

NEWSFLASH

AFRICA - FEBRUARY 2008



INTERNATIONAL CRICKET COUNCIL DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM – AFRICA
AFRICA CRICKET ASSOCIATION

Willowmoore Park Cricket Stadium, Harpur Avenue, Benoni, South Africa
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ICC Development
Program - Africa

INTRODUCTORY TURF GRASS MAINTENANCE COURSE

The Turf Grass Maintenance Course that was conducted in Benoni, South Africa from 11 to 13 February 2008 was the first of its kind run by the Africa Regional Office. The course facilitator was Hilbert Smit who was on the Grounds Committee for the 2003 Cricket World Cup in South Africa and currently runs Centurion Turf and is responsible for field and pitch maintenance and preparation at Willowmoore Park in Benoni and Supersport Park in Centurion. The delegates were also treated to a South African domestic day/night match at Supersport Park, which is also a Test and One Day International venue. Reports received the next day were those of delight and gratitude in having experienced this type of cricket at a world class venue. Eight delegates from various Members in Africa took part in the course and gave very positive feedback regarding the initiative. Of the 8 delegates that took part in the course, 4 received a pass with distinction.



Turf Grass Maintenance Course delegates with Hilbert Smit (left) and Cassim Suliman (right)



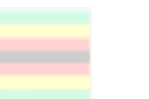
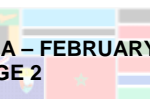
NIGERIA



Ibeju Lekki CC, on Sunday, February 24, 2008, at the Unilag Cricket Oval, continued with their awesome form as they took the highly favoured Lagos Asians Cricket Club to the cleaners by beating them with a margin of 117 runs to qualify for the final of EDL Lagos Knockout Cricket Tournament. Tunde Okunade of Ibeju Lekki started the onslaught with 73 runs. He was supported by his captain, Yemi Amusa (39*) and diminutive Leke Oyede (57*). The young Ibeju boys who were inspired by their coach and player Shaun Phillips (21) ensured that they put an impressive score of 249 for 5 wickets in 40 overs on the board, thus setting a big target for LACC to chase. The Lagos Asians tried to give a fight but the bowling mix of the boys from Lekki ensured that they were all dismissed for 132 to end the chase. Ramit.G of LACC scored 40 runs while Chiran.S scored 28 runs. Sean Phillips and Jide Otebeye leave the field

The other semifinal match played at the Tafawa Balewa Cricket Oval same day saw Rocks CC emerge as finalist as they cut Howzat Pioneers to size by bundling them all out for a paltry 69 runs. Anofiu Salako (Rocks) got 5 wickets for 16 runs while his team mate, Joshua Ogunlola got 3 wickets for 17 runs. Rocks secured victory in 11 overs after the loss of 3 wickets. The stage is now set for the two solid sides to bat it out in what promises to be an epic final on Sunday, April 13, 2008 at the TBS Cricket Oval, Lagos. This is the 7th edition of the tournament which is being sponsored by Express Discount Limited. Speaking after the two matches yesterday in Lagos, the Managing Director of EDL, Mr. Kwesi Sagoe said he was quite impressed with the level of the tournament and the results only shows that all the teams that played in the 1st Division during the Lagos League this season and the newly promoted Rocks, are equal. The Chairman of the Lagos State Cricket Association (LSCA), Mr. George Wiltshire also commended the clubs for a good showing as the competition was keenly contested. By The LSCA Media Committee

A successful Level 2 Coaching Course was conducted by Olisa Egwuatu in Lagos, Nigeria from 25 to 19 February 2008. There were a total of 21 participants ranging from 22 years old to 60 years old. Participants were drawn from all over Nigerian States including Lagos, Oyo, Ogun, Enugu, Anambra, Edo, Bayelsa, Rivers, Kaduna, Imo and Kebbi.



