more juniors taking the step up from Pinguino Cricket.

In the semi-finals, Lincoln International defeated the International Country School by 6 wickets - Sebastin Urresti starring for Lincoln, whilst the combined regional side, coached by RDO Patricio Caamano, defeated Pedro de Valdivia by 62 runs. Particular mention should be made of the fact that the regional team were coached by Patricio Caamano, a Chilean born coach who learned the game in Vina del Mar on the coast of Chile and who has been employed by the ACC as a Regional Development Officer for the last 2 years. It is great to see that local grown cricketers can coach juniors to a high level – something that is essential if the game is to truly take hold here in Chile.

COSTA RICA

New Development Officer

We welcome Sam Arthur as our new Development Officer. He is from India, a good cricketer and married to a Costa Rican. We are lucky to have him and will report further when he has met the people involved in development and had time to organize a program.

League Cricket

The season is well underway. Four games have been played to date, with Corsairs and CCCCCR each winning two. Perhaps the highlight so far this season was the game in which CCCCCR beat

Raleigh-GPAS in preparation for the Second CenAm Championships in Mexico.

Visit to Nicaragua

We hope to go there to play against Nicaragua and El Salvador just after Easter this year.

Developments in Limon

Limon is the main port on the Caribbean side and the traditional home of cricket in Costa Rica. Sadly, skills have declined over the years. However, recent initiatives promise a revival of cricket there and we hope to report in greater detail in the next issue.

FALKLAND ISLANDS

Junior Cricket in the Falklands

expanding

Following representation from the Falklands Cricket Association, the Education Department agreed to include cricket in the sports curriculum from the beginning of the school year.

One of the major problems that junior cricket faces in the Falklands is that children go to the UK for further education from age 16 so we lose some of our best players. However, it is very encouraging to hear that most of the students are continuing to play cricket whilst at college in the UK which promises to strengthen the depth of adult cricket in the future.

Adult cricket – Seniors

The main event of the cricket season is the 3-match series for the South Atlantic Ashes played between the Governors X1 and the Commander British Forces X1. This commences on January 26th and the final match is on February 23rd.

This year we have added a new competition – a 20/20 knockout series which will be held on January 20th and March 8th, followed by a 20-20 league throughout March.

Happy New Year to all in the ICC Americas!

MEXICO

The Mexico Cricket Association experienced some high points towards the end of 2007, winning their way in Houston, and hosting and winning the Central American Championships. Everyone who is closely tied to cricket in Mexico should be happy at the way we have moved forward in recent months.

Domestically, Aztecs led the way with three wins from three games. They have shown good commitment and no shortage of talent in dispatching MCCC, Reforma and the newly reformed Corinthians. The last round of Brian Gay Trophy games saw a particularly exciting game between MCCC and Reforma on December 9th, culminating in a one wicket win for MCCC.

The Mexico Cricket Association would like to take this opportunity to invite people from the region to its Annual Spring Ball hosted at the Reforma Athletic Club on March 8, 2008. For more details please contact David Grant davidpgrant21@yahoo.co.uk

TURKS & CAICOS

Police handed the Caribbean Cavaliers their second successive defeat as the Providenciales Cricket Association's 20/20 competition continued at the Downtown Ball Park. The competition continues with Police taking on the Jamaican All Stars who beat the Cavaliers in the opening round of the competition.

Turks & Caicos continue to prepare for their appearance in the Stanford 20/20.

Our thanks to the following for their contributions:

Fiona Holmes, Neil Speight (Bermuda); Norman Baldwin (Brazil); Theo Cuffy (Cayman Islands); Michael Meade (Chile); Richard Illingworth (Costa Rica); Roger Diggle (Falkland Islands); David Grant (Mexico); Michael Pereira (Turks & Caicos).

Reminder: Please submit brief articles and photos (jpeg) for publication to admin@cricamericas.com by 25TH EACH MONTH.