The Nigeria Cricket Federation (NCF) also conducted introductory coaching clinics in two states in the South-West zone of the country. The selected states were Ondo and Ekiti states and the clinics were facilitated by the pair of Endurance Ofem and Basty Abiola-Cardoso. The introductory coaching clinics are train-the-trainer programmes directed at teachers and games masters in secondary schools to enable them pass the skills of the game of cricket to their wards. In Ekiti State, fourteen (14) participants drawn from ten (10) schools in Ado-Ekiti took part in the clinic which was held at the Olukayode Stadium in the state capital. In Ondo State, the clinic held at St Peters Unity Secondary School and had seventeen (17) teachers/games masters representing fifteen (15) schools in attendance. The clinic was well imbibed and the Director of Sports, Ministry of Education, Mr. Samuel Patani promised that cricket will feature in the next edition of the state's schools sports competition. Attendance included two principals of schools in the state capital, whilst Mr. Remi Malumi, President of the National Schools Sports Federation, Ondo State also participated keenly in the clinic. At the end of each clinic, mini cricket equipment was distributed to the schools. The NCF seeks to continue this programme on a quarterly basis in selected locations round the country.

SWAZILAND

An Administration Course was conducted in Swaziland from 29 February to 2 March 2008. The course was conducted by Fuad Waggie who said that unfortunately, not all the intended participants attended the course but those who did participate really enjoyed the course and achieved good results.

SEYCHELLES (ACA Member)

The Seychelles Cricket Association held its Annual General Meeting on 23 February 2008. The Chairman, Jonathan Paul, reported on the following achievements of the Association:

Establishment of a weekly training session for about 40 children from all walks of life which is open to the general public.

Establishment of a women's team who at the moment compete against the U15 team and who will also be competing against our veteran's team.

Consultations with government with regard to establishing a cricket oval and club house, for which, tacit approval has been granted.

In 2007 a seven team tournament was supported from February until December.

KENYA

Cricket Kenya are delighted that the proposed Sahara Elite Cricket League is finally here as part of the ongoing restructuring of its domestic leagues and tournaments. These leagues will be played by the selected best sixty players divided into four teams of relatively equal strengths under the tutelage of selected coaches and managers.

The four teams are named as follows:

- a. Northern Nomads
- b. Southern Stars
- c. Western Chiefs
- d. Eastern Aces

The teams will be involved in different types of cricket namely:

- a. The T20 Tournament
- b. The 50 over one day games
- c. The 3 day matches

To propel this proposed leagues to succeed, Cricket Kenya has received support from International Cricket Council (ICC) through Africa Cricket Association (ACA) and Sahara Computers Ltd. Cricket Kenya hopes and plans to have these leagues become permanent annual fixtures on our annual calendars. The national team selection will now henceforth depend on players' participation in the said Elite Leagues. By Tom Tikolo

GAMBIA



The Sussex Over 50's visited The Gambia from 15th February to 26th February 2008. The team leader Mr. Andy Sanks came to The Gambia in 2007 and found us playing at the 22nd July Square and offered to umpire the match. After the match he said that he would like to bring a team out on tour to The Gambia and play a couple of matches. We agreed and exchanged e-mail addresses and that was how things worked out leading to this tour. We played 5 limited overs matches and 2 days of Coaching Clinics for Primary and Senior Secondary Schools. They also brought along some mini-cricket kits, plastic balls and stumps which they gave to the Association. A dinner was hosted to end the tour. The Sussex Over 50's with children at a coaching clinic

"The tour has been a success because it has helped with our selection process and also helped some of our players to learn and improve from some of their short comings and weaknesses. We are expecting another Team from London in November this year and all these tours are to help develop our grass-root cricket to sustain the game with a strong foundation", said Johnny Gomez, the Development in Charge of the Gambia Cricket Association.



The coaching clinic held in Gambia by the Sussex Over 50's

U19 WORLD CUP

India produced a remarkable performance in a rain-interrupted final to beat South Africa by 12 runs under the Duckworth-Lewis method for their second ICC Under-19 World Cup since 2000 at the Kinrara Oval in Kuala Lumpur on Sunday 2 March 2008. Congratulations. All results are available on www.icc-cricket.com

MALAWI

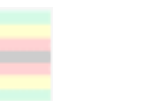
14 coaches attended a Level 1 Coaching Course organized by the Malawi Cricket Union from 8 to 10 February 2008 and conducted by Fuad Waggie. All candidates were very keen and enthusiastic to improve their coaching skills. They interacted very well and ensured that they increased their ability to coach the game of cricket with greater confidence to produce better cricketers. Due to the fact that some of these teachers do not play cricket for clubs, it will take a little longer for them to master the cricket coaching techniques but their commitment to the game speaks for itself and in the near future they will be an asset to the Malawi Cricket Union. The Development Coaches Brian & Sbusiso (Blantyre) and Silas & Amitab (Lilongwe) are to concentrate on the practical needs with the coaches within their regions.



Level 1 Coaches in Training in Malawi

WOMENS CRICKET

South African national captain Graeme Smith on Saturday sent a message of congratulations to the South African women's squad on their achievement of qualifying for the women's World Cup to be played in Australia next year. South Africa and Pakistan play the final of the six-team qualifying tournament at Stellenbosch on Sunday with both teams guaranteed entry to the World Cup. "On behalf of our entire squad I send best wishes and congratulations to our lady counterparts," Smith said in a statement. "We have been following their progress with keen interest and we are thrilled that they have won all their matches by such convincing margins. "Well done and good luck for the final as well as next year's tournament. We are proud of you."



MOZAMBIQUE

The Mozambique Cricket Association inspection with regards to ICC Associate Membership was conducted by the following personnel of the ICC:

Stanley Perlman - ICC Executive Board Member
Matthew Kennedy - ICC Global Development Manager
Cassim Suliman - RDM ICC Africa

The inspection party was warmly greeted and assisted by the MCA Officials upon their arrival in Maputo. The Committee were given a full presentation of MCA's History/Finance/Administration & Operations/Development Plan/School Cricket and the full board of the MCA were present with an apology of their president Mrs. Angelo Mello due to flight delays from Gambia. An inspection to key cricket grounds and other facilities were conducted by the committee. An inspection was also conducted at the offices of the MCA and various documentations were presented for inspection. The committee were introduced to the various part time and full time staff of MCA at a special cocktail dinner. The committee were introduced to the various Clubs, Sponsors and Donors as well as Government officials and the High Commissioner of India who is a great supporter of cricket in Mozambique. MCA introduced new territories that are to be beneficial for cricket and a special inspection was done at the Inhaca Island. The inspection as presented by MCA was executed in a very professional and efficient manner and the hospitality rendered by MCA was magnificent. By Cassim Suliman, RDM - ICC Africa



Meetings, inspections and Mozambican hospitality



STAFF

Fuad Waggie has resigned as the ACA Development Coordinator for the Southern/Central Africa Region. "We wish Fuad the very best for his future endeavors and thank him for his contribution to cricket in Africa over the past few years", said Cassim Suliman, CEO of the ACA.

Gail Mackie has also resigned as her family will be relocating to Australia in April. "My involvement with ICC Africa has been one of the most challenging and yet amazing experiences of my life. I have made so many friends and am truly inspired by the passion of the people to get cricket going and make it sustainable in Africa. Thank you to the ICC for the wonderful opportunity of working for such an esteemed establishment and thank you to everyone who has made a significant impact on me this past year. My best wishes for a prosperous future to all the ICC Members in Africa." By Gail Mackie

REMINDERS

ICC Africa World Cricket League Division 3 Tournament – 13 to 18 April 2008 (Benoni, South Africa)

Squad Registration Forms due by 10 March 2008

Special Dietary Requirements due by 1 April 2008

Media Contacts due by 1 April 2008

Participation Fee due by 10 April 2008

ACA AGM – 24 May 2008 (Benoni, South Africa) & ICC Africa Development Seminar – 25 to 26 May 2008 (Benoni, South Africa)

Air fare quotations due by 7 March 2008

CONTACT US

